

Progress made in JSA interventions in Tiruppur



Individual soak pits have been constructed in all houses of Sadayapalayam village in Kundadam Block of Tiruppur district of Tamil Nadu that help dispose waste water which gradually percolates into the ground and augments the water table. The move prevents stagnation of waste water and breeding of mosquitoes. In addition, earthen embankments or bunding in agricultural farms have assisted farmers as they hold rainwater and contribute to effective watershed management.

This was reported by the Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) team that visited the southern district during the II Phase of the JSA campaign for states with retreating monsoons. The team which comprised Central Nodal Officer (CNO) - Mrs. Sujatha Sharma, Economic Advisor/Prabhari Officer, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Block Development Officers and Technical Officers visited the blocks of Avinashi and Kundadam between 7th and 9th November, 2019.

The team also observed that, many works being carried out for improving ground water table had yielded results. Having received good rainfall, renovated traditional water bodies had been

filled with water. The 5 sites adopted by the CNO were also examined and recommendations made.



Update on other JSA interventions:

Renovation of traditional water bodies: Noyyal River that passes through the heart of the city has very little water that is stagnant. Renovation of the river has been proposed for the 6.2 KM stretch of the river that flows through the city, under Tiruppur Smart City Scheme at a cost of Rs. 158.49 crore. Work under this would include re-development and restoration of the river; improvement in access to the river and canals; and providing safe and convenient mobility corridors for use of both pedestrians and cyclists. Parks, food courts, street fairs and side walk cafes would be developed to attract public to the area.

Afforestation: An individual farmer from Sadayapalayam village has been planted 30,000 fruit bearing trees such as Pomegranate. It is common knowledge that trees attract rain bearing clouds, reduce global warming, prevent soil erosion and enhance nature.

Sustainability plan and way forward:

- Water conservation structures should be maintained properly to increase ground water table
- Renovation of traditional water bodies should be done periodically
- Farmers should be educated to create watershed activities in their farms
- Public should know how to construct reuse and recharge structures
- Survival of planted saplings should be monitored frequently



Recommendations: The following recommendations should be implemented and monitored by the concerned departments to increase ground water table.

- At 520mm, the average rainfall is considerably less in all parts of district. Hence, the public needs to be made aware of the importance of conserving rainwater and they should set up rainwater harvesting structures in all their homes. This should be monitored on war footing.
- Farmers should be advised to construct staggered trenches in their coconut farms to hold the rainwater from surface runoff.
- Dead saplings should be replaced with new ones during the monsoons.
- Dysfunctional borewell should be converted in to recharge shafts to increase the water table