A SPECIAL ADVENTURE TO SUPPORT

SUNDARVAN ADVENTURES

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‘Comics for Change’ is Dainik Bhaskar’s initiative to bring about behavioral change in society promoting responsible consumption through the creative and visual medium of comics. ‘Sundarvan Adventures’-Mystery of the missing water is the first comic to be released in this series. Being signatory to UN Global Compact Network, Dainik Bhaskar Group’s CSR initiatives contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals of Quality Education, Zero Hunger, Clean Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Cities and Communities and Climate Action.
In a land far away, there was a forest named Sundarvan. And within Sundarvan, there was a little village.

The villagers lived a simple life. Some were farmers.

Changumal stores

Some were shopkeepers.

One day, at school -

We never know the worth of water till the well is dry

Water is life.
COME, LET’S MEET OUR LITTLE HEROES -

This is Adi, the leader of the pack. A fun loving little rabbit, who loves helping others!

Here’s Solu, the tortoise. He may be a bit slow on the field, but he’s quick to think up a plan.

Cheenu, the parrot. The little joker of the group.

And Roli, the pretty little doe. She’s the fastest runner in Sundarvan and the class topper.

There goes the bell! Children, write down a summary of all you have learnt today in class. That’s your homework!

Ting! Ting! Ting!

Yaay!
We learnt so much about water conservation today!

Yes, we all must do our bit to save this precious resource.

So let’s discuss what we would be writing down in the summary for homework.

97% of the earth’s water is salt water and only 3% is freshwater.

70% of which is in solid form—the polar ice caps and glaciers. The remaining 30% of freshwater is in its liquid form, mostly in underground aquifers.

Wait! Let’s ask the expert in this subject! She will give us some more points!

You’ll see!

Neeeluuuu!!

Who are you talking about, Roli?
OK, LET’S SEE! DID YOU KNOW 76 MILLION PEOPLE LACK ACCESS TO SAFE WATER IN INDIA?

SCARY, RIGHT?

HELLO NEELU! TELL US SOME INTERESTING POINTS ABOUT SAVING WATER TO HELP US IN OUR HOMEWORK.

THERE WILL BE NO DRINKING WATER BY 2040 IF CONSUMPTION OF WATER CONTINUES AT THE CURRENT PACE.*

INDIA RECEIVES A TOTAL OF 4000 BILLION CUBIC METER (BCM) OF ANNUAL RAINFALL WHICH FLOWS THROUGH ITS RIVERS. OF THIS, ONLY 28% IS AVAILABLE FOR HUMAN USE.

HENCE IT MAKES IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT FOR US ALL TO SAVE WATER AND BE RESPONSIBLE.

A TOTAL OF 53,898.82 MILLION Liters PER DAY OF SEWAGE IS GENERATED BY INDIAN CITIES AND TOWNS WITH ONLY 36.8% OF INSTALLED CAPACITY TO TREAT THIS WATER.

ACCORDING TO THE CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, NEARLY HALF OF THE COUNTRY’S 445 RIVERS ARE TOO POLLUTED. THIS WATER CANNOT BE DRUNK WITHOUT EXTENSIVE TREATMENTS.

HEY, THANKS FOR ADDING THAT, CHUMKI! YES, SOMETIMES I FEAR FOR OUR LIVES IN THIS RIVER AS WELL.

*According to Denmark’s Aarhus University, Vermont Law School and the CNA Corporation
All these points make us realize even more that saving water is a must! Thanks for the help, friends!

You are most welcome, Ao!

That evening -

Huh? Why is the water flow so less?

Oink! What happened to the water? How can I have my monthly bath?

The water is just trickling from the taps! There's not enough to brush my teeth!
THE VILLAGE HEAD, SARPANCH HAATHI, CALLED FOR A QUICK MEETING AT HIS HOUSE -

THE SITUATION IS GRIM! WE HAVE NEVER FACED A PROBLEM LIKE THIS BEFORE!

OUR RIVERS AND PONDS WERE FULL ENOUGH TO SUPPLY US WATER THROUGH THE YEAR. THEN HOW DID THE WATER FLOW LESSEN?

SARPANCH, SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH THE PIPES. THERE’S NO OTHER EXPLANATION WHY WE’RE GETTING JUST A TRICKLE AND NOT A FULL FLOW OF SUPPLY.

I WANT YOU TO GO CHECK THE WATER PIPES AND SET THIS PROBLEM SOLVED AT THE EARLIEST!
API AND ROLI HAD OVERHEARD THE CONVERSATION -

NEXT MORNING -

GUYS, OUR VILLAGE IS FACING A WATER SHORTAGE. IT’S TIME WE DO OUR BIT!

HERE’S WHAT WE CAN DO! WHATEVER WE LEARNT IN SCHOOL ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION, WE EXECUTE. DOES THAT SOUND LIKE A PLAN?

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT PLAN! WE MUST SPREAD AWARENESS ACROSS OUR VILLAGE. LET’S GET STARTED RIGHT AWAY WITH OUR OWN HOMES!

LET’S GO!!
Why did you turn the tap off, Adi?

Dad, did you know that shaving with running water on for 5 mins wastes around 42 litres of water?

Our village is facing a water shortage. Let’s start being responsible from now on and do our best to conserve water.

Thanks, son! You have made me realise this!
CHEENLI’S HOME -

YUM YUM SCRUB SCRUB! I’LL HAVE SHINY WHITE TEETH!

TURN THE WATER OFF, LITTLE BROTHER!

LEAVING THE TAP RUNNING WHILE BRUSHING TEETH WASTES APPROXIMATELY 12 LITRES OF WATER A MINUTE.

SO EVENTUALLY, THERE MAY BE NO WATER FOR YOU TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH EVER.

ULP! OK, CHEENLI BHAIYYA!

GOLU’S HOME -

MUMMY, OUR SCHOOL TEACHER HAS TOLD US THAT IF YOU COLLECT THE WATER YOU USE WHILE RINISING FRUIT AND VEGETABLES, YOU CAN USE IT TO WATER HOUSE PLANTS.

THERE, ALMOST DONE! THE FLOWERS LOOK NICE AND FRESH!

THAT WAY WE RECYCLE WATER, HENCE REDUCING OVER USAGE!

THAT’S A GOOD IDEA, BETA!
DADDY, THERE IS A MUCH BETTER WAY OF WASHING YOUR Car THAN USING A WATER PIPE.

USING A BUCKET FOR WASHING A CAR SAVES 19 LITRES OF WATER PER MINUTE. THAT WOULD LEAD TO EFFICIENT WATER UTILIZATION WITHOUT WASTAGE!

WOW, ROLI! I DIDN’T THINK OF IT THAT WAY!

AND SO, THE CHILDREN SPREAD AWARENESS THROUGH THE VILLAGE -

DID YOU KNOW, A LEAKING TAP WHICH Drips ONCE EVERY SECOND WASTES ABOUT 1,000 LITERS OF WATER EVERY MONTH.

AROUND 75% OF THE WATER FED INTO RO WATER PURIFIER IS WASTED, ONLY 25% IS EXTRACTED AS DRINKING WATER. FOR EVERY 1 LITRE SAFE FILTERED DRINKING WATER FROM RO PURIFIER, 3 LITERS GET WASTED AS HARD WATER.

REDUCING SHOWER TIME BY 1 MINUTE CAN SAVE NEARLY 500 LITRES OF WATER EVERY MONTH.
ONE DAY -

ADI, WE HAVE VENTURED TOO DEEP IN THE JUNGLE! WHERE ARE WE HEADING?

SUDDENLY -

HAHAHAHAHAA!!

WHO'S THAT?

TO THE LAKE, TO CHECK THE WATER LEVELS THERE.

SSSSHH! QUIET, LET'S CHECK. THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF SECRET HIDEOUT HERE.

IT WAS PAPLU Bhai, THE WILY JACKAL.

YES YES! ONLY A FEW GALLONS MORE, AND MY AWESOME SWIMMING POOL WILL BE READY TO TAKE A DIP IN! HAHAHA!
WOOOOHOOO!!

SPLOSSHHH!!

EXCUSE ME, SIR! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING?

I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE A TALK WITH HIM!

HAVING A SWIM IN MY BRAND NEW POOL, WHAT ELSE?

WHAT HAS IT GOT TO DO WITH ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS?

YOU ARE SPLURGING WATER WHILE THE REST OF THE VILLAGE IS STRUGGLING WITH THE SUPPLY!
HAHAH! WHO CARES? I AM GOING TO HAVE A BIG PARTY HERE BY MY SWIMMING POOL! SO WHAT IF I DIVERTED THE WATER SUPPLY TO MY POOL?

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE VILLAGERS? THIS IS OUR WATER TOO!

HAHAH! YOU CAN SIT AND WAIT TILL MY PARTY IS OVER. I'M PAPLU Bhai AND I WANT TO BE THE COOLEST PARTY HOST EVER!

THIS IS SO WRONG! WE WILL GO AND COMPLAIN TO SARPANCH HAATHI!

THAT IS IF I LET YOU ALL LEAVE! HAHAHA!

RUN!!!
Meanwhile, hidden up in the branches was Detective Gullu Ullu, the village's ace investigator.

Huh? Who was that? Sounds like someone's in trouble!

The kids from the village! They are running from something or someone!

Help!!

Oh no! It's Paplu Bhai, the crook! He's chasing the kids! I better do something!
CHEENU, QUICK! THINK UP A PLAN LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO!

HMM! I THINK I KNOW WHAT TO DO NOW!

THESE FRUITS LOOK LIKE THEY'RE RIPE ENOUGH! HEHE!

HEY PAPLU BHAJI! WANT A BITE OF THIS?

WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A BIG ONE?

SPLOTCH!!

HEY! WHAT—
GOOD JOB GOLU AND CHEENU! COME ROLI, LET'S TIE HIM UP WITH THESE VINES!

WHOOOPS!

TOING!

LOOK! IT'S SARPAANCH HAATHI AND THE VILLAGERS!

ADI, WE GOT HERE AS FAST AS WE COULD!

GULLU ULLU TOLD US ABOUT EVERYTHING HE SAW! THAT RUFFIAN PAPLU BHAI NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON!
Paplu bhai! Let's take you to the best place to cool off!

Errr! Who is it? Where are you taking me??

Inspector Naas, and we're headed to prison!

Sarpanch, we have found the illegal pumps and pipes Paplu had installed.

Good, now make sure our water supply returns back to normal.

You kids have not only helped us find out who is behind this mischief, but also taught us all about saving water and being responsible!
It is our moral duty to make sure we safely guard something as precious as water.

Remember, India supports 18% of the world’s population with just 4% of the world’s fresh water resources.

Washing utensils with the water tap running wastes approximately 60 litres of water. Close the tap and you can save a lot of water.

Third world women spend a total of 200 million hours per day collecting water.
AND SO, OUR HEROES WERE FELICITATED IN SCHOOL BY THEIR DEAR TEACHER, VERMA SIR!
COLOUR AWAY!

Let's help Adi and Co. bring colour into this happy scene after the day has been saved!
Turning the tap off while brushing teeth can save 700 liters of water!

Fixing a leaky tap can save about 1000 liters a month!

Make use of the wasted water from an RO purifier too!

Using a bucket for a bath, instead of a shower, can save about 80% water!

A toilet leak can result in a waste of 5000 liters!

Save 200 liters of water by turning the tap off while shaving!
COMING SOON!

LOOKS LIKE WE JUST LOST ELECTRICITY!

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THE BIG BLACKOUT!