

Annual Report for 2006-07

During the year with the support of Deshpande Foundation, SCOPE has taken up this project in Haveri district of Karnataka state. Only one project had been handled during the year.

1. Name of the project: Construction of Pick up dam (earthen dam) across natural water stream.

2. Name of the funding organization: Deshpande Foundation through ASTI.

3. Name of the implementing agency: Society for Community Participation and Empowerment (SCOPE), Dharwad.

4. Project activities:

When the project was cleared from Deshpande Foundation and ASTI, SCOPE has started the project activities. The following are the developments.

- ❖ Six times, farmers association meeting was conducted.
- ❖ Briefed about the project objectives and deliverables to the farmers.
- ❖ The decision made during the meeting was recorded.
- ❖ Motivated the farmers to get the permission from the local panchayat.
- ❖ Panchayat members are agreed and gave the written permission for the construction of the pick up dam.
- ❖ A group of farmers went to meet the local MLA (Member of Legislative Assembly) and MP (Member of Parliament) requested him to support the project.
- ❖ They issued a letter to the concerned authority to clear the legal hurdles.
- ❖ Group of farmers went to Department of Forest with the help of SCOPE and made a representation.
- ❖ Forest officials had denied the permission to construct the dam.
- ❖ Farmers came to know that MLA has influenced the authority to get sanction a similar kind of project with government funds to the village.
- ❖ Construction of pick up dam work has been entrusted to Department of Minor Irrigation. The estimated cost of the project was Rs.75 lakhs.
- ❖ Project got technical approval and waiting for administrative approval.

- ❖ These project developments are shared with Deshpande Foundation.
- ❖ Deshpande Foundation permitted SCOPE to take up the tank development project at Shishunal village of Shiggon block.
- ❖ Hence there is change in the location of the project site and village.

5. Background of the new village: With permission of Deshpande Foundation Shishunal village has been selected. SCOPE has conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) to understand the village. Important features of the village are given below.

- Population - 4500 (Approx)
- Cultivable land - 2100 Acres
- Land un-fit for Cultivation - 100 Acres
- Area under Irrigation - 400 Acres
- Bore Wells (*Most of them are not working*) - 145
- Water (table) availability - Below 150 Feet
- Tractors - 14
- Dependency on Agriculture - 90%
- Migration for want of Job - 25%
- Crops Grown - Cotton, Chilly, Ground nut, Sorghum
- Most of the Farmers are engaged in rearing Cow & Buffaloes
- Average annual rainfall of the village - 650 MM
- Private High School
- Free boarding facilities for high school students
- Milk collection center
- BAIF Artificial Insemination center
- Aware of Soil testing, but not done
- Familiar with Bank transaction, most are defaulters
- Not exposed to Community development activities
- Wages: Male - Rs.30 and Female - Rs.25 for agriculture work.
- Grazing style - Watch & Ward
- BC Soil - 25%, Red Soil - 75%

6. Meeting with farmers group: SCOPE officials had discussed the development work to be under taken in their village. **Several meeting were conducted and subsequently they have decided to rehabilitate tank near Sharifgiri Mutt.** The decision was communicated to Deshpande Foundation. New estimate with drawing has been submitted to Foundation and got their approval.

7. Support from the farmers group : Sharifgiri mutt has trust committee comprising of village farmers. SCOPE has involved them right from the beginning. They have taken

lots of interest while implementing the project. The decision regarding the selection of building material, quantum of labor payment and most of cash payment was done through them.

8. Challenges while implementing the project : Indeed it was very challenging to complete the project within the given time. But unforeseen circumstances like heavy rains made the project to retard in the progress. The earth moving machine owner/driver were not used to visit the site when we required. The non-availability of the skilled labor to undertake construction work was also influenced the project.

9. Learning's from the project : With active participation of the of the trust committee members and the villagers project can be better implemented. Officials of SCOPE organization were exposed to meet owner of earth moving machine and discuss for the hiring rate of the machine. We have made small survey to find out the skilled labor in and around Shishunal village (project village).

10. Period of project implementation: The physical rehabilitation started from January 2007 and was completed on 26-7-2007. Mrs. Jayshree Deshpande handed over the rehabilitated tank to the community on 26-7-07.

Some project Photos:



Tank before rehabilitation



Feeder channel under construction



Tank rehabilitation work under progress.



Mrs. Jayashree Deshpande, Trustee, Deshpande Foundation, USA inaugurates completed tank,



Feeder Channel is under construction.