

An estimate for the 'entry point' work was drawn up and sent to the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) in Satna. The complete proposal for the micro-watershed project, including the names of the committee members, was forwarded to DRDA for registration and approval. After receiving approval, a demand was sent to the agency in the required format to receive funding. (See Annexure II for all government correspondence and formats). Work on the 'entry point' drinking water well started with Deendayal Research Institute funds within a week of the formation of the WC and completed within 1 month.

*(Note: As under normal conditions, 'entry point' work can only be started after approval of the project and receipt of funds, Deendayal Research Institute agreed to loan the village the necessary funds for the well so that it could be started immediately, to retain the interest and motivation of the villagers. The money was repaid after the project funds were received).*

After approval for the project was received, work started on 28 April, 1996. Treatment was initiated from the ridge line on the north side of the village, as the hill there was a naked hill, and required the most work due to the many gully formations that were causing soil erosion. As per the requirements of the scheme, 2 bank accounts were opened that were maintained by the WC. One was a Project Account, and the other a Development Account. The Project Account was to be used only for implementation of watershed development work in the village, and the Development Account was for all the funds raised through contributions from the villagers for maintenance of the assets after the project was completed. (To ensure 'people's participation' in the project, all the work is done by the villagers and a part of the project cost is taken from the people themselves. For project work that would benefit the village as a whole 5% is taken from SCs/STs and people living below the poverty line, and 10% from others. It is taken either in cash or deducted from their wages for the work being carried out and deposited into the Development Account. For structures that would benefit specific users, contributions are taken from only from them. The expenditure for the maintenance of the struc-