

# JAL HI JEEVAN HAI

*AMBALA: The farmers of three northern districts of Haryana including Ambala, Kurukshetra and Yamunanagar have shown a keen interest in.*

Thus, extraction and declining water levels continues to adversely affect the population as a whole, particularly the farmers. Communities participate in a discussion on water conserving technologies with WOTR facilitators. But after noticing the scheme received a lukewarm response up to June 15, from the particularly selected areas, the agriculture department extended the scheme for entire areas in the above-mentioned seven districts along with extending the date up to June. The government must give a guarantee of the procurement and increase the MSP if they want to promote crop diversification and also invest budget in rainwater harvesting and strengthen the infrastructure to store water getting wasted in seasonal rivers. Few farmers who had already adopted such practices shared their experiences with others. The farmers who are registering under this scheme want the government to fulfill its promise and procure the production of maize, soybean and arhar on the minimum support price MSP. Moreover, the success of the campaign was extensively covered in local Telangana newspapers. Till date, hectares of area under diversification is registered. Unlike the regions of the Indo-Gangetic plain with alluvial aquifers, the southern semi-arid regions have hard crystalline rocks and shallow aquifers supporting very low aquifer recharge. Now, since the area has been extended, the agriculture officials claim that their registration targets of covering 50, hectares under maize will be completed within the allotted period of time. Resource mapping of the village was undertaken with inputs from different community members. Under this pilot scheme, the government initially kept the target of diversifying 50, hectares of paddy in particular selected blocks of seven districts including Ambala, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Sonipat, and Yamunanagar and kept June 15 as the last date of registration for farmers. Resource Map prepared by communities in Sajnapur, Damargidda village. India with a groundwater extraction rate of million cu. The campaign rally in Damargidda village in Damargidda block Activities Initiating the campaign with a rally, the group walked around the village to identify spots where water was being wasted. Communication Tool kits developed by CEE were provided to all the organisations for effective implementation of the campaign activities. There are many crops in Rabi and Kharif seasons that require less water like masur dal, mustard, chickpeas, soybean, bajra and other cereals but the difficulty is that the farmers do not get MSP on these crops and there is no guarantee of procurement by government agencies. Outcome of the campaign Over 2, people were sensitized on the optimum usage of water for household and farm allied activities. Community resource mapping exercise in Kollampalli village in Narayenpet block Approximations on demography of the village and amount of rainfall received were drawn through intensive discussions. Keeping in mind the conclusions drawn through observations and the meetings held, water conservation strategy was developed through several activities by the villagers. Awareness and understanding of these issues and building region-centric alternative technologies for water conservation is the need of the hour. The links of the articles are as follows:.