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## ANTHROPOLOGY SNIPPET-217



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These villagers have come up with a simple solution to keep their only source of water recharged to ensure there is a continuous supply through the scorching summers.

As the summer temperatures soar and arid tribal hamlets across the country struggle to keep their water sources from drying up, one Adivasi hamlet of Kannepalli in Kumram Bheem Asifabad district, Telangana, is reversing the trend.

These villagers have come up with a simple solution to keep their only source of water recharged to ensure there is a continuous supply through the scorching summers.

About 20-kms away from Jainoor mandal headquarters, the indigenous Raj Gond tribe of the Jamuldhara Gram Panchayat has adopted a simple method of water conservation.

All they do is guide all spilt water into the open well or as they call it 'kui', which keeps it full all through the summers.

Speaking to The Hindu, Kanaka Buchiram, a teacher in the village explains the process

saying, "Instead of collecting water at the solar-powered tubewell located about 30 meters away, we do it at the kui through an extended pipe. The pots are placed on the wooden platform on one side of the well, so all spilt water drops into the well itself."

The village with its 25 odd households came up with this solution after facing troubles during past summers as their overhead water tanks lay defunct due to leakage and tube wells failed to ensure continuous water supply.

Even the defunct solar-powered borewell was revived only a month ago after all other water sources of the village nearly dried up.

"A lot of water got wasted when individuals came to collect water at different times. The solar-powered motor was kept running for the most part of the day which resulted in a huge quantum of water going waste. We, therefore, extended the pipe till the kui and

fixed timings for collecting water. Generally, the motor is operated for 90 minutes during the mornings and evenings, but even if the motor is kept running by mistake, the water goes directly into the well," the teacher told The Hindu.

While the government had an ambitious ₹42,000 crore Mission Bhagiratha to provide safe driving water through village pipelines, the village head, Kanaka Jangu is happy that the villagers themselves have found a developmental solution to their decade-old water woes.