

Final report of construction of 10 dugwells in Chakdah, Nadia in 2012.

There are four steps in constructing a bore-dugwell, pilot tests, boring, digging, masonry work includes housing and fitting of the hand pump and embedding the sponsor plate at the site.

At Chakdah in the month of June thirty sites were selected to do pilot tests to locate the depth of the sand layer. Out of these 30 sites ten were finalized. Pilot tests at sites donated by Rakshit Sadder, Mayno Mondol and Ratan Ghosh were done on 15,16 and 17th June. The team of four that does pilot tests and boring stayed at one of field workers house for three days. Followed by village meetings at these selected 3 sites were done by the field workers to give the prospective users the information about the importance of drinking arsenic safe water from the bore-dugwells and how to maintain them including application of theoline and be self reliant within a year. The boring team came back on 26th June to start boring at the 3 selected sites and simultaneously did pilot tests since many sites were getting cancelled due to non availability of sand layer within the stipulated depth of 7 to 12 feet. By 29th boring at all the 10 sites were complete.

According to this report, just for the record, before 15th June two pilot tests were done under the supervision of the other field worker of Chakdah who stopped working in the organization shortly after from July onwards. One of these two sites was approved that is at ganesh sarkar's land while the other was cancelled. A new field worker, who has motorbike, was hired one month later in August.

Digging was started on 2nd July. The concrete rings to construct the dugwell were supplied from Madhygram to chakdah, at a distance of approximately 50 km. It took four days, 2nd to 5th, for the diggers to dig and build the dugwell portion. Alongside digging, masonry work was started at some sites when housing is done and the apron for the hand pump. On 4 July masonry work was completed at Ratan Ghosh (PW246) and Mayno Mondol's (PW244) site. On 5th it was done at Rakshit Sardar (PW245) and Mojam Mondol's site (PW243), on 6th completed the same type of masonry works at Yunus Mondol (PW242) and Partha Ray (PW240) sites. The work was stopped till 10th due to rain. On 11th the masonry job was completed at Biswajit Biswas (PW238) and Ranjit Biswas (PW241) sites. And on 12th the masonry work was done at Anil Das (PW239) and Ganesh Sarkar's (PW247) sites. Work was stopped in the month of August due to monsoon rain. During this month the new field worker was being trained by the existing female field worker of Chakdah on the field activities that includes site selection, construction, village meetings, maintenance and monthly surveys.

In the month of September fixing of the handpumps and placing the name plates were completed on 27, 28 and 29th. Except for one source, PW244, all nine bore-dugwells are being used by the communities after treated by the line according to today's report over the phone. At the Mayno Mondol's source unfortunately lot of sand is coming out with water. This technical issue will be looked into in December 2012 when the water table will reduce to check if there is any problem with the filter of the delivery pipe.

The datewise report is provided by Mrs. Shika Majumdar, the field worker of Chakdah. Her performance is commendable for she organized and managed construction of these 10 dugwells alone because the technical manager had resigned in June. The project manager had helped her with some of the logistics.