

# METHODOLOGY USED IN THE CHAKRA NALA WATERSHED PROJECT

## People's Participation

People's participation was identified as a *necessary condition* for the successful implementation of the watershed development programme. Awareness among the people about the watershed program and its benefits, was initially created through slogans, posters, banners, meetings, *Kala Jattha*, etc. Villagers were then encouraged to learn and educate themselves in all aspects of the program. People's participation was actively sought in the preparation of the action plan, fixing the priorities for work, and the execution of the projects within the program. The projects were executed by the people in accordance with the action plan, under the technical supervision of the Project Implementing Agency (PIA) — Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Majhgawan), Deendayal Research Institute.

## Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)

Since independence, rural development schemes were discussed and formulated at the District, State and National level without the participation of rural people. This ignored core local issues and the requirements of the particular area. As a result, these cost-intensive rural development schemes were unable to achieve their objectives. After planners and policy makers realised the shortcomings of this type of planning, they resolved to compulsorily enlist the participation of the people involved in the developmental schemes being carried out in their villages through a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). This procedure, that has now become the key document for any rural developmental work, ensures the people's understanding of their problems and helps in devising solutions that can be implemented by them. People's participation in rural projects increases their scope, stability and success rate. The action plan for the watershed area management programs in the 17 villages undertaken by the K.V.K. (Krishi Vigyan Kendra), Majhgawan, has kept this aspect of