Establishing water as commons and ensuring water security for all

## **MAHARASHTRA**

#### DROUGHT STOCK-TAKING



Amravati, June 4, 2019



Jalna, June 6, 2019



Solapur, June 8, 2019

With Maharashtra reeling under drought, our teams are visiting the drought-hit regions of Vidarbha and Marathwada to take stock of drought and discuss water crises with local networks, activists, legislators, farmers, farmers' widows, local officials etc.



Osmanabad, June 7, 2019

With Maharashtra facing severe drought, we held consultations in Osmanabad with grazing land-holders, single women and civil society representatives on June 7. Communities' situation in drought and their approaches to combat it were discussed in detail at the meeting. This was followed by a press conference on the drought scenario. The report recently brought out by us on drought was also discussed.



#### **DISTRIBUTING TANKER WATER**

As part of our drought relief efforts in Marathwada region of Maharashtra, we distributed tanker water in parched regions of Badnapur taluka, District Jalna on June 5.



#### DISTRIBUTING DRIP IRRIGATION SETS

As part of our drought relief efforts in Marathwada region of Maharashtra, we distributed drip irrigation sets to several drought-affected farmers from Badnapur and Aurangabad on June 6.

# **UTTAR PRADESH**



#### **COMMUNITY-LEVEL CAMPAIGN ON WATER**

As part of the #JalSwavlambanCampaign that we ran in 7 districts of the drought-hit Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh from May 29 to June 19, community-level meetings were held in villages across those districts and awareness spread on water-related issues.



#### **REJUVENATING WATER BODIES**

Efforts towards rejuvenating water bodies, deepening the local ponds and farm bunding underway in the various districts of Uttar Pradesh under our #JalSwavlambanCampaign.

## **UTTAR PRADESH**



# COMMUNITIES RAISE THEIR CONCERNS & DEMANDS

As part of the #JalSwavlambanCampaign that we ran in 7 districts of the drought-hit Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh, district-level public meetings were organized across districts. Charters of communities' demands for rejuvenation of water bodies, highlighting water and agrarian crises and livestock loss due to drought were submitted to local government officials.



#### **LOCAL ADMINISTRATION TAKES ACTION**

Following the submission of charter of demands to district officials in Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh, as part of the #JalSwavlambanAbhiyan, the officials visited the district's Birdha block and instructed concerned departments to work for rejuvenation of local water bodies and arrange for more water tankers in the area.

# **BIHAR**



#### **CHILDREN PAINTING THEIR IDEAS**

During the water literacy campaign that we ran in June in Patna, Bihar, children from the local slums creatively put their ideas and plans for water conservation and sanitation on paper.



### "I PLEDGE TO #ACTFORWATER"

During the water literacy campaign that we ran in in June in Patna, Bihar, the local city-makers and youth pledged their support towards conserving water and protecting water bodies.



#### **PUBLIC MEETING ON WATER**

A public meeting on water-related issues was organized at Gandhi Ghat in Patna, Bihar, on June 19. Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Hon'ble Minister, Information & Public Relations, Bihar was present at the meeting too; he assured that the state government would work towards addressing the various issues raised.

# **JHARKHAND**



#### **SPREADING WATER LITERACY**

From June 15 to June 20, we ran a water literacy campaign in Deoghar district of Jharkhand. The campaign traversed 30 villages of Madhupur and Margomunda blocks of the district, generating awareness on water issues.



#### PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR IRRIGATION

Following the water literacy campaign that we ran in Deoghar district of Jharkhand, pump-sets and pipes were handed over to community members from 6 villages in the district on June 20 to support irrigation. We had also facilitated the rejuvenation of ponds in these 6 villages.

## **ODISHA**



## PEOPLE'S REPORT ON RIVER MAHANADI

To understand river water governance of River Mahanadi through people's perspectives, we undertook a study in Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The report emerging out of this study was released in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on March 18 during the World Water Day week. Several youths also signed up as Water Volunteers and resolved to deepen the discourse on water ecology and the larger environment.



#### **DISCUSSING WATER ECOLOGY**

On June 6, we organized a consultation on river and water ecology in Sambalpur, Odisha. More than 50 Water Volunteers present at the meeting resolved to monitor water bodies, grow plants and spread water literacy.

# **KARNATAKA**



#### **CLEANING THE LAKE**

A group of volunteers carried out a cleaning drive at Doddakallasandra lake in Bengaluru, Karnataka in December 2018.



#### **OUR YOUNG ECO-CONSCIOUS CITIZENS**

On the eve of World Water Day (March 22), we facilitated sessions for students from four schools in Bengaluru, Karnataka, to raise their water consciousness.



# **SENSITIZING LOCAL RESIDENTS ON BIODIVERSITY**

On World Water Day (March 22), an awareness drive was organized near Doddakallasandra lake in Bengaluru wherein local residents were sensitized on the need for water conservation and protection of bio-diversity.



# **MEETING ON FORESTS, WATER & LAND**

We organized a meeting on issues pertaining to water, forests and land in Kakrana village of Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh on June 14. More than 150 people participated in the meeting and talked about the symbiotic relationship of tribal communities with nature. The local legislator, Mr. Mukesh Patel, was present at the meeting too.

# **MADHYA PRADESH**



#### **REJUVENATING WATER BODIES**

Water conservation efforts, including rejuvenation of water bodies, are being undertaken by local communities in villages of Betul, Madhya Pradesh.

# UTTARAKHAND



# **TOWARDS PROTECTION OUR FORESTS** & WATER BODIES

On June 11, more than 120 people from 20 villages gathered in Karnaprayag, Uttarakhand, at a meeting organized by us to discuss the need to protect forests and other natural resources, and to rejuvenate water bodies.

## UTTARAKHAND



#### **WATER LITERACY DRIVE IN HARIDWAR**

On June 12, on the occasion of Ganga Avtaran Diwas, we organized programmes in Haridwar, Uttarakhand, to spread water literacy among people who had come there from across states to take a dip in the Ganga. We could reach out to more than 1000 people as part of this drive.

# **RAJASTHAN**



#### **WATER CONSERVATION IN ARID ZONES**

A two-day consultation on water conservation practices in arid zones was organized in Jodhpur, Rajasthan on June 17-18. The role of the various institutions as well as communities in water conservation practices was discussed comprehensively at this meeting.

# **CHHATTISGARH**



#### **CONSULTATION ON WATER COMMONS**

On the eve of World Environment Day (June 5), we organized a consultation on water commons in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The meeting saw rich discussions on river and water ecology, besides the concerns of riverine communities and possible solutions.

# **PUNJAB**



# WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK

Punjab presents an image of lush green fields, abundant grain and prosperity. However, most of us can hardly imagine the reality that lies behind this image. Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink is a short film made as part of an effort to share unheard stories from vulnerable communities in Punjab who toil every day to grow food for us but themselves do not have access to safe drinking water.

# **OUR YOUNG VOLUNTEERS**



#### **OUR YOUNG AGENTS OF CHANGE**

On World Water Day, students in Jamia Millia Islamia volunteered with us. In the photograph, a student is displaying a poster sharing a message on safe and affordable drinking water. The message represents a call against the growing privatisation of water commons worldwide.



# TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE: A VOLUNTEER'S INITIATIVE

We organized a meeting on issues pertaining to water, forests and land in Kakrana village of Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh on June 14. More than 150 people participated in the meeting and talked about the symbiotic relationship of tribal communities with nature. The local legislator, Mr. Mukesh Patel, was present at the meeting too.

The various water crises facing us all across the globe today require all of us to BECOME WATER VOLUNTEERS in our respective spaces and to #ActForWater in all possible ways, big or small!

**#ActForWater.** Will you?