

ATM for Better Health and Quality of Life

Women in Jhikabahal and Kasdol village of Tamnar (Chhattisgarh) swipe ATM like Card at the small kiosks in their village with pride. Because this kiosk provides clean and safe drinking water without walking long distances. Not just their drudgery their women are assured that their families are having better health because of the potable water they get from these kiosks, known as water ATMs. A few years before women in these villages used to walk 6 KM every day to fetch drinking water for their families.



Considering the challenges faced by communities in these two villages to get clean and safe drinking water, JSPL Foundation installed community-based safe drinking water system UV treated Water ATM in village Jhinkabahal in 2016 & village Kasdol in 2019. Besides Four solar-based drinking water systems were also established in village Tehlirampur, Regaon, Manjhapara in collaboration with CREDA (Chhattisgarh Renewable Energy Development Authority).

The ATMs provide safe drinking water to the villagers at their convenience and at an affordable cost.

The Water ATM at Jhikabahal is of the capacity of 1000 litres per day, awaited enough for drinking water need of the 40 families in the village. Kasdol's Water ATM is of 2000 litres per day and provides potable water to 125 families of the village. Each of the families in the villages was provided water ATM cards on a contribution of Rs. 100 per month. The system delivers potable water (iron treated) with 04 taps. The management of the water ATMs like day to day operation and maintenance is looked after by the village youth clubs and women SHGs in the villages who oversee funds collection from families.

JSPL Foundation's intervention has addressed not just the drinking water issue but also various other issues associated with it. The incidence of water-borne diseases like diarrhoeal outbreak in children, cholera, typhoid, and dysentery has reduced, resulting in a healthier life, lesser medical expenses and more productivity. Women get more time to pursue supplementary income

generation activities beyond their household chores. Children's attendance in their schools has also improved.