

Water Conservation

Inter-linking of ponds in Lal Burra Gram Panchayat increases water levels

The grassroots level is central to any water conservation effort. The commitment shown by Pandharwani Lalburra Gram Panchayat in Madhya Pradesh to recharge groundwater through inter-linking of ponds exemplifies the impact action at the grassroots level can make.

Marred by decreasing groundwater levels and scarcity of water, especially in dry seasons, the Gram Panchayat of Pandharwani Lalburra in Balaghat district took the decision to link 5 ponds with each other through MGNREGA. The results were so encouraging that the district administration is now trying to emulate the same in nearby villages as well.

Shri Anees Khan, the Sarpanch of Pandharwani Gram Panchayat is happy with the results and believes that the inter-linking of ponds has ensured water availability in the area for years to come as groundwater levels have increased considerably. “The inter-linking of ponds has also not only helped farmers but fishermen are also able to revive their work as water availability has improved drastically,” Shri Anees said. He added that the depth of the ponds was increased by 10-12 feet before linking them in such a way that if one dries the excess water from another automatically fills it up. It is a remarkable way to harvest rainwater and keep village’s water in village itself.

The district administration has also hailed the efforts as unique and praiseworthy. Shri Deepak Arya, District Collector, Balaghat district said: “This is a unique effort considering the importance water conservation has acquired over the past few years. This is good not only for the betterment of the economy of the area but also for the overall development of the local community. I congratulate all the members of the Gram Panchayat for this effort.”



