

Video Conference with People's Service Society, Palakkad

Date: 06 May 2020



Participants

1. Dr Athira P, Regional Coordinator, IIT Palakkad.
2. Dr Sahely Bhadra, Faculty Coordinator, IIT Palakkad
3. Dr Praveena Gangadharan, Assistant Professor, IIT Palakkad
4. Mr Nikhil R R, Staff Coordinator, IIT Palakkad
5. Mr Joseph, Project Coordinator, WaterAid India Project.

Introduction

A video conference was conducted with the People's Service Society Palakkad to discuss the 'Water Security Project' of Water Aid in the Pudussery and Elapullay Grama Panchayat. The discussion was held as a part of the activities of IIT Palakkad's Unnat Bharat Abhiyan and Jal Shakthi Abhiyan to give technical support to the organisations working in the adopted villages.

Some of the main points discussed were

1. The main objectives of the Water Security Project are Water Conservation, Water Access & Management, Water Quality Management and Waste Management.
2. The major components of the projects are
 - Restoration of public dug wells.
 - New Water Supply Schemes.
 - Dug well recharging & Aquifer strengthening.
 - Roof Water Harvesting structures.
 - Anganwadi safe water.
 - Drinking water Dispensers to Schools.
 - Solid waste management.
 - Liquid waste management- Greywater treatment.
 - School Hand wash units.
 - Pond stormwater recharging.
 - Check Dams & Gully plucks.
 - Borewell recharging.

Best Practices discussed

- Dug well recharging -1600 wells recharged.
- Sustainable community-owned or managed water supply schemes in 30 Hamlets.
- 150 trained grass-root technocrats and para hydrologists to support operation and maintenance and water quality mitigation measures.

Challenges/ Concern discussed

- Prevailing water sector scenario is very critical.
- A large number of defunct public well and water sources need restoration
- Water quality is an issue due to high industrial pollution and no effluent management systems.
- Unscientific water management practices in the industry and farming sector - need a holistic approach for water conservation.
- Recharging of borewells in Elappully.

