

WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION

PRIORITISING A SUSTAINABLE JOURNEY





Highlights

Cumulative Beneficiaries (since inception)

Watershed Management and access to Drinking Water Programmes undertaken at Vijayanagar Dolvi, Vasind, Kutehr, Barmer, Ratnagiri and Barbil

11.5 lakhs
beneficiaries

Urban Sanitation Projects in Maharashtra and Odisha

20,000

Integrated Sanitation Programme at Vijayanagar, Dolvi, Odisha, Kutehar

60,000
beneficiaries

Increasing Green Cover at Vijayanagar, Vasind, Salem, Dolvi, Paradip, Barmer

4 lakhs
saplings planted





Improving access to safe drinking **water**

We are dedicated to enabling access to safe and clean water for all. Water, as a shared resource, demands effective management. Realising the importance of implementing sustainable water projects, we deploy a community-centric approach to support people living in remote areas and water-stressed communities. It not only enables access to safe drinking water but also enhances the health and well-being of communities.



5.92L m³

Water storage capacity created

13,190

Households provided with access to safe drinking water

11.5L

Lives impacted



Watershed management programmes

We realise that every community has different needs. As a result, we design tailored solutions to address the unique challenges faced by people in certain areas. Our approach, therefore, involves revitalising traditional water sources, harnessing rainwater through roof harvesting systems and building sturdy infrastructure for ensuring water security for generations to come.

We also collaborate with Gram Panchayats to align our efforts with the government's Jal Jeevan Mission and ensure access to clean water.

Awarded the first AquaCredits – 98,000 credits – for our watershed programme at Dolvi

38

Check dams constructed

11

Ponds desilted

20

Ponds renovated

70.57 M m³

Additional water storage capacity created

699 M m³

Water recharged

Equitable distribution of clean water

Our initiatives are designed to ensure responsible water usage, village water user committees are formed for equitable use of water. To enable its equitable distribution within communities, we undertake conservation measures, develop water harvesting structures and implement methods to enhance moisture retention in soil. These steps take us a step closer to enable water security while empowering people to have greater control over water management initiatives.

3 km Water pipeline installed for remote households

132 Roof rainwater harvesting structures constructed



Shahapur Taluka was affected by severe water scarcity and the water conservation project has benefitted 10 villages and 22 hamlets. These communities no longer have to rely on tankers, and it has impacted the lives of over 7,000 people.



Maragondanahalli lake restoration, Bengaluru

With the restoration of Maragondanahalli Lake in Bengaluru, we are revitalising water reserves and enriching the local biodiversity.

10 Floating wetlands

12000 Canna and vetiver plants

>1 lakh m³ water storage capacity

From scarcity to abundance – the freedom to access safe drinking water

The SL Hatting community, nestled in the rural areas of Koida Block of Sundargarh district of Odisha is a close-knit community. With a population of just over 200 people, the residents primarily work as daily wage earners. For years, the community lacked access to clean drinking water and the villagers had always relied on the well as their primary source of water.

However, issues related to the unavailability of potable water exacerbated during the rainy season. As water from nearby canals drained into the well, the water became contaminated. Its colour changed and consumption of contaminated water led to various waterborne diseases such as typhoid, fever, skin infections and hepatitis.

In the summer, the well often dried up and women had to bear the brunt of these issues as they walked long distances to fetch water for their families. This often resulted in severe physical ailments such as headaches and back pain.

The JSW Foundation team arrived at SL Hatting as a boon for the residents. Their field visits to the region resulted in the development of a collaborative plan to alleviate these issues. With the active participation of the community, suitable locations for borewell installation were identified and discussions with landowners ensued. It also helped to determine areas for tap installation to make water easily accessible to more than 40 households in the area. However, challenges kept cropping up. Influential people from the region were unhappy with the installation of the borewell near their residence. But, community participation and intervention by the village head (Sarpanch), helped to resolve the issue amicably.

The intervention resulted in the excavation of the borewell, installation of pipelines and placement of solar panels. The community members erected a protective fence around the solar panels to prevent damage from animals and pledged to keep the infrastructure safe.

A new borewell equipped with a 2.5 kW solar panel and four taps was installed. As a result, community members now have convenient access to clean drinking water near their homes, eliminating concerns of contamination. Following

the installation, ownership of the infrastructure was transferred to the community, who agreed to manage and maintain it. This intervention not only reduced the burden of water-fetching but also brought joy to the villagers, who now have access to safe and clean water in close proximity to their residences.

JSW Foundation's efforts have earned the accolades of hundreds of villagers. "I used to trek half a kilometre to fetch water. Pulling out water from the well was extremely strenuous and the water was often dirty. During the rainy season, we had no other option but to consume muddy water. But thanks to the installation of the deep borewell, we now have safe drinking water near our homes. I am grateful to the JSW Foundation for providing us with this essential resource," expressed Santi Munda, a resident of SL Hatting.

"For years, we drank muddy water and lived with illness and exhaustion. Having clean drinking water near our home has lifted a heavy burden from our lives, bringing health, comfort and renewed hope for our children."

Jingi Munda, local resident



Increasing **green** cover

The health of our forests is vital for ecological balance and for supporting livelihoods, bolstering economic growth and limiting our environmental footprint. By planting indigenous trees and empowering communities, we are securing a better future for people as well as the planet.

54,584

Saplings planted

3.5 L

Mangrove saplings planted

Mitigating Carbon Emissions

Solar Lamps

Helped abate **2,901 tonnes** of CO² by replacing traditional, carbon-intensive lighting sources with clean, renewable solar energy.

Improved chulahs (efficient cookstoves)

Reduced **49,640 tonnes** of CO² by minimising fuel consumption and emissions from traditional cooking methods.

Mangrove restoration

Sequestered **47,604 tonnes** of carbon through the planting and protection of mangrove forests, which act as powerful carbon sinks.

Tree plantations

Captured **11,200 tonnes** of CO² through the planting of trees that naturally absorb carbon from the atmosphere.



Ixora
Jungle geraniums

It has non scented orange, red or yellow coloured flowers in dense globe-shaped clusters. These shrubs flower throughout the year. The flowers are commonly used in Hindu worship, as well as in ayurveda and Indian folk medicine.

Asian Tropical Shrub

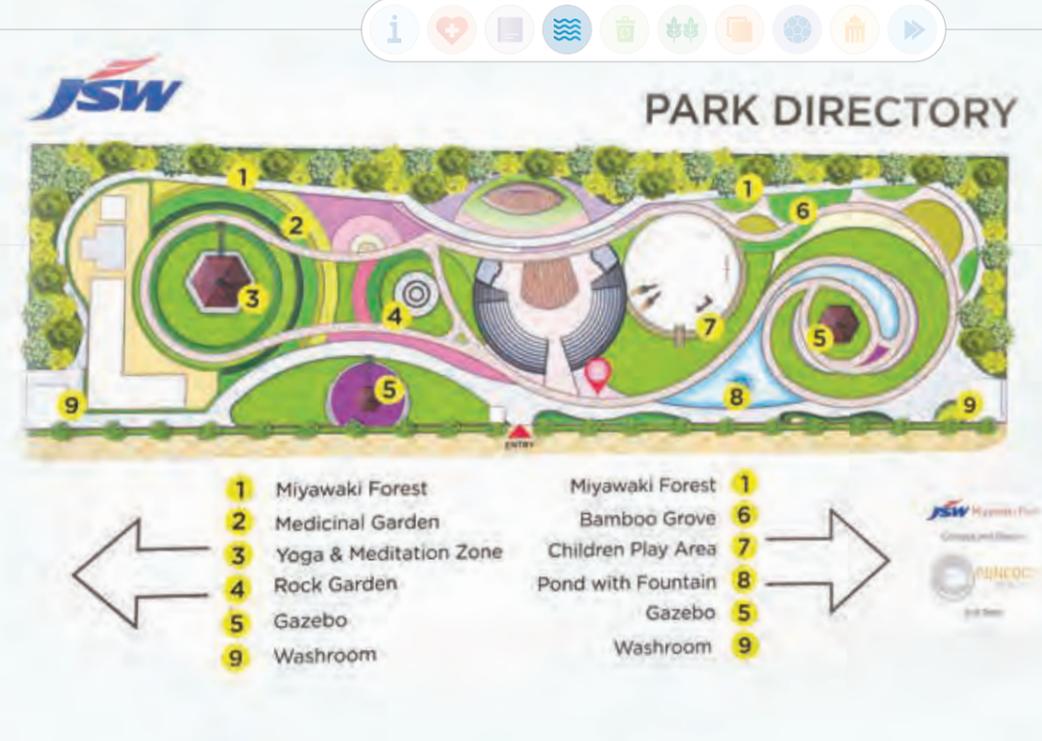
Enriching local biodiversity

JSW Foundation works with local communities including women Self Help Groups (SHGs) to improve the green cover. Our initiatives, including the restoration of degraded mangroves, plantation of indigenous species of trees using the Miyawaki technique and tree plantation drives across locations have helped to enrich local biodiversity. It has also helped farmers to protect their fields from encroachment and attacks from elephants. In addition to setting up solar fences and improving farm inputs, we conduct sensitisation sessions with local communities.



10 villages

Participated in activities to resolve human-animal conflicts in Barbil, Odisha



Miyawaki forests in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

TJSW Foundation, in collaboration with Tarapur MIDC, has developed the JSW Miyawaki Forest and Biodiversity Park in Tarapur, Maharashtra. The Miyawaki method is a unique method of planting multiple layers of diverse indigenous trees of indigenous trees within every square metre. These forests grow 10 times faster, are 30 times denser and harbour 100 times more biodiversity.

As a result, these forests offer viable solutions for cities seeking to rapidly enhance their climate resilience. The JSW Miyawaki Forest and Biodiversity Park is a dense cover of native trees spread over a two-acre regenerated dump yard. It has positively contributed to raising the water table.

It hosts over 8,000 trees, attracting butterflies, birds and other animal species, with a survival rate of 99%. To date, the park has welcomed more than 100,000 visitors.

Following our efforts in Tarapur, we have initiated the replication of this model in Salem, Tamil Nadu. The forest covers 26,000 sq.ft area with 10,000 native saplings. Tuticorin and Dharapuram have followed suit, creating a dense cover of indigenous trees.



Promoting community health and **hygiene**

Provision for comprehensive sanitation facilities that are safe, hygienic and secure ensure the well-being of communities. To fulfil this objective, we actively engage in initiatives that integrate behavioural changes and make way for sustainable sanitation, especially for marginalised people.



2.5 L
Individuals covered
by sanitation programmes

74
Villages covered under various
sanitation initiatives

57,000
Households covered by
integrated Sanitation programmes

232
Toilet blocks constructed

1.9 km
Drainage lines constructed

"Restoring our toilet didn't just change life for my family, it inspired our community to choose dignity, hygiene and change."

— Dipti Marehi

Restoring the right to a dignified life

Dipti Marehi, the 17-year-old daughter of a daily wage labourer and her family from Thekoloji village of Gandapada lacked one of the basic amenities for a dignified life – a functional toilet. Their limited earnings were never enough to build a toilet for the family. Although a toilet was constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), it was not suitable for use and her parents could not afford the repairs. Consequently, Dipti and her family resorted to open defecation, a prevalent practice among villagers who were unaware of its adverse impacts. It not only posed health risks but also compromised the safety of families like that of Dipti's.



The intervention of JSW Foundation's Sanitation programme offered a beacon of hope for marginalised people. To initiate their community engagement initiative, a Nigrani committee was formed to oversee daily activities of villagers. Following the triggering session, the Nigrani Committee started to conduct follow-ups. During one such follow-up at an open defecation site, Dipti's father was caught in the act. Despite being encouraged to use the toilet, he cited lack of funds and his inability to mend the toilet due to a broken pit and slab. The team then conducted door-to-door visits and motivated Dipti's mother by highlighting concerns associated with open defecation and its impact on adolescent girls like her daughter.

Subsequently, Dipti herself reached out to the team for support. With guidance from the Sanitation team, Dipti cleaned the filled pit and implemented a low-cost technical strategy using bamboo, unused sacks and soil to cover it. She also cleaned the

pan, rendering the toilet usable. Dipti's proactive approach not only improved the sanitation facilities in her house but also transformed the mindset of her parents and restored the dignity of her family. It also set a positive example for the community and encouraged them to improve hygiene and sanitation standards. Additionally, the follow-up activities conducted by the Sanitation team raised awareness about the importance of proper sanitation practices. People were enlightened about the health risks associated with open defecation and how it can be prevented through the construction of proper toilets.

Taking a cue from Dipti's initiative, three more unused toilets near their home were renovated and the community, as a whole, benefitted from Dipti's inspiring act.

Dipti remains grateful to JSW Foundation.