

Hindustan Times- 20- November-2021

PM unveils water project in poll-bound UP, targets Oppn

Haidar Naqvi

letters@hindustantimes.com

KANPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday dedicated the ₹2,655-crore Arjun Sahayak project to the people of Uttar Pradesh's Bundelkhand, saying it would end the water woes of farmers in the parched region while accusing the previous state government and other "family-owned" parties of looting the region, its people and resources.

"This project will benefit lakhs of farmers. They will get the water they have been waiting for generations in Bundelkhand," Modi said, while addressing the farmers, hours after making the announcement to repeal the Centre's three contentious farm laws.

Arjun Sahayak is a flagship project of the Uttar Pradesh government, aimed at providing water for drinking and irrigation in Mahoba district. "I discussed this crucial project with the then government several times in 2014. They did not show any interest. It was the lifeline of this region," he said, adding that the work on the project began under the Yogi Adityanath government in 2017 and was completed in record time.

Accusing the previous state government of corruption, Modi said, "Those who kept cutting ribbons in the name of Bundelkhand's ponds and water bodies for farmers did not allow a single penny to reach them."

"I want to ask those parties, which ruled UP and Delhi, how this naturally gifted region became synonymous with struggles for water to an extent the people did not want to marry off their daughters in this region?" he asked.

Calling top BJP leaders and government "kainchi-jeevi (those who live for cutting ribbons)", Samajwadi Party national president Akhilesh Yadav reacted to PM inaugurating the project. "The project that had reached 99% completion in SP government's time, the BJP government took five years to complete it. But they ran in to take credit for it...", said Yadav in a tweet in Hindi.

Uttar Pradesh will go to assembly polls early next year.

The Tribune- 20- November-2021



People look on at a road after it got washed away by floods in Puducherry on Friday. PTI

PUDUCHERRY CM WRITES TO CENTRE

- Puducherry CM N Rangasamy on Friday said he has written to the Centre, seeking interim relief to meet the situation arising out of heavy rain
- Lieutenant Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan visited Pillaichavady, Chinna Kalapet and Periya Kalapet and saw the impact of sea erosion
- The bridge across Sankarabarani river on the Puducherry-Villupuram NH was closed to the traffic after the river overflowed due to release of water from Veedur dam. PTI

8 KILLED, 12 MISSING IN AP

- A heavy downpour of up to 20 cm wrecked havoc in three Rayalaseema districts and one south coastal district in Andhra Pradesh, leaving at least eight dead on Friday.
- Twelve people were still reported missing in Kadapa district, while the IAF, SDRF and fire services personnel rescued tens of people caught in the flash floods. PTI

Mint- 20- November-2021

PM inaugurates irrigation projects worth ₹3,250 cr in Uttar Pradesh



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday dedicated to the nation a raft of developmental projects in Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh. “These projects will help alleviate the issue of water shortage in the region and bring much needed relief to the farmers. These projects include the Arjun Sahayak Project, Ratauli Weir Project, Bhaoni Dam Project and Majhgaon-Chilli Sprinkler Project. The cumulative cost of these projects is over ₹3,250 crore and their operationalization will help in irrigation of around 65,000 hectares of land in Mahoba, Hamirpur, Banda and Lalitpur, benefiting lakhs of farmers,” PM’s Office said. **STAFF WRITER**

The Hindu- 20- November-2021

Water level rising in Idukki dam

A CORRESPONDENT

IDUKKI

Despite Shutter 3 of the Cheruthoni dam of the Idukki reservoir remaining open, the water level continued to rise reaching 2,399.60 ft at 3 p.m. on Friday.

The increased inflow into the reservoir was due to the opening of the spillway shutters of the Mullaperiyar dam and heavy rainfall in the high ranges from Friday morning. Though four shutters of the Mullaperiyar dam were opened on Thursday morning prior to the opening of the Cheruthoni dam, Tamil Nadu closed all the shutters except one (kept open by 10 cm) reducing discharge to the Periyar by Friday afternoon. The Cheruthoni dam shutter was raised by 40 cm to regulate the water level as the upper rule level was 2,400.03.

An official of the Dam Monitoring and Research Station said the present rule curve would be applicable till Saturday.

A new rule curve would come into effect from Sunday. As per the new rule curve, the red alert level from November 21 would be 2,402 ft, one ft short of the full reservoir level.