

# **ACTION, COST & IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN THE CHAKRA NALA MILLI WATERSHED PROJECT**

An integrated management system for natural resources — land, water, vegetation, animals and the environment was used as it is the most effective approach for sustainable development. Effective soil and water conservation measures for degraded and cropped land with the involvement of the local people resulted in:

1. Harvesting of runoff water for irrigation, recharging and augmentation of the ground water.
2. Plantation of multi-purpose trees (MPTs).
3. Pasture development for fodder.
4. Ecological stability.

Although each of the 17 micro-watershed areas were independent, an integrated approach by the K.V.K. for 'area management' has given the area economic benefits that are far greater than the sum of its parts. This has changed the overall scenario of the treated area with increased agricultural and forest produce. Details of the various components of the micro-watershed areas and their costs are given in the tables on the following pages.

**Note:** Under the Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission, the M.P. State Govt. had sanctioned a sum of Rs. 3,000/ha. Deendayal Research Institute carried out the work of area development under the scheme with an average cost Rs. 2,486/ha, saving Rs. 514/ha.

The scheme has now been discontinued, and watershed management schemes now come under aegis of the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), with an allocation of Rs. 6,000/ha. However, though new guidelines for Watershed Development have been issued by the Dept. of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, the format for the application of funding for watershed management schemes will remain the same as for the Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission. (See Annexure I).