

The Tribune- 24- January-2023

# ₹350 cr sought from Centre for Nurpur irrigation project

Deputy Chief Minister meets Water Commission chief

SHIMLA, JANUARY 23

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri on Monday sought the release of Rs 350 crore for the Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Project at Nurpur in Kangra district, according to an official statement issued here.

Agnihotri met Central Water Commission (CWC) Chairman Kushvinder Vohra in New Delhi and held discussions about strengthening the irrigation sector in the state, besides urging him for liberal funds.

He said that the irrigation project at Nurpur in Kangra was started in 2011 at an initial cost of Rs 204 crore, which has escalated to Rs 646 crore. The state had spent Rs 283 crore from its own resources on the project, he added.

Agnihotri urged Vohra for the early release Rs 350 crore so that the project could be completed on priority. He said that the project was on the priority list of the Union Government as well.

He said that 5,000 hectares to be covered under the Shah Nehar project was not getting ade-



Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri with Kushvinder Vohra, Chairman of Central Water Commission, in Delhi on Monday.

quate water for irrigation and the state had requested the Central Government for additional resources to provide irrigational facilities.

He also urged the Central Government to provide speedy approval for the Beet Area Irrigation Scheme, Phase-II, in Una district to be completed at a cost of Rs 75 crore.

Agnihotri said that the state government had completed the phase -1 of the

project with its own resources. He added that the Nadaun irrigation scheme would be completed in next two or three months.

He invited the CWC Chairperson to visit the state along with his team of experts to explore the possibility of strengthening the existing schemes and preparing a roadmap for future planning and implementation of new irrigation schemes. — PTI

The Times of India- 24- January-2023

# Ammonia levels in Yamuna shoot up, may hit drinking water supply

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Delhiites are likely to face a major drinking water supply problem for the next few days as Delhi Jal Board (DJB) on Monday alerted that the ammonia levels in the Yamuna have increased, affecting its water treating capacity. "Due to the high level of pollutants—ammonia at 3.5ppm—being received in the Yamuna at the Wazirabad pond, potable water production has been curtailed by 10-30% from various water treatment plants," DJB stated.

According to officials, the problem of untreated sewage from a few points in the neighbouring Haryana has led to the increased pollution levels in the river due to which the Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Haiderpur treatment plants have been affected. These plants cater to the entire south, north and west Delhi, which are likely to experience low water pressure.

"Delhi Jal Board is endeavouring to rationalise the water supply. Therefore, water supply will be available at low pressure from the evening from January 23 till the situation improves. Public is advised to make judicious use of water," added the DJB alert. Public may contact the central control room at 1916/23527679/23634469 for water-related problems and tankers.

This is not the first time that DJB is facing the problem of high levels of pollution in



File photo

**LIFELINE INTERRUPTED****DJB SOURCE SAYS**

**We have written to Haryana several times regarding the pollution in the Yamuna, but they are not making any efforts**

the Yamuna. Last April, too, the pollution level was high. According to officials, the DJB monitoring team is regu-

larly surveying the river and has found that the reason for high ammonia is mixing of raw sewage water in the Yamuna through drains connected directly with it at various points like Nathupura, Barrota and Khojkipur in Haryana.

DJB is responsible for the supply of potable water in Delhi, for which it is dependent on the supply of raw water through Carrier Line Channel, Delhi Sub Branch and the Yamuna, which flows through Haryana before entering Delhi. "We have written to Haryana several times regarding the pollution in the Yamuna, but they are not making efforts," said a source.

In a recent survey, CPCB has found that 413 industries in Haryana, mostly dealing in textiles, oil and refinery, fertilisers, chemicals, and food and beverages, have been discharging untreated effluents into the Yamuna. Most of these units operate in clusters in Gurgaon, Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Panipat and Sonapat.



The Times of India- 24- January-2023

# Signs of recovery as biochemical oxygen demand dips in Najafgarh drain in 6 mths

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**New Delhi:** Concerted efforts to improve the quality of water flowing in the Najafgarh drain have started showing concrete results with the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) witnessing a consistent decline in the past six months.

According to an analysis carried out by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), the BOD levels have registered a variation of almost 30 per cent since the agencies started the desilting of Najafgarh drain. Officials added that the BOD levels at two spots in the Yamuna — near the interstate bus terminal and before Okhla barrage — too have recorded a decline of 21 and 25% respectively.

Biochemical oxygen demand is the amount of oxygen consumed in one litre of water by microorganisms while they oxidise the entire organic matter present in it at a specified temperature.

The BOD level in Najafgarh drain was recorded at 75 in August 2022, which fell down to 53 in January. Similarly, the BOD levels in the Yamuna at ISBT and Okhla (after confluence of Shahdara drain) were registered at 48 and 75, respectively, in August, while it came down to 38 and 56 in January.

Officials said the reduction of BOD is the sign of self-healing power of the river and the

File photo



Lieutenant governor VK Saxena is closely monitoring the rejuvenation work

drain. The standard for BOD is 3mg/l or less for river and 30mg/l for drain.

Officials said following the insistence of lieutenant governor VK Saxena, who is closely monitoring the rejuvenation work, the irrigation and flood control department had started the desilting work of the drain in August 2022. The agencies had also started tapping the sub-drains and feeder drains falling into the drain from November last year.

As per the data, 80,000 cubic metres or 1.3 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of silt has been removed from the drain since August 2022. While 50,000 cubic metres (80,000 MT) was

## Times View

The improvement of water quality in the Najafgarh drain is heartening and shows what is possible with the right efforts. There are many other drains in the city. Hopefully, similar improvements can be carried out in them.

removed using the conventional desilting through departmental resources, 30,000 cubic metres (48,000 MT) was scrapped through the partial gravitational technique.

Officials said that 'partial gravitational desilting', a sustainable and cost-effective concept, was extensively used for dredging the ports of Gujarat and the same was deployed in Najafgarh drain for better results.

"In the last five years, the annual average desilting done in Najafgarh drain was about 60,000 cubic metres or 90,000 MT," said an official.

Another official said there are at least 44 sub and feeder drains that need to be tapped to stop the flow of untreated sewage into the Najafgarh drain. While 12 such drains have already been tapped, six are likely to be tapped by the end of January.

The 54-km long drain originates from Najafgarh lake and joins the Yamuna downstream of Wazirabad while travelling through South-West, West, North-West and North districts.

Hindustan Times - 24- January-2023

## NEW MONSOON RESEARCH FACILITY COMING UP IN MADHYA PRADESH

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**BHOPAL:** The Union ministry of earth sciences is set to unveil a first-of-its-kind atmospheric research testbed to study monsoon patterns and to improve understanding on the process governing monsoon convection, senior scientists said on Monday.

The Atmospheric Research Testbed-Central India (ART-CI) is shaping up at the 100-acre campus at Silkheda in Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh as a project of the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), after battling delays due to Covid-19 pandemic and encroachment by locals on the site.

A senior scientist from IITM said that since central India is the core monsoon zone, it was important to collect data and study how monsoon patterns behaved in the region and what factors impacted its behaviour.

He also highlighted that the new centre will help analyse the impact of aerosols and pollution particles on the rainfall patterns in the region.

“Currently there is no monsoon observatory in central India. ART is one of the first sites, which will not only record monsoon rainfall but will also gauge all basic parameters — vertical profile of relative humidity, water content, cloud properties etc — that are necessary for improving model prediction. The gap in predictions will be covered by this centre,” the scientist said.



Millennium Post- 24- January-2023

# Himachal Pradesh Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri asserts state's water rights in Bhakra & Pong Dam

ASHWANI SHARMA

**SHIMLA:** Even as Himachal Pradesh continue to struggle for years to get arrears its 7.19 per cent share of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), state's Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri has asserted the "right to utilise" water from the dam.

In a letter written to Union Minister for Power and Renewable Energy R K Singh, deputy chief minister has reminded the centre about a decision taken in the 124th meeting of the BBMB held on January 19 and 20, 1987 recognising the state as a partner state in the BBMB assets.

Also, in 2011, the Supreme Court in its landmark decision had ruled in favour of the state asking the BBMB and other partner states—Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan to grant 7.1 per cent share of the power,



Mukesh Agnihotri

PIC/FILE

besides paying arrears since 1967.

"The decisions of 1987 and 2011 are still to be implemented" he pointed out.

To break down the matter to the state's right on the water, Agnihotri—who also holds the portfolio of Jal Shakti, reminded that no allocation of the water has been made to the state out of Sutlej water and surplus Ravi-Beas water as Bhakra-Nangal agreement 1959 and inter-state agreement dated 31-12-1981.

The deputy chief minister asserted that though the water generated as runoff from snow-rain and glacie: melt within the catchment area of Himachal Pradesh get no allocation of the water has been made to the state—a fact recognised by the agreement of 1959 and 1981 respectively.

He wondered why the state has to seek a NOC from the BBMB and other central agencies to utilise the state's share of water for irrigation and drinking water needs of the people.

"Whereas even to supply drinking water to rural areas of the state adjoining these projects, the state is required to take NOC of BBMB and other central agencies" he pointed out.

He asked the union minister to recognize and consider waiving off the NOC condition for drawing off of the water upto the share recognised by the Supreme court for rural water supply and Irrigation

Schemes proposed by the state government.

Such a process, he said, leads to cost and time overrun for upcoming projects. This is also not the first time the state has raised this matter to the centre as earlier the same was also taken up in 2020 but no action, so far, has been taken.

Besides the Bhakra dam project, based on the Sulej river, Himachal Pradesh has also suffered pains and despair due to the setting-up of the Pong Dam—another mega project for irrigation on the Beas river.

"Both the projects have caused huge sufferings and led to the displacement of a huge population in the hill state but the entire benefits and prosperity due to these projects has helped other states including Punjab and Haryana", says Agnihotri as he spoke to *Millennium Post*.

Gobind Sagar lake in Bilaspur district created by dam-

ming of Sutlej water and Pong Dam lake in Kangra left hundreds of families to lose their lands and houses.

Both Bhakra and Pong Dam oustees have still not got land allotted or compensation.

Meanwhile, Agnihotri on Monday sought the release of Rs 350 crore for the Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Project in Kangra district.

Agnihotri met Central Water Commission Chairman Kushvinder Vohra here and held discussions about strengthening the irrigation sector in the state besides urging for liberal assistance for it.

He said the Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Project in Kangra's Nurpur was started at an initial cost of Rs 204 crore in 2011, which has now escalated to Rs 646 crore. The state has spent Rs 283 crore from its own resources for executing the project, the statement quoting the deputy CM said.

The Morning Standard- 24- January-2023

# Punjab has no water to share with others: BJP

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

THE two-day executive meeting of the BJP's Punjab unit concluded in Amritsar on Monday in which the state unit of the saffron party passed a resolution against the sharing of the state river waters with other states, making it's stand clear on the decades old Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal issue. Interestingly, a few days back BJP-led Haryana government had asked the Supreme Court to ensure completion of the remaining portion of the SYL canal after the talks with the Punjab government failed.

After the meeting the Punjab BJP president Ashwani Sharma said, "Time and again the BJP leaders are asked to clear their stand on the SYL issue. I think



File photo of Sutlej-Yamuna Link canal

now after passing of this resolution we have put an end to this question. It is very clear that Punjab does not have any water to give to any other state."

The political resolution was

proposed by Sunil Jakhar, member of national executive of the saffron party and Manoranjan Kalia while Rana Gurmeet Singh Sodhi endorsed it.

Another resolution was also

passed to hail the steps taken by the Modi government for the Sikh community, including the opening of Kartarpur corridor, scrapping of black list of Sikhs and giving shelter to Sikhs from Afghanistan. Sharma said that only BJP can bring about all-round development in Punjab, and make it drug and corruption free. He claimed that the people of Punjab were fed up with the AAP Government.

Further taking a dig at the Mann Government, he said that the government has created an atmosphere of anarchy in Punjab. He added that the AAP only made "hollow promises" but did nothing for development. "This is an insensitive government, which has nothing to do with the people of the state and their sentiments," Sharma added.



# चीन की चाल • अरुणाचल प्रदेश से सिर्फ 30 किमी दूर सबसे बड़ा बांध बना रहा ड्रैगन 'जलयुद्ध' की चीनी साजिश पर भारत ने पानी फेरा, पूर्वोत्तर में बांधों का काम तेज

चीन बांध से ज्यादा पानी छोड़ भारत-बांग्लादेश में कृत्रिम बाढ़ ला सकता है

सत्यनारायण मिश्र | ईटानगर

ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के प्रवाह को मनमाने तरीके से मोड़ने का काम तो चीन 11 साल से कर ही रहा है, लेकिन इस बार उसने बड़ी चाल चली है। अरुणाचल में एलएसी से सिर्फ 30 किमी. की दूर चीन सबसे बड़ा बांध बना रहा है। यह चीन के मौजूदा सबसे बड़े श्री-जॉर्ज डैम से भी थोड़ा बड़ा होगा। यह 181 मीटर ऊंचा और ढाई किमी चौड़ा होगा। लंबाई की जानकारी अभी स्पष्ट नहीं की गई है। 60,000 मेगावॉट बिजली पैदा करने की क्षमता का यह बांध मेडोग बॉर्डर पॉइंट के पास बनेगा। यहीं से ब्रह्मपुत्र भारत में प्रवेश करती है।

चीन की चाल को देखते हुए केंद्र सरकार ने ब्रह्मपुत्र पर प्रस्तावित 3 परियोजनाओं को तेजी से पूरा करने की दिशा में काम शुरू कर दिया है। इन परियोजनाओं के तहत 4 बड़े बांध बनेंगे। एक प्रोजेक्ट को अभी केंद्र सरकार के अलग-अलग मंत्रालयों से मंजूरी मिलनी बाकी है। सूत्र बता रहे हैं कि अगले कुछ दिनों में पर्यावरण संबंधी सभी जरूरी मंजूरियां भी मिल जाएंगी। क्योंकि, चीन 'जलयुद्ध' से नुकसान पहुंचा सकता है। इन परियोजनाओं को 3 साल में पूरा करने लक्ष्य तय किया जा रहा है। जिन दो परियोजनाओं पर काम चल रहा है, सुरक्षा कारणों की वजह से उनकी स्टेटस रिपोर्ट सार्वजनिक नहीं की जा रही है।

**मेडोग प्रोजेक्ट से भारत में बड़े खतरे की आशंका इसलिए...**



दुनिया की सबसे ऊंची नदी ब्रह्मपुत्र पूर्वोत्तर भारत के रास्ते बांग्लादेश होते हुए समुद्र में जाती है। इस दौरान यह 8,858 फीट गहरी घाटी बनाती है, जो अमेरिका की ग्रेड केनयॉन से दोगुनी गहरी है। भारत-बांग्लादेश की चिंता यह है कि चीन किसी भी समय बांध के गेट खोलकर कृत्रिम बाढ़ ला सकता है। चीन की मंशा पर शक की एक वजह यह भी है कि वहां हाइड्रो पावर सरप्लस है। बावजूद इसके सबसे बड़ा बांध बनाया जा रहा है।

**चीन की हरकत रोकने के लिए भारत की 3 परियोजनाएं**

**1** ब्रह्मपुत्र की सबसे बड़ी सहायक नदी सुबनसिरी पर बन रहा ग्रेविटी बांध

सुबनसिरी जलविद्युत परियोजना असम और अरुणाचल की सीमा पर सुबनसिरी नदी पर निर्माणाधीन ग्रेविटी बांध है। सुबनसिरी नदी तिब्बत पठार से निकलती है और अरुणाचल में मिरी पहाड़ियों के बीच से भारत में प्रवेश करती है। सुबनसिरी जलविद्युत परियोजना की दो इकाइयां लगभग तैयार हो चुकी हैं। परियोजना में काम कर रहे एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि यहां इस साल के मध्य तक 2000 मेगावाट बिजली रोज पैदा होने लगेगी। यह भारत की सबसे बड़ी जलविद्युत परियोजना है। इसके बांध में 1365 मिलियन घन मीटर जल भंडारण की क्षमता होगा। बांध 160 मीटर ऊंचा बांध बनाया जा रहा है। यह बाढ़ रोकने में कारगर होगा। दरअसल, ग्रेविटी बांध का निर्माण कंक्रीट या सीमेंट से किया जाता है। जरूरत पड़ने पर बहुत कम समय में इसे खाली भी किया जा सकता है। इससे सिंचाई भी संभव है।

**2** कामेंग में 80 किमी क्षेत्र में 2 बांध बनेंगे, 8200 करोड़ रु. खर्च होंगे

यह अरुणाचल प्रदेश जलविद्युत परियोजना के अधीन है। इसमें 11 हजार मेगावाट विद्युत तैयार की जाएगी। कुल 8200 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होंगे। यह पश्चिम कामेंग जिले में 80 किमी क्षेत्र में बन रही है। बिजली पैदा करने के लिए 150 मेगावाट की चार यूनिट वाले दो बांध बनाए जा रहे हैं।

**3** दिबांग परियोजना को मंत्रालयों की मंजूरी का इंतजार, इससे बाढ़ रुकेगी

विशेषज्ञों की कमेटी ने हाल ही में 2880 मेगावाट की परियोजना की फाइनल फिजिबिलिटी रिपोर्ट जल संसाधन मंत्रालय को सौंप दी है। इसे जल्द मंजूरी मिल सकती है। यह परियोजना अरुणाचल प्रदेश और असम में बाढ़ नियंत्रण में सहायक होगी। इसके बनने के बाद बाढ़ की सूचना 24 घंटे पहले हासिल की जा सकेगी। यह बांध जानी नुकसान बचाने के लिए बेहद कारगर साबित हो सकते हैं।

**चीन में ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी पर 11 साल में 11 बड़े हाइड्रोपावर प्रोजेक्ट बन चुके हैं**

चीन ने ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी पर सबसे बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट जांगमू में बनाया है। तिब्बत के 8 शहरों में भी चीन तेजी से बांध बना रहा है। कुछ बन भी चुके हैं। ये शहर हैं- बायू, जिशि, लांग्टा, दाप्का, नांग, डेमो, नाम्चा और मेतोका।



Amar Ujala- 24- January-2023

# यमुना में अमोनिया की मात्रा बढ़ी, पेयजल संकट

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। यमुना नदी में एक माह के अंदर दूसरी बार अमोनिया की मात्रा बढ़ गई। नदी में सोमवार को अमोनिया की मात्रा में बढ़ोतरी होने का मामला सामने आया। इस कारण दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के वजीराबाद, चंद्रावल व हैदरपुर जलशोधक संयंत्र पूरी क्षमता से चलने बंद हो गए हैं और इन संयंत्रों से जुड़े राजधानी के करीब 30 प्रतिशत इलाके में पेयजल संकट पैदा हो गया है।

जल बोर्ड के अनुसार, यमुना नदी में बने वजीराबाद तालाब में सोमवार को अमोनिया की मात्रा अचानक बढ़ गई। इस कारण तालाब के पानी में अत्यधिक प्रदूषण हो गया। जिसे उसके चंद्रावल व वजीराबाद संयंत्र साफ नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। इस कारण इन दोनों संयंत्रों को पूरी क्षमता से चलाना बंद कर दिया गया है। दरअसल हरियाणा के कई शहरों से यमुना नदी में काफी मात्रा में रसायनिक कचरा बहा दिया गया है और यमुना नदी में अमोनिया का स्तर बढ़ गया है।

गत दिसंबर माह के अंत में भी नदी में अमोनिया की मात्रा बढ़ी थी। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड ने दोनों संयंत्रों से जुड़े निवासियों से अपील की है कि वह पानी का भंडारण कर उसका सदुपयोग करें। कुछ दिनों तक पानी की आपूर्ति प्रभावित रह सकती है। पानी की कमी होने पर प्रभावित क्षेत्र के



जल बोर्ड के दो संयंत्रों में पानी का शोधन कम हुआ, राजधानी के 30 फीसदी इलाकों में पेयजल संकट

## इन इलाकों में प्रभावित रहेगी पेयजल आपूर्ति

नई दिल्ली, सिविल लाइंस, हिंदुराव अस्पताल, कमला नगर, शक्ति नगर, करोल बाग, पहाड़गंज राजेंद्र नगर, पटेल नगर, बलजीत नगर, प्रेम नगर, इंद्रपुरी, कालकाजी, गोविंदपुरी, तुगलकाबाद, संगम विहार, आंबेडकर नगर, प्रह्लादपुर, रामलीला ग्राउंड, दिल्ली गेट, सुभाष पार्क, मॉडल टाउन, गुलाबी बाग, पंजाबी बाग, जहांगीरपुरी, मूलचंद, साउथ एक्सटेंशन, ग्रेटर कैलाश, बुराड़ी, दिल्ली छावनी, पश्चिमी दिल्ली व आसपास के इलाके।

लोग दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के कार्यालय से पानी के टैंकर मंगवा सकते हैं।