

## Rise of Water through Jaloday

**'Jaloday', the Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) project adopted created by architect Uday Chipalkatty and adopted by Suyog Nagar residents, is all set to harvest a whopping 90,00,000 litres of water, of which 70,00,000 litres will be 100% potable!**

"Even an emperor, denied water, would swiftly turn to dust. Water is the real monarch and we are all its slaves."

- **Salman Rushdie,**  
The Enchantress Of Florence

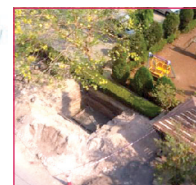
Inflated as these lines by the popular novelist may sound, today, one can hardly deny the truth stated in them. Most countries in the world are busy trying to figure out ways that will help us save and sustain water resources. Renowned historian and author Thomas Fuller said, "We never know the worth of water till the well is dry." Quite appropriate in the context of today's lifestyle, the statement of Fuller is also a reflection of the fact that shortage of water was a phenomenon feared in the 16th century as well. While it was just contemplation during that time, water shortage has become the matter of fact today.

But, we can still correct our mistake of not giving enough importance to saving water. Individuals, NGOs, social workers, social groups, even countries, are coming together to put their best foot forward to save water- the element of nature we need the most to survive. One such example lies in the community of our own 'The Happiness Network'. The residents of PSCL's Suyog Nagar, in Shivaji Housing Society (Pune), are determinately working on their rainwater harvesting project to help save water this rainy season.

Known as 'Jaloday', this Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) project is created by architect Uday Chipalkatty. This method of RWH is all set to gain the Suyog Nagar residents the harvest of a whopping 90,00,000 litres of water; of which 70,00,000 litres will be 100% potable. Talking about Jaloday, Pratap Jadhav, Chairman of the Suyog Nagar Society, said, "When our society members were planning for RWH, we came across Chipalkatty's Jaloday and decided to implement it immediately. One of our residents', Mr. Gogate, has implemented this method in his factory. It has been hugely successful and hence we did not face a single objection while deciding to implement it in our society."

For harvesting rain water, 100 meter deep bore wells have been dug at equal distances in the society premises. Generally, after falling on the ground, rain water runs towards the nearest source of escape such as water drains or gutters. In the Jaloday method, the water is directed towards the gutters which channelize it towards the filters. Once the water goes through the process of filtration, it is ready for use. "We have dug six bore wells in our society premises. Usually, other projects help you collect water for consumption, but we are able to store water underground in order to increase the quality of land through this method. At present, we are aiming to

### How it works?



RWH Project underway at Suyog Nagar Housing Society in Pune.

increase the water table through this method. Once the water table is increased, we can look forward to harvesting more water", said Jadhav.

So, what is unique about Chipalkatty's RWH project Jaloday? While flowing, some of the rain water seeps through various strata of soil and percolates deep into the ground to create aquifers (volume of ground water). Usually, it takes years to develop an aquifer that is 100 meters deep. Aquifers are necessary for balance in temperature, good vegetation and water abundance. If we manage to store enough water in the ground, the aquifers will not dry out. This can be done by the Jaloday method. Chipalkatty has created an artificial aquifer on his land near Pune and has been successful in improvising on it after observation. Around 40 artificial aquifers have been created in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, and they can store upto 5,00,000 litres or more of rain water every year.

Talking about the costing of implementing Jaloday, Jadhav said, "the total expense for implementing this project in our society is around Rs. 9 lakh. The only expense required after it finishes is of maintaining the submersible pumps that will be

### Advantages of Jaloday RWH:

- Cost is less than 1% when compared to conventional cost of RWH.
- Time required is 1% and does not require any skilled labour.
- Nature needs up to 10 years or more to reach a depth of 100 metres to create a natural aquifer. The Jaloday method can create an artificial aquifer in 10 seconds.
- Natural aquifers are a result of top to bottom filtration process. The Jaloday method works on an exactly opposite method of bottom to top.
- Artificial aquifers by the Jaloday method can be created on any part of land, where ever it rains.
- Government can have an unlimited source of revenue through excise, sales tax, service tax, etc. as this activity develops into a multi-fold industry.

added later. Also, the filtration system will have to be changed regularly. But these are inexpensive procedures. With little investment, we will soon be able to provide water to members of 210 flats in our society. In the future, we will also think about recycling methods."

With the project being prepared to face this season's rains that are two months away, residents seem excited about their eco-friendly effort. When asked if the members of Suyog Nagar are willing to help their fellow Puneites understand this RWH method, Jadhav said, "we will keep our society open for all who wish to understand and benefit from our experience."

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### Fellow residents,

A community is where individuals share basic values and constantly involved in the process of learning to be good citizens, most importantly, good humans. We all cherish community living and are driven by our fellow community members to perform our duties. Does your community have such members who motivate all to contribute to building civic values through their simple efforts such as car-pooling, rain water harvesting, energy saving, garbage management, community library and many such similar initiatives? Anyone living around you who works for civic and social causes that benefit our fellow living beings? Share their stories with us and follow the spirit of community living. Send us your stories on [happinessnetwork@pscl.in](mailto:happinessnetwork@pscl.in) along with photographs and we will feature them to inspire others to live with the same spirit.