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# Watershed Management by Using QGIS Software

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**Abstract:** Maharashtra government has launched the project "Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyaan" in a bid to make Maharashtra a drought-free state by 2019. The project aims to make 5000 villages free of water scarcity every year. For that purpose many NGO's like NAMA and PAANI foundation are working for watershed management program at villages. The success of such programs depends on proper planning of watershed management structures. QGIS software is helpful in marking existing structures and can suggest the best suitable sites for rainwater harvesting structure. This paper includes the details methodology to prepare plan for watershed development of a village. For that purpose one village is selected from drought prone area. The village also participated in water cup competition of PAANI foundation. For that village, the village boundary map is prepaid. Existing structures are identified by using GPS Garmin eTrex 10. Using QGIS software land use land cover, slopes and soil maps are prepared. With reference to these maps, suitable sites for various rainwater harvesting structures like contour trench, gully plug, gabion structure, check dams, K.T. weir etc are suggested. This methodology results in saving in time and money along with fair accuracy. The plans of existing and new structure are found beneficially during actual implementation of project.

**Keywords:** Check dam, Contour trench, GPS, Gully plugs, gabion, K.T. weir, QGIS

## I. INTRODUCTION

As we know rapidly increase in industrialization and population it's also increase demand of water. Due increase in demand of water human extract more water from ground water table due to that depth of ground water table is reducing. For recharging ground water table we need to plan the watershed management. But we know watershed management is more time consuming to reduce the time we have to plan watershed management with the help of QGIS. Watershed is a unit of area covers all the land which contributes runoff to a common point a ridge line. QGIS is help full for extracting contours, defining slopes, generating land use land cover map it is also help full for generating map of existing rain water harvesting structures and plan new rain water harvesting structures. Planed new structure increase ground water level it also increase infiltration rate of land, reduce soil, reduce soil erosion.

## II. LITRATURE REVIEW

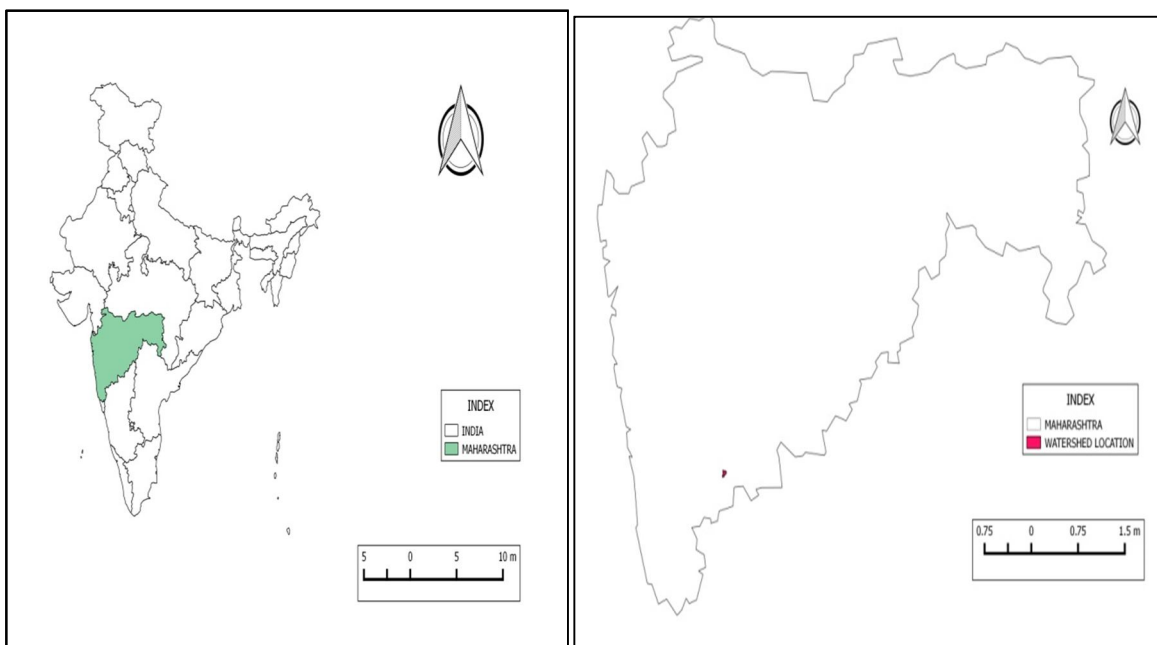
A. S. Chandra Bose et al (2012) in this research study, an attempt is made to delineate the Kaddam watershed of Middle Godavari sub basin of Godavari River Basin into mini watersheds using GIS. They carried out the delineation using GIS and it was concluded that Kaddam watershed is well drained and the drainage is in a well-integrated pattern and the area is underlain by highly resistant permeable material with vegetative cover and lower relief. Present study demonstrated that GIS is found to be flexible and is relatively easy to apply on large areas enabling gathering of all data and information in a common data base for watershed delineation and stream network analysis. Ishtiyah Ahmad and Dr. M. K. Verma (2013), studied that the soil erosion can be controlled effectively if it is predicted accurately under alternate management strategies and practices. The Universal Soil Loss Equation model has been accepted and used most widely all over the world to predict the soil erosion from a watershed. Assessment of soil erosion is expensive and intensively long exercise. Geographic Information System integrates the spatial analytical functionality for spatially distributed data. In the present paper the application of USLE model and GIS, for soil loss estimation has been presented for the Tandula reservoir catchment area on Tanudula River at Balod Tehsil of Durg district of Chhattisgarh State, India. The result obtained from USLE model has been compared with existing model, Nayak and Khoslas method, it is observed that USLE with GIS give better result as compared to other two methods. Maya G. Unde and Namdev V. Telore (2012), studied role of watershed development program in sustainable development. It indicates that watershed development program is helpful for sustainable development of this drought prone region of Satara District. It is useful to increase agricultural production, to stop ecological degradation in rain fed and resource-poor areas.

Mudher N Abdulla (2011) carried out drainage analysis on a terrain model for Bekhma area. The Arc Hydro tools are used to derive several data sets that collectively describe the drainage patterns of the catchments. Raster analysis is performed to generate data on flow direction, flow accumulation, stream definition, stream segmentation, and watershed delineation. These data are then used to develop a vector representation of catchments and drainage lines from selected points. The utility of Arc Hydro tools is used to develop attributes that can be useful in hydrologic modeling. The main data is the DEM with 1 arc second to get as much accurate results as could. Using this technique the author got very good results by comparing the Russian results introduced using the topo maps, with GIS technique while they used the collection of hard copy maps and they extracted the DTM from the contour lines and calculated the catchment area. Sarita Gajbhiye (2015) this study concentrated on Kanhaiya nala watershed located in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh using remote sensing and GIS. The total area of watershed 19.53 km<sup>2</sup>. Soil map, Land Use and slope map were generated in GIS Environment. GIS technique is a very reliable alternative or a dependable support system to our conventional way of surveying, investigation, planning, monitoring, modeling, data storing and decision making process. Subhash Chavare (2011), gave the methodology to analyze the relief of the Kolhapur district using SRTM data and GIS techniques. The elevation model derived from Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) data is used for the relief analysis. Relief visualization study is important for the analysis of slope of particular area. In this study the slope of Kolhapur district is steep in western side and gentle towards the eastern side and from the slope analysis we can identify the drainage pattern of the area and watershed boundaries. Supakij Nontananandh and Burin Changnoi, (2012) carried out the coupling of a GIS and the USLE has been widely used and is a very effective approach for estimating the magnitude of soil loss and identifying spatial locations vulnerable to soil erosion. Yongsheng Ma (2004) stated that unless the watersheds are not managed in an integrated sustainable manner, then not only the water resources but also other resources such as vegetation, fertile soil, fauna and flora get depleted. Rational management of upper and lower parts of a watershed is equally important for the sustenance of the environment. Therefore it is extremely important to use an integrated spatial approach for managing watersheds and river basins. The remote sensing and GIS for watershed management constitutes theoretical aspects of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) & Remote Sensing and their application for watershed management.

### III. MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

#### A. Select Area For Watershed Management

The selected area lies in western Maharashtra state boundary by latitude 17° 22' 22.0764" N and longitude 75° 8' 54.5964" E having elevation 689 m. It covers total area of 31.78 sq.km include one village. The village having population of 10140 peoples nearly



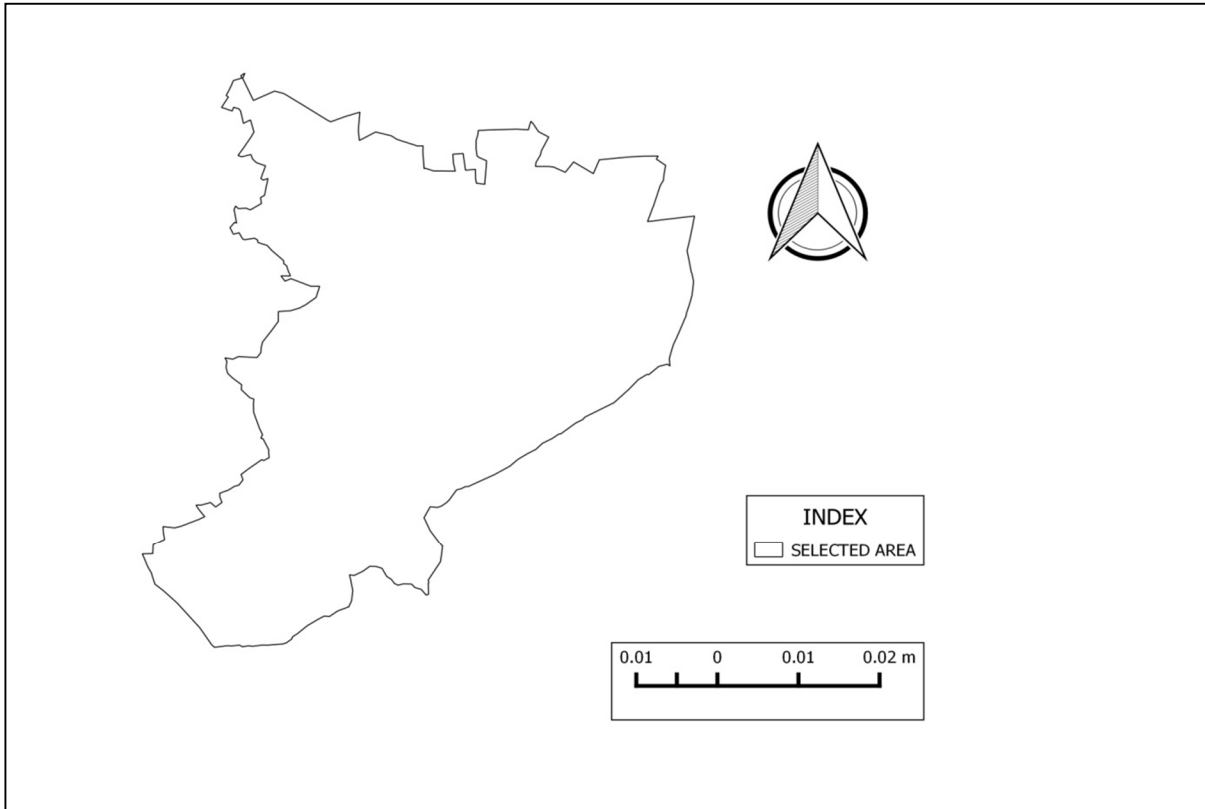


Fig. Location map

**B. Reconnaissance Survey**

In this the latitude and departure of existing structure should be obtained by using GPS on site like Garmin eTrex 10. By using this latitude and departure we can easily mark out existing structures. Following map shows existing structures.

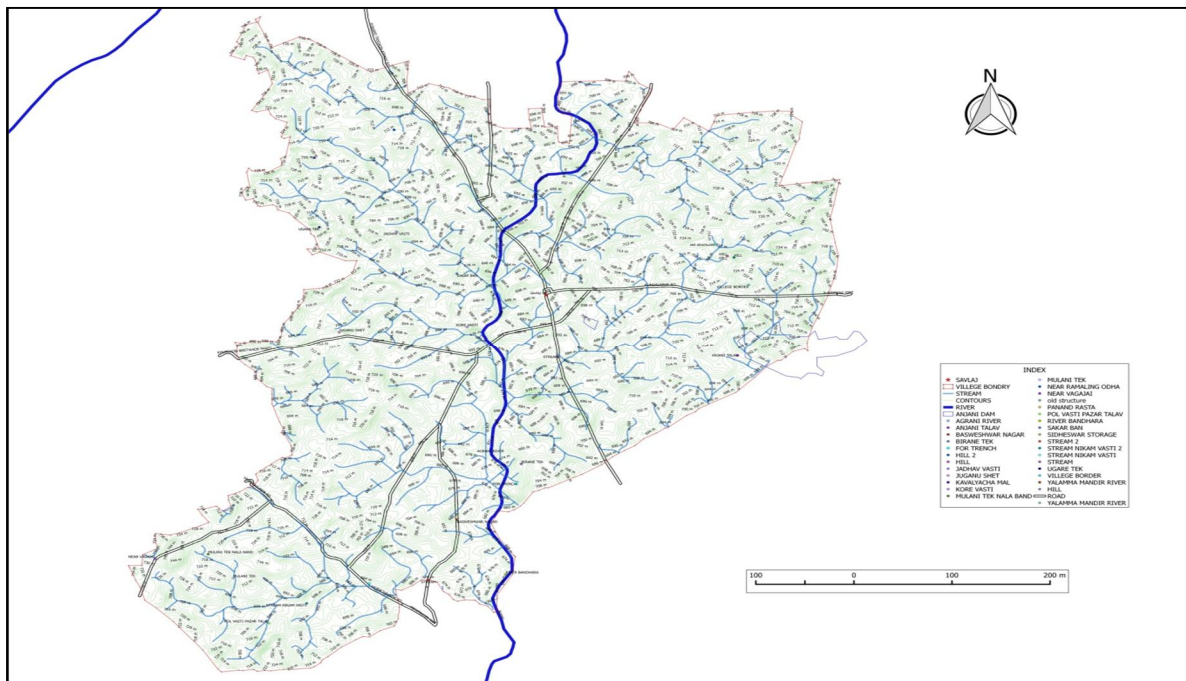


Fig. Existing structures.

**C. By using QGIS Generate Contours**

As we know contouring is very lengthy process with the help of instruments but by using QGIS software we can able to calculate contours within short time. Following map shows the contours of study area having contour interval of 5 meters.

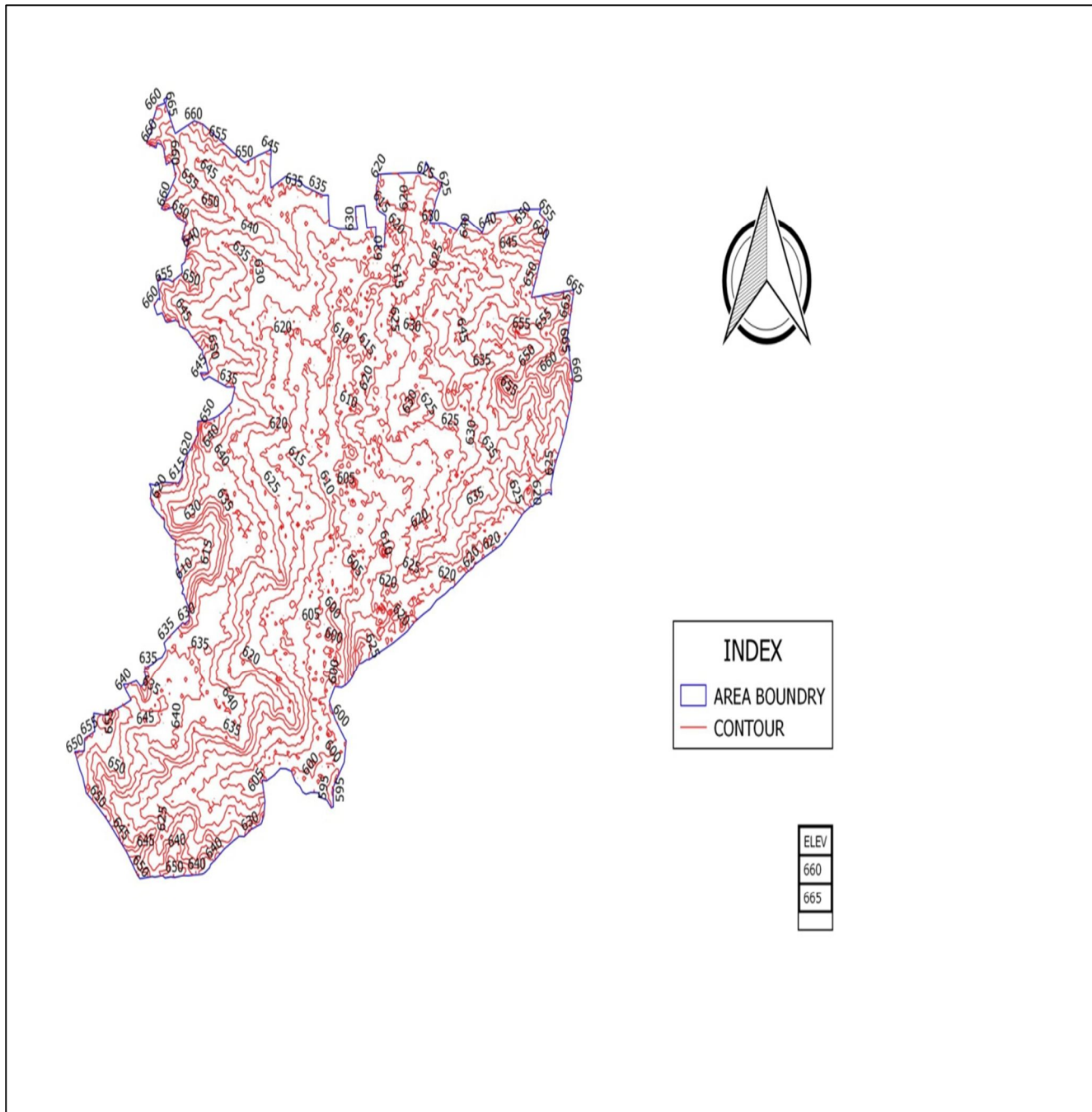


Fig. Contour map

**D. Preparation of Slope Map**

In QGIS slope map of any area can be prepare following map showing maximum and minimum slope of study are it is very helpful for planning rainwater harvesting structures like contour trench, gully plug, gabion structure, check dams, K.T. weir etc are suggested.

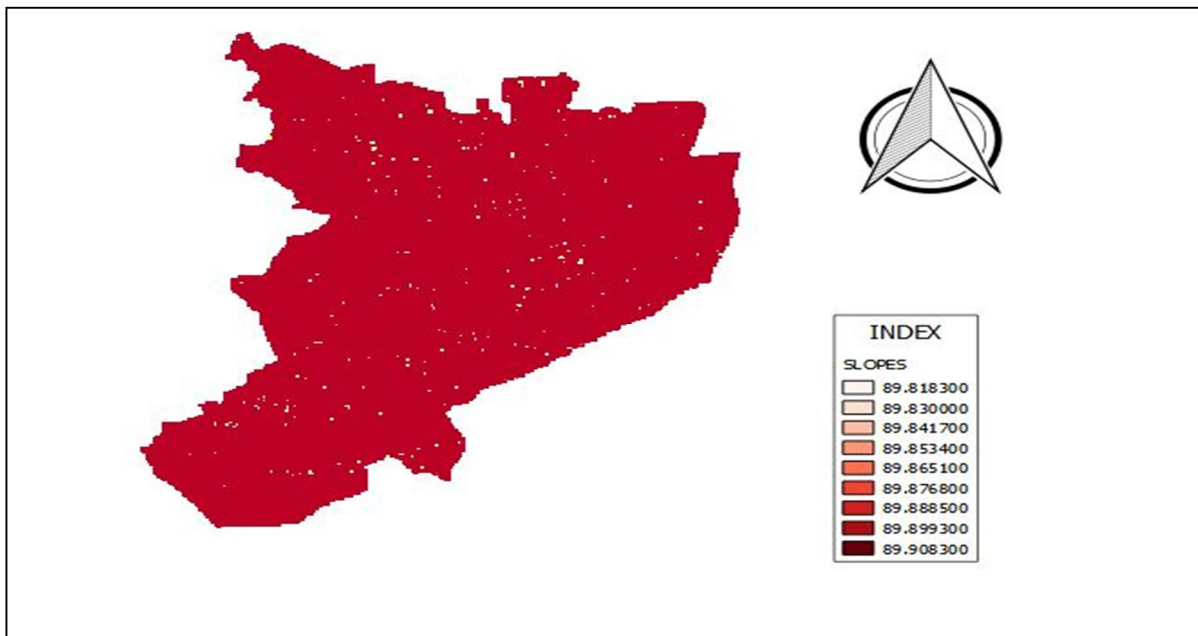


Fig. Slope map

#### E. Planning Of New Structures

based on above information and depending on slopes, soil strata, elevation we can plan various structures suitable for that site can be plan with the help of QGIS.

### IV. CONCLUSION

Remote sensing, GPS and software are very useful to plan rainwater harvesting structures like contour trench, gully plug, gabion structure, check dams, K.T. weir etc are quickly planned with the help of QGIS. QGIS is very easy to use and give more satisfactory result in short time as compare to manual planning.

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