

PROJECT FUNDED BY

RM Tulpule Charitable Trust

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER



Watershed Development & Solar Water Pump Project

Restoring water storage.

Securing drinking water.

Strengthening climate-resilient rural livelihoods.



Golap Group Gram Panchayat
Ratnagiri, Maharashtra

Implementation period: March–May 2026



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i. Confidentiality

Deepastambha Charitable Trust, Pune is submitting this document on the understanding that the contents would not be divulged to any third party without prior written consent from Deepastambha Charitable Trust, Pune.

ii. Release History

Version	Release	Date	Initials
1.1	V 1.1	29 th March 2023	LS, AS

iii. Acknowledgment

We are grateful to R M Tulpule Trust for their generous financial support to their CSR initiative. We also appreciate the guidance and feedback from our mentors and well-wishers throughout the project.

We commend the villagers of Group Gram Panchayat Golap, Ratnagiri, and their leaders for their cooperation and hard work. We thank all the volunteers of Deepastambha Charitable Trust for their dedication and assistance in various activities. We value their input as it helps us improve our functions as a charitable trust.

1. Executive Summary

The Golap project combines restoration of existing water-conservation structures with solar-powered drinking-water pumping. The updated proposal confirms a scope of four major percolation dams and one historical pond, together with one 7.5 HP solar pumping system at Dhopatwadi. Three other percolation tanks are outside the present scope because of access, terrain and execution constraints.

The design quantities total **47,146 m³ of desilting** and a separate **1,600 m³ of stone pitching**. The desilting quantity corresponds to **47.146 million litres**, or approximately **4.71 crore litres**, of geometric storage potential. The solar system is expected to generate **10,500 kWh annually** and save approximately **₹1,20,750/-** a year at the proposal's tariff assumption. These are capacities and projections, not measured annual recharge or verified operating savings.

Parameter	Project detail
Project location	Golap Group Gram Panchayat, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra
Project components	Desilting of 4 nala bunds and one historical pond; stone pitching; 7.5 HP solar water pump
Watershed work	47,146 m ³ of silt removed; 1,600 m ³ of stone pitching completed
Estimated storage / recharge	Approx. 4.71 crore litres
Solar energy generation	Approx. 10,500 kWh per year



Scope

4 dams + one historical tank

Completion Period

March-May 2026

Expected Reach

230+ farmers

850+ acres

28+ wells and 23+ borewells



The Central Outcome

A single integrated investment links restored water-holding capacity with cleaner, more affordable water pumping - supporting households, farmers, and the village's long-term resilience.

2. Water Security and Rural Resilience

The project responds to a connected set of rural infrastructure challenges: declining water-holding capacity in existing structures, soil erosion around watercourses, seasonal stress on drinking-water sources, and the recurring cost and unreliability associated with conventional electricity for pumping.

Rather than treating these as separate problems, the intervention uses a watershed approach. Desilting brings lost storage volume back into productive use; stone pitching helps stabilise the treated structures and reduce erosion; and the solar pump provides a lower-carbon energy source for drinking-water delivery. The first improves the water resource, and the other improves the energy used to deliver it.

2.1 Why Water Deficiency Persists Despite Heavy Rainfall

The Central Ground Water Board's 2014 Ratnagiri district report describes normal annual rainfall of about 2,658–3,973 mm across the district, while explicitly noting non-monsoon water scarcity in many villages. Uneven terrain and groundwater occurrence in laterite, weathered / fractured basalt and alluvium affect where water can be retained and accessed. Desilting existing storage assets therefore addresses a relevant regional problem, but site-specific recharge still depends on rainfall, infiltration, geology and abstraction.

A heavy seasonal downpour may therefore recharge one location effectively while producing rapid runoff at another. Silting of small bunds and ponds further reduces the volume they can retain. These regional conditions help explain the rationale for desilting and bank protection at Golap.

These are historical district observations, not measurements from Golap wells or evidence of a continuous village-level decline.

For Golap, groundwater depletion, soil erosion, and pressure on agriculture and drinking-water supply as the concerns addressed by the 2026 intervention. It identifies 28+ wells, 23+ bore wells and two village drinking-water supply wells as potential beneficiaries near the treated structures, and estimates that the drinking-water scarcity period could shorten by approximately two months a year.

Taken together, the evidence describes a long-standing regional mismatch between concentrated monsoon rainfall and dry-season water access, coupled with a specific local need to restore silted water bodies and support dependable pumping.

Historical evidence	Scope and interpretation
2002–2011 rainfall	Dist. annual figures ranged from about 2,934 mm (2002) to 4,876 mm (2011).
2011 pre-monsoon levels	Approx. 1.60–36.40 m below ground level.
2011 post-monsoon levels	Approx. 1.42–16.30 m below ground level.
Seasonal well yields	CGWB reported summer dug-well yield at less than half post-monsoon yield.

3. Project Need, Assessment and Objectives

A primary village survey was followed by secondary site verification with watershed-management technical support. Assessment prioritised feasible, accessible structures with potential to improve water retention, recharge and local water access. Three tanks were excluded because of difficulty in access and terrain constrained execution under the present scope.

The watershed component focused on removing accumulated silt from six existing water bodies: five major nala bunds and one historical pond. Desilting restores depth and storage volume, allowing the structures to capture more rainwater during the monsoon and retain water for longer after rainfall events.

3.1 Project Objectives

- Restore the water-holding capacity of existing nala bunds and the historical pond.
- Increase opportunities for monsoon runoff retention and groundwater recharge.
- Reduce soil erosion and strengthen nala and bund edges through stone pitching.
- Improve the reliability of village drinking-water pumping at Dhopatwadi.
- Reduce recurring dependence on conventional MSEB electricity for pumping operations.
- Create a durable, low-maintenance rural infrastructure model that combines water and clean energy.

The watershed component focused on removing accumulated silt from six existing water bodies: five major nala bunds and one historical pond. Desilting restores depth and storage volume, allowing the structures to capture more rainwater during the monsoon and retain water for longer after rainfall events.

3.2 Implementing organisation and support

R. M. Tulpule Charitable Trust is the sponsor and the recipient of the funding proposal. The implementation process involves Gram Panchayat co-ordination, community consultations and land-access permissions Deepastambha Charitable Trust (DCT), Pune, executed the project. DCT's Gramathan work focuses on sustainable rural development, including watershed management, green energy, safe drinking water, and community-oriented infrastructure.



Integrated Infrastructure,
Shared Value

The project's strength is not only the quantity of work completed. It is the connection between restored natural infrastructure and reliable clean-energy infrastructure—two assets that can continue generating value after the implementation period ends.

4. Restoring Water-Holding Structures & Setting Solar-Powered Drinking Water Supply

4.1 Project Location

The project is located in the Golap Group Gram Panchayat area of Ratnagiri taluka, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra. Golap lies in the Konkan region of western India. The district occupies a coastal landscape between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats, with undulating hills, lateritic terrain and short river systems. The watershed works described in the project are spread across village nala bunds and a historical pond; the drinking-water solar pump serves Dhopatwadi in the Golap area.



The watershed component focused on removing accumulated silt from six existing water bodies: five major nala bunds and one historical pond. Desilting restores depth and storage volume, allowing the structures to capture more rainwater during the monsoon and retain water for longer after rainfall events.

4.2 Structures Treated

No.	Water structure	L × B × depth (m)	De-silting (m ³)
01	Damale Bandhara	140 × 22 × 3	9,240
02	Dhopatewadi Nala Bund	130 × 20 × 3	7,800
03	Mor Wathar Nala Bund	130 × 21 × 3	8,190
04	Mohallawadi Nala Bund	148 × 25 × 3	11,100
05	Historical Pond	169 × 32 × 2	10,816



More rainwater can be held within the treated structures instead of leaving the village as rapid runoff.

Longer water residence time creates better conditions for infiltration and groundwater recharge.

Reduced erosion helps preserve fertile soil and

limits the re-accumulation of sediment.

Improved groundwater availability can support nearby wells, borewells, farmland, and drinking-water sources.

Restored local water assets provide a stronger foundation for climate resilience during dry periods.

4.3 Stone Pitching for Soil Conservation

Approximately 1,600 cubic metres of stone pitching was completed as part of the watershed intervention. Stone pitching helps protect soil and exposed edges from runoff-related erosion, strengthens nala banks, and supports the longer-term performance of restored water structures.

Stone pitching is specified at $80 \times 20 \times 1$ m, or 1,600 m³. It is intended for soil conservation and bank strengthening.

Scale of Earthwork

A total of **47,146 cubic metres** of silt was removed. At 1,000 litres per cubic metre, this corresponds to approximately **47.15 million litres** - or 4.71 crore litres of restored storage and recharge capacity.

4.4 Water-volume calculation

$47,146 \text{ m}^3 \times 1,000 \text{ litres/m}^3 = 47,146,000 \text{ litres} = 4.7146 \text{ crore litres}$, rounded to 4.71 crore. This is a geometric capacity estimate. Storage and recharge are connected processes; they are not two separate benefits to add together as 9.42 crore litres. Actual annual recharge requires monitoring and cannot be inferred from excavation volume alone.

4.5 Machinery and Practical Works

JCB / Poclain machinery used for silt loading/unloading, access-road work, side-bank repair and measurements after execution. Dumpers or tractors are identified for transporting silt; transport of de-silted material was part of villagers' scope.



4.6 project - Solar-Powered Drinking Water Supply

The project includes a 7.5 HP solar water pump system at Dhopatwadi, Golap. The system is intended to support the village drinking-water supply while reducing reliance on conventional MSEB electricity. It is designed as a practical energy intervention: solar PV powers the pump during daylight hours, with a manual changeover arrangement providing the option to switch to grid electricity whenever required.

4.7 System Configuration

Component	Specification / provision
Pump capacity	7.5 HP
Solar PV array	Approximately 15 panels × 550 Wp (approximately 8.25 kWp total)
Power electronics	Solar controller / DC-to-AC inverter
Electrical protection	Protection systems, wiring, and required accessories
Continuity arrangement	Manual changeover between solar power and MSEB electricity
Monitoring	Mobile-based monitoring and remote ON/OFF operation, wherever technically feasible
Primary use	Village drinking-water pumping at Dhopatwadi-Golap

4.8 Energy and Financial Performance

The complete pumping system is expected to operate effectively for 15+ years with relatively low maintenance requirements. The solar panels are expected to have a life of approximately 25 years. With an assumed 2% annual electricity price escalation, the long-term financial benefit is expected to increase over the operating life of the system.



10,500 kWh

Annual renewable generation
estimated per year

7–7.5 years

Estimated payback
based on projected savings



Rs. 1,20,750/-

Annual electricity saving
at an average ≈11.50 / kWh

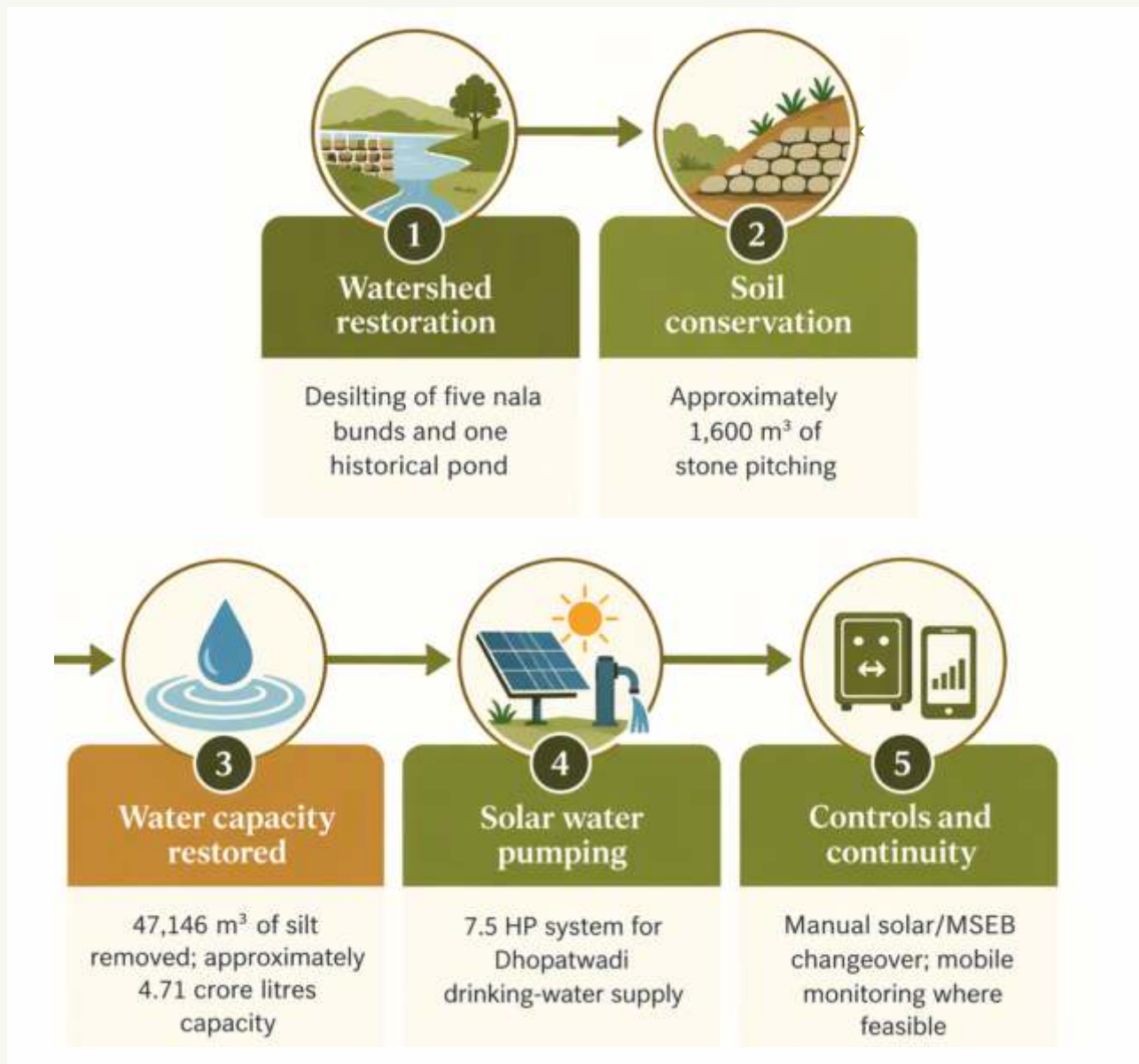
≈25 years

PV panel life
expected useful life

5. Implementation and Operating Model

The project was executed between March and May 2026 by Deepastambha Charitable Trust (DCT), Pune, with support from R. M. Tulpule Charitable Trust. The work combines physical restoration of public water assets with the installation of clean-energy infrastructure for a critical village service.

5.1 Delivery Summary



Integrated Infrastructure - Shared Value

The project's strength is not only the quantity of work completed. It is the connection between restored natural infrastructure and reliable clean-energy infrastructure—two assets that can continue generating value after the implementation period ends

6. Expected Benefits For The Village

The watershed component focused on removing accumulated silt from six existing water bodies: five major nala bunds and one historical pond. Desilting restores depth and storage volume, allowing the structures to capture more rainwater during the monsoon and retain water for longer after rainfall events.

Impact area	Expected reach / benefit
Village residents	Approximately 2,000 villagers supported through improved water security
Farmers	Approximately 230+ farmers with improved groundwater conditions
Agricultural land	Approximately 850+ acres with potential benefit from recharge
Open wells	28+ wells within approximately a 500-metre radius
Borewells	23+ borewells within approximately a 500-metre radius
Drinking-water sources	2 village drinking-water supply wells
Seasonal scarcity	Drinking-water scarcity period expected to reduce by approximately 2 months annually
Clean-energy generation	Approximately 10,500 kWh of renewable electricity per year

6.1 Beneficiary Pathways

Households: more reliable drinking-water pumping and reduced exposure to seasonal supply disruption.

Farmers: improved prospects for water availability across agricultural land and support for higher-value crops, fruits, and vegetables.

Village institutions: lower pumping costs and a practical fallback between solar and grid power.

Local ecology and soils: better retention of rainwater and reduced erosion around treated structures.

Future generations: durable water and energy infrastructure with a long operating horizon.



Why The Solar Component Matters

The intervention converts a recurring operating expense into a long-lived village asset, while reducing dependence on conventional and fossil-fuel-based energy sources for an essential public service.



6.2 Benefits of desilting of the Shivkalin (historical) Tank

Before excavation could begin, the pond's existing water had to be pumped out. As this water was an important irrigation source for nearly 400 acres of agricultural land, temporary nalas were dug to channel it regularly to the surrounding farms, ensuring that irrigation continued while the work was in progress.



7. Sustainability and Monitoring Framework

The project is designed for long-term benefit, but water outcomes depend on rainfall, groundwater use, maintenance, and the condition of the restored structures. The following monitoring actions are recommended to turn the project's estimates into a documented impact record.

What to monitor	Suggested record	Why it matters
Open wells	Water level readings in the 28+ nearby wells	Tracks groundwater response and seasonal persistence
Borewells	Water level, pumping duration, and motor performance for the 23+ borewells	Shows whether recharge is reducing pumping stress
Drinking-water sources	Availability, pumping schedule, and scarcity days for the 2 supply wells	Verifies household water-security gains
Restored structures	Post-monsoon storage, sediment build-up, and visible erosion	Protects the value of desilting and stone pitching
Solar system	Daily generation, operating hours, grid changeover, and faults	Demonstrates savings and supports preventive maintenance
Agriculture	Area cultivated and crop pattern across the benefited 850+ acres	Connects recharge with livelihood outcomes

7.1 Practical Maintenance Priorities

- Keep the nala bunds and historical pond free from avoidable waste and obstruction.
- Inspect stone-pitched sections before and after the monsoon and repair local damage early.
- Clean solar panels at an appropriate frequency and maintain electrical protection systems.
- Record solar generation and grid usage so actual savings can be compared with the estimate.
- Review well and bore-well readings at consistent points in the seasonal cycle.
- Use the monitoring record to guide future desilting, recharge, and drinking-water investments.



7.2 Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Golap watershed and solar water-pump project contributes most directly to SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy. It also supports elements of SDG 13 - Climate Action, SDG 15 - Life on Land, & SDG 2 - Zero Hunger. The linkages below describe project-level contributions, not certification that any global SDG target has been achieved.

UN goal and target	How the project contributes	Evidence / verification needed
	Desilting of existing bunds and a pond restored an estimated 47,146 m³ (about 4.71 crore litres) of water-holding and recharge capacity. The 7.5 HP solar pump supports drinking-water delivery at Dhopatwadi.	Measure seasonal storage, nearby well levels, continuity of supply and water quality. Better pumping does not, by itself, demonstrate safely managed drinking-water service under Target 6.1.
	The solar pumping system is expected to generate about 10,500 kWh of renewable electricity annually and save approximately Rs.1,20,750 a year at the tariff assumption in the brief.	Use solar generation logs and grid electricity bills to verify renewable output and cost savings. Generation and savings remain projections until operating data is available.
	Greater local water retention and a solar-backed pumping arrangement may strengthen resilience to dry-season water stress and reduce dependence on grid electricity.	Compare dry-season water availability & service interruptions across successive years. No quantified emissions avoidance or climate-adaptation outcome is established in the supplied brief.
	The reported 1,600 m³ of stone pitching is intended to reduce erosion and protect nala edges and nearby soil.	Inspect treated banks after monsoons and document erosion, sediment accumulation and land condition. The area of degraded land restored has not been measured.
	Improved recharge conditions are expected to benefit about 230+ farmers and 850+ acres , with potential to support more reliable and diversified cultivation.	Track irrigated area, cropping pattern and seasonal production before claiming agricultural productivity or food-security gains.

Suggested SDG Impact Indicators

- SDG 6: Measure water levels in identified wells and borewells; days of drinking-water shortage; basic water-quality tests.
- SDG 7: Metered solar kWh, grid kWh displaced and actual annual electricity expenditure.
- SDG 13: Number & duration of dry-season water-supply interruptions across comparable years.
- SDG15: Condition of pitched banks, sediment re-accumulation & documented erosion at treated sites.
- SDG 2: Cultivated or irrigated area, crop diversity and farmer-reported water availability.

CONCLUSION

8. Stronger Water Future for Golap

The Golap project addresses water security at two essential levels. First, it restores the village's natural and built capacity to hold monsoon water through large-scale de-silting and soil-conservation work. Second, it supports dependable drinking-water delivery through a solar-powered pumping system designed to reduce recurring electricity costs and emissions.

The reported scale is significant: 47,146 cubic metres of silt removed, approximately 4.71 crore litres of restored storage and recharge capacity, 1,600 cubic metres of stone pitching, and a 7.5 HP solar pump expected to generate approximately 10,500 kWh of renewable energy each year. The projected reach includes more than 2,000 villagers, 230+ farmers, approximately 850+ acres of agricultural land, and dozens of nearby wells and bore-wells.



The Next Measure of Success

The infrastructure is now in place. The next step is consistent seasonal monitoring - so that the village can demonstrate how restored storage, groundwater recharge, agricultural use, drinking-water reliability, and solar generation translate into measurable long-term resilience.

9. Documentation

NOC from Farmers for Construction of Service Road Construction

[illegible]

NOC from Farmers

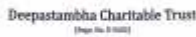
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Project Request Letter

 गुप्त साम्प्रदायिक कार्यालय गोलघर ता. वि. राजमिर्ठी Email Id- gstappg12@gmail.com	
आस्थापन - ६ फेब्रुवारी १९५४	जी.नं. - १८७३/२०१२
दिनांक- १८/०३/२०१८	
प्रति, मा. निदेशक आ. एम. तुळसुळे वॉरिंटेशन ट्रस्ट	
विषय :- आस्थापनात जी.जे. सोडय, तालपुरा - जि.रा. - राजमिर्ठी येथील आवाज (पत्रकारिता) याची पुनर्जात और जी.जे. सोडय (१० एम. पी. औरर वॉरर एम.टी) आणि फारसीक क्षेत्र निदेशक फारसीयांतर्गत ५ बंधा-यांतील व पुनर्जात करतील तात्काळीत नवत फारसीयांतर्गत किंवाही जी.जे.	
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Project Request Letter

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DDP
DIPLOMA
DIPLOMA

10. Glimpses

Damale Bandhara



Dhopatwadi Bandhara



Measuring the Bund



Mor Wathar Bund

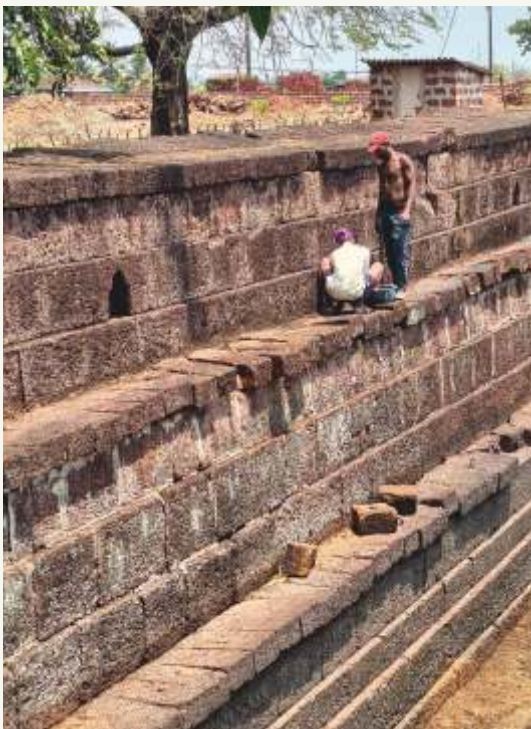


Mohallawadi Bund



Shivakalin (Historical) Well Revival







11. About R. M. Tulpule Charitable Trust

The public charitable trust, established in 2019 and funded by Dr. Justice R. D. Tulpule, focuses on reducing global warming effects through science and technology projects that promote renewable energy and eco-friendly solutions, including biogas, solar-powered water pumps, afforestation, and electric bikes for girls' education. It supports scalable pilot projects in rural areas with ongoing initiatives like biogas production from kitchen waste, solar-powered tube wells, tree plantations, and e-bikes, while planning future projects in CO2 sequestration, solar-assisted agriculture, and green hydrogen development.



12. Profile of Deepastambha Charitable Trust, Pune and Gramarthan



Deepastambha Charitable Trust, Pune, is a registered charitable trust (Reg. No. E-5602) under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950, and is registered under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act as well as under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010. Since its founding, Deepastambha has run multiple community-focused programs spanning education, environment, health, and rural development.

Gramarthan, meaning 'true development of the village,' is Deepastambha's flagship rural development initiative. Launched in 2013, Gramarthan reflects Deepastambha's vision of sustainable rural development across ecological, cultural, and economic dimensions of village life. Its rationale is to explore and execute participatory models that build self-governance and self-sustainability within rural communities, rather than imposing external solutions.

12.1 Gramarthan's Collective, Community-Led Approach

As part of building resilience, communities need to be empowered to make decisions about the issues that affect them. Central to Gramarthan's model is a collective approach, rather than one that works with individual farmers or households in isolation. Among other advantages, this offers communities the benefits of economies of scale — lower investment costs, lower risks, and more equitable access to resources.

While the advantages of working with communities instead of individuals are clear in theory, in practice they demand a sustained investment of time and effort to bring people together around a common goal. Building durable local institutions is equally demanding: developing the leadership capacity of group members and community resource persons to take their own decisions is a crucial step in this process.

Gramarthan's approach is therefore to work in partnership with the community — gaining trust, listening, and responding to local concerns — to identify locally relevant pathways to secure livelihoods, enhancing rural livelihoods through the effective participation of rural people, particularly women and youth, in managing their own social, economic, and environmental objectives, including through community-driven cooperatives and a bottom-up

approach.

Gramarthan's focus areas, within this collective framework, are to:

- Encourage rural communities' participation in decision-making, and promote rural communities' empowerment and rural leadership;
- Utilize a techno-social approach by integrating satellite data, GIS mapping, and realistic datasets for precision planning, evidence-based decision-making, and sustainable rural development;
- Promote green energy initiatives, women empowerment, watershed management, and rural healthcare as key pillars of holistic village development;
- Enhance access of rural populations to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation;
- Promote the development of rural organizations, such as community-driven cooperatives, to enhance investment in essential infrastructure and services;
- Support the development, transfer, and use of safe and environmentally sound construction technologies and practices, particularly for housing, to improve living standards and create rural employment;
- Promote safe and environmentally sound waste management practices.

13. Testimonials



Vaibhav Varishe, Dhopatwadi Villager &
Grampanchayat Member

Restoring the bunds and historical pond is an important step for our village. By removing silt and protecting the watercourses, we can hold more of the monsoon rain that we depend on through the year. Together with the solar pump, this project supports both farming and drinking-water needs



Avinash Kale, Dhopatwadi Villager &
Grampanchayat Member

A dependable drinking-water supply matters to every household in Dhopatwadi. The new solar pump gives us another way to run the village water system during the day and reduces our dependence on grid electricity. We hope it will make the supply more reliable, especially in the dry season.

14. References

- Central Ground Water Board, Ground Water Information: Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra (2014), especially district-at-a-glance, rainfall analysis, groundwater-level summary and major problems. <https://cgwb.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-10/ratnagiri.pdf>
- Golap village profile identifying Ratnagiri taluka and district (Census 2011 data reproduced by Census2011.co.in). <https://www.census2011.co.in/data/village/565646-golap-maharashtra.html>
- United Nations, Goal 6 : <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal6>
- United Nations, Goal 7 : <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7>
- United Nations, Goal 13 : <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>
- United Nations, Goal 15 : <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15>
- United Nations, Goal 2 : <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

वृष्टिपतितमपि महता योगेन संरक्षेत् ।
ता आपः न मोघं व्ययेत, यावदुपयोगः तावदेव स्यात् ग्रहणम् ॥

Vṛṣṭi-patitam-api mahatā yogena saṁrakṣet |
Tā āpaḥ na moghaṁ vyayeta, yāvad-upayogaḥ tāvad-eva syāt grahaṇam ||

“One should put in great efforts to harvest and save even the rainwater. That water should not be wasted in vain; one must only draw as much as is needed for actual use.”





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