



JBGVS has been implementing water and environmental sanitation programmes in the project villages. However, large scale intervention to tackle water problems in 4 villages started in 1995 under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) supported by the Government of India. During 1995-2012, JBGVS has worked in 17 villages on water & soil management, covered 8500 hectare land under DPAP and **Adarsh Gaon Yojna** in Maharashtra.

JBGVS started working in *Wardha* District in 2011. We realized that 102 villages in 8 Talukas were facing severe drinking water shortage during summer season. JBGVS in partnership with Government, decided to put in its resources to solve the problem. Initially, in consultation with experts and the villagers, one village *Bhojankheda* was selected. JBGVS dug pond upstream of village drinking water supply well on the nullah (natural drainage) to hold additional water that could recharge wells downstream. A total of 6168 CUM of water was stored and drinking water problem of 120 families was solved within a year. Looking at the success, other villages also approached JBGVS for similar work. So the same work was carried out in 19 villages from 2011 to March 2015. In total, more than 1 Lakh CUM of water storage capacity was created. 4500 families from 20 villages were benefitted. Last year JBGVS took up integrated water management project in *Giroli* cluster of 5 water scarce villages in partnership with Government to solve both drinking water and irrigation problem. We have created 19 sunken ponds storing 47,000 cubic meter of water. Government also completed farm bunding on 27 hectares, 20 new wells and farmers started irrigation through sprinkler and drip irrigation systems on 38 hectares.

Aurangabad District of *Marathawada* always suffers from water crisis as the normal rainfall is scanty. Drought is a very common phenomenon in this area. JBGVS is active in conservation of soil and water in selected number of villages. In the last 2 years (2013-15) we have been working to desilt 29 percolation tanks & cement nullah bunds in 10 villages from which 2,500 families benefitted. This will help to store additional 55,000 CUM water at a total cost of about ` 43 Lakhs. The villagers contributed more than 50% of the cost by transporting silt to their fields.

In *Pune*, desilting of 2 ponds was carried out in 2 villages at a total cost or ` 7.75 Lakhs in which Government contributed the major part. Total increase in storage capacity was more than 11,000 CUM and 350 families were benefitted. In the year 2015-16, it has been decided to carry out water conservation work in 12 villages in *Aurangabad*. Also, partner with Government of Maharashtra in its '**Jalyukta Shivar Abhiyan**' (Drought free Maharashtra by 2019).

WATER CONSERVATION