

Drinking Water
is an important
component of all
programs. We are
providing it to
students. We are
helping them.

Rainfall is very important to all of us. With rainfall comes the hope of lush green lands and the end of scarcity of water. This is especially true for Rajasthan where water is a scarce resource. Traditionally people here have practiced rainwater harvesting to conserve whatever water they received as rainfall. However with passage of time, people had stopped the traditional practice of rainwater harvesting due to easy access to piped water. Increasing population has put immense pressure on the already limited ground water resource and the ground water level has been continuously depleting. These factors have led to the revival of rainwater harvesting practices, even in cities.

One such rainwater harvesting structure is now functional in the Government Jain Gurukul Senior Secondary School of Beawar located in Ajmer district, Rajasthan state. When the National Green Corps eco club began in the school in 2003-04, there was no proper drinking water facility. Water from a single hand pump located within the school premises was salty and drinking water was brought to the school in tankers. The school was spending a total of Rs. 10,000/- annually for the purchase of Drinking water.

The school management and the eco club members then decided to construct a rainwater harvesting structure. The school management spent Rs. 30,000/- for the construction of the Rain Water Harvesting tank, the cost of which they could recover over the period of 3 years.

One of the terraces of the school was connected to a storage tank measuring 10 x 10 ft. A hand pump was connected to the tank and the water from the tank is now being used by school students for drinking water. The water from the storage tank suffices the year long drinking water requirement of the school children

The second terrace of the school was connected to an old well located on the school campus. Over the past few years, water level in the well has risen and is now also used for drinking.

This effort by the school has now provided them access to a safe, and a more economically viable source of drinking water.

