

Policy Brief **10**

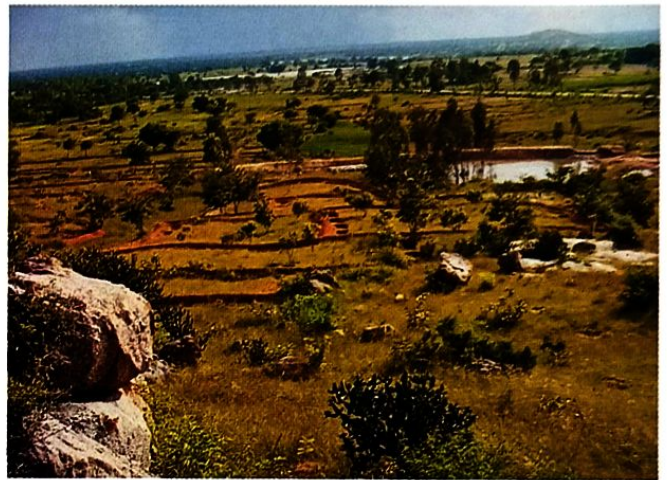
Water Series

Translating Practice into Policy and Practice Changes

Tank Based Watershed Development for Sustaining Farmers Livelihoods



Tank treated under Watershed Development Programme



Treated Tank based Watershed



People involvement in Watershed Development work



Tank treated under Watershed Programme

Executive Summary

The main objective of Watershed Development Programme is to protect the land from soil erosion and prevent sedimentation of the reservoirs, tanks and the other water bodies, besides enhancing in-situ moisture regime in the soil profile and the groundwater recharge in the area. But the tank situated within the watershed which has a major stake is ignored from being included as a component

of watershed development. The tank is a larger water harvesting structure than a check dam or a farm pond and serves the purpose of impounding the rain water and recharging groundwater. Hence it has to be treated as an integral part of a watershed for all purposes of development. Both the 10th five year plan document of Government of India on development of wastelands and degraded lands and the Common