

RAIN WATER HARVESTING – AMBEGAON, PUNE, INDIA

A SUCCESS STORY FROM WATER SCARCITY TO WATER POSITIVITY

The Climate Project Foundation, India Branch of The Climate Reality Project is working to have a more meaningful conversation on climate change in the South Asian context. Apart from continuing to expand climate change training and presentations, the work includes on-ground action programs to make a bigger impact.

As an example, with NITI Aayog's report on the Composite Water Management Index revealing the extent of water crisis in India, it compels all stakeholders to focus on water conservation in every possible form. In 2017, Pune Municipal Corporation sought technical assistance from Col Shashikant, Dalvi (Retd.), National Coordinator (Water Conservation) The Climate Reality Project, India, to help recharge ground water table by implementing rooftop rainwater at more than 70 buildings. This project helped channelize around 5 crore (50 million) litres of rainwater to raise the depleting groundwater table of Pune city. On similar lines, the first village level rainwater harvesting project in Maharashtra state was implemented at Kamkheda, Dist. Beed in 2019. The initiative got replicated in nearby villages seeing the positive results on water availability.

On this World Environment Day, a similar community level Rain Water Harvesting projects were initiated but on a larger scale. Four villages of Ambegaon Taluk in Pune were selected considering the unique geology of the place with little/no water retention after the monsoon rains. These villages were dependent on tanker water supply in summer months till start of monsoon rains. On an average daily 3 tankers per village were provided with added emissions from truck/tractor transportation.

The project has been executed with kind support from ICICI Bank, MAPS Industries, Vasundhara Sanvardhan, Pune and other on-ground partners, in record three months' time frame with water availability in the summer season itself.

After one monsoon, i.e., by next year, hopefully all the four villages would become tanker free forever. A summary of the RWH installations and potential water saving is summed up in the table below.

Sr.No	Village Name	Total RWH Installations	Rooftop Area (sq ft)	Rainwater Harvesting Potential (Liters)
1	Bhawadi	51	33657	2692560
2	Karegaon	33	16129	1290320
3	Thugaon	27	18460	1476800
4	Kurwandi	51	30370	2429600
Total		162	98616	7889280

To join hands for similar initiatives or to know more about the project :
Write to us on - india@climatereality.com or visit us on www.climatereality.org.in