

**Success Story of Special Area Development Programme Virudhunagar District Forest
Department Forestry and Ecological Works**

Aim

Special Area Development Programme for Livelihood projects addressing Poverty Income generation / Employment generation, it should be ensured that beneficiaries are selected through Gram Sabah / Village Poverty Reduction Committee / Forest Protection Committee and Women SC, ST and differently abled. In all beneficiary oriented projects due reservation norms.

Implementation of scheme

Administrative sanction issued by Collector, Virudhunagar for carrying out the works maintenance of 6 Nos. Percolation Ponds and Construction of 9 Nos. dry pack check dams an amount of Rs.5.25 lakhs has been allocated under SADP Scheme during 2016-17 to the Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry Division, Virudhunagar.

On perusing the guidelines of SADP scheme, the hill area of Tamil Nadu at an absolute altitude of 600 m ASL from the base on the Western periphery would be designated as the Special Area.

All the percolation Ponds were constructed below 600M, MSL elevation in view of watershed conservation basic Wildlife Sanctuary Srivilliputhur. So, there is no scope of not only maintenance of percolation Ponds and construction of dry pack Check dams, but also dry pack check dams cannot be constructed no sites were available to construct. Due to the above reasons, the amount allotted under SADP was surrendered.

Under the guidelines for the implementation of SADP in Page No:13 under the caption of scope of SADP and types of works- both the WGDP and HADP combined together and specific task entrusted to carry out watershed management basis. In that aspect under WGDP fringe area and buffer area can be tackled.

Hence, the Divisional Forest Officer has been requested orders whether to carry out maintenance of percolation pond which were constructed during yester-years by Wildlife Warden, Srivilliputhur and to construct dry pack check dams in fringe areas of the sanctuary in order to raise the ground water table on the basis of managing watersheds facing eastern side of Western Ghats

The state plan commission has clarified in the minutes under general observation as follow's : "As the Projects are approved considering not the elevation criteria alone, but also considering several aspects by the committee, the elevation of above or below 600M ASL may not be taken into account during implementation of those approved projects".

According to the above general observations, during 2017-18 works were carried out under SADP scheme in the Social Forestry Division, Virudhunagar is as under:-

I. Improvement of already Constructed Percolation Ponds:-

- (1) Pepparai Saragam (Amman Kovil Beat)
- (2) Uppoorani (Pulpaththi Beat)
- (3) Thandal Odai Urani (Prawadiyar Beat)
- (4) Vanisithu Urani (Pulpaththi Beat)
- (5) Valli Parai Saragam (Azhagar Kovil Beat)
- (6) Kallaththi Parai (Prawadiyar Beat)

பேப்பாறை சரகம் (அம்மன்கோவில் பீட்) : N09° 30'17.9" E077° 27'02.6"



Success and Benefits for Construction of Check Dams :

Advantages Reduce velocity and may provide aeration of the water check dam Prevent gully erosion from occurring before vegetation is established and also cause a high proportion of the sediment load in run off to settle out.

- Slowing rainwater runoff reducing flooding, erosion, pollution and recharging aquifers.
- Providing important habitat: for all kinds of animals, including those that fly, swim and crawl.
- Keeping our rivers cool helping fish and other river life. They do the same thing for our cities and homes.
- Capturing Carbon dioxide: locking it away in its roofs leaves and wood.
- Improving water quality: as well as absorbing and filtering pollution from our soil and air.
- Creating beautiful places: Providing spots to gather reflect and enjoy nature.
- Increasing the ground water level :
- Check dams to reduced speed of water gives enough time for water to infiltrate or speed into the ground.
- Satisfaction for Wildlife drinking water and reduce conflict men and wildlife.
- Provide food aquatic insects, moderate water temperature.

II. Construction of Dry Stone Gully Plug 1 to 9 Nos in Pulpathi Beat:-

- (1) Sarparai Kadvu Odai Keelkattu
- (2) Sarparai Kadvu Odai Mealkattu
- (3) Pothavuttu Odai Kilakku Sarivu
- (4) Pothavuttu Odai Merkku Sarivu
- (5) Merkku Sarivu Amaichunai Odai Mealkattu
- (6) Merkku Sarivu Amaichunai Odai Nadukattu
- (7) Merkku Sarivu Amaichunai Odai
- (8) Keel Sarivu Amaichunai Odai Mealkattu
- (9) Keel Sarivu Amaichunai Odai Keelkattu.

பொத்தவட்டு ஓடை கிழக்கு சரிவு : N09° 27'59.1" E077° 27'35.8"



Success and Benefits for Construction of Gully Plugs/Percolation Ponds :

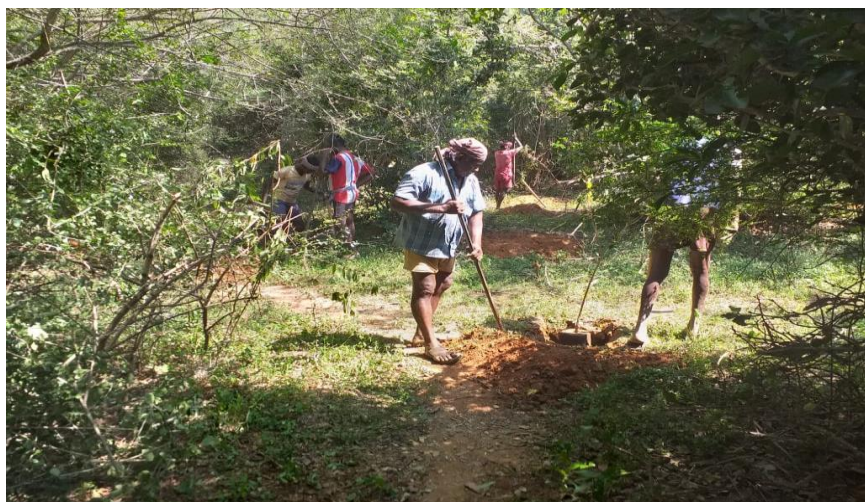
- Gully plugs also called checkdams are mainly built to prevent erosion and to settle sediments and pollutants furthermore it is possible to keep soil moisture due to infiltration.
- Good land Management Practices :
- Aimed at maintain even infiltration rates and a good plant cover strategies for preventing gully erosion include maintaining remount vegetation along drainage lines and eliminating grazing from these areas.

Advance Raising riparian plants species Taller Seedlings in 30x45 Polythene Container at Mudangiyar during 2017-18



Planting of riparian plants species during 2018-19

- Trees planted alongside rivers and reserve Forest also bring other benefits to the natural environment they help stabilize banks, reduce and slow the flow of flood waters, downstream and improve water quality by filtering.
- In addition to being oxygen producers trees provide a range of other important benefits to rivers, Wildlife animals in our water shed.



Training and Capacity building to field staff in riparian Forest Management
during 2018-19

- Training also considered as an important approach to build landscape –scale management tribal forest management.
- Forest management practices occurring to increase general recognition of the role that tribal forest plays in the greater landscape, and to engage broad audiences regarding the value of tribal forest and how they can serve as models for sustainability, integrated management, resilience, and restoration.
- Forest are managed for spiritual and cultural value and protect water resources.

