GONDWANA UNIVERSITY, GADCHIROLI

(Established by Government of Maharashtra Notification No. MISC -2007/(322/07) UNI -4Dated27th Sept. 2011 & Presently a State University governed by Maharashtra Public University Act, 2016 (Maharashtra Act No. VI of 2017)

National Service Scheme

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Dt: 12/04/2019

प्रति.

मा. प्राचार्य / रासेयो कार्यक्रम अधिकारी. संलग्नीत रासेयो महाविद्यालये, गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली

विषय:— पाणी फांउडेशन व्दारे आयोजीत शिबीरात विद्यार्थीना सहभागी होण्यास प्रवृत्त करण्याबाबत.

संदर्भ:— मा. राज्यसंपर्क अधिकारी यांचे ई— मेल व्दारे दि. ०९/०४/२०१९ रोजीचे पत्र.

महोदय/महोदया.

उपरोक्त संदर्भांकित विषयान्वये संलग्न पत्राच्या अनुषंगाने पाणी फांउडेशन व्दारे आयोजीत महाश्रमदान शिबीरात रासेयो स्वंयसेवकाना सहभागी होण्यास प्रवृत्त करावे, ही विनंती.

धन्यवाद!

सहपत्र:- पाणी फांउडेशनचे पत्र.

डॉ. नरेश मडावी संचालक (प्र.) राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली



To, Shri D. Carthigueane Regional Director, NSS Shivaji Nagar Pune 411005

From, Reena Datta COO, Paani Foundation Mumbai 400054

Subject: Proposal for participation of NSS units across Maharashtra in Paani Foundation's volunteering activity

Dear Sir,

At the outset, we wish to thank you for meeting us and giving time to explain Paani Foundation's activities. We would be greatly obliged if you could request NSS units across the state to volunteer for *shramdaan* in villages participating in Paani Foundation's 'Satyamev Jayate Water Cup' this year. Over 3,000 NSS volunteers had added their might to this activity last year and we look forward to enthusiastic participation yet again from the youth of NSS.

Background

As you are aware, Paani Foundation is a non-profit founded in 2016 by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao and has been empowering villages with training in watershed development. We also hold the Satyamev Jayate Water Cup, a competition between villages for excellence in water and soil conservation. More than 5,000 villages have applied to take part in this year's Water Cup, which will be held from April 8 to May 22, 2019.

On 1st May, we will be organising a *mahashramdaan* in the villages participating in the Water Cup. On this day, volunteers from urban India have a chance to work alongside thousands of villagers to build watershed structures. This coming together of forces not only supports villagers' efforts to fight drought, but also deeply enriches the urban volunteers.

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Registered Office: 106, Ashoka Estate, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi - 110001 | Fax: +911123723909

Email: paanifoundation@paanifoundation.in | CIN: U73100DL2016NPL290319



Proposal

- We request you to direct all NSS units in Maharashtra to participate in this mahashramdaan activity and volunteer four hours (6 am to 10 am) on May 01, to contribute towards building a drought-resilient Maharashtra. The registration form to join this initiative is at www.jalmitra.org.
 - Paani Foundation extends a warm invitation to the NSS volunteers. We would be happy to provide NSS volunteer groups with a one-day technical orientation to watershed management at the district level, provided batch size is a minimum of 50 and suitable premises (such as a college classroom) could be made available free of cost.
- 2. In addition we humbly request you to suggest that NSS functionaries organise special camps and/or seven day state-level camps for *shramdaan* in drought prone villages of Maharashtra, participating in the Water Cup. Once again, we would be happy to provide NSS volunteer groups with a one-day technical orientation to watershed management at the district level, provided batch size is a minimum of 50 and suitable premises (such as a college classroom) could be made available free of cost. Please feel free to reach out to Narendra Kulkarni from our team at marendra@paanifoundation.in for any information.

Additionally, we are happy to bring to your notice that participating in Paani Foundation's activities is also listed among the recommended activities for NSS volunteers, under a Maharashtra Government GR dated September 26, 2017.

We look forward to receiving a positive response.

Yours sincerely,

Copy To,

Dr. Atul Salunke, State NSS Officer

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Who is a Jalmitra? (#MeJalmitra)

A **passionate volunteer** who contributes **1 day of time and effort** to one of India's largest, community movements against drought.

<u>Paani Foundation</u>, a non-profit set up by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao, is striving to grow a grassroots effort for decentralised watershed management in Maharashtra.











On May 1, Maharashtra Day, a Jalmitra joins forces with a village participating in the Satyamev Jayate Water Cup, to fight drought.

This day is an integral part of the **Water Cup,** Paani Foundation's flagship program, a competition between thousands of villages across Maharashtra for **water and soil conservation**, started in 2016.

This year, over 5,000 villages have signed up.

A Jalmitra works alongside villagers for four hours on May 1, joining in mahashramdaan, a celebration of voluntary labour.

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Drought is perhaps **the single biggest crisis** that has plagued Maharashtra for decades. Hunger, thirst, debt and suicide have destroyed families.

The Water Cup is a solution-focused movement and your contribution can make it stronger. True to the NSS mission, 3,000 volunteers participated in shramdaan in 2017.

You too, can be the changemaker who chooses action and empathy over silence and apathy.

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NSS Jalmitras speak...



"We not only learnt about watershed but also about the cultural diversity of Maharashtra!" - Vaibhay Bhilari



"It was initially difficult to adjust. But now, we don't feel like leaving this place, really!"
- Rutuja Khanore



"This gathering of students, teachers, villagers and NSS Officers on NSS's 50th anniversary is historic." - Dilip Sheth, Principal, SP College

Watch NSS Jalmitras in action!

Over 3,000 NSS students became Jalmitras in 2018 to strengthen watershed efforts during the Water Cup.

These students got a rare opportunity to learn in a live-action classroom, with Mother Nature as their teacher.

Take a look at their inspiring efforts.



What can a few hours of work achieve against years of drought?





DRONE SHOTS OF NAGAV KHURD (AMALNER TALUKA)

15 people

Working for 30 mins together can create

1 CCT* (5m x 0.6m x 0.3m)

Which can collect

18,000** litres of water

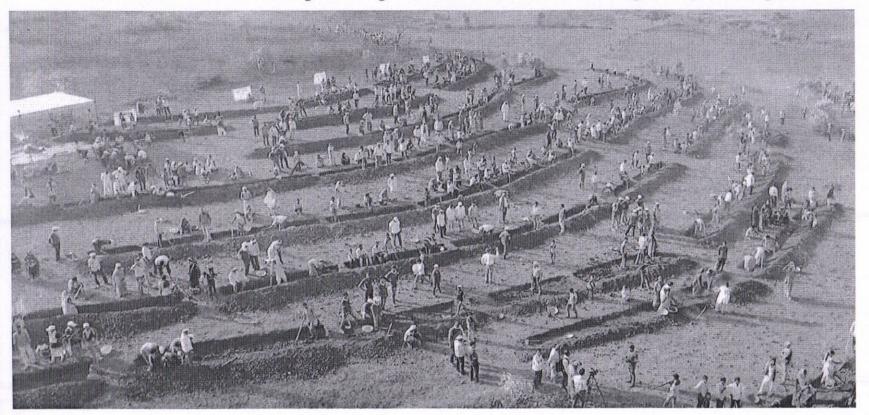
In one year!

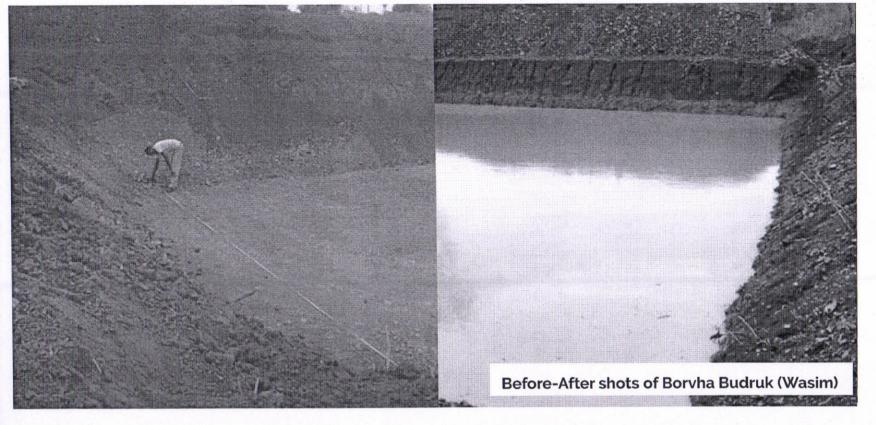
1,80,000 litres collected!

Over 10 years (shelf life of a well-maintained CCT)

"Continuous contour trench | "Assumption: the CCT fills 20 times

In 2018, in just one day, 5 laken people created 22 crore+ litres of yearly water harvesting capacity!





The transformation is real and long-lasting. 10





- Joy of making a measurable and tangible contribution towards social welfare
- Volunteering opportunity to address an issue that directly affects millions of people
- Participation in a movement focused on finding practical solutions to community problems
- First-hand understanding of on-ground realities of rural India

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How can an NSS unit become a Jalmitra?

- Fill an online form on www.jalmitra.org, on behalf of your NSS unit. Mention number of participants. An SMS will be sent before May 1 with details about your shramdaan location.
- Arrive at the location on May 1,
 by 6 am and experience the joy
 of shramdaan for 4 hours, from
 6 AM to 10 AM.



Frequently Asked Questions

How will I know which village to volunteer in?

Location details will be shared via SMS or email, a few days before May 1.

Will transport be arranged?

No, we regret we cannot arrange transport for Jalmitras.

What should I wear?

Comfortable kurtas / t-shirts / pants or leggings, with sports shoes.

What about food and water?

We request you to carry your own food and water in adequate quantity.

Will equipment for shramdaan be provided?

Yes, equipment will be provided at the location.

Will I have access to a toilet?

Yes, villagers will make toilets at their home available to you.

For more information, click here.

"I have learned a lot today. My eyes have opened towards what's really happening in Maharashtra."

- Alia Bhatt, Actor and proud Jalmitra





Become a Jalmitra, be a part of the solution



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