

MakeMyTrip Foundation

and **Seva Mandir**

*Offsetting Carbon Footprints
Through Afforestation*



3rd Quarter Report

July to September 2019



make **my** trip

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Executive Summary

MakeMyTrip Foundation is supporting Seva Mandir to undertake afforestation activities and offset carbon footprints. During this year, 40,000 saplings will be planted in the rural and tribal areas in Udaipur and Rajsamand districts of southern Rajasthan.

Context

Southern Rajasthan is semi-arid region with a hilly terrain, having an erratic weather pattern making the region vulnerable to climatic variation. The region receives average rainfall of 640 mm annually during the monsoons. Due to erratic monsoon and undulating terrain, water harvesting is poor and has high soil erosion.

Common land such as pastures, forest and revenue land constitutes 72% of the total land area in our work area. Nearly 80-100% of rural poor depend on common lands for food, fuel and fodder. However due to anthropogenic pressure, encroachments have been happening on common lands of forests and village pastures. The private wastelands are also degraded, although in better conditions than commons, as families do not have expertise and resources to protect, restore and manage them.

The degradation of lands result in the loss of soil and water regime in the downstream areas lowering the net groundwater availability to critical category. A lack of trees and supporting fauna affects the local ecology. Degradation has led to low availability of fodder, fuel, wood and other forest produces affecting the livestock productivity and income and food security. And importantly, the interest of people to maintain them is lowering with time.

The work of afforestation therefore becomes crucial not only from the point of view of ecological restoration but also from providing sustainable livelihoods for the community and making them interested towards conservation of those lands.

Selected Sites

7 sites were selected during the 1st quarter of this project for afforestation activities through the consultation of Gram Samuhs (village level, democratically elected institutions made up of members of the community).

Total 40,855 saplings were planted at selected common and private pastureland covering area of 193 hectare. Details are given below table:

S.N.	Site Name	Area (Approx in Hectares)	Block	Target Plantation	Achievement Plantation	Activities Completed / Remarks, if any
1	Pargipada	40	Jhadol	6,000	5,427	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Live fencing along with boundary wall constructed. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 5427 saplings. ❖ Associated vegetative measures.
2	Patiya	14	Badgaon	4,000	4,122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Live fencing along with boundary wall constructed. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 4122 saplings. ❖ Associated vegetative measures.
3	Jodha Talab	12	Badgaon	3,000	2,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Live fencing along with boundary wall constructed. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 2900 saplings.

						❖ Associated vegetative measures.
4	Bhalavaton ka Guda	6.5	Girwa	2,500	2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Live fencing along with boundary wall constructed. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 2900 saplings. ❖ Associated vegetative measures.
5	Kasya	21	Girwa	3,000	3,300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Repairing of Boundary wall. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 3300 saplings. ❖ Associated vegetative measures.
6	Private pastureland	80	Kherwara	13,000	13,106	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Selected 84 individual farmers to undertake agro-forestry and agri-horticulture plantation. ❖ Orientation of selected farmers for plantation activities and its benefits. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 13106 saplings at individual farmer's land.
7	Khuntwada	20	Kherwara	9,000	9,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Soil – moisture conservation initiatives. ❖ Explore, procuring and transportation of saplings of selected species from forest department nursery. ❖ Plantation of 9500 saplings. ❖ Associated vegetative

						measures.
	Total	193.5		40,500	40,855	

Capacity Building Events

To enhance the capacity and knowledge of the communities and the field teams, orientation trainings and community meetings were regularly conducted.

Details of the capacity building programme given below table:

S.N.	Date	Place	Details of Programme	Number of participants
1	05/07/2019	Patiya – Badgaon Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On-site orientation and demo on plantation techniques for better survival. ❖ Species plantation as per landscape plan. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation techniques e.g. Thanwla, etc. 	12
2	09/07/2019	Jodha talab – Badgaon block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On-site orientation and demo on plantation techniques for better survival. ❖ Species plantation as per landscape plan. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation techniques e.g. Thanwla, etc. 	11
3	11/07/2019	Khuntwada – Kherwara block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On-site orientation and demo on plantation techniques for better survival. ❖ Species plantation as per landscape plan. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation techniques e.g. Thanwla, etc. 	17
4	26/07/2019	Kojawada - Kherwara block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Orientation of block team of Seva Mandir for planning and execution of plantation of 22000 saplings at commons and individual pastureland. 	14
5	06/08/2019	Bhalavaton ka Guda & Kasya - Girwa block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On-site orientation and demo on plantation techniques for better survival. ❖ Species plantation as per landscape plan. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation techniques e.g. Thanwla, etc. 	28
6	07/09/2019	Patiya – Badgaon block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ On-site demo of weeding – hoeing of plantation. ❖ Soil – moisture conservation measures for survival. 	09
7	12/09/2019	Kojawada – Kherwara block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Orientation cum training of individual farmers on aftercare, manuring, weeding – hoeing, etc. for completing the plantation. 	17

8	13/09/2019	Kojawada - Kherwara block	❖ Orientation cum training of individual farmers on aftercare, manuring, weeding - hoeing, etc. for completing the plantation.	21
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Species Selection - Ecological plantation

The existing wild flora was rapidly assessed for selection of species for plantation. The local tree species were selected for plantation is as below:

Kher (*Acacia catechu*), Amaltas (*Cassia fistula*), Sahejan (*Moringa oleifera*), Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Karanj (*Pongamia pinnata*), Latakaranj (*Caesalpinia bonduc*), Khirni (*Wrightia tinctoria*), etc. Vegetative cuttings of selected species such as Salar (*Boswellia serrata*), Ratanjot (*Jatropha curcas*), and Thor (*Euphorbia nerifolia*) have been completed to get its immediate canopy and minimize the risk of animals grazing due to the cutting's height. Some of these species are having high medicinal value. The red listed medicinal plant like Guggal (*Commiphora wightii*) was also planted at the selected site. The ecology of above particular species was kept in mind and accordingly landscape plan was made while plantation at the site.

Soil-Water & Soil-Moisture Conservation

For the survival and growth of the vegetation, it is important to enhance the soil, nutrients and moisture. To increase soil-water regime at undulating and rocky sites, soil-water conservation measures have been implemented. Contour trenches, Box trenches, Thanwla (crescent bund/micro basin) and stone gully plugs have been constructed to intercept maximum runoff of rainfall during the monsoon season. This will protect against soil erosion and increase soil moisture which will enhance the plantation and initiate regeneration process in the afforestation sites.



Newly constructed gully plugs on a pasture land in Kherwara to restrict rain water run-off

Key Point Indicators - 3rd Quarter

S.N.	Key Project Indicators	Unit	2019		
	Output Indicators		Achieved 1st ~ 3rd Quarter	Planning 4th Quarter	2019/20 Overall Target
1	Survey & site selection	Hectares	190	60	250
2	Area of sites protected	Hectares	190	-	190
3	Soil conservation work	Hectares	190	-	190
4	No. of saplings planted	Numbers	40,855	-	40,000
5	No. of capacity building programmes conducted	Numbers	6	1	4

Plan for 4th Quarter

- ❖ Aftercare and weeding – hoeing including soil- moisture conservation initiatives at completed plantation sites.
- ❖ Maintenance of completed plantation and protection boundary.
- ❖ Regular meetings with community groups for further development and management of the sites.
- ❖ Survey and identification of new sites for next year plantation.

Photo Gallery



