

ALERT & ACTIVE WUA

Tank : Pedda Cheruvu

Village : Uddamarri

Mandal : Shameerpet

District : Ranga Reddy

Actual Command Area : 245 acres/99.2 ha and work estimates prepared for Rs. 21.8 lakhs (TIMP), DLIC Approval -first stage

Ayacut area revised at The time of technical sanction : 92 acres as per notified ayacut area and work estimates revised to 9.35 lakhs.

Again got re-surveyed and re-established the ayacut area to : 245 acres – due to alert WUA efforts.

The Pedda Cheruvu tank (minor irrigation tank) of Uddamarri village, Shameerpet mandal, Ranga Reddy district was constructed during the Nizam period with the design ayacut of 245 acres (99.19 ha). It has two independent channels to serve the design ayacut. At present irrigated ayacut area is 190 acres and ayacut gap is 55 acres.



This tank has been selected under the APCBTM Project and TIMP was prepared based on the design ayacut command area i.e. 245 acres with the civil work estimate of Rs. 21.80 lakhs and submitted to DLIC and was approved. Besides WUA Chairman along with its Managing Committee (MC) members took up the activity of mobilizing community contribution to fulfill its responsibility of raising 5% community cash contribution and raised Rs. 75,000/- and deposited in WUA O&M Bank Account.

Meanwhile, PMU at Hyderabad worked on ayacut areas of each of the project tank based on the Gazette Notification and modified the ayacut area tank-wise wherever discrepancies were found and ultimately Gazette notified area was retained. And this was circulated to all project DPU's instructing to take into account the ayacut areas as specified (tank-wise) while preparing project estimates.

During the field visit it was noted that Pedda Cheruvu of Uddamarri village (R.R. Dist.) was one of the tanks whose ayacut area was modified and it was reduced from 245 acres to 92 acres as per the gazette notified area. And accordingly DPU of Ranga Reddy district altered the estimates which

were prepared based on 245 ayacut area. Thus, the work estimates were reduced from Rs. 21.80 lakhs to Rs. 9.35 lakhs. Chairman received this information from DPU. It was a shock to him as well as to WUA.

Immediately Chairman (well educated, B. Com graduate) convened the MC meeting and discussed the matter and decided to take up the matter at all possible offices and pursued it to rectify the anomalies by any means. The chairman was firm and determined in this regard. In this process the concern Support Organisation (SO) also encouraged him for making efforts for the community and good cause.

In the process of finding the solution for rectifying the anomalies, the Chairman along with WUA member made 20 to 25 visits to different offices such as DPU, Minister, Collectorate, Irrigation Dept., MRO, DRO etc. and spent amount Rs. 40,000/-.



In the mean while, DPU informed the Chairman that process of solving the problem may take longer time why not he initiates the Entry Point Activities (WUA component work) in the meanwhile for which funds are already available (Rs. 4.57 lakhs) which was discussed at WUA level. Thus the EPA works were accepted, grounded and completed (Jungle Clearance, Bund Strengthening, Benching etc).

Through the Chairman's repeated persuasion efforts, ultimately the tank's command area was re-surveyed (joint inspection of irrigation & Revenue Department) on Collector's instructions, which was established the fact of tank having 245 acres command area. In turn, the Collector communicated to DPU about the re-surveyed figures for necessary action. Once the Chairman came to know about this he called GB meeting and informed members about the re-institution of original design ayacut area for tank rehabilitation activities under the project. Besides he also published this information in various local news papers.

The enthusiastic successful efforts made by Uddamarri WUA and its Chairman helped other 13 tanks, where the ayacut anomalies existed. Collector instructed for the conduct of re-survey, which was found to be under process at presently.

The above said problem was solved because of active and alert chairman and WUA. Otherwise the tank rehabilitation activities would have been restricted to 92 acres only.

