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July - September 2009

Uttarakhand Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Project



Swajal Samachar

Project Management Unit

SWAJAL PROJECT

Department of Drinking Water, Govt. of Uttarakhand



Uttarakhand Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Project



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Overview

Project Name	: Uttarakhand Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Project
Start Date	: 30th Nov, 2006
Project Area	: Entire Rural Area of the State
Total Project Cost	: US\$:350 Million
Financing Partners	: World Bank, GoI, GoUK & Community
Implementing agencies	: PMU, UJN & UJS
Physical Target (Revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Water Supply Schemes: 3875 (PMU: 1174; UJN: 1151 UJS: 1550)- Open defecation free GPs: 470- Catchment Area Protection Works in schemes: 970
Approach :	Demand Driven Approach for New Investment; (In side SWAp) Supply Driven Approach for ongoing Schemes; (Out side SWAp)



From the Editors Desk

Sector Program & SWAp a way forward

Publishing a quarterly news letter as Swajal Samachar is an initiative towards generating a sense of transparency and accountability in all the stakeholders striving to/ concerned for creation of sustainable infrastructural development in newly evolving 28th state of Indian Union. As the Government of Uttarakhand has conceived VISION 2012 for the Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Sector: "The rural local government in partnership with rural communities; shall plan, design, construct, operate and maintain their water supply and sanitation schemes; so that they get potable water and attain health and hygiene benefits; the Government of Uttarakhand and its sector institutions shall act as supporter, facilitator and co-financier and as per need shall provide technical assistance, training and cater for bigger construction works and sectoral contingencies". For Achieving the vision of the State Government, concept of Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) has been developed and for achieving the long term goals of sector wide approach in entire rural areas of the state suitable institutional and operational changes have been done in a steady and gradual manner in guidance of State Water and Sanitation Mission. Functioning of State Level Water & Sanitation Committee under the chairmanship of Honourable Chief Minister, have adequately facilitated the global first concept of SWAp for the state in true word and spirit. District Water & Sanitation Committee, chaired by the Chief Development Officers being empowered for day to day monitoring and other functional support to the district units. For devolving water and sanitation related responsibilities to the real owners; the Panchayat Raj Institutions, District Water And Sanitation Missions (DWSM's) have been established as district level apex bodies under the able guidance of Chairmanship of the Zila Panchayat. All these institutions have been appropriately backed up by suitable governmental orders and guidelines. We hope that implementation of this integrated water supply, sanitation and catchment's area conservation program adequately blended with capacity building programs will prove as mile stone on the path of empowering the three tiers of Panchayat institutions in this central Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. All who wish to share their ideas and want to contribute towards achieving self reliant community initiatives for water supply, sanitation and empowerment of PRI's are welcome to use the Swajal Patrika as an open forum for communication.

K.B. SHAH



Role of Sector Institutions and Implementation Arrangements

“Our faith is on participatory approach to water & Sanitation management; it is exemplified by Sector Program.”

This is the first Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Project (Sector Program) which supports state sector wide common policies and institutional arrangements for improving service delivery (Sector Wide Approach). The Programme is led by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI's). In light of 73rd constitutional amendment, demand responsive approach and users' active participation shall be ensured for sustainable access to water and sanitation service in rural areas.

Implementation Arrangements

Department of Drinking Water and the Secretariat of State Water & Sanitation Mission will be responsible for implementation of the project and for overseeing the overall GoUK sector program. For implementation of the project there will be three implementing agencies: (i) Project Management Unit and its District Project Management Units for Single Village Schemes (SVS) and simple Multi Village Schemes; (ii) Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam (UJN) and Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan (UJS) and their district-level SWAp units for larger Multi Village Schemes (MVS); and (iii) Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan and its district-level SWAp units for transfer of schemes currently operated by UJS. Each agency will implement the schemes

in a systematic phased manner (i.e. four batches). As described above, all SVSs identified after March 31, 2006 and all MVSs identified after November 30, 2006 will follow the common investment guidelines and appraisal procedures, including the following activities.

- i. **Preparatory Steps:** This includes dissemination of the sector program in the state and compilation of existing water sources database, and institutional mobilization to implement the program.
- ii. **Scheme Selection:** Schemes to be covered under various categories are identified and basic data to conduct pre-feasibility studies are collected. The broad principles for resource allocation are under first priority to NC habitations, and second priority to PC habitations.
- iii. **Agreement by the constituting Gram Panchayats (GP's):** The GPs constituting an SVS/MVS confirm to go ahead with either of the scheme. Appraisal checklist for the schemes would have non-negotiable, including: (i) capital cost sharing and 100 percent O&M according to the GoUK Policy; (ii) integration of water supply, sanitation, and catchment-area management; (iii) commitment to achieving open-defecation free; (iv) formation of Users Water Supply & Sanitation Sub Committees (UWSSC's); (v)



priority to renovation of existing schemes; and (vi) proposed sources to be undisputed, perennial, etc.

- iv. Implementation of the Project Cycle: Planning and Implementation of the schemes, following a set of defined activities and involving the community. The cycle consist of four phases:

- (i) Preplanning (2–3 months) phase;
- (ii) Planning (5–6 months) phase;
- (iii) Implementation (6–30 months depending on the complexity and size of the schemes) phase; and

- (iv) Operation & Maintenance (4–5 months) phase.

Post-Implementation Support: Support to the GPs post-implementation to monitor sustainability of Water Supply Schemes.

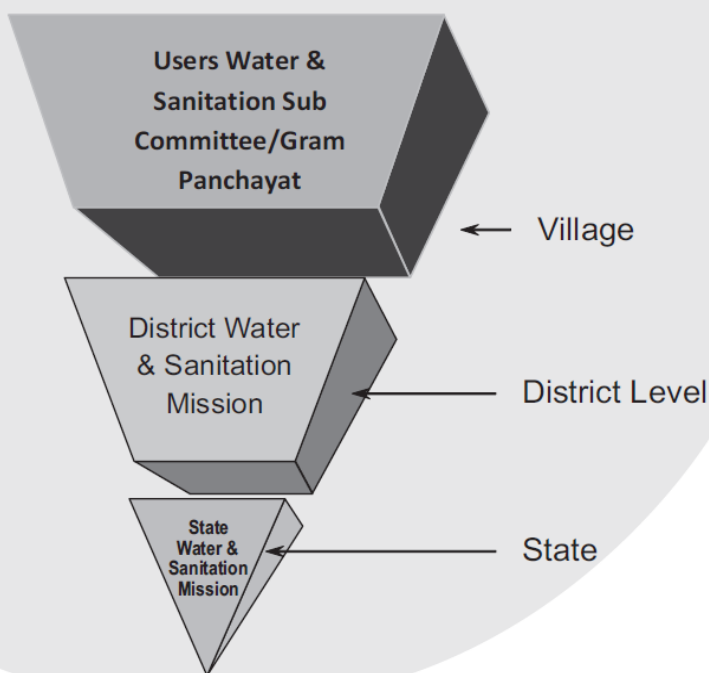
The program is being implemented by all the three sectors with a missionary zeal and commitment and the response of the communities is also overwhelming.

By **Shailendra Kumar Semwal**

G M (Swajal Prayojana), Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam

Project Development Objectives

To improve the effectiveness of rural water supply and sanitation (RWSS) services through decentralization and the increased role of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and the involvement of local communities in the state of Uttarakhand.





Innovative Approach to Tackle Water Crises

Village Losgyani, GP-Losgyani, Block-Ragarh, Lakshmi Devi (43 years) along with her neighbors Kamla, Khasti, Pushpa and Geeta were worried, due to day by day increasing drinking water scarcity in the village. They tried their best to convince the Village Pradhan to do something to reverse the scenario. But the ad hoc approach of the village leader gave them only temporary relief by fixing the old village dhara (Traditional spring source) and yearly piecemeal works of repairing the village Naula (Shallow Well) in Dhakade habitation. Gram Panchayat Pradhan Mr. Harish Chand was tired of regular complaints by the women group regarding the water availability from both the habitations and he observed that women are against him as they need sustainable solution to drinking water problem, for which he was unable to do anything. Under the pressure of coming Panchayat elections (fy.2008-09) he applied for Sector Program. But his unwillingness restricted him in doing any further follow-up or perusing. The women group led by lakshmi Devi, took the lead and they contacted District Water and Sanitation Mission office situated in Bhimtal about 40 Kms away from the village. The village being enlisted as partially covered under Rajeiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission

Survey, 2003 got selected under the Sector Programs.

Now Losgyani habitation of the village has its spring piped water supply scheme from water source named Gajar spring situated in village civil land, while Dhakade habitation has selected the rivulet flowing from village Forest Panchayat land. Mr.Kamlesh Sarpanch of Forest Panchayat issued the No Objection Certificate for the use of water source for construction of the gravity piped water supply scheme.

Thanks to the technology adopted for tapping the water source i.e. Uttaranchal Koop (A cylindrical steel chamber having four inlet pipes, embedded in water channel bed for supply of naturally filtered water) Now the villagers are getting unadulterated clear water throughout the year, which is chlorinated for disinfection. Villagers have also planned plantation & some soil water conservation works for water source catchment's conservation & management. And never the less Lakshmi Devi got prize for her mobilization work; she got elected as Gram Pradhan in current panchayat election.

By **S.C. Khanduri**

Environment Specialist, PMU, Dehradun



Need of Rain Water to Saliate Dry Throats & Dry Agricultural Fields

Scarcity of water in the 21st century in more than a quarter of the world's inhabited areas, including our part of Asian continent. It is estimated that 1.4 billion people will experience severe water shortage and an additional percentage will suffer because the water is either contaminated or polluted.

National water policy of the government of India ministry of Rural Development proclaims that, 'water which is already a scarce resource will become even scarcer' and that non conventional method of sourcing and utilization of water need to be practiced.

Rural Uttarakhand faces a critical challenge to improve the adequacy and availability of water throughout the year. In this challenge, we can reduce the poverty and increase incomes of the water scarce communities through assisting the communities to ascertain the accessibility of

safe potable water as per their convenient and generating time surplus for many productive uses. Where it is needed the most.

It is clear that the management of water, and not the scarcity, is the problem in many parts of the state. Sector Program's works on rural water supply using all possible technologies including rainwater harvesting has given pride to many ingenious ways in which people learnt to live with water scarcity. The solutions, practiced diversely in different regions, lies in capturing rain in different storage systems like tanks, ponds, contour trenches, recharge pits, diggies, Chal-Khal, stepwells and even the rooftops. Water captured has been used to recharge groundwater reserves as well as for direct household level consumption and for fulfilling the drinking water needs.

By **R. K. Rajwar**
Unit Coordinator, (Environment), PMU

Srinivas Sharma
EC, PMU



Happiness of **Weaker** Section of the Community

The Village Badeth of Gram Panchayat Taljaman is situated in Block Augustmuni of District Rudrapryag. The Village has been selected in the sector program of batch 1A by District Project Management Unit Swajal. During the summer the whole villagers used to take water from a naula situated at the mid point of the village. The households belonging to scheduled caste community were the worst sufferers especially during the summer. They have to wait for hours for their turn because and can get water only if there is someone from general caste community to fill their vessels from the naula, as they were not allowed to touch the naula. It was merely due to a myth the locals believe that if anyone from SC community will collect water from the Naula the water source will get polluted and the water Goddess (Devi) will be unhappy, may curse them for some unforeseen problems. In fact both the sect of the communities were following the practice from ages. After completion of a spring based piped, gravity water supply scheme the whole villagers is happy as now none have to wait. Thanks to Sector Program.

By **Ruchi Gairola & Ranjana Rana**
SWAJAL, Rudrapryag

Water has **Saved Lives**

The village Pandrola of Gram Panchayat Jaily is situated in the Jakholi Block of district Rudrapryag. The Village has been selected in the batch 1 B, of the Sector Program. The Pandrola village has been categorised under Sankat Grast (Water Scarce) category by the GOUK. The Village is situated at the Bank of river Mandakini (a perennial tributary of River- Alaknanda). The village was feeded through a Multi Village Scheme (MVS) built by the Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam long back in 1985. Being a tail ender village of the scheme Pandrola community never got sufficient water supply and now as the scheme is defunct there was no water supply for last few months. The villagers were bound to fetch water from the river Mandakani. It was risky because during the rains river gets flooded and the water becomes turbid & muddy causing incidences of water borne diseases. Two incidences of causality, while collecting the water from the river made people more worried.

Now with the construction of new single Village Water Supply Scheme through sector program's investments the villagers got relief from collecting the raw water from the river.

And the Journey Continues...

By **M. Badoni**
Environment Specialist, DPMU, Rudrapryag

Water Reaching in the Remote Borders Uttarkashi

District Uttarkashi one of the boarder district of the state. Villages are inhabited in remote and inaccessible areas. More than 65% of the geographical area is under forest cover.

The forest lands are governed by forest act, so implementing any development activities in the district has always been an uphill task.

Under sector programme batch-1A District Project Management Unit (DPMU) Uttarkashi has taken 4 Gram Panchayats, for constructing 05 water supply schemes after completion of a community managed Planning Phase.

By the virtue of intensive IEC, by District Water and Sanitation Mission people became aware of community based processes of sector programme. The came forward and agreed to all the terms and conditions of the programme. Gram Panchayat, Sarnol which is a remote

village located at an altitude of 3000 mtrs. had no institutional water supply in its Dokhari and Ludrali habitations applied for the programme. Earlier it was the responsibility of women and children to fetch water for all household choers.

When people of the village found sector programme systems useful for them, then they say, Ah! it is a gift of God to us. We were devoid of any water supply schemes since last 60 years. Now we will make our scheme as per need.

DPMU Swajal started the planning phase in November 2007 and now implementation phase is over in both the villages. People of the villages are they contributed maximum to complete the scheme as earliest possible.

Similarly two boarder, remote and inaccessible villages of Mori block Seva and



Village Meets



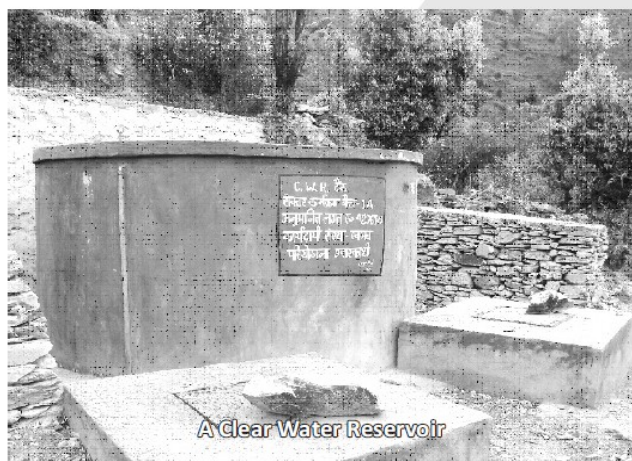
Consultation with Opinion-makers



Before the Water Supply Scheme



After the Water Supply Scheme



A Clear Water Reservoir



Neat & Clean Toilets

Chinwa (Shilbag) located at distance of about 200-250km from district head quarter. Seva village is situated at an altitude of 3300m., and at distance of 18km from motor road and Shilbag in chinwa at an altitude of 2500m and at distance of 8km from motor road. Both the villages are so remote that hardly any authority ever visited the village. People of villages are dependant on natural sources.

People were assuming that if Sector Programme will not select our village than we will not be able to get water supply scheme from any other department. Hey ! now they have their own water supply scheme.

By **Dr. L.S. Chauhan**
Environment Specialist, DPMU, Uttarkashi



Water Scarce Communities towards Self Reliance

The village- Kandoli, is a single village Gram Panchayat; it has 348 households scattered in 11 habitations spread over an area of 24 Sq.Km. The old MVS of the village was partially functional causing women to spend about 2 to 3 hours per day to adequately fulfill the household water demand. The active women constituted 19 Women headed Self Help Groups (WSHG's) in the village. The WSHG's have motivated the Gram Pradhan to find out the possibilities and investigate for the resources for construction of a new water supply scheme for the village. Knowing about the Sector program through a Block Panchayat Meeting in Sahaspur, Gram Pradhan Megh Singh applied for the scheme, assisted the pre-feasibility team in identifying a new source named Gujka Srot (a local rivulet) for constructing a Single Village Water supply scheme. As DWSM cleared the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Gujka gravity water supply scheme, villagers started construction of the scheme ceremonially. News of the construction reached the neighboring village Bhaowala and they raised the objection on the ground of conflicting water. Sub Divisional Magistrate visited the site and gave the decision in favor of Kandoli Village, because the water source was situated in reserve forest area and the Kandoli have formally applied for land transfer. As the length of the scheme is about 27 Kms, and the proposed alignment was passing through two Forest Divisions so on getting forest land

clearance from one division community stated laying the pipeline in the concerned section, as the supply main reached in the area of second forest division concerned forest authorities stopped the work. Which could be started only after the proactive involvement of District Implementing agency (DIA) in pursuing the second forest land transfer case which was also filed in advance. As the pipe line was passing through irrigation canal and in the mountainous topography there was no other alternative than laying the pipe line by the side of irrigation channel, when the work proceeded up to that area irrigation department started repairing the water channel and once again the work got stopped. Finally the District Magistrate and the local Panchayat leader resolved the matter and the scheme got constructed though after a time over run of eight months. Last month the then Minister, Department of Drinking Water, Government Hon'ble Shri Matbar Singh Kandari and local MLA Hon'ble Shri Raj Kumarji inaugurated the scheme in presence of a mob of more than 500 people and told that it's an excellent example of community led water supply and sanitation scheme. Director the delays caused by different reasons gave the community to complete the sanitation task and 100% sanitation coverage proves that it's really a village of leaders.

Mr. K. S. Rawat
Member Secretary, DWSM, D.Dun

Mr. Dilip Agarwal
EC, DPMU, Dehradun



SARAR is a participatory methodology for empowering stakeholders at different development activity.



A= Associative Strengths

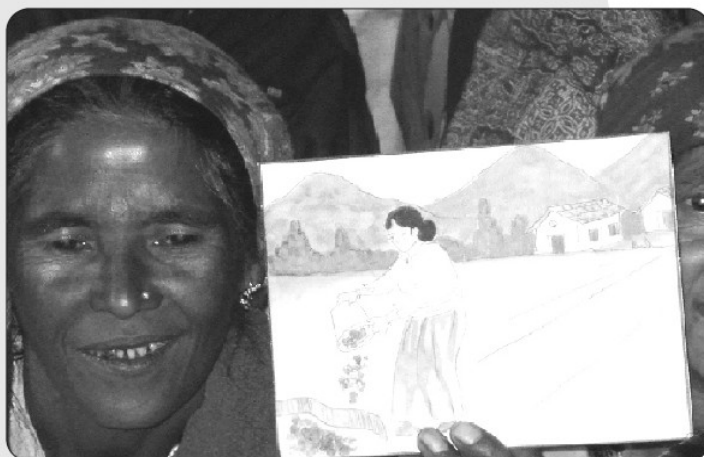


A= Action Planning

S= Self Esteem



R= Resourcefulness



R= Responsibility

S + A + R + A + R = SARAR