

Two blocks of Odisha get water round-the-year, people rejoice

- **Saintala and Ganjam blocks benefit from rise in groundwater levels**
- **With availability of water even in dry seasons, farmers sow summer crops**
- **People lead healthy and happy life**

The interventions by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in two blocks of Odisha, Saintala and Ganjam, has enabled availability of water round-the-year. People are happy to find water in their drinking water wells even during the summer seasons.

The artificial recharge scheme for Karmeli and Burudi watersheds of Saintala and Ganjam blocks respectively has increased average groundwater recharge. The projects were executed by Department of Groundwater Surveys & Investigation, Government of Odisha and funded by CGWB under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

In Saintala and Ganjam blocks, artificial structures like check dams, percolation tanks, recharge tanks and pits etc. were created for recharge of groundwater. In Saintala block, it is estimated that the augmented groundwater resource spans an area of around 6.45 hectare meter.

While the water table in Saintala block rose by 0.06 m in pre-monsoon and 0.21 m in post-monsoon seasons, an improvement of 0.56 m was witnessed in post-monsoon season in Ganjam block. With the availability of water in the dry seasons due to artificial recharge, farmers in both the blocks are sowing summer crops in the vicinity of the recharged structures as well. The improvement in soil moisture in the areas has also been conducive for summer farming.

Below are some photos of the water structures which were created by CGWB:



Pre-Project



Post-Project

Watershed, Recharge Tank, Ganjam block, Odisha



PERCOLATION TANK- Karmeli mini Watershed , Saintala block, Bolangir dist, Odisha



LOOSE BOULDER CHECK DAM--Karmeli mini Watershed , Saintala block, Odisha