

INNOVATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT

THROUGH CB & IEC ACTIVITIES CARRIED UNDER WORLD BANK AIDED

Punjab Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project

The water supply in village Majara of district Ludhiana was not potable and inadequate resulting in acute shortage of drinking water supply in terms of quality and quantity thereby making the villagers a distressed lot. Hence, Village Majara in district Ludhiana was taken up for providing potable water supply under the NRDWP (SWAp). Under this new approach of decentralized service delivery, the village level community through Capacity Building and mobilization initiatives of District Program Management Cell, Ludhiana was able to successfully convince the villagers to adopt the project for adequate, assured safe water supply at their door-steps and instilled confidence amongst the GPWSCs members to be able to self-sustain their schemes. Through Capacity Building efforts, the GPWSC members became very pro-active and were successful in creating sufficient surplus amount in their O&M account by reducing their expenditure. Each household has taps and the committee members of GPWSC ensure that there is no water wastage, the community pays regular monthly tariff and there are no illegal connections.



Water Works of Village Majara, District Ludhiana, Punjab

The DPMC staff under the pro-active approach of Engineer, J.S. Chahal further thought of making this village set an example for the others to follow by an innovative idea of installing 500-1000 ltr capacity water tank to each household.

This novel idea was appreciated by the GPWSC who ensured that each and every household will install an overhead water storage tank fitted with stop valves placed on the roof tops. When the storage tank of a consumer gets filled, stop-valve automatically shuts the incoming supply, thereby reducing water wastage through overflow.



Mr. Srinivasa Rao Podipireddy, TTL, World Bank, inspecting village Majara with SE-cum-DPD and EE, District Ludhiana, Punjab

This resulted in assured water supply to consumers, as he/she is confident that his/her storage tank is full of water, and also resulted in equitable distribution of water and pressure to all the consumers. Besides, it showed amazing results as it not only assured water supply to all consumers but maintained sufficient pressure in the pipeline network to deliver water even at the roof top of two-storey houses.

During the World Bank Implementation Support Mission visit, Mr. Srinivasa Rao Podipireddy, TTL World Bank took a first-hand view of village Majara and was appreciative of this innovative idea which ensured 24 × 7 water supply thus making the village community contented. It was suggested that each household be provided with meters so that the households pay according to the water utilized which would benefit the poor section that use less quantity of water.

The innovative approach has proved to be a success and should be replicated in other villages of Punjab.