SAVE WATER – EVERY DROP COUNTS

At present, agriculture is the major user of water and by 2020; it is expected to use 29% more water to sustain the current level of crop yields, while the water availability is expected to decrease by 12%. The distribution of rainfall in our country is highly variable and over 70 % of annual rainfall takes place during the three months of the monsoon. Therefore, we utilize less than 30% of the rain; the rest is lost as run-off to the sea. In order to meet demand for enhanced foodgrains production, there is an increasing demand of water. Further, the present climatic changes put a great threat to our agriculture. **Our sole aim could be "Conserve Rain Water Today- For Use Tomorrow."**

Droughts and low rainfall are now becoming a recurring phenomenon. The country has witnessed several major droughts which seriously impacted farm output, created shortage of drinking water, fodder deficiency for cattle and low water in reservoirs. However, there were six major droughts during 1980 to 2000 and two during the last seven years (during 2002 and 2009). The drought in kharif 2009 had a cascading effect on India's food and nutritional security.

Initiatives by Dhanuka

For the first time, **Shri Chiranjilal Dhanuka Trust, Vrindavan,** under the sponsorship of **Dhanuka Agritech Limited, New Delhi,** which is actively involved in the development of the farming community, organized **11- Kundiya Atirudra Mahayagya** starting from New Samvat-2067 (16 March 2010) to 24 March 2010 at the most sacred and revered Sri Krishna Nagri, Vrindavan. As a result, the country witnessed a good rainfall during 2010. Since there were drought conditions again in 2011, and forecast of less rain during the monsoon of 2012, Dhanuka Group again organized **5-Kundiya Rudra Mahayagya** from 23 to 27 March at 2012 at Vrindavan. True to its belief, the Lord showered plenty of rain from mid-August and the country witnessed an all-time record production of foodgrains.

Encouraging all the Stakeholders for Khet Ka Pani Khet Mein & Gaon Ka Pani Gaon Mein

During 2010, besides publishing popular literature on rainwater conservation, posters depicting Every Drop Counts were published and circulated on a wide scale. On the first day of Yagya in 2010, a Seminar on 'Rainwater Conservation and Food Security' was organized and a Folder on 'Conserve Rainwater-Every Drop Counts' was released for mass circulation. The Dhanuka Staff was also desired to get prepared proposals for submission to have renovation of local water-bodies and announced financial support to Village Panchayats. During 2012, Group took up a major initiative to launch mass education programmes for the farmers by focusing on 'Khet Ka Pani Khet Mein and Gaon Ka Pani Gaon Mein' by celebrating the World Water Day on 22 March and organizing Special lectures on rainwater conservation, Release of Brochure on 'Water & India's Food Security', Posters for mass awareness. The star attraction was on-the spot Poster Competition for children on Water Saving, and the selected entries were duly recognized. It is proposed to celebrate World Water Day on 22 March 2013 in a big way and our Marketing staff is motivating the villagers through village Panchayat for community action to ensure renovation.

The Group also organized scientific lectures on rainwater conservation during eleven one-day meet organized with SAUs to celebrate '50 Years of Agrochemicals in India' celebrated in 2010-11.









