

**Annual Progress Report/Interim Report**  
**Of**  
**Establishing Women's First Right to Water Resources**  
**Reporting Period:**  
**April 2011-March 2012**



**Project Implemented BY:**



**Parmarth Samaj Sevi Sansthan**  
**Mona House Churkhi Road**  
**Orai, Distt-Jalaun (U.P.)**  
**INDIA**



***Supported By:***

**European Union**

## 1. Description

**1.1 Name of Beneficiary of Grant Contract:** Parmarth Samaj Sevi Sansthan

**1.2 Name and title of the Contact Person:** Mr. Sanjay Singh

**1.3 Name of the Partner in action:** Women Feature Service, New Delhi

**1.4 Title of the Action:** Establishing Women's First Right to Water Resources

**1.5 Contract Number:** DCI-NSAPPVD/2011/260-612

**1.6 Start date and end date of the reporting period:** April 2011 till March 2012

**1.7 Target Country (ies) or Region(s):** Districts of Jalaun, Hamirpur and Lalitpur of Bundelkhand region, State of Uttar Pradesh

**1.8 Final Beneficiaries and /or Target Groups:** Rural Women, Gram Panchayats, Village Communities, other multi stake holders

**1.9. Country (ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7)** Not applicable

### General:

During reporting period of first year the project focused on planned activities and actions though, there has been slight deviation and non-implementation of four activities. Nevertheless, the patriarchal feudal perception, cultural ethos, resistance and time consumed in rapport building in Hamirpur district villages, State Assembly Election, and other external factors attributed to slow initiation or non-implementation a few of the planned programmes. However, the first year planned activities were mainly focused on mobilization and creating awareness, through wide range of actions—Women's First Right to Water and Resources, in the targeted 96 villages and 22579 households in three districts of Jalaun, Lalitpur and Hamirpur. Therefore, the proposal for the action differentiated between direct beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries, the former being equivalent with the concept of target grouping in this context. There is only one significant deviation from planned activity and non-planned activity, the empirical research study on 'women's right to water' was under taken, and the report is under preparation. The number of women targeted through research, awareness, public campaign and training programmes was envisaged for the first year, 4000. In fact 5120 community women from and local panchayat leaders other community members and multi stake holders have been benefited from the project and programme. Therefore, the direct or indirect beneficiaries were reached by the action as envisaged for the first year in the proposal—April 2011 to March 2012.

## 2. Assessment and Implementation of Activities and Actions:

### 2.1 Executive Summary of the Actions:

The project was implemented in 96 villages of 60 Gram Panchayat of Talbehat, Sarila and Madhogarh blocks of Lalitpur, Hamirpur and Jalaun district of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh. The proposed action was implemented in most regressive villages of Dalits and tribales and other backward communities. These villages are predominantly dominated by patriarchal feudal upper caste landlords—controlling social milieu, trade and employment opportunity, political positions and other cultural insights. The caste, class and gender discrimination are rampantly inevitable though, it is also manifested by violence and human rights violation as well in the region. The generation of suppression and abuses has been eroded the confidence and self-esteem of these invisible local marginalized communities, particularly so among women and youth despite of globalised order. With this backdrop PARMARTH initiated the community mobilization, and public awareness campaigns on forms of abuses, violation that dominates in

the region. Water right is being used as winning entry to address numerous problems and challenges of the tenacity of perennial drought, livelihoods issues, farming and resources such as land distribution under the UP Zamindari Abolition and Land Reform Act 1950 and UP Women Policy 2006, and other national safety nets, instruments which address gender parity were used as tool to address gender equality and Women's First Rights to Water Resources. Incidentally the sustainability of water resources its bodies being significant component of the project vision, the implementation process ensured that the vision being natured in every action. Thus, mobilizing community women in formation of Pani Panchayts and followed by creation of Jal Sehalis being two of the imperative activities. These federations are being strengthened through capacity building in order to empower them to address water rights are human rights. Further to this, these rural women are also being trained to redefine their position to reclaiming their rights.

The actions and activities being documented along with the water crisis case studies, other related information are being up loaded regularly in the website that has been constructed for this purpose specifically. The initiatives of EU supported project efforts; element of visible successes and outcome have been shared with different platforms, networks at State and at National level forums as well. The project initiatives are being interlinked with other local existing networks to elicit the issue of water crises in Bundelkhand region—Jal Biradari, Bundelkhand Institute of Engineering and Technology Collage, and several others established institutions that have been directly and indirectly engaged with project implementation process, by extending support and providing technical assistant. The public campaigns have created substantial awareness and have generated understanding on water right with target community though. The programme outcome and achievement is seen to be a long process of time consuming factor and it is long way to see a milestone.

### 2.2 Activities and Results

**Staff Recruitment:** In order to recruit efficient and expertise staff, organization followed its human resources recruitment policy. The job positions were posted at [Devnetindiajobs.org](http://Devnetindiajobs.org). Total of 24 resume were received, applications were short listed for various positions and first round of interview was held on April 30, 2011 at Jhansi and second round of interview was held at organizational headquarters—Orai. Total of 13 staffs were appointed and four being women candidates recruited for for different positions. The positions are as follows—Project Manager, Documentation Officer, Project Coordinators-three Cluster Coordinators-six, Accounts Officer and Driver.

**Establishment of Three Field Office:** Field Offices at Talbehat, Madhaugarh and Sarila were established for effective implementation of the programmes, and to ensure effective coordination of the activities and actions in order to achieve its goal and specific objectives and to unfold best practices at the end of the project period. The project coordinators along with cluster coordinators are posted at field offices to ensure smooth implementation of programme in coordination with Programme Manager and implementing agency.

**Selection of Project Targeted Villages:** In order to identify most neglected villages and the caste and class composition, various tools were used. The cense data, other official National and State records, various empirical studies were used to develop parameters. The parameter were based on caste and class composition, demography, geographical location, livelihoods opportunity, MANREGAs performances, Gram Panchayt approaches to existing and emerging issues, crises of water and its disproportioned water bodies, and emerging local struggles by the community for water and faming rights were given priority while selecting targeted villages. It is thus, 96 villages were selected from 60 Gram Panchayts of three districts. The division being 40 villages from Talbehat block in Lalitpur, 26 villages from Sarila block in Hamirpur, 15 villages

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from Madhogargh and 15-villages from Rampura blocks in Jalaun district<sup>1</sup> are prime project targeted areas.

**Planning and Coordination Meetings:** First planning and coordination meeting was held at project headquarters Orai, on April 22-23, 2011 with PARMARTH's partner Women Feature Service (WFS). The objective of the meeting was to present over view of the project goal, specific objectives, visualized activities and actions, expected deliverables, LFA for the entire project period of four years. The meeting was attended by three members from of WFS and four members from PARMARTH. WFS shared its capabilities and capacity to implement the project through media advocacy and assisting in publishing IEC materials—Newsletter, by-line and stories on project initiatives such as — Meta legal actions, water, livelihoods other related issues, in different local and national media. Besides these, WFS also committed to monitor of Media Fellows and project web portal, conduct empirical study on 'Women's Rights to Water'. The discussions were mainly focused on to understand the project implementation and structuring the partnership, work relationship, understanding the responsibilities, budget allocation and its implications, periodical visit to project area to collect and document stories. A detail MoU was drawn based on the discussion and commitments were made between both the partners.

**Staff Orientation Programme:** Project orientation training was organized for project staff and WFS team. Total of 15 staff underwent this training on May 11-12, 2011 at head office Orai. The objective of the orientation training was to build capacity, of the staff and to internalise them with project implementation process, its aims and objectives, the target groups, direct and indirect beneficiaries, expected deliverables, output, input and achievements. Besides this the orientation training also focused on developing an understanding on the regional feudal patriarchal conflicts that may hamper or prevent programme interventions and process. Strategy to handle situation and challenges and other related implementation process were some of the depth discussion were focused. The training programme also developed one year action plan that was necessary to be implemented by the both the partners—PARMARTH and WFS.

**Assessment Meeting:** An assessment meeting was organised on February 6-7, 2012 with 17 project staff at Orai head office. The purpose of the meeting was to assess the impact and effectiveness of project implementation process, the challenges faced, women and community's equal participation, multistate holders' role and support that received, out comes, positive stories learnt and if there are any visible results.

**Formation of Pani Panchayat in the Target Areas:** One of the major activities of the project was to mobilise and formation of Pani Panchayats. The concept of Pani Panchayat was evolved in order to build collective strength of these invisible marginalised communities and rural women to assert their rights and accesses and control over the available resources—water, land and near absence of services and entitlement. Further, asserting their rights the Pani Panchayats members also address the issues of gender and caste discrimination; to enhance their available economic opportunities and demand for services and deliveries to live with dignity. Regular meetings are being held to form, stabilise and strengthen Pani Panchayats primarily among marginalised communities and rural women in the identified 96 villages. As of today total of 96 Pani Panchayats have been formed with membership of 1893 members. Nearly 90 per cent of the members comprised of the poorest of the poor and most marginalised community of the targeted community from selected villages. Almost all the formed Pani panchayats have formulated their bylaws and regular monthly meetings are being held to discuss their community problems, challenges and issues, that disproportionately affects and take appropriate

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<sup>1</sup>list of the project villages



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action as when required to assert their water right and demand for their entitlements, services and delivery mechanisms.

- 14 cases of water rights violation was reported to Pani Panchayat, under its leadership these cases have been received attention by local government authority for redress mechanism.
- Pani Panchayat of Ghaholi villages of Mama Gram Panchayat in Hamirpur district has taken the responsibility for maintenance of ponds other water bodies. With the collective effort of Pani Panchayat, around 40 villagers have been mobilised to clean up the village ponds on volunteer basis regularly.
- The Pani Panchayat members regularly attend Gram Sabha meetings and claim their stakes in the meeting by demanding to include their decision on community development and entitlements matters.

**Creation of Jal Sahelis:** As per project vision, creation of Jal Saheli was mooted, by identifying two women cadre from each targeted village of 96. So that, with the aim, these women cadres can become watch dogs and address the issue of water resources and other development agenda with Gram Sabha, in Panchayat meetings, and also to highlight the problems with block development officials. With this consent... and realising its importance the village women have identified 161 Jal Sahelis who have become active members and have engaged themselves by playing key instrumental role in grounding the project aims and specific objectives. Evidently, Women First Right to Water Resources and the issues that are connected to it have been their priority concern and learning. It is thus, the Jal Saheli networks have become catalyst of watch dog and have induced to change makers in the villages by liaising with service providers and representatives of PRIs bodies. Their engagement with issues has facilitated them to mobilize and stimulate collective actions of pressure building groups in the villages in order to realize 'Women's First Right to Water Resources'<sup>2</sup>.

### Media Intervention:

**Creation of Website:** Website was constructed with the help of WFS <http://bundelkhand-water-rights.org/index.php> on May 31, 2011. Regularly, the web portal has been up loaded with each and every activity, action, related photographs, and other related news for wider audience. The portal also has become element of knowledge sharing bank to wider audiences and other networks those who working on water rights worldwide. On the other hand the portal has created visibility to project and programmes among web browsers and mainstream media as well.

**Publication of Newsletters in Hindi and English:** During project period 1000 copies of *Jal Adhikar Jeevan Aadhar* three issues each has been published in Hindi. 200 copies of, English version, Water Matters, Water Rights three issue has been published. These newsletters have been disseminated to wide range of audience including government departments, other administrative authorities, and legislative bodies etc.

**Media Interface Workshop with Local Mainstream media personnel:** Media interface workshop was organised on August 11, 2011, at Hotel Sunrise, Orai, and 21 journalists attended the workshop. The half day workshop was facilitated by WFS team. The workshop focused on— issues of water rights, gender dimension and its vulnerability, exclusion of women and Dalits in delivery mechanism. The challenges and problems faced by the communities in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. The session drew up by news analysis of two leading local

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<sup>2</sup>Jal Saheli case study

dailies to illustrate how development journalism and its relevance is imperative to highlight people's voices and concerns in mainstream media to change opinion of policy makers.

One day training cum workshop was organized at Bhaskar Institute of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Bundelkhand Jhansi, on November 12, 2011. Over 30 students from both the bachelor's and master's degree along with local media representatives participated in the interactive session. The theme of the session was "The Fine Art of Development Reporting". Students were offered an alternative way of considering the value of "newsworthiness". For instance, not many among them had considered access to water or sanitation as "newsworthy" topic. The effort was therefore on making these young media students, to understand how important the human interest is, how it can be made vital and interesting to viewers and readers.

**Media Fellowship:** One media fellowship has been honoured in October 2011; the fellow has been writing human interest stories, issues related to water in the local and regional print media and providing footage to electronic mainstream media as well. Beside this the fellow also has been assisting implementing agency in organising the programmes, undertaking media relations, drafting press release, curtain raisers etc. Total of eight stories have been published on water issues in various Hindi daily<sup>3</sup>.

**Awareness Programme on Women Water Rights:** The awareness programme was organised during one of the local village festival at Talbehat, in Lalitpur district, to create awareness on water rights and other entitlements. The camp was inaugurated by Ms. Mukta Soni, Chairperson, of town area Talbehat. Over 300 visitors from surrounding villages visited the four days water camp from August 31 to September 4, 2011. The visitors not only picked up the resource materials on water and conservation and, also, they interfaced with the project staff, on the water issues, methods of preserving and protecting traditional water bodies in their respective villages. Some of the visitors have requested project staff to their villages and organise similar camp in their villages so that others also can be benefited from mass popular awareness programme. The other local prominent people who visited the camp were, Mr. Harikisan Rajak, ADO, Talbehat, Swami Prasad Yadav, Member, Zila Panchayat Lalitpur and eight Gram Pradhan. Over all, the village fair had attracted over 8000 visitors who were indirectly exposed to the issue and indirectly benefited.

**Women Literacy Programme on Water Rights:** On the eve of International Literacy Day on September 8 2011, women's literacy on water rights was organised in Talbehat in Lalitpur, Madhogarh in Jalaun and at Sarila in Hamirpur districts. Ms. Mukta Soni, Chairperson, town area, Talbehat was the chief guest at Talbehat and, Ms. Kushum Kalar, Child Development Project Officer, Sarila block attended the programme and, Mr. Sudama Dixit, President of Block Panchayat, Madhogarh also attended the programme. Over 500 women and other community members participated in the day long programme. The objective of the event was to develop understanding on water rights, conservation gender discrimination and educational rights. The event also paved the way and solicited solidarity support from the PRIs members, media, CSOs and other stake holders in order to build and strengthen network in the water starved region.

**Mahila Pani Adhikar Yatra:** Ten days long Mahila Pani Adhikar Yatra was organised from October 21 to November 4, 2011. The multiple objective of the yatra was to sensitise the critical masses on women's first right to water resources, and seek solidarity support from the community, multiple stake holders and other larger section of the society. The yatra also sensitised village communities educating on diverse methods of water conservation and

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<sup>3</sup>Media clipping

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management, safety measures, importance of mitigation preparation of community based water resource management plan's and its implementation for the target group. Nevertheless, the yatra received immense attention and support from representatives of PRIs, local administrative authority, media as well. Yet, several, activities were undertaken to draw public audience attention through singing folk songs, performing role-play, organising community level dialogue and exhibition, distributed poster and pamphlets. Hence forth, the yatra, directly benefited 7689 villagers in 69 villages of three districts and indirectly the message was communicated to nearly 18000 villagers and other stakeholders.

**Workshop on Formulating Base Line Survey:** Two days' workshop on formulating base line survey was organised at head office, Orai, on August 8-9, 2011, 17 members from PARMART and WFS team attend the workshop. The aim of the workshop was to formulate questioner. Ms. Pamela Philopose, Director, WFS made a presented draft baseline survey, and external resources person facilitated the session and assisted in finalizing the questionnaire. Some of the discussion that centred was demographic profile, socio-economic profile of households, gender composition, employment opportunities, land water use pattern, livelihood activities, sanitation, health and hygiene conditions, migration and governmental schemes that are available etc.<sup>4</sup>

**Compilation of Base Line Survey and Entering the Survey Data:** The base line survey was conducted on random basis, 25 percent of the total targeted households that is total of 2260 households have been included in the survey of—6760 households. The data collection process was followed by filling the questionnaire and using Participatory Rural Appraisal methodology. The collected data captured the dimensions of socio-economic profile, land and water use pattern, cropping pattern, livelihood activities, migration and access to credit, status of the households and other indicators. The analysed data is being used as reference material for identification, quantification and prioritization of vulnerable and marginalized groups for effective implementation of the project goal in order to maximise benefits, outcomes and achievements at the end of the project period.

**Study on Women Right to Water and its Publication:** WFS has completed the conducting field study in three districts of 16 village and 300 respondents have been interviewed. The purpose of the study are (1) assessment of control and accessibility of women control over water and sanitation in Bundelkhand region (2) to find out the effect of lack of pure drinking water and sanitation facilities over women and children (3) to collect information on the issues related to violation of water rights (4) to find out the reason for not establishing women control and accessibility over water and sanitation and (5) methods for providing water and sanitation rights. WFS team shared documented case studies and reference material that were used in preparing the draft report with PARMATH and other experts. The final report is being prepared based on the suggestion that were made by PARMATH. Based on the final report's recommendations, the project further plan to promote women's participation in water management process more effectively.

**Meta Legal Action for Water Rights:** Under Meta legal action ten cases of violation of water rights have been documented, instead of twenty cases which were planned originally. The ten cases which, were documented have drawn volumes of evidences on water rights violations and abuses by the local power brokers and upper caste land lords. As a result, with the help of Jal Saheli and leaders of Pani Panchayats ten cases were deposed with charter of demands to local panchayat members, relevant government departments, and other related authorities for its

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<sup>4</sup>Base line questioner

redress. These cases are yet to receive its justices though, the members of Jal Sehali and Pani Panchayats are considering to organise mass campaign— to generate support for speedy justices<sup>5</sup>.

**Interface with Panchayat and Local Administrative Officials and Authority.** An interface meeting was organised with Panchayat and local administrative officials and authorities at Krishi Mandi (Agriculture Campus) of Madhaugarh, district Jalaun on March 29, 2012. The purpose of this interface meeting was to upraise the district officials and panchayat members on the lingering problems of pathetic water and sanitation conditions in the villages and, to seek urgent actions and solution to the persisting perennial problems. Also, to create better coordination between panchayats and district official for the smooth implementation of the government schemes and deliverables to the communities that they are rightfully entitled to. The interface was attended by Mr. Sudhama Dixit, Block president, Madhaugarh, Mr. Anil Yagik. Members of Jila Panchayat, Mr. Ashok Doorwar, JE, Jal Nigam, Madhaugarh and six Gram Pradhans. 116 community members, included Pani Panchayat representatives, Jal Sahelis, from 13 villages of Rampura and Madhaugarh block, in district Jalaun directly interfaced with the officials. The other issues that were highlighted lack of irrigation facility, safe drinking water in Dalit villages, lack of toilet facilities, and damages to Rabi crop due to heavy flow of canal water, dysfunctional hand pumps, ponds renovation, and irregularity in Mid-Day Meal provision. The villages demanded the above services needs urgent attention. The block head, Madhaugarh, JE, Jal Nigam and Jila Panchayat representatives promised the community members that they will take necessary action by earliest. The block head assured that the toilets will be constructed with panchayat fund in Kunvarpura and Hinguta villages.

**Exposure visit to Tarun Bharat Sangh, Bheekampura, Alwar District, Rajasthan:** Originally, the exposure visit was supposed to take place in February 2012 to Punatamba in Ahmadnagar District, Maharashtra. The coordination process with ...organisation had initiated. However, this visit could not be undertaken due to sudden announcement of State Assembly Election dates which hampered the process. Instead the re planning and coordination was initiated with Tarun Bharat Sangh (TBS) with change of date. The 58 Pani Panchayat and Jal Sehali members from three districts undertook the visit to TBS, Bheekampura, district Alwar, Rajasthan from March 2-4, 2012. The purpose of the exposure visit was to understand different methods (modern and traditional) of water conservation, understanding on the environment and mitigation, protection, revival and management of water resources, water literacy, women's participation in water conservation, roles and responsibilities in decision making in community initiatives and other efforts. The visiting team had opportunity to visit four villages, to understand better, the water conservation water harvesting structure—Johar, ground water table uplift, protection of forest, development, social forestry in common waste land, changes in agricultural pattern, improvement of livelihoods opportunity, and food security. The visiting members also had opportunity to meet and had discussion with community members, CBOs, Panchayat members and to understand the journey and the struggle that community had taken for many years to reach present position to manage sustainable water resource management through multiple water conservation and initiatives.

**Capacity Building of Pani Panchayat, Jal Saheli and Women Panchayats Representatives:** Total of 27 capacity building trainings were planned in the second semester of the project period. However 18 trainings were organised at different intervals in the three districts. The remaining training could not be held due to unforeseen reason such as non-availability of resources persons, pre and post State Assembly Election phase become non conducive as most of the panchayat representatives and community women were actively

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<sup>5</sup>Details of case that deposited



involved in election processes. The methodology adopted was participatory methods through role play, group work and discussion.

**a. Training of Pani Panchayat Representatives on Water and Women:** As planned six trainings were scheduled and accomplished. The training was held for two days each and two trainings were organised in each district in January and February 2012. Total of 221 participants attended the training, hence 201 women and 20 men were part of the training process. The external resources person from Lucknow facilitated the training programme. The objective of the training was to sensitise on the water issue, strengthen and develop understanding on water and relationship with women, leadership roles and responsibilities, techniques of water management, water conservation and safety measures.

**b. Training on MGNREGA, RTI and Social Audit:** Total of eight training was supposed to be scheduled in the second half of the project period (second semester), however six training were organised from January to March 2012. Two trainings were held in each district for two days each. Total of 243 participants mainly the members of Pani Panchayat and Jal Sehari participated in the training programme. Thus, 167 women and 66 men were beneficiary of this training. The training was facilitated by three different external resources persons. The syllabus focused in the training was to develop understanding on MGNREGAs, entitlements and its silent feature. The training also facilitated understanding on social audit and MGNREGAs implementation and Gram Panchayats role and responsibilities in implementation. Similarly RTI Acts and its silent features were explained, as a citizen how important it is to know where the government expenditure is spent and how it is spent. It was explained every citizen as right to know required information from the government functionary.

**c. Training of Women Panchayat Leaders on Panchayati Raj Act and their Roles and Responsibility:** As planned all the six training were held between January-March 2012, two training in each district was organised for two days each. Total of 299 participants underwent training, and 140 are Panchayat Representative. The training was facilitated by the external resources person from Lucknow. Objective of the training was to sensitise Panchayat Representatives, on the project goal and its imitative, Women First Right to Water Resources, building capacity on silent features of Panchayati Raj Act, representative's roles and responsibility as per rules and regulation of the Act<sup>6</sup>.

**Annual Review and Reflection Process:** Annual Review and Reflection Process (ARRP) were conducted in 10 villages, from March 2012. This was to assess impact of the project, its acceptances, effectiveness and the initiatives that were mooted—the public campaigns and advocacy, formation of Pani Panchayat, creation Jal Sehari, effect of capacity building and other training programmes. Resource mapping, service availability and analysis were undertaken. The entire exercise resulted in understanding the gaps or short coming of the project implementation processes and also developed future potentials strategies. ARRP ensured to promote organisational transparency and accountability as well. This process involved entire community members, representatives of Pani Panchayat, associated stake holders and project staff. The key issue emerged in the ARRP are:

- The increased level of knowledge among target community on rights and entitlements.
- Pani Panchayat has emerged as local network of women's organization, this strength of collective has increased confidence level among women and community member to seek redress.

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<sup>6</sup>Table on the dates the trainings held

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- With the collective efforts new hand pumps have been installed and pipe water supply scheme has been connected in six villages. As a result, 105 families are able to get safe drinking water.
- Some of the issues that rural women prefer to address on priority basis are violence against women, girls' education, migration, irrigation facilities, and livelihoods besides water rights.
- Social Auditing, ensuring accountability and transparency, equal participation of marginalised groups in implementation of MNREGAs and other develop schemes in the village

### Participation in National and International Forums:

Mr. Sanjay Singh, Secretary, PARMARTH represented organisation in 5<sup>th</sup> Madurai Symposium organized by DHAN Foundation, on September 14-18, 2011 at Madurai, Tamil Nadu. He also represented 6th World Water Forum that was held at Marseille, France on March 12 –17, 2012.

### 2.3 Activities that were planned unable to implement:

1. Expert Group Seminar on Model Study (01)
2. Meta legal Action (10)
3. Training of Panchayat representatives and Jal Saheli on Gender based Water Budgeting (01)
4. Training on Documentation use of IT (02)
5. Training on MGNREGA, Social Audit and RTI (02)
6. Technical Training of Women Leader on Water Conservation techniques and Operation Maintenance (01)
7. Expert group deliberation on Findings (01)
8. Interface with Panchayat and Bureaucracy (01)

The above mentioned programmes were unable to implement due to specific problems encountered are:

- ✓ Initial phase of project moved, slightly in slow phase. As internalising and understanding of project vision took much longer time than expected among implementing agencies and the project staff.
- ✓ It was hard to identify and document water rights violation cases under meta legal cases, since many of the survivors did not come forward to narrate their violation due to fear of notorious local power holders, in the initial period of the project implementation process.
- ✓ The months of monsoon and harvesting season the community people and target beneficiaries were busy with agricultural work and they had no time to spare to participate in project activities and actions.
- ✓ The compulsions and interferences of local feudal village leaders, constantly obstructed village meeting, and public campaigns as planned.
- ✓ The unforeseen incidents, momentary activities of the organisation, meetings with other network consumed some amount of time therefore, some of the planned programmes was not feasible to organise or implement.

**2.4 Implementing agency Assessment of the Action outputs, outcomes and impact in relation to specific and overall objectives:** The project immensely contributed to the other on-going projects and programmes that are being supported by other donors for the last decade and above. The decades of initiatives and interventions of the implementing agency has further strengthened in the region, with the EU support. Since this is the only one organisation that has been vehemently advocating for women's right to water, conflict related to water and VAW,

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equal participation of women in livelihoods, other employment opportunity, seeking entitlements and dignity in this difficult water starved region. As, the goal and specific objectives directly articulates these concerns, the actions initiated through this project have been complimentary in strengthening women's power, despite of feudal patriarchal structure that dominates in the region. And these rural women are building their self-esteem, strength to assert, negotiate and bargain for their rights and demand for entitlements.

### 2.5 Please provide an updated action plan <sup>7</sup>

Year 2														
S.N.	Activity	Semester 3						Semester 4						Implementing Body
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	Staff Orientation Prog (4)		1											PSSS
	Planning and Coordination meeting with partners and core staff 1 day per year for 4 years			1										PSSS
	Staff Project Annual Review and Reflection Process Meeting (1+1+1+1) for 2 days each												1	PSSS
														PSSS
1	Formation & Strengthening of Community & Women Panchayat													PSSS
1.1	Formation of PANI Panchayat & Its monthly meeting													PSSS
1.2	Creation of Jal Saheli Network													PSSS
1.3	Capacity Building of Pani Panchayat, Jal Saheli & Women Panchayats Representatives													PSSS
A	Training of Pani Panchayat Representatives on Water & Women Rights (06)													PSSS
B	Training of Women Leader on NREGA, Social Audit & RTI (08)													PSSS
C	Training of Women Panchayat Leader on Panchayati Raj Act & Their Roles & Responsibility (08)		1	1										PSSS, Zila Parishad
D	Awareness programme on Women Water Rights (60)													PSSS
E	Technical Training of Women Leader on Water Conservation techniques & Operation Maintenance (06)					1	2	2						PSSS, BEC
F	Training of Panchayat representatives & Jal Saheli on				2	3								PSSS, Zila

<sup>7</sup> This plan will cover the financial period between the interim report and the next report.

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	Gender based Water Budgeting (06)												Parishad
G	Training on Documentation use of IT staff & Pani Panchayat Leaders (04)		1										PSSS
H	Training on Preparation of Water Security Plan (03)	3											PSSS
1.4	Hand Holding support to Pani Panchayat & Jal Saheli Network												PSSS
	Activity 2: Water Security Plan Preparation & Implementation												PSSS
2.1	Baseline survey on water need and availability assessment												PSSS
A	Workshop for formulating questionnaire (01)												PSSS
B	Baseline survey (60)												PSSS
2.2	Compilation and Reporting of Survey data												PSSS
2.3	Participatory Exercise for plan preparation (60)	10	30	20									PSSS
2.4	Estimation of planned water activities and infrastructure												PSSS, BEC
2.5	Compilation and publication of water security plan document												PSSS, BEC
2.6	Water Security Plan Linkage Workshop (09)						1				2		2 PSSS, BEC
2.7	Follow up Water Security Plan												PSSS, Zila Parishad
3	Activity 3: Water Literacy Campaign												PSSS
3.1	Curriculum development workshop (01)						1						PSSS
3.2	Water Literacy Kit												PSSS
3.3	Water literacy camp (60)									15	15	15	15 PSSS
3.4	Dissemination of Experiences, Learning and Achievements (External publicity)												PSSS
3.4.1	Documentary (01)												PSSS
3.4.2	Public show and Press Meet (06)												PSSS
3.5	Water Information centre (60)												PSSS
3.6	Competition on painting, essay, debate, in schools (60)												PSSS
3.7	Publication of newsletter on water and related issues (15)			1			1			1			1 PSSS, WFS
3.8	Meta legal actions for water rights (80)		5			5			5			5	PSSS



## EU-PARMART Yearly Progress Report

3.9	Exposure visit: 60 members team visit to Ahmednagar, Maharastra													PSSS
4	Activity 4: Model Creation on Water-Livelihood Linkages													
4.1	Expert group Seminar (2 days) on preparation of model study (01)													PSSS
4.2	Creation of water bodies													PSSS, BEC
A	Twenty New water structures (20)		5	5										PSSS
B	Thirty old structures for revival and catchment enhancement (30)		10	5										PSSS
C	10000 Plantation of fruits/fuel wood/water intensive saplings					3000	3000							PSSS
4.3	Repairing and Maintenance of Drinking water structures/equipments (60 cases)	10	10	10										PSSS, BEC
4.4	Study in 60 Panchayats (01)	1												PSSS
4.5	Study publication on all the 60 Panchayats (01)		1											PSSS, WFS
4.6	Expert group deliberation on Findings (02)							1				1		PSSS
5	Activity 5: Public Campaigning & Advocacy													
5.1	Media scholarship (Three media fellows for 42 months)													PSSS, WFS
5.2	Public Interest Litigation (2)													PSSS
5.3	Interface with Panchayat & Bureaucracy (16)		1		1		1		1		1	1		PSSS
5.4	Website designing and updating (42 months)													PSSS
5.5	Study on Women's right to water (2), and its publication								1	1				PSSS
5.6	Grant for participating in 6 national and 2 international seminars/conferences for highlighting project experiences or deliberations on water rights/sanitation/gender issues (08)													PSSS
5.7	Training of Local Media Representatives (08 training)												1	PSSS, WFS
5.8	Research Grant (06)				1					1				PSSS
5.9	Four - Annual activity Report (04)												1	PSSS

5.10	One final project report (01)													PSSS
5.11	One Final Monitoring & Evaluation Exercise (01)													PSSS, EU

### 3. Partners and Other Organisation:

**3.1 Partnership Signed with WSF:** Implementing agency entered in to partnership with main partner WFS, a Delhi based organisation. A clear MoU was drawn on the roles, responsibility and financial implications of the WFS. WFS provided technical input in media advocacy, highlighted stories on women's First Right to Water Resources, document the lessons learnt, monitor and building capacity of media professional and media fellow. Regularly maintained and upload project activities and stories on specifically developed web portal. Conduct study on women's right to water, provide technical support in preparation of IEC materials for awareness and public campaign programmes. Writing, editing of newsletters in English. However, there has been some difficulties faced with partner due to their lack of understanding of local situation and deficits of Hindi language that they carry with them as resulted in some teething problems which were encountered while implementing the agreed protocol.

**3.2 Relationship with associate partners in implementing the Action:** Bundelkhand Engineering College: The implementing agency has developed a mandate with Bundelkhand Institutes of Engineering and Technology, mainly to seek their advice, technical input and support on the issues of ground water availability, measurable indicators its quality and safety. Implementing agency will be seeking their extensive support in the second year of the project implementation process.

**Zilla Parishads:** Zilla Parishads being part of associate partners they have been involved with in each and every actions at village level as their local support being mammoth contribution to project implementation, and projects input and outcome. Therefore, some of the Zilla Panchayat members has been key mobilisers in community approach, and have ensured that the project interventions being implemented without any difficulties. It is noted that three Zilla Panchayat President of district Hamirpur have been active members in public campaign, advocating women's right to water. They have also been highlighting the issues at Block level discussing the matter with other Zilla member. The implementing agency has been closely working with the block and gram panchayat to sensitise and involve them in public campaign. And also seek their solidarity support on promotion of Women's First Rights to Water. The public awareness campaign on water and sanitation right was jointly organised by implementing agency and Block Panchayat of, Madhaugarh

**3.3 Relationship between implementing agency and State Authorities in the Action areas and Country:** The efforts have been made close liaisoning with Districts Project Director, DRDA and CDO and with local service providers and functionaries. Several meetings have been taken place with local political parties and their representative at state and central level, these meetings mainly focused on water conservation, protection and management issues. The advocacy efforts are on with Shri Pradeep Jain Aditya, State Rural Development Minister, Uttar Pradesh. Shri Pradeep Jain visited the project targeted areas in one of the Public Engagement programme. The community members, presented memorandum of demands related to water crisis and non-implementation of the Bundelkhand Package and other government schemes programmes. Advocacy efforts are also initiated with Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for ensuring better implementation of MGNREGAs as well as promotion of convergence approaches in the targeted areas of the project.

**3.4 Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.**

- ✓ There have been several synergies between EU programme and other initiatives of implementing agencies. On June 24, 2011, eight survivors of project area deposed their human rights violation that they faced by non-State actors at Peoples Public Hearing organised by Human Law Network at Kuthond of Jalaun district.
- ✓ A close linkage has developed with the initiatives of JAL BIRADARI, Bundelkhand on issues of water rights.
- ✓ Pani Panchayat members attended the meeting at Tahseel Diwas a gravenessredress camp organised on weekly basis by the State Governmentand submitted petition and highlighted the issues of water related problems other absences of service in the villages.

**3.5 Previous EC grants:** Implementing agency has not received any previous EC grant.

**4. Visibility:** The project received wider visibility, through web portal, mainstream media, that covered wider stories on project activities and actions. Stories were also published in various mainstream media<sup>8</sup>. The visibility was also received through public popular campaigns, sharing information and disseminating newsletters both version of Hindi and English to wider audience. Project visionand lesson that learnt were shared at different national and international platforms and forums.

Name of the contact person for the Action: Sanjay Singh

Signature:

Location: Orai

Date report due: April 2012

Date report sent: May 3, 2012

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<sup>8</sup>Find link of stories published by WFS