Community Organization & Entry Point Activities

36. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) is one of the most important exercises in watershed development projects before finalization of Action Plan. In fact the watersheds should be selected after due PRA and the watersheds with greater participatory response should be preferred. After sanction of project, the WDT should tour the watershed area extensively and organize various self-help groups, UGs and other groups. As a part of confidence building exercise, some community benefiting entry point activities can be taken up by the PIA directly. The treatment plan and interventions should be decided after elaborate PRA exercise. These activities can be renovation of village level school, Panchayat buildings, community houses, common places, drinking water sources/wells, bathing ghats, approach roads to water tanks, village roads, village sanitation improvement works etc. Water harvesting measures and improvement of drinking water sources should be preferred over other activities. The entry point activities can be undertaken out of the grant available for community organization. Religious activities and activities for individual benefits are not permitted.

Capacity Building & Training

37. Capacity Building is an important aspect for the successful implementation of watershed development programmes. ZP/DRDA shall ensure that relevant training programmes are organized for all the functionaries involved in watershed development. PIA may ensure that a majority of the members of SHGs/UGs are given basic training involving skill up gradation and orientation on the technical and organizational aspects of the running of these Groups. Besides, training on application of Remote Sensing Technology for generating database for watershed development should be included in the training programme. Generally, the training should be organized by the WDT members with the help of local officials of technical departments/ institutions, Vas etc. Guest faculties invited may be paid an honorarium as per norms prescribed by the State Government. The SHG/UG members could also be taken for visits to Research Stations/