



:Development of three Tanks; Number of Benefits:

Summary: The development of Kadanakatte, Chalikere and Halahondi Tanks in Kadanakatte village, Managunda grama panchayath area has resulted in several benefits to the farmers and local people. It reduced farmers lifting water from the long distant river. Crop productivity increased, Tank environment become clean, ground water improved and tank ecosystem developed towards sustainability.

“In 2018-19 the borewell that was providing drinking water to supply by our panchayath was dried up, one more borewell dug near to the river and water was brought to village from that borewell; but after removing the silt from these tanks have rejuvenated the dried up borewell, not only one, more than 70 borewells and giving good yield” said by Chidananda, Grama panchayath member of Managunda. The people surrounded him gave a big applause. Further, they shared the information on benefits and impacts after removing silt from 3 tanks.

One villager, Guthyappa’s experience is like this. He is growing Maize since many years and use to apply 3 to 4 bags of chemical fertilizer per year and every year the quantity of fertilizer uses to increase. Whereas after applying silt the Maize crop has given better yield than previous years and there was no need to apply either chemical fertilizer or organic manure like cow dung, etc. The stem of the Maize was such strong and robust, leaves were very wide and were in green colour. Yield also increased 4 quintals more than previous years.

People were throwing the waste to the tank which near to the village. That use to decompose there, but was giving pungent smell to the villagers. Moreover, use to create more mosquitos in the village. After removing the silt the dust bin is shifted to other place and all the waste was also cleaned. Now there are no mosquitos and no problem of bad smell.

Like this experience was shared by many villagers.



MANUVIKASA NGO has developed 3 tanks in Managunda village, Hanagal taluk of Haveri district during 2020-21 and 2021-22. Kadanakatte, Jalikere and Halahonda are those 3 tanks. Jalikere is little away from the village. Kadanakatte and Halahonda tanks are adjacent to the village. All villagers put their hands in this de-siltation and tank development activity.

Kadanakatte tank is having 8 acres of water spread area and Jalikere is having 17 acres water spread area, Minor Irrigation department is custodian of the this tank. Halahonda is small tank. Water was not stored properly in Jalikere, there was leakage. After removing silt from the middle of the tank, now it holds more water for longer period. Moreover, it is enabling water to percolate to the nearby borewells increasing the groundwater level. Water is also available for cattle to drink. It took 15 days for each tank to remove the silt from the tank. Every day 80 tractors used to carry the silt from tanks to respective farmers field. Farmers applied the silt on their land. Silt was also taken and applied by the farmers living in nearby villages.



As preparation the MANUVIKASA staff visited grama panchayath, held discussions with President, Panchayath Development Officer and other members, also organized exposure visit for the farmers to other tanks developed by the MANUVIKASA. Local MLA inaugurated the silt removal activity. Now (August 2022) silt removal activity is completed in all the tanks and water is stored during 2022 Monsoon. Villagers are preparing to workshop the tank water (Ganga pooja). They are discussing with the local MLA and other local dignitaries to invite them.

Due to siltation in the tanks the water holding capacity was reduced and farmers were finding difficulties due to less water storage in the tank. Hence, they started bringing water from the Varada river (from 2 km away) through pipe line. Lot of money spent for the water supply project. Every farmer use to contribute Rs.30,000 for bringing piped water said by a farmer, namely, GuthyappaFakeerappaThalavara. The expenditure includes pump set, pipes and diesel expenses. About 60 farmers are sharing this cost of Rs.13 lakhs. From the past 3 years water is available in these 3 tanks and the water lifting expenditure is reduced for the farmers. It is big savings to the farmers.

Usually water is released from July to January to the command area for irrigation purpose. During February they close the sluice gate for preserving water in the tank for the use during summer. The stored tank water is used for domestic, animal husbandry and groundwater recharging purposes.

The silt accumulated in the 3 tanks is very fertile. With use of this fertile soil the village community has seen drastic improvement in the soil fertility and resultant to it is increase in the yield. Previous yield per acre is 25 to 30 bags of paddy. After applying silt it has increased up to 45 bags. In terms of quintals the average increase is 10 quintals. At the rate of Rs.1,000 per quintals the increase in income for the increased yield is Rs.10,000. After increased availability of water in the tanks, 4 farmers developed 30 acres of arecanut orchards. All these is impact of tank de-siltation and increased water holding capacity in the tanks.

In nutshell, the following are the results of tank de-siltation;

- Increase in yield
- Reduction in purchase of chemical fertilizer
- Reduced lifting of water from the river reduced expenditure
- Increased employment opportunities for the farmers and farm labourers
- Increase in groundwater level
- Increase in income
- Soil fertility is increased due to application of silt and reduced use of chemical fertilizers
- Tank environment and ecosystem improved.
- There is increased social harmony and cooperation among farmers

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There was Corona during silt removal period in 2020. Some of the household were without work and income for months together and finding difficult to live. During this time MANUVIKASA supported 65 households with food and medicine kit.