



**Sustainable
Natural Resource
Management
Journey of SRS**



Village Information Center, Jaisinghpura, Jaipur

About Organization

Student's Relief Society (SRS) is non-political, non-profit and a secular voluntary organization registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1958. It was evolved on an auspicious day, Gandhi Jayanti 2nd October 1978. It was joint venture on the part of 27 youths inspired by the spirit of commitment and dedication. Their emotional response, moral commitment and social responsibility forced them to join hands together for contributing their mite to mitigate social problems in general and development of under-privileged in particular. SRS became legal entity under Societies Registration Act in 1980.

SRS has primary concern with education and health of children & young persons on one hand whereas it was laid concern to the needs and problems of women on other. It has no boundaries but restricted herself to Phagi, Sanganer and Dudu Panchayat Samitis of Jaipur district. Accepting democratic ideals in practice, SRS works with people instead of for people. It has willingly accepted equality, social justice, freedom, continuous development, self-enrichment and participation as its core values.

Covering 777 villages, SRS is working in 11 districts of Rajasthan province named as – Jaipur, Bundi, Tonk, Alwar, Nagaur, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Sikar, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Barmer.

Natural Resource Management

SRS aims to improve the quality and impact of their work in the sector of Natural Resource Management through sharing information and experiences amongst community. Institution identifies opportunities for co-ordination on practical and strategic issues, and promotes policy dialogue with relevant government agencies, and donor



agencies. Active participation of SRS has improved the livelihoods of landless, marginal and small-scale farmers. It was achieved by working in a participatory mode on integrated NRM, and by ensuring better access to and control of specific natural resources by the poor.

Village Information Center of SRS

SRS is running a Village Information Center under Drought Mitigation Programme with financial support from CRS, USAID, and GVNML at village Swai Jaisinghpura, district Jaipur. This information center is a one stop station for the villagers in terms of extracting information regarding Agriculture Extension, Seed Production, Farmer welfare schemes etc. Apart from disseminating this information, the center also possess entertainment facilities like TV, Radio, Newspapers, and Magazines etc. for the recreation of the villagers.

Community sensitized on Defluoridation

In Rajasthan where there is water scarcity in general, it is an abnormal task to



De fluoridation plant at village Jaisinghpura, Jaipur

tell people to take low-fluoride water. People are used to consuming water from a variety of sources like open ponds, bore wells and hand pumps. Due to low literacy level, most people are not even aware of the reasons for fluorosis and ground water quality issues. In view of ill effects of fluoride ingestion in village Jaisinghpura, SRS has made several Village contact drives including

slogan writings on walls in Hindi and Rajasthani carrying messages on fluorosis and its control. Door to door campaigns, puppet shows, street plays and cultural shows were also organized where local children played an active role. 50 Orientation and training camps were conducted to train animators, supervisors and coordinators. SRS persuaded the panchayat samiti members and other village functionaries in light of ill effects of fluoride ingestion. As result a mini Water Filter plant has been installed in the government school of Jaisinghpura village. Environmental and conservation issues are intricately tied to poverty, education, and health. The natural resource management activities of SRS aims to improve living standards of rural communities' by means of regeneration, protection, development and address sustainable agriculture, and livestock/pastureland-development and physical interventions.

With the support and guidance of Rajeev Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, S.R. Society began a Sector Reform, Swajal Dhara and Total Sanitation Program in Jaipur, Sikar, Bundi, and Tonk districts. In association with IGSSS, CRS, and EEJP, SR Society launched Improving the Environment through community participation and sustainable development programme. The organization has conducted workshops, exhibitions, public rallies, lectures, and art and literary competitions to address solid waste management, clean and green environments, recycling, water/soil-conservation, plant protection etc.

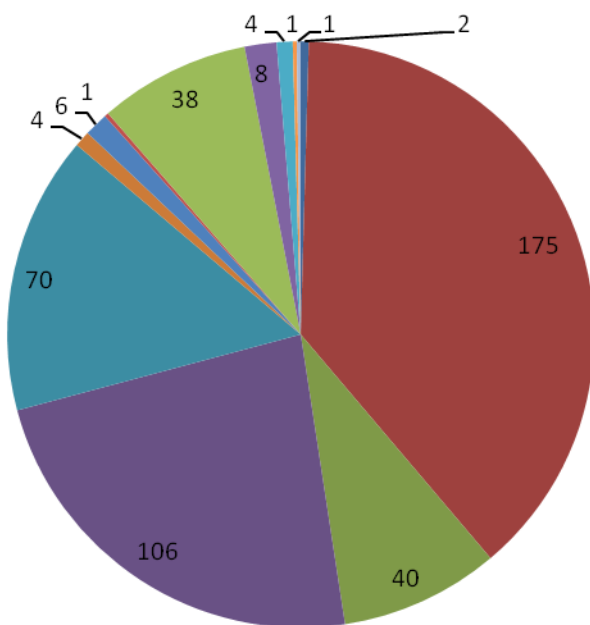
Progress so far made

S.R. Society initiated drought relief interventions with the help of the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), USA Aid, and Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Mumbai. Drought proofing measures included the construction of anicuts, digging ponds, deepening wells, and repairing irrigation canals.

Organization has constructed various water harvesting structures like check dams along with Chauka Bandi. These water conservation structures are implemented through Village Development Committee and Women groups. SRS has also taken up land conservation through contour bunding, medbandi, digging up of ponds, pasture land development and horticulture activities.

SRS has been contributing in providing orientation and sensitization to farmers to conserve oil and energy resources under the flagship of Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA), New Delhi. It has also worked for energy and oil conservation in diesel engines by promoting lift irrigation among the farmers of Jaipur, Alwar, Dausa and Tonk districts.

The chart given below is showing the field journey of the SRS in the area of sustainable natural resource management:



- Anicut Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Defluoridation kit Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Kitchen Garden Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Soil test Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Trainings & Exposures Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- VDC Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Water Conservation structures Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Open well construction Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Open well deepening Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Water test sources Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Pasture Land development Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Canal Construction Sanganer Block, Jaipur
- Medbandi Sanganer Block, Jaipur

SRS has conducted 50 training programs for the conservation of natural resources. The uniqueness of these trainings was the interaction and learning

with the community people and village customary chiefs of traditional communities, grassroots conservators and traditional knowledge holders, who are the real custodians of sustaining the natural resources. **Some cases of dispute on natural resources like agricultural land of Smt. Premi Devi of village Rampura Unti & pasture land of village Jaisinghpura were placed before the relevant government functionaries to solve the problem. These cases were resolved due to vigorous case follow-ups by SRS. Shri Lal Singh president of Village Development Committee Sadda and Shri Bhairon Singh president of Village Development Committee Jaisinghpura has played key roles in the implementation of NRM activities of SRS.**

Emergence from Project to Programme approach

Over the last 28 years S.R. Society has covered selected areas of development on a project-basis. Activities were short-term with pre-determined start and end points. The decision to shift from a project-oriented approach to a programme-based agenda was jointly made in 2006 by members of the General Assembly and Management Coordination Committee and upon the advice of beneficiaries and selected partners. The plan to move from a project-oriented approach to a programme-based agenda is both a part of S.R. Society's growth cycle and a reflection of its success.

Funding Partners

International	National	Regional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF • US AID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Forest & Environment, Government of India • Ministry of Natural & Oil Gas, Government of India • PCRA • CRS • CAPART 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Irrigation, Government of Rajasthan • SPWD • CCDU • GVNML • Zila Parishads - Jaipur, Bundi, Tonk, Alwar, Nagaur, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Sikar, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Barmer

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