



## HOW TO HARNESS A RIVER

### **INITIATIVE:**

Construction of bed dam across 'Periya Odai' in Cuddalore district, Tamilnadu

### **BENEFICIARIES:**

Farmers of Cuddalore district

### **THE CHALLENGE:**

- During 1972 floods, 'PeriaOdai' and south main canal bank got breached
- In course of time, the breached portion of the main canal got scoured deeply to a length of 100m affecting Ayacut/Command area of 688.26 hectare
- Farmers in the command area of south main canal were not getting sufficient water

### **THE SOLUTION:**

- Construction of a 31.80 meter long bed dam with a narrow crested weir with abutment wing and return walls

### **THE IMPACT:**

- The river bed level reached its original level
- Wells in downstream of the bed dam are getting replenished and water is available for longer periods