

Sajadiyali Village, Rajkot demonstrates equitable water supply and improved service levels for all under JJM

The village:

The Sajadiyali village is located in Jamkandorna block at 70 km from Rajkot city. The total geographical area of village is 1474.22 hectares with flat topography. The region has hot and semi-arid climatic condition with moderate rainfall. The population of the village is 2672 with 470 households. The Main occupation of people is agriculture, animal husbandry and dairy industries.

The Issue:

The existing in-village water supply scheme of the village was designed and executed in parts 20 years before with service level of 50 lpcd. The water supply of this village is connected to Bhadra regional water supply scheme (RWSS) covering Jamkandorna block. The Bhadra RWSS is based on Fofal dam situated at Dudhivadar village Jamkandorna block. The pipeline network was old and got damaged over the years that led to irregular and inadequate water supply to village community. Further, the newly developed habitations consisting of 470 households were not connected to the existing pipeline network. The water supply to village was available merely twice a week. Though, village had two sumps with 50,000 liters and 1,00,000 liters capacity and an ESR of 1,00,000-liters capacity, regular and adequate water supply remained a challenge to the community due to leakage in the village distribution network. Also, houses located nearby ESR were getting more water in comparison to the one located at the tail end of the village. Despite availability of water supply scheme, poor operation & maintenance (O&M) along with damaged infrastructure forces community to travel for distance to fetch water within village.

The Action:

To overcome this water crisis, in 2020, the village Sarpanch approached the WASMO office in Rajkot. Sarpanch also took an initiative and convened the Gram Sabha where, the representative of WASMO provided an overview of the scheme and its O&M to the villagers. The Pani Samiti was reconstituted that took a strong resolution to resolve water supply problems in the village. The accelerated approach led to completing the technical survey, mobilizing public contribution and bank account process promptly supported by community mobilization. The villagers opened the bank account and deposited the 10% public contribution. Subsequently the WASMO scheme was approved by the District Water and Sanitation Committee and an online tender was done for distribution pipeline, T-system, sump, motor and pump house. The village water supply scheme was completed in 2021 on a fast track mode under “Nal Se Jal” programme with an investment of INR 33,70,800/- providing higher service level to communities @100 LPCD.

The Impact:

Har Ghar Jal have led FHTC to 600 families, safe water being used by 3000 population @ 100 LPCD. The village water supply scheme managed by the Pani Samiti is ensuring adequate, regular and potable water supply to each household. There are around 17 Zones, getting water supply on alternative days. Now this village is included in 100% Har Ghar Jal category. The Pani Samiti is very excited and actively engaged in water management activities. The water tariff is fixed at Rs. 300/- per annum for each household by the Pani Samiti. Also, the O&M plan is prepared by Pani Samiti. Social awareness programs are enthusiastically organized in the village. Village women is now getting sufficient time to focus on other activities and earn their livelihood. The improved access to adequate water have enabled the village communities to upkeep and use the toilets regularly.

Sajadiyali village have truly demonstrated community led decentralized management of rural water supply with a cleaner, greener and a healthier village model.

