



LINKING & REJUVENATING WATER RESOURCES

Local government in Maharajpur demonstrate, against all odds, that "water to all" is possible.



Rain Water Harvesting / Resource Management

Recommendation by: Urban Development & Environment Department, GoMP

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Submitted by

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1.Summary

Summary

istorically, Bundelkhand has been periodically subjected to drought. This being the case, the people have evolved over time elaborate mechanisms to cope with the drought. What has changed in recent years is that the traditional coping mechanisms have fallen apart. The problem is not so much the shortfall in rain officially called meteorological drought rather it is the reduced ability of the people to cope with such a shortfall.

The problem to be addressed is how to prevent the water from running off rapidly down rocky slopes into streams and rivers leading to the Yamuna the river that drains the region. The solutions evolved over a 1000 years have been to construct innumerable rain water harvesting structures taking into account the lay of the land, designed to capture the runoff in surface ponds and recharge underground sources. Water harvesting structures ponds in every village and town and at other strategic locations - had been crafted in the region as early as 800-900 AD by the Chandela kings and reinforced by subsequent rulers the Bundela's and the Peshwa's. But in addition to conserving the rainwater, Bundeli's evolved hardy crop varieties that required less water and cattle breeds that could withstand the rigors of drought.

In the present scenario, the rapid urbanisation has almost vanished these water structures and the region is facing serious issues related to water.

Maharajpur is one such municipality of Bundelkhand which demonstrates how traditional approach can is still give positive results . Three years back, similar to other municipalities of Madhya Pradesh, Maharajpur nagar parishad (MNP) was facing acute shortage of water due to scanty rainfall and low yield of ground water . The newly elected council came into existence in the year 2009. Considering the sensitivity of the matter MNP placed water on the highest priority of it's work agenda. Before initiating, council decided to involve all the stakeholders in decision making process.

The traditional approach of water conservation and local technologies were pooled together. Water flowing in the nearby "Kajli nallah" was retained through stop dam and transferred through construction of a 3 km long canal to a lake located within the town. The process eventually rejuvenated all the wells and handpumps, which ultimately brought back the famous betel agriculture.

In the entire process most important aspects were use of local technology, traditional approach and community participation. The local people realised the efforts of nagar parishad and contributed financially ("Dhan-daan") as well as physically (Shram-daan) in the entire process.

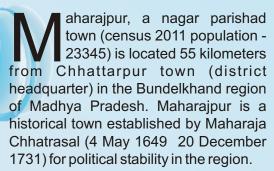
As a result, Maharajpur nagar parishad succeded in providing 90 lpcd water to its citizens and the citizens are also assisting parishad by paying water charges regularly. The betel farmer and fisherman have regained their livelihood. A tremendous rise in the groundwater level has been observed. It is one of the most innovative initiative for service delivery, taken by any of the ULB in Madhya Pradesh . It shows the success of community participation, traditional approach and good Governance.



Background

2. Background

Water conservation through creation of artificial structures



he city derived its name from Maharaja Chhatrasal's city as 'Maharajpur".

About 3 years back, town was facing severe drinking water problems. Reasons behind it were, non-perinneal water bodies, decreasing water table and failure of water transport system.

Water conservation: The newly elected council (year 2009) took initiative to recharge ground water resources through creation of artificial structures, so as to improve ground water level of the whole town. A Stop dam was constructed on a Storm water drain"Kajli nallah", nearly three kilometers away from the town. This area was connected with the already existing lake "Shiv Sagar Talab", by digging up a 3 kms long canal.

Water collected in the lake percolates into dugwells and remains available at 20-40 feet, even in summers. Similarly other water bodies were also recharged and rise in water table has been tremendous.

The idea of holding Rain water and transferring it to the lake by



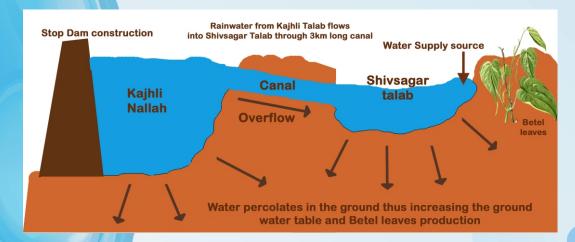
providing 3kms long canal was considered infeasible and impractical by the engineers of PHED and irrigation department. But, hard work, scientific assessment and consultative approach of representatives, municipal officers and local people translated their dreams into reality. The total cost involved in the initiative came out to be many times lesser of that estimated by the parastatal agencies.

Within a short span of time, a great rise in groundwater level has been recorded. In the present scenario, nagar parishad is supplying water at the rate of 70 lpcd to its citizens.

The construction of canal rejuvinated the Shivsagar lake and has made remarkable change in the water and environment of the town.

The rise in water level is such that the town would have sufficient drinking water till next 15-20 years.





2.1 Situation prior to initiative

n the absence of reliable water source, nagar parishad Maharajpur was facing severe water problems. However, Shivsagar lake exists in the town but it was not a perennial source and also used to dry up within 2 months post rains. The main reason behind this was development of settlement all along the lake, which eventually reduced the catchment area of this lake and construction on the streams/tributaries carrying water for this lake almost closed all the feeders. As a result lake could not achieve its full tank level. On the other hand the ground water extraction reduced the water table and almost all the lake water used to percolate.

Gradually, water level went on decreasing and the municipality kept on boring deeper tube-wells. Due to repeated boring of tube wells, water level went down to 500 feet .All the alternative sources like wells, ponds also went dry.

Maharajpur is famous for Betel leaves production. The town supplies Betel leaves and Pepermint to Merrut and Sultanpur towns from where is is exported to Arab countries. It is estimated that the complete business crosses annual turnover of Rs. 50 crores.

Due to scarcity of water the Betel farmers started migrating towards nearby towns. Alongwith farmers the fishermen who were dependent upon Shivsagar talab also started opting for other means of livelihood. There was a worrying fall in the economic levels of the town. Due to unavailability of water, agriculture and allied businesses almost got defunct.

The water was supplied through tankers and that too once in 5-7 days. Major expenditure of the ULB was on water transport.

Disputes over getting water from the tankers became a common practice and masses were badly irritated and tormented due to this mismanagement. After some years when the problem became uncontrolled, people came on the streets and started road block agitations /hunger strike etc. This resulted in mismanagement and helplessness in the ULB.

Not only people suffered from the unavailability of water but the impacts were felt by the livestock population also. This is in addition to the loss to agriculture, the major source of livelihood for people in peripheral municipal area.











3. Establishment of priorities & Process Adopted

he local body elections were held in the year 2009 and the biggest challenge in front of the newly elected council was:

"To overcome the problem of drinking water through existing water resources"

Accepting this challenge, the newly elected council unanimously passed resolution to solve this problem. The goal set was:

"To quench thirst of the people and work in a well-planned and managed way to achieve this"

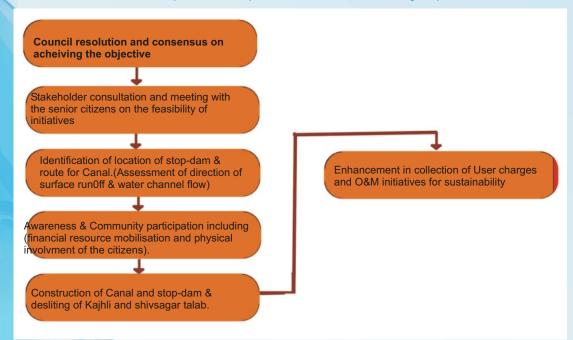
Scarcity of water was the biggest hurdle in achieving this goal. The out migration of the farmers and decrease in production of betel leaves was a serious issue. Thoughts were directed to reach the permanent solution of water supply problem. The novel thoughts of young blood discerned the basic mistake that all efforts were being made in the direction of exploiting underground water which was only a temporary solution. Nothing was being done in terms of recharging water resources. Hence, one more goal was set:

"to recharge water resources so as to improve underground water level of the whole town"

The idea was to rejuvenate the existing Shivsagar lake and wells at different places. It was necessary to undertake redemption work of old legacy like wells, bawadis etc. to recharge all water resources with rain water so that they can survive for the whole year and sustainability could be achieved.

The only way to rejuvenate the lake was through supply of a feeder water canal (as during rains most of the lake water gets percolated due to lower ground water tabel). Hence, a revolutionary plan was formulated and it was decided to construct a **three kilometer long canal** which shall join a storm water drain and existing Shivsagar lake.

Implementation process The implementation process involved the following steps:



3.1 Creation of artificial water bodies

Priorities & Process

The implementation process broadly involved following three steps:

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Steps	Work	Outcome				
Step 1	1.Construction of stop dam type structure on a storm water drain "Kajli Nallah" to hold water (Note: The natural flow of water is not restricted during peak rainy season i.e. June-August)	Water remains available in the river till next year's August				
Step 2	Diversion of Storm water by construction of a 3Kms long canal and connection to lake	Stored water of lake is sufficient to cater the town population for 2 years				
Step 3	IEC activities for awareness generation	Town receives filtered water @ 70-90 lpcd				

Details of implementation process:

1. Holding the Rain water: Three kilometers away from the town, a Storm water natural drain "Kajli nallah"flows which ultimately meets a river. The council decided to anyhow use this rain water. Laying of pipelines and designing of project was a cost and time consuming idea.

The council decided to catch the storm water and fill the Shivsagar lake, within a time period of 10-12 months.

A stop dam to hold the flow of rain water was constructed on "Kajli Nallah". The basic objective was to hold water.

2. Creation of 3 Kms long canal: The most important task was to divert the rain water towards the existing Shivsagar lake. Designing of a water supply pipeline and its laying was a time and cost consuming idea. Hence, alternatives were thought of. The council finally went for a revolutionary step of creation of a 3 kms long canal.

Creation of a canal basically raised three questions:

- a. what should be the ideal path for canal
- b. How to construct
- c. How project would be funded

Maharajpur nagar parishad organised a

general meeting and invited all the senior citizens and stakeholders. The technical team of MNP did soil testing and found the most feasible path for digging of the canal.

With the continuos efforts of MNP a 3kms long canal was created and it was joined with the existing lake.







4.Mobilisation of Resources

Creation of canal in such a manner was considered infeasible and impractical by the engineers of PHED and irrigation dept. They were of the opinion that these efforts would not give any positive results.

Different departments estimated the cost of construction of the canal in crores, but Nagar Parishad got the construction work completed at the cost of Rs. 50 lakhs only.

Financial arrangements:

The financial arrangements done by the nagar parishad mainly included steps for cost restriction as mentioned below:

- 1. Restriction on water transportation expenditure
- 2. Lake creation: 40 lakhs from (BRGF)Backward Region Grant Fund) and 10 lakhs from ULB's own resources





5. Result Achieved

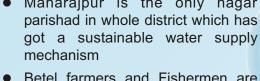
he success of this effort rested on the belief of the traditional knowledge and experience of the elderly people.

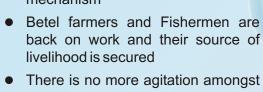
After the implementation of works, when it rained, the newly constructed canal carried water from Kajali nallah to Shivsagar lake. As a result the existing lake alongwith dugwells became full with water. Within a short span of time a great rise in groundwater level was recorded.Water streams got erupted in



- Maharajpur is the only nagar mechanism
- back on work and their source of livelihood is secured
- the citizens

Maharajpur nagar parishad which was



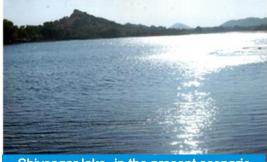




Shivsagar lake - Prior to initiative



Canal during construction



Shivsagar lake- in the present scenario



considered to be harshly affected by water scarcity has now become self

the newly built wells near the lake region. This was a clear indication of rise in



ground water level due to recharging of water bodies. This way the problem of

drinking water was solved.

Maharajpur nagar parishad is supplying water to its citizens @ 90 lpcd

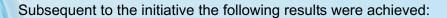
Naturally filtered water is being



Betel farming rejuvinated

sufficient with respect to drinking water supply. The present supply of water is equal to the URDPFI prescribed norms and the water level is tremendously high.

Result Achieved



In March 2010,

Nagar parishad's expenditure per household connection was Rs. 195/- and the supply of water was done @ 30 LPCD In March 2013, Nagar parishad's expenditure per household connection is Rs. 43/- and the supply of water is been done @ 90 LPCD.

Comparative analysis

Physical analysis:

Year	Water table	Water supply	Mode of water supply
Year 2010	100-150 Ft	10 once in days	Through Tankers
Year 2013	30-50 Ft	every day	Through tap connection 75% houses

Financial analysis:

Year	Expenditure on water	Expenditure on	No. of house	Revenue Received
	tankers	water supply	hold	
		network	connection	
Year 2010	Rs. 3.00 lakh per month	-	588	Rs. 3.77 lakh
Year 2013		Rs. 0.50 lakh per month	999	Rs. 5.96 lakh

6. Lesson Learned

- Total number of water connections has increased almost 70%, from 588 in the year 2010 to 999 in the year 2013.
- Total revenue generation has increased 150% and the expenditure has significantly reduced.

Intangible benefits

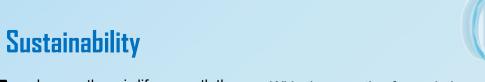
- There is a feeling of content and satisfaction among the citizens of Maharajpur.
- The Betel farmers and Fishermen have regained their livelihood and are content with the ULB's efforts.
- Villages and towns of nearby area have learned how to conserve the valuable water.

Some of the major lessons learnt from this initiative are:

1. Water availability is not a problem but

its management is.

- Community based approach is essential for sustainability of water sources.
- 3. Making people participate in the development activity and involving them in the planning and implementation helps in building ownership and success.
- 4. In contrast to the myth that people show unwillingness to contribute for development work, the community in Maharajpur is willing to contribute as they foresee the benefits of programme.



s long as there is life on earth the requirement of water will be vital. Maharajpur nagar parishad has emerged as an example of collecting and conserving water before exploiting it. This is the need of the day. If the rain water is conserved, the problem of water paucity will never arise.

All the water resources like stop-dam, lakes, wells etc. constructed by the nagar parishad can remain useful till infinite years.

Every year, by little maintenance and works like removing silt, dredging the importance of ponds will go on increasing.

Transportation of water and boring tube wells are temporary arrangements only. Boring tube-wells and transporting water can neither solve the problem permanently nor be useful for a developing country like India.It will only reduce the ground water level. The only option left is conserving water by constructing lakes, ponds etc. Permanent solution for water supply problem is conservation of water.

Maharajpur Nagar Parishad followed the concept of revitalizing water bodies which has proved to be sustainable since ages. All the water resources like stop-dam, lakes, wells etc. constructed by the nagar panchayat can remain useful till infinite years.

- With the growth of population water demand would increase hence the nagar parishad has started capacity enhancement measures of water bodies
- Last year the total rainfall was half of the average rainfall, but still the town has sufficient water to supply to its citizens

7.1 Awareness generated

here is a feeling of content and satisfaction among the citizens of Maharajpur. It gets reflected from the fact that a majority of residents of Maharajpur have requested the council to supply limited water, as access water supply leads to the wastage of valuable water. Surrounding villages and towns have learned how to conserve and manage valuable water.

As Community based participatory approach was adopted in the process hence sustainability and success of initiative remains assured. The community is willing to contribute when they foresee the benefits of a programme, this is contrary to the myth that people are unwilling to contribute for development work.











नगर परिषद के प्रयास से आसपास के कंअे एवं हैंडपम्प में भरपूर जल आ गया है एवं फसलें भी अच्छे ढंग से सिंचित हो रही है। इसके साथ ही मछली पाल गतिविधियां भी प्रारंभ हो गई हैं।



शहर की जलापूर्ति की गंभीर समस्या के निवारण हेतु नगर पालिका प्रतिबद्ध थी। परन्तु जल समस्या के निवारण हेतु सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण एक विश्वसनीय जल स्त्रोत का होना था। जिसे निकाय ने नहर द्वारा शिवसागर तालाब के रूप में पुर्नजीवित किया।



नगर परिषद द्वारा बहुत अच्छा काम किया गया है पहले पानी के लिये डिब्बे लेकर ईंधर—उंधर भटकना पड़ता था परन्तु अब रोज घर पर ही पानी मिलने लगा है

Transferability & References

8. Transferability & References

he places facing shortage of water and those having ample amount of water should be connected so that the future generations would not struggle for water. It has been rightly said that wherever the water runs it should be walked and wherever it walks should be stopped.

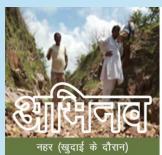
The success of this 'Novel Experiment' of conserving water by Maharajpur nagar parishad has become exemplary. Such experiments are being thought to be done by other towns also. This model of Maharajpur has been appreciated by the Secretary, Urban Administration and Development Department and the best practice documentary has been displayed on the website for wider dissemination.

The practice can be easily replicated initially in the Bundelkhand region as well as wherever feasible.















महाराजपुर मध्यप्रदेश के छतरपुर जिले की एक नगर परिषद है। महाराजपुर महाराजा छत्रसाल (4 मई 1649 – 20 दिसंबर, 1731) द्वारा क्षेत्र में राजनीतिक स्थिरता के लिए स्थापित एक ऐतिहासिक शहर है।

शहर का नाम ''महाराजा छत्रसाल का शहर'' — महाराजपुर के रूप में रखा गया। महाराजपुर नगर परिषद का क्षेत्र 14.50 वर्ग किलोमीटर में फैला है, जिसकी जनसंख्या, 2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार 23345 है।

इस क्षेत्र के कृषि उत्पाद पान, पिपरिमंट एवं सुपारी का कच्चा माल उत्तरप्रदेश के मेरठ एवं सुल्तानपुर को निर्यात किया जाता है, जहां से इसे अरब देशों में निर्यात किया जता है। यह सम्पूर्ण व्यवसाय रू. 50 करोड़ प्रतिवर्ष अनुमानित है जिससे नगर की अर्थव्यवस्था लाभान्वित होती है।

महाराजपुर नगर में पेयजल की पूर्व की स्थिति

महाराजपुर नगर में वर्ष 2008—09 के दौरान पेयजल की स्थिति अत्यधिक गंभीर थी। नगर में पेयजल का एक मात्र स्त्रोत शिवसागर तालाब था, जो वर्षा न होने के कारण सूख चुका था। नगर के विभिन्न हैं उपम्प एवं कुंओं में भी पानी नहीं था। प्रतिदिन टेंकरों से जलापूर्ति की जा रही थी, जिससे निकाय का अत्यधिक वित्तीय नुकसान हो रहा था एवं नागरिकों में भारी असंतोष था। इसके अतिरिक्त नगर के आसपास होने वाली पान आदि की खेती को भारी नुकसान हो रहा था एवं किसानों द्वारा पलायन किया जा रहा था।

निकाय द्वारा जलापूर्ति हेतु किया गया अभिनव प्रयास

नव निर्वाचित परिषद एवं अध्यक्ष श्रीमती चंद्रमुखी चौरिसया द्वारा नगर में पानी की समस्या के निवारण हेतु संकल्प लिया गया एवं जलापूर्ति हेतु विभिन्न विकल्पों पर विचार किया गया। परन्तु, किसी भी योजना के कियान्वयन हेतु अत्यधिक राशि एवं समय की आवश्यकता थी। परिषद द्वारा नगर के भौतिक स्वरूप का अध्ययन किया गया एवं क्रांतिकारी योजना का सृजन किया गया। इस योजना के अन्तर्गत नगर से 3 किमी की दूरी पर बहने वाली बरसाती धारा "कजली नाला" के ऊपर स्टॉप डेम का निर्माण करने की योजना बनायी गई। इस नाले पर रूकने वाले जल को शिवसागर तालाब से जोड़ना अगला लक्ष्य था। इस हेतु विभिन्न प्रशासकीय विभागों से चर्चा की गई परन्तु सभी विभागों द्वारा इसे असंभव तथा अव्यवहारिक माना गया। परन्तु परिषद द्वारा अपनी योजना पर तटस्थ एवं प्रतिबद्ध रहते हुये कजली नाले से शिवसागर तालाब तक नहर खोदने का कार्य प्रारंभ किया गया। लगभग 1 वर्ष के कड़े परिश्रम से कजली नाले को नहर द्वारा तालाब से जोड़ा गया। वर्ष 2011 की वर्षा प्रारंभ होते ही शिवसागर तालाब का स्वरूप ही बदल गया एवं यह जलाशय पानी से लबालब हो गया। सम्पूर्ण तालाब पानी से भरे जाने के कारण नगर के सभी कुंओं में पानी का स्तर बढ़ गया।

अभिनव प्रयास के परिणाम

वर्तमान में शिवसागर तालाब में पानी की इतनी मात्रा है, कि यदि, आगामी 2 से 3 वर्ष बरसात कम भी होती है तो भी नगर में जल की कोई कमी नहीं होगी। विगत 2 वर्षो से महाराजपुर नगर में पानी की कोई कमी नहीं है, ग्रीष्म काल में भी टेंकर से पेयजल परिवहन नहीं किया जा रहा है। खजरी ग्राम के आसपास की भूमि में जल रिचार्ज हुआ एवं इसके तथा शिवसागर तालाब के आसपास पान की खेती करने वालों को पानी उपलब्धता से अच्छी फसल हुई जिससे आय में काफी वृद्धि हुई है। नगर के सभी हैंडपम्प एवं कुओं में जल स्तर बढ़ गया है एवं नगर की पेयजल समस्या पूर्ण रूप से समाप्त हो गई है। यह सम्पूर्ण कार्य मात्र राशि रूपये 40-50 लाख में पूरा कर लिया गया है। इस हेतु नगर परिषद द्वारा स्वयं के वित्तीय स्त्रोतों का उपयोग किया गया तथा बीआरजीएफ से आंशिक वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त की गई है।

महाराजपुर नगर के ऐसे नवाचार कार्य की जन—प्रतिनिधियों, पत्रकार गण एवं मीडिया द्वारा स्वयं नहर का सर्वे कर प्रशंसा की गई। जनता इस प्रयास से अत्यधिक संतुष्ट है। नगर परिषद महाराजपुर जिला छतरपुर का एक मात्र नगर है जहां एक ऐसा अनूठा प्रयास कर पेयजल की समस्या पर पूर्ण रूप से काबू पा लिया गया है।



चंद्रमुखी चौरसिया (अध्यक्ष नगर परिषद महाराजपुर)

शहर की जलापूर्ति की गंभीर समस्या के निवारण हेतु नगर पालिका प्रतिबद्ध थी। परन्तु जल समस्या के निवारण हेतु सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण एक विश्वसनीय जल स्त्रोत का होना था। जिसे निकाय ने नहर द्वारा शिवसागर तालाब के रूप में पुर्नजीवित किया।



संतोष चौरसिया (स्थानीय किसान)

नगर परिषद के प्रयास से आसपास के कुंओ एवं हैंडपम्प में भरपूर जल आ गया है एवं फसलें भी अच्छे ढंग से सिंचित हो रही है। इसके साथ ही मछली पालन आदि पातिविधियां भी प्रारंभ हो गई हैं।



स्थानीय नागरिक

नगर परिषद द्वारा बहुत अच्छा काम किया गया है पहले पानी के लिये डिब्बे लेकर ईघर–उघर भटकना पड़ता था परन्तु अब रोज घर पर ही पानी मिलने लगा है।





एस. टी. डी. कोड : 07682

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नि. : 241501 के : 241704

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कार्यालय कलेक्टर एवं जिला दण्डाधिकारी, छतरपुर (म० प्र०) 471001

क्रमांक *599* /DUDA/2014

छतरपुर, दिनांक<u>0</u>3/जून/2014

प्रति,

आयुक्त,

नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास म.प्र. भोपाल

विषय : नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर जिला छतरपुर के नवाचार कार्य वर्षा जल संरक्षण हेतु

शासन से पुरस्कार प्राप्त करने की अनुशंसा किये जाने बावत।

संदर्भ : अध्यक्ष नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर जिला छतरपुर का पत्र क्रमांक / 52 दिनांक

2-6-2014

विषयान्तर्गत संदर्भित पत्र का अवलोकन करने का कष्ट करें, नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर द्वारा 03 कि.मी. दूर खुजली ग्राम से महाराजपुर स्थित शिवसागर तालाब तक नहर खुदवाकर पानी की आवक बढ़ाई जाकर तालाब में पर्याप्त पानी की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित होने से नगर के पेयजल स्त्रोतों के जल स्तर में वृद्धि हुई है तथा इससे नगर की पेयजल समस्या का निदान हुआ है साथ ही पान की खेती के लिये पर्याप्त पानी मिलना संभव हुआ है।

नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर के उक्त कार्य के प्रशंसात्मक समाचार विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुए है जिनकी कटिंग की प्रतियां तथा सी.डी. संलग्न की गई है साथ ही जन प्रतिनिधि

ायों द्वारा भी इसकी प्रशंसा की गई है।

अतएव नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर के द्वारा वर्षा जलसंरक्षण हेतु किये गये उक्त कार्य को शासनकी नवाचार योजना में सम्मिलित किये जाने और नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर को नियमानुसार पुरूस्कृत करने की अनुशंसा की जाती है।

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

(डॉ. मसूद अस्तर) कलेक्टर

⊾िजला छतरपुर म.प्र.

पृष्ठांकन क्रमांक *530* /DUDA/2014 प्रतिलिपि – छत्तरपुर, दिनांक <u>0.3/.9.6./2</u>014

अध्यक्ष, नगर पालिका परिषद महाराजपुर जिला छत्तरपुर की ओर सूचनार्थ।

कलेक्टर जिला छतरपुर म.प्र.





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