

Collective Action Brings Nirmal Jal Yojna

(Strengthened CBO brings drinking water to the village community)

Badkuwan is one of the WARM villages coming under Badkkuwan Gram-panchayat of Sagar Block in Sagar district. It is about 18 kms from district headquarters and 11 km from MVSS head office. The socio- economic and educational condition of people from this village are very poor. Generally, they used to go for daily wages for farming on seasonal basis. The major problem is scarcity of water for drinking and for daily uses. People have sanitation infrastructures but due to lack of water, they do not use it. Especially women from this village used to go to more than 2 kms by walking for a bucket of water.



New Open Well

Community Level Reflection and Mobilisation: As part of implementing WARM programme in the village, an awareness programme was conducted in the village on the conservation of water, water security, need for water governance and community ownership of water bodies in the village. Taking forward the objective of WARM programme, CBOs like SHG, Farmers Club and Water Management Committee along with Water Friends were identified and structured in the village. The community came up with the issue of scarcity of water in one of the meetings. On further investigation, it was found out that the area was sloppy and vast terrain without proper natural water body. This made MVSS WARM team to approach the community, guide and motivate them to put an application demanding a community open well in the gram panchayat. Then Water Management Committee of the village brought this issue to the gram panchayat. The Sarpanch and Sachiv of the gram panchayat got convinced of the issue and promised that they would take up the issue in the panchayat council meeting and do the needful.

Process of Change: Soon after they got sanctioned an open well under the scheme of “**NIRMAL JAL YOJNA**” for the community from the Development Block. The total sanctioned amount was 3.20 Lakhs of rupees. Gram Panchayat started digging hard rock for water and got completed an open well through proper channel and with the help of the community. There is abundant water in the newly constructed open well and the community is also planning for a house to house public water supply system through pipe line.

RESULTS: Some of the main changes brought about as part of the programme are the following:

1. Around 200 households are able to access fresh drinking water from the well.

2. The people of Badkuwan have also expressed their willingness to provide drinking water to the village communities of two nearby villages such as Shyampura and Gidwani.
3. The water is also available to domestic animals for drinking purpose.



Community Ownership and Sustainability: In Badkuwan village there are three CBOs with 47 members such as a women SHG, a Farmers Club and a Water Management Committee besides 10 Paani Mitr (Water Friends). All of them have appreciated the digging of open well for drinking water. As scarcity of water is a common issue of the village, water friends have taken the leadership of protecting and maintaining the open well.
