

THE DONGARGAON MICRO-WATERSHED PROJECT ----BRINGING BACK SMILES TO LIVES



Madavi Lachu is a farmer from Chittaguda village of Dongargoan Gram Panchayat of Narnoor Mandal of Adilabad district. He owns 3 acres of land on which he and his family sustained through agriculture farming. The land was rainfed and so, Madavi was

only using his land for Kharif cropping. His parents and brothers have approximately 16 acres of agriculture land which is contiguous but most of the land was left fallow since it was less fertile due to high slopes that led to extensive soil erosion. His parents and brothers thus migrated to another area as the land could not sustain his family. A small seasonal stream passes through across his farm land, but whenever it would rain, the rain water flowed with great speed due to which mud bunds on the both sides and top fertile soil eroded and soil had pebbles and stones,

thus making the soil infertile and less productive. The issue was raised by Madavi in the Gramsabha meeting of Watershed Committee .The project facilitated for construction of a check-dam across the stream for primarily addressing the issue of soil erosion that would also increase water availability for irrigation and in turn enhance land productivity. The project was completed in March 2012. During the monsoon season and until November, 2012, the water got stored in the check –dam and later slowly percolated into the soil. It was observed that due to increase of moisture in soil, cotton crop remained green (5 acres) for one more month till the end of January and he could harvest 4 quintals of cotton during that one month; gave him an additional income of Rs.6,000/- . As the speed of the runoff water slowed down

Snap- shot

In Chittaguda village (Khandow IWMP-Dongargoan micro-watershed) a Check dam was constructed across the stream, with 1 meter height 13.6 meters length with a total cost of Rs.1.80 lakhs, due to which soil moisture improved in 12 acres of land improved due to water percolation (2nd and 3rd year onwards).

The catchment area of the check dam is 15Ha. Backwater 150 meters length, back side 500 meters, front side 500 meters 250 meters on both sides of structure (Right side and left side).

The average rain fall of the Narnoor mandal is 1295 mm (50 years average) 1050.1 mm (10 years average).

In the year 2014-15, during the Rabi season 45 ha of agriculture land was irrigated through the Check dam

the soil erosion was checked and fertile soil deposited at the check –dam. In November-2012, the farmer sowed 3 kgs of bengal gram seeds on the back side of the check-dam with the moisture in the soil the crop grew well. In January he harvested 30 Kgs of Bengal gram .The farmer is enthusiastic to grow crops in Kharif as well as in Rabi (Soya bean, Tomato, Pulses and Fodder) season.