

Project Update: March 2010

New Year begins with lot of hope in the extension of the RSG project as the active dialogue has been initiated with the policy makers, government departments, and educational institutions regarding river conservation. This year there was severe drought in the study area. Water scarcity is a ubiquitous problem. The whole of the Adan River dried up. However, water was still remaining in the BHAN DOH, a pool we have selected for the fresh water protected area. This pool is supporting thousands of creatures, wild animals, birds and fishes.

1. **18th January 2010:** *Majur Sammelan* (Labour Summit): It was one of the big events in our RSG project. About 5000 labourers from the whole basin gathered for the capacity building programme. Megasese winner Dr. Rajendra Singh was key speaker of the program along with collector of the district, CEO and MLA of the area.
2. **28th January 2010:** Collector office of Washim district arranged a 1-day capacity building programme at Washim about National Rural Employment Guaranty Act 2005. I have presented *Ridge to Valley Approach* of the Watershed Management. Systematic work of the Employment Guaranty Scheme is beginning in the area.
3. **8th, 9th, 10th February 2010:** New Delhi. Second Ganga Action Plan began. Ministry of Forest and Environment (MOEF) has arranged 3 days consultation on the various issues of the River Ganga and other rivers of the India. I have presented an ecosystem approach to save the River Ganga and other rivers of the India. Environment minister Mr. Jairam Ramesh appreciated the concept presented by me and accepted many points suggested by me.
4. **10th February 2010:** The established Labour union at Kajleshwar village.
5. **14th February 2010:** Amravati University is an important university of this area. National Service Scheme (NSS) department of this university organized my lecture before lecturers on the issues involved in the RSG project. From next season thousands of students will be involved in the project.
6. The work of the Labor union and Co-operative society of the Dhamani village is ongoing.
7. **12th, 13th March 2010:** Karanja Lad. To speed up the Watershed Management Work in the study Area, Revenue Officer and Block Development Office (BDO) arranged 2-day workshop at Karanja; I have conducted the same.