



4th RIVER FESTIVAL 2015



Dedicated to the lifeline and holy river *Narmada*

13th - 15th February 2015, Bandrabhan, Dist. Hoshangabad, Near Bhopal, M. P. (INDIA)



Narmada Samagra An introduction

Narmada Samagra is a unique effort to keep a river, a water source and a faith, serene, clean, healthy, beautiful and pure. Traditions and cultures around the world were mostly born and evolved near a river. Keeping the equilibrium and balance of mind, the Seers gave us a vision and a different way to look at the rivers, the mountains, the forests and the wild life. They gave us a mantra to see life even in stones. It was with their *sadhna* and *tapasya* that they endowed upon us the concept and a tradition of understanding the nature and its behaviour holistically. The belief like "Live & Let Live" developed with this thought. Nature, wild life, water and everything that the God gave us became sacred for us. But over the time, these traditions, followed without understanding the spirit behind them, became mere rituals. Traditions remained, but the way to look at those changed. Distortions crept in. And that changed the concept of co-existence and a negative thought like "Don't Live & Don't let Live" came into existence. As a result, rivers, mountains, and cattle, all started dying. An ancient river like Narmada also could not escape existence is in peril. Forests are disappearing and water is assuming monstrous dimensions. Everyone wants to increase the water level. But no one gives any thought to where exactly the water comes from and what to do to increase the water level.

Narmada Samgra: an initiative

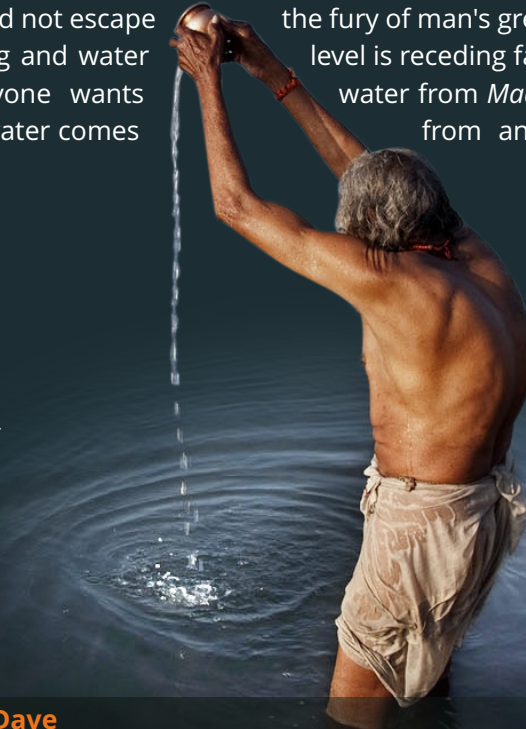
Narmada Samagra is an initiative; it is a platform for dialogue between the people who are already working on it and those who want to work towards the same. It is the endeavour of Narmada Samagra to provide an open forum for discussion on all the aspects of this sacred river. This festival is yet another step in this direction. We urge you all to participate in this effort with your dear ones and vow to serve this river.

Amritlal Vegad

President, Narmada Samagra

Anil Madhav Dave

Secretary, Narmada Samagra



नदी महोत्सव
RIVER FESTIVAL 2015



THE THEME

The theme of 4th International River Festival is "River, its Catchment Area, Chemicals & Crisis". This logo finds an expression of this theme through the creation of an artist. A mountain with Dark Green colour shows healthy agriculture, while the Light Green colour shows the effect of chemicals and pesticides on the produce as well as decaying soil. A lonely tree tells the story of deforestation. The hut represents a farmer's home, and on it the sign of cancer focuses on the diseases entering in his life. The Blue wave shows the river (with clean and healthy water). When chemical laden water from its catchment area comes to it and makes it morbid, the Black Wave represents this phenomenon. The Dying Fish is a symbol of all the aquatic and wild life in the catchment area getting affected by the effect of chemicals. In short the logo shows the catchment area of a river and the effects of chemicals and pesticides on a river and its world.

नदी महोत्सव
RIVER FESTIVAL 2015



River Festival

The Concept and the Expectations: A river is not just a mass of water flowing between two banks, but is a complete world in itself with its catchment area. It nurses everyone including grass to huge trees; from a tiny insect to the human being. In turn, they all are expected to nurture and serve it.

The new social structure that emerged following the Industrial Revolution set new but weird standards of development. The new social order gave us a new mantra to achieve these standards, even if it meant going crazy for them. Collective development and co-existence were replaced by the motto of self-development.

And this thought gave birth to the concept of chemical farming. Getting maximum produce from the same piece of land through chemicals became a fad among farmers. In the initial years, it looked like a fantasy. But very soon, it started showing its true colours and it became clear that it was not a fairy, but the monster Shurpankha. We have lost so much while dreaming for a fairy queen. But the time has come to wake up before it becomes a nightmare for us.

The time has come now to choose the right direction. It is now imperative. This is a wakeup call. We must stop the world going crazy after these illusionary fairies,

This festival provides a forum which brings you close to reality. Where you can help diagnose the malady, and help pave the way for finding remedies to this huge problem.

But lest these discussions become dull and uninteresting, it will be our endeavour to make sure that they are held in festive spirit and an atmosphere full of joy and gaiety.



Daily Schedule



First Day:

- Registration
- Inauguration
- Introduction of the subject
- Dialogue with Narmada
- River culture and traditions

Second Day:

- Effect of chemicals used in agriculture on water, forests, land, wild life and human beings.
- Natural Farming-Success stories
- Sharing of experience by participants
- Human settlement and effects of industrial chemicals
- Dialogue with Narmada
- River culture and traditions

Third Day:

- Main factors leading to healthy farming
- Thought, expansion and structure of a work plan
- Pledge
- Closing Ceremony.

Minutely detailed schedule of daily moment will be available during registration.

For Registration or enquiry please contact:

Organising Committee - RF '15

🏠 Narmada Samagra "Nadi Ka Ghar", Senior MIG-2, Ankur Colony, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal - 462 016, M.P., INDIA

📞 +91 755 2460754 ✉ narmadasamagra@gmail.com 🌐 www.narmadasamagra.org

How to reach Bandrabhan:

- Nearest Airport Bhopal - 90 km.
- Nearest Railway Junction Itarasi - 30 km.
- Nearest Railway Station Hoshangabad (Mumbai CST-Delhi Railway line) - 10 km.

Co-ordinates of Bandrabhan, Hoshangabad,

22°47'46"N, 77°47'9"E





RIVER FESTIVAL 2015

The Patrons:

Justice Shri Devdutt Madhav Dharmadhikari

(Former Judge, Supreme Court)

Shri Sitasharan Sharma

(Speaker, Legislative Assembly, M.P.)

Shri Amritlal Vegad (President, Narmada Samagra)

Convenor:

Shri Anil Madhav Dave

Organizing Committee:

Shri Rao Uday Pratap Singh (MP, Hoshangabad)

Shri Purushaindra Kaurav (Addl. Advocate General, M.P.)

Shri Popatrao Pawar (Hiware Bazaar, Maharashtra)

Shri Subhash Palekar (Motivator, Zero Budget Farming)

Dr. Anupam Mishra

(Zonal Coordinator, Indian Agricultural Research Council)

Ms. Jyotiben Pandya

(Educationist and Narmada Sevi, Gujarat)

Shri Atul Jain

(Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute, Delhi)

Shri C. M. Narayan Shastri

(Entrepreneur, Organic Farming and Marketing, Bengaluru)

Shri Akhilesh Khandelwal

(Chairman, Municipal Council, Hoshangabad)

Shri Krishna Gopal Vyas (Water Expert)

Shri Sunil Deshpande (Bamboo Expert)

Shri Rajeev Jain (Director, Doordarshan, Bhopal)

Shri Ashish Gautam (Ganga Samagra - Haridwar)

Smt. Neelam Solanki (Environmentalist and Writer)

Shri Shripal Shah (Founder, ASAL, Ahmedabad, Gujarat)

Shri Satish Sharma (River Nanduwal, Alwar, Rajasthan)

Shri Chattar Singh

(Expert and Practitioner, Traditional Water Sources, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan)

Places of interest near by :

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| • Pachmari | 140 k.m. |
| • Bhedaghat | 260 k.m. |
| • Ujjain | 280 k.m. |
| • Omkareshwar | 280 k.m. |
| • Khajuraho | 455 k.m. |