

The Times of India- 30- May-2023

# Water levels in most dams in state drop lower than last yr

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**Pune:** Live storage in several major dams of Maharashtra, mainly in Pune and Konkan regions, has plunged lower than last year.

In Konkan, which has dams projects in Palghar, Thane, Sindhudurg and Raigad, live storage is now 33% compared to 42% during the same period last year. In the Pune region, which includes major projects in Pune, Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara and Kolhapur, live storage has dropped to 17% from last year's 23%.

Experts have raised concerns, especially because last year had no El Nino threat while the upcoming monsoon is likely to be under sig-

nificant influence of this phenomenon which is associated with lower than normal rainfall across India. The live storage in all major dams in Amravati revenue region is 42%, slightly lower than 43% on the same day last year. In Aurangabad revenue region too, the level is currently 39.56%, as against 40.63% recorded on May 29, 2022.

The situation is relatively better in Nagpur and Nashik regions where live storage in major dams is higher than last year during the same period. On Monday, live storage in Nagpur was 42.92% as against last year's 33.80%. In Nashik, the level was 34.99% as against last year's 31.62%.

"Most dams that supply water for drinking purposes

generally have availability till the end of July even if monsoon during the first two months of the season is sub-par or delayed. There have been meetings between top officials at the district level based on the possibility of El Nino and less than normal rainfall in parts of Maharashtra this year," said a senior state water resources department official.

The official added, "Even if dam levels in some places are less than last year's during the same period, plans are in place at the field level to deal with any contingency."

An irrigation department official from Pune said, "If monsoon is delayed in Pune, drinking water will be available till July 15. The

availability may further enhance beyond this date due to water cuts every Thursday or on a rotational-basis supply."

The collective water stock in four Pune dams (Khadakwasla, Waragaon, Panshet, Temghar) was 24.24% on Monday. During the same period last year, it was 21.56%.

Dr Akshay Deoras, research scientist at the University of Reading, UK, who is closely following the southwest monsoon, told **TOI**. "The forecast is of a hot June, delayed arrival of monsoon, and below-average rainfall during the rainy season. Hence, water conservation is important, for which imposing early water cuts would be essential, especially in areas where water levels are low."

The Hindu- 30- May-2023

# Joint survey on river erosion to be undertaken at Farraka Barrage

**Shiv Sahay Singh**

KOLKATA

The West Bengal Government and the Farakka Barrage Project Authority (FBPA) have decided to conduct a joint survey of *chars* (land) formed due to erosion along the river Ganga in the State.

A meeting was held between senior officials of the West Bengal Government and the FBPA on Monday, where it was decided to take a holistic approach to combating river erosion.

“A joint survey of the land (*char*) which has emerged in the opposite side of Malda across the Ganges is to be conducted so that it can be taken up with the Govt. of Jhark-

hand for its proper management. A similar exercise would need to be taken up near Jalangi at the exit point of the river Ganges into Bangladesh,” a press statement by the Government of West Bengal said.

## Protection of towns

The statement added that the erosion pattern of the Ganga had changed upstream and downstream of the Farakka Barrage, and there are important towns, apart from public infrastructure, in this area that need to be protected.

“The stretch is long and a piece-meal approach may not work. It was therefore impressed upon the FBPA that their jurisdiction

should be expanded and should include important towns/habitations so that a holistic approach is undertaken by FBPA in combating the river erosion,” the release said.

According to West Bengal Government, lakhs of people have been displaced from their habitation and there has been a massive loss of lives, livelihood and property, including of public infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and health centres.

The State government said that the jurisdiction of the FBPA had been reduced in 2017 from 120 km to 19.4 km, which had left out important towns, including Dhulian and Samsherganj.





A view of the Himayatsagar reservoir in Hyderabad. The G.O. 111 prohibited the establishment of polluting industries, major hotels, residential colonies, and other polluting bodies in the catchment area of the lakes up to 30 kilometres from the Full Tank Level. This covers 1.32 lakh acres in 84 villages of seven mandals in the erstwhile Rangareddy district. [NAGARAJ.COM](http://www.nagaraj.com)

# Twin reservoirs shrivel in realty storm

As the Telangana Cabinet announces the scrapping of G.O. 111, realty begins to boom around Osmansagar and Himayatsagar reservoirs, reigniting the debate on the definition and actual cost of real estate development

**Sruathi Vadlamudi**  
HYDERABAD

**T**he calm waters of Gandipet Lake, a well-known tourist destination in Hyderabad, are caught in the midst of real estate turbulence.

The security staff posted much ahead of the bund collects ₹50 per head as an entrance fee to go to the lake, which was once a free-for-all entry. They object to anybody seen in the surroundings with a camera.

"You may not use a camera around here," the guard warns, standing at the reservoir where lakhs of tourists might have visited and clicked pictures over the past century.

## Restricted entry

Mushrooming in close proximity to the reservoir is a plethora of new villas and multistoried buildings. Excavator machinery is deployed by private builders to flatten the earth for more construction, against the norms stated in the much-contested Government Order (G.O.) 111.

Since the Cabinet decision to scrap G.O. 111 was shared with the media by State Finance Minister T. Harish Rao recently, the area around the reservoir became an impenetrable fortress where public movement is restricted, and the presence of media cameras is questioned.

## Debate over scrapping of G.O. 111

Meanwhile, the cancellation of G.O. 111 has become the topic of debate in all news channels. Worried environmentalists took to multiple media platforms to condemn the move.

What came as a surprise to everyone is that the main stakeholders, the people of the villages where the G.O. is in force, maintaining a stoic silence.

A land owner at Shamshabad village K. Ranga Reddy says, "It is too early to rejoice. We suspect that this is just an election gimmick."

"Someone will go to the court and bring a stay order, and the government would then have one more excuse to give us," he says.

## In hope of realty boom

Mr. Ranga Reddy is not a traditional farmer but bought land in Shamshabad village from a farmer way back in 2007 in the hope that the land prices would spike phenomenally. And he is not disappointed.

Despite the restrictions imposed on constructions in the area by way of G.O. 111, real estate prices have never stopped rising.

"The price of the agricultural land ranges between ₹5 crore and ₹8 crore per acre depending on the location. As of now, there is no effect of the G.O. 111 announcement on the prices here, as people are cautious while making investments," says Jagdish Reddy, a local realtor in Moinsabad, where farmlands have long been converted to farmhouses.

## What G.O. 111 says

G.O. 111 was issued 27 years ago, in March 1996, for the protection of Osman Sagar and Himayatsagar reservoirs, which were major drinking water sources for Hyderabad city. It was issued after making amendments to an earlier order issued in 1994.

The G.O. 111 prohibits the establishment of polluting industries, major hotels, residential colonies, and other polluting bodies in the catchment area of the lakes up to 10 kilometres from the Full Tank Level (FTL). This covers 1.32 lakh acres in



No government has ever implemented the order. They never stopped violating the provisions mentioned in the order.

**K. PURUSHOTHAM REDDY**  
Environmentalist and development activist

84 villages of seven mandals in the erstwhile Rangareddy district. Of the 1.32 lakh acres, over 30 lakh acres are government land, and the rest are private.

## Scope for residential developments

As per G.O. 111, only residential developments may be permitted in the catchment area, subject to conditions. Accordingly, 60% of the total area of the layouts in these 84 villages should be strictly left as open spaces and roads.

G.O. 111 directed the then Hyderabad Urban Development Authority (HUDA), now Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA), to classify 90% of the area in these villages as agricultural land, including horticulture and floriculture. This left that only 10% of the area for residential development.

Further, a Floor Space Index (FSI) restriction of 1:05 has been imposed in the catchment area, which limits the number of floors the multistoried buildings can be raised to.

Besides, polluting industries were banned within a 10-kilometres upstream and downstream of the water bodies to prevent acidification of the reservoirs due to air pollution.

However, this provision was diluted by another G.O. released in 2007, which drastically reduced the no-construction area to 0.5 km from the FTL, and the FSI restrictions were limited to residential establishments only within a 1 km radius.

## Protection of raw water channels

G.O. 111 also has provisions for the protection of the raw water channels from Osman Sagar to Asifnagar and bans layouts and buildings for a maximum of 100 feet from the conduit site boundary.

Drainage pipelines must be laid parallel to the conduit, and no sewerage or sullage water discharges should be allowed from the layouts towards the conduits, it said.



Rampant construction activity in the command area of the Osmansagar reservoir is in violation of the restrictions imposed by way of G.O. 111, the abolition of which has been announced by the government recently. [KSARK.COM](http://www.ksrk.com)

## Flouting norms

Soon after the order was issued, the then government went back on it and accorded permission to an industrial unit exempting it from the provisions. The exemption was challenged in the High Court and then in the Supreme Court, with the latter ruling in favour of G.O. 111.

The apex court refused permission for the industrial unit, basing the judgement on the "Precautionary Principle", which is still cited by activists in support of their argument.

## Committee to frame new guidelines

Last year, the Telangana government announced that G.O. 111 was being scrapped and issued orders constituting a high-level committee to frame guidelines and detailed regulations for the development of the area that came under the catchment of the twin reservoirs.

The Telangana government sought to scrap the order saying that the dependency on these two reservoirs for drinking water supply had decreased to 1.25% now, compared to 27.59% when G.O. 111 was issued.

The committee's terms of reference included determining measures against pollution, zoning guidelines, modalities for the development of trunk infrastructure such as roads, major drains, Sewage Treatment Plants (STP), diversion drains, and others in the area, means of resource mobilisation for the same, appropriate institutional framework to take up the infrastructure in order to regulate the development, and necessary regulatory measures to be insisted to grant layout or building permissions, necessary changes in the legal framework, and others.



The price of the agricultural land ranges between ₹5 crore and ₹8 crore per acre depending on the location. As of now, there is no effect of the G.O. 111 announcement on the prices here, as people are cautious while making investments.

**JAGADISH REDDY**  
Realtor in Moinsabad

the scrapping of G.O. 111, understandably before elections, and announced that whatever regulations applied to the HMDA jurisdiction would also apply in the catchment area. There was no mention of the high-level committee or its recommendations.

## Challenges and counter-challenges

Noted activist and politician Lubna Sarwar draws attention to the fact that the new order scrapping G.O. 111 was challenged in the High Court and that the government filed an affidavit in September 2022, counter-challenging it. Within eight months after the affidavit, the latest announcement about scrapping G.O. 111 has been made, even while the matter is sub judice.

The reservoirs continue to supply drinking water to the city even today, she points out, which means that their catchment area is still inviolable.

## real estate, the driving force

The eagerness to do away with all the restrictions imposed by G.O. 111 is widely attributed to the skyrocketing real estate market and the constant search for new horizons to expand.

However, the one question unanimously posed by all the environmental activists opposing the decision is, "When was the G.O. 111 even implemented for it to be scrapped?" "No government has ever implemented the order. They never stopped violating the provisions mentioned in the order. And the present regime has succeeded in creating an impression that people in the catchment area are backwards because the G.O. 111 hindered development. In their view, only real estate development is development," says environmentalist and development activist K. Purushotham Reddy.

A provision in G.O. 111, which enjoins the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board to conduct studies once in six months through JNTU or any Central University or any

other reputed agency to monitor the level of pesticides and fertilizer residues carried into the lakes, has never been adhered to, Dr. Purushotham Reddy says.

More importantly, the reservoirs were designed by legendary engineer Mokshagundam Visveswaraya as part of the flood control strategy, post the devastating floods of 1908, he points out and says increased urbanisation would reduce water absorption and result in flooding.

In his report in 1909, Mr. Visveswaraya cited 12 floods of similar or lesser intensity during the previous 300 years and noted that immunity from the floods would come only from the construction of flood catchment reservoirs in the basin above.

Thus came into being the Osman Sagar and Himayatsagar reservoirs with storage capacities of 3.9 tmcft and 2.967 tmcft respectively.

## Firangi Nala mistake to be repeated?

Questioning the government's promises about protecting both the tanks from pollution and encroachments, Mr. Purushotham Reddy recalls the status of Firangi Nala, a contour canal which has fallen into disuse. The drain was designed and constructed from Chandanvelli on the South West and filled 25 lakes en route before it ended with Ibrahimpatnam Lake. It is no more functional and subject to rampant encroachments. Owing to this, Old City has been experiencing devastating floods annually, which was never heard of earlier, he says.

Applied Hydrogeologist and Technical Member, Reservoirs & Lakes (Water Domain), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), B.V. Subba Rao, who has been working with communities on Lake Agriculture, reminds us that the twin reservoirs still supply water commensurate with the capacity they were designed for, though in percentage terms the quantity becomes minuscule owing to the explosion of the city population.

India is a signatory to the Sendai Framework, which advocates for risk reduction strategy to be included in planning. Mr. Subba Rao says. The first and foremost risk in urban planning is storm-water generation, as proven across the cities in India in recent times.

Considering that the government is now spending thousands of crores of rupees on storm-water drainage, which disappeared from the city owing to mindless real estate expansion, it certainly appears better to be safe than sorry.

## Welfare neglected

Guidelines and restrictions exist worldwide with regard to water supply reservoirs, and the extent mentioned in G.O. 111 is only 10% of the actual extent of the twin reservoirs' catchment area, which is 1,300 square kilometres, he says.

He also questions the apathy displayed by successive governments for the welfare of the people living in the catchment area.

"No alternative economic development schemes were proposed for the 84 villages, though the G.O. explicitly stated horticulture and floriculture as the permitted activities. We still import flowers from Bengaluru and Chittoor," Mr. Subba Rao points out.

Mr. Subba Rao draws a comparison with New York and San Francisco, where a portion of the water charges collected is devoted to the residents in the catchment area. He also cites the traditional practice in the Kuppam area of Chittoor, where it had been customary for the command area population to share the harvest with the catchment area.

## The contrarian view

The Secretary of the Forum for Good Governance M. Padmanabha Reddy presents the sole contrarian view from the activist circle.

He feels that scrapping G.O. 111 would release 1.32 lakh acres of land into the market, which will help bring down real estate prices for the common man while benefiting the farmers in the 84 villages.

"A large number of check dams on the way have reduced the flooding risk for the Musi River, rendering the reservoirs redundant for flood control. Besides, the HMDA regulations stipulate that 30% of the layout should be left for open space. The proposal looks good on paper, but implementation is the key," he says.



Deccan Herald- 30- May-2023

# With Shivakumar at helm, irrigation dept may prioritise Mekedatu project

## TN's plea in SC, greens' opposition big hurdles

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI  
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Mekedatu project, one of the first issues the Congress raised to garner support for the elections, is back in the spotlight with Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, who holds Water Resources portfolio, calling a meeting of the irrigation department on Tuesday.

Officials said Mekedatu is expected to come up during the first meeting as Shivaku-

mar, who led the Congress's padayatra to corner the BJP, is likely to give it high priority as he also holds the portfolio of Bengaluru development.

"We expect a renewed interest. A brief on the current status is being prepared," an official said.

Following a petition against the project by Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court has directed the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to look into the matter.

The project was estimated



KPCC president D K Shivakumar had led a padayatra seeking approval for the Mekedatu project last year. He was accompanied by senior party leaders Siddaramaiah, M B Patil and others. DH FILE PHOTO

to cost Rs 9,000 crore (2019 rates). It seeks to utilise the additional 4.75 tmc ft of water allotted to Karnataka to meet the drinking water requirement of "Bengaluru and its surroundings".

Karnataka also seeks to reg-

ulate the water flow to Tamil Nadu and release the quantum as per the 2018 direction of the Supreme Court.

A gravity dam at Mekedatu to store 67.16 tmc ft of water, an underground powerhouse with three caverns and other infra-

structure to generate 400 MW electricity, a jackwell-cum-pumphouse to lift water are the major components of the project.

The project requires a total of 12,979 acres, of which 12,345.4 acres will be submerged. Save for 500 acres of revenue land, the rest of the land that will go under water belongs to the ecologically sensitive Kaveri wildlife sanctuary and the surrounding forests.

Environment activists and experts have warned that submerging large swathes of protected area at a time when wildlife habitat is shrinking will have major consequences, starting from wildlife conflict to the larger issues of climate change.

Karnataka's proposal came in the wake of the Supreme Court order that allocated 284.75 tmc ft to Karnataka and

reduced the flow at Biligundlu (towards Tamil Nadu) from 192 tmc ft to 177.25 tmc ft.

Karnataka had argued that the project was crucial for supplying drinking water to "50%" of Bengaluru, which is now relying on groundwater and other sources.

With the BBMP elections round the corner, the government is likely to push for an early approval.

"The matter needs approval from CWMA, Supreme Court and the Union environment ministry. It's a long-drawn process. However, considering that the water will be pumped for drinking purpose and not irrigation, we hope to convince the authorities at each level," a senior official at Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited told DH.

Hindustan- 30- May-2023

**तैयारी** | दोनों प्रमुख नदियों की सफाई के लिए उत्तराखंड, उत्तर प्रदेश, झारखंड, बिहार, दिल्ली और पश्चिम बंगाल में चलेगा अभियान

# गंगा-यमुना में प्रदूषण रोकेंगे 17 तकनीकी संस्थान

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। गंगा और यमुना की सफाई के लिए तकनीकी संस्थानों का भी सहारा लिया जाएगा। केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने इसके लिए 17 तकनीकी संस्थानों को नामित किया है। इन संस्थानों के विशेषज्ञ स्थानीय प्रदूषण बोर्ड के साथ मिलकर ऐसे उद्यमों की जांच करेंगे जिनसे निकलने वाले गंदे पानी से ये नदियां प्रदूषित हो रही हैं।

नदियों को प्रदूषित करने में उद्योगों से निकलने वाले गंदे पानी की भी बड़ी हिस्सेदारी मानी जाती है। आमतौर पर इन उद्योगों की जांच-

पड़ताल की जाती है। इसके बावजूद यहां से निकलने वाले गंदे पानी को पूरी तरह से रोका नहीं जा सका है। आमतौर पर इनकी रोकथाम का काम स्थानीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड करते हैं। लेकिन, इसकी थर्ड पार्टी जांच नहीं हो पाती है। इसलिए उद्यमों की जांच-पड़ताल को ज्यादा कारगर बनाने के लिए अब तकनीकी संस्थानों के साथ मिलकर अभियान चलाने का निर्णय लिया गया है।

सीपीसीबी के मुताबिक खासतौर पर फार्मास्यूटिकल, आर्गेनिक, इनार्गेनिक, रिफाइनरी, कीटनाशक,



डिस्टिलरी, शुगर, पल्प और पेपर, टेक्सटाइल, डाई, ब्लिच, स्लाटर हाउस, टेनरी, फूड एंड डेयरी आदि

## नोडल अधिकारी बनेंगे

इस संबंध में सीपीसीबी ने दिल्ली प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति व अन्य राज्यों के प्रदूषण बोर्ड को पत्र लिखा है। इसमें कहा गया है कि वे अपने यहां इस अभियान को संचालित करने के लिए नोडल अधिकारी नियुक्त करें। जिनके साथ तालमेल बनाकर तकनीकी संस्थानों के विशेषज्ञ जांच अभियान चलाएंगे।

के उद्यमों की खास जांच होगी। गंगा और यमुना नदी जिन प्रदेशों से गुजरती हैं यानी उत्तराखंड, उत्तर

## निरीक्षण नहीं करने देने पर होगी कार्रवाई

सीपीसीबी ने अपने निर्देशों में कहा है कि अगर कोई उद्यम तकनीकी संस्थानों के इन विशेषज्ञों को अपने परिसर में प्रवेश देने से मना करता है। तो उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई की जाएगी। ऐसे उद्यमों को बंद करने का नोटिस भी दिया जा सकता है।

प्रदेश, झारखंड, बिहार, दिल्ली और पश्चिम बंगाल में यह अभियान चलाया जाएगा।



## विचार तारन प्रकाश सिन्हा



# क्योंकि वह केवल एक नदी नहीं है

**ए**क नदी, नदी भर नहीं होती। यह केवल धरती पर ही नहीं बहती। धरती के भीतर भी बहती है। दिलों के भीतर भी। एक नदी में केवल पानी का बहाव नहीं होता। उम्मीदों का भी बहाव होता है। आकांक्षाओं का, सपनों का, स्मृतियों का, किस्से-कहानियों का, गीतों का कविताओं का, और भी न जाने किन-किन अनभिन्न चीजों का बहाव एक नदी में होता है। लेकिन एक नदी के नदी होने के लिए पानी ही सबसे जरूरी शर्त है। इसलिए किसी नदी को बचाने के लिए पानी को बचाना ही जरूरी शर्त है। रायगढ़ के लोगों ने अपनी एक नदी को बचाने की ठानी है। इस बात का संकल्प लिया है कि जैसे पुरखों ने इस नदी को सहेज कर उन्हें सौंपा है, वैसे ही वे भी इसे सहेज कर आने वाली पीढ़ी को सौंपेंगे, ताकि उनकी स्मृतियों का प्रवाह भी नदी के साथ बहा रहे। जिले की प्यास बुझाने वाली और किसानों को लहलहाते खेत देने वाली कैलो नदी रायगढ़ की जीवनरेखा है, इसलिए यह केवल कैलो नदी नहीं है, कैलो-मैया है। रायगढ़ जिले के अंतिम छोर में एक बड़ा ही खूबसूरत पहाड़ है- पहाड़ लुटेगा। यही कैलो का उद्गम है। वहां से निकलकर कैलो मैया 97 किलोमीटर तक बहती हुए अजमा स्नेह लुटाती है। इसका सबसे ज्यादा स्नेह रायगढ़ जिले के ही हिस्से में आया है। यहां यह 90 किलोमीटर का सफर तय करती है। रायगढ़ के लोगों के सहयोग से जिला प्रशासन ने कैलो मैया का उपकार चुकाने की एक मुहिम शुरू की है। कैलो है तो करण है इस मुहिम का सूत्र वाक्य है, जिसमें ध्वनित है कि हम कैलो को बचाकर अपने करण को बचा रहे हैं। लेकिन यह मुहिम केवल नदी को बचाने भर की मुहिम नहीं है, उसे संवारने की भी मुहिम है। कैलो संरक्षण अभियान का मूल उद्देश्य है कि प्राकृतिक जल को व्यर्थ बहने से रोका जाए और रुके हुए जल को भूमिगत किया जाए।

कैलो नदी के संरक्षण के लिए परिया ट्रीटमेंट और मरवा ट्रीटमेंट दोनों मोर्चों पर काम किया जा रहा है। नदी तट पर बसे गांवों को भी इसमें शामिल किया गया है। कैलो नदी के पुनरुद्धार के लिए वॉटरशेड के रिज टू वैली कांसेप्ट से काम हो रहा है। चोटी पर नदी के उद्गम से लेकर नीचे की ओर जाने वाले नदी की लाइनिंग को जोड़ा जा रहा है। इसमें पूरे क्षेत्र को ढलान के अनुसार अलग-अलग भागों में बांटा गया है। जिसमें बहाव को नियंत्रित करने तथा जल को स्टोर करने के लिए विभिन्न उपाय किए जा रहे हैं, ताकि पानी का अधिकतम उपयोग हो। परिया और मरवा ट्रीटमेंट के तहत नदी के तटों का कटाव, गाढ़ के जमाव, बहाव में कमी, भू-जल स्तर में गिरावट जैसी समस्याओं को दूर करने के लिए कार्य किए जा रहे हैं। इसमें मरवा ट्रीटमेंट के लिए बशवुड चेक, लूज बोल्टर चेक, गैबियन स्ट्रक्चर, चेक डैम तथा स्टॉप डैम का निर्माण किया जाएगा। परिया ट्रीटमेंट के तहत विभिन्न स्ट्रक्चर जैसे कंटूर ट्रेंच, पर्कोलेशन टैंक, स्टेटगार्ड ट्रेच बनाए जाएंगे। नदियों की तेज जलधारा तटों के कटाव का प्रमुख कारण होती है। तटीय क्षेत्र में वृक्षारोपण इसे रोकने का एक कारगर उपाय है। कैलो संरक्षण अभियान में इस मानसून में नदी के किनारे तटों में करीब 50 एकड़ में दृढ़ वृक्षारोपण किया जाएगा। पौधे तैयार किए जा रहे हैं। भूमि भी धिक्काकर ली गई है। इस वृक्षारोपण की खास बात यह होगी कि पौधे लगाने के साथ उसकी सुरक्षा के भी समुचित प्रबंध होंगे। ताकि ये पौधे बढ़ें और पेड़ बनें।

जल संरक्षण में जन सहभागिता उतनी ही महत्वपूर्ण है जितनी किसी मोर्चे सुरक्षा के लिए सैनिकों की तैनाती है। प्रकृति ने हमें अनभिन्न उपहारों से कभी नवाजा है। नदी, पहाड़, जंगल ये सब मानव जीवन के विकास और सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रगति के आधार हैं। अपने प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का अविवेकपूर्ण उपयोग आज बहुत सी समस्याएं लिए खड़ा है। एक नागरिक के रूप में हमारी सबसे बड़ी जिम्मेदारी है कि हम इन संसाधनों के प्रति कृतज्ञता का भाव लिए यथाशक्ति इनके संरक्षण का प्रयास करें। जंगलों की हरियाली, नदियों की कलकल की आवाज, पहाड़ों की ताजी हवा, कुदरत के ये सारे उपदान हमारी आने वाली पीढ़ियों को तभी नसीब होंगे जब हम उनके लिए सभी जरूरी जतन करें। रायगढ़ जिले में चल रही इस मुहिम के पीछे मुख्यमंत्री भूपेश बघेल की प्रेरणा रही है। उन्होंने प्रदेश के विकास के अनिवार्य घटक के रूप में नदी-नालों के संरक्षण और संवर्धन के कार्य को भी शामिल किया है। राज्य की संस्कृति के संरक्षण और संवर्धन के लिए भी नदी नालों को बचाने पर उनका जोर रहा है। छत्तीसगढ़ की इस सीमा पर रायगढ़ से लेकर ओडिशा के भीतर तक फैली अनूठी कैलो-संस्कृति को संवारने के लिए उन्हीं की मंशा के अनुरूप 01 जून से रायगढ़ में राष्ट्रीय रामायण महोत्सव का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। उस महोत्सव में शामिल होने जब मुख्यमंत्री रायगढ़ आएंगे, तब उनके हाथों रायगढ़ जिला अपनी कैलो मैया की आरती भी उतारेगा। कैलो संरक्षण अभियान में लोगों की स्व-रुपुत सहभागिता देखने को मिल रही है। गांव-गांव में लोग ग्राम सभा के दौरान पानी को बचाने उसके विवेकपूर्ण और समुचित उपयोग करने की शपथ ले रहे हैं। पानी की हर एक कप संवय करने का प्रण कर रहे हैं। जल संरक्षण आज सिर्फ जिम्मेदारी ही नहीं बल्कि कर्तव्य भी है, ताकि धरती में जीवन का यह आधार हमेशा बना रहे। हमारी परंपरा में एक नदी केवल एक नदी नहीं है, वह स्वर्ग से उतरी हुई देवी है।

-लेखक कलेक्टर, रायगढ़ हैं।



Dainik Jagran- 30- May-2023

# हिमाचल से साझा जल बंटवारे पर चर्चा से जगी ज्यादा पानी मिलने की उम्मीद

राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: दिल्ली को हिमाचल से अतिरिक्त पानी मिलने की उम्मीद जगी है। हिमाचल प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सिंह सुक्खू के दिल्ली प्रवास पर मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल से साथ हुई मुलाकात में इस मामले में सहमति बनी है। इस दौरान दोनों नेताओं के बीच कई अन्य राज्यों के महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर भी चर्चा हुई।

यह मुलाकात ऐसे समय में हुई है, जब आम आदमी पार्टी और कांग्रेस के बीच संबंध अच्छे नहीं हैं। केंद्र सरकार के अध्यादेश के विरोध में केजरीवाल कांग्रेस के केंद्रीय नेतृत्व से समर्थन मांग रहे हैं, कांग्रेस ने अभी तक मिलने का समय नहीं दिया है और कांग्रेस इस मामले में कोई फैसला नहीं ले पा रही है, वहीं दूसरी तरफ ऐसे समय में हिमाचल और दिल्ली दोनों ने अपना हित देखते हुए रविवार शाम बैठक की है। इस मुलाकात में सुक्खू ने हिमाचल प्रदेश के कई महत्वपूर्ण विषयों को केजरीवाल के सामने रखा। इसके साथ ही मुख्यमंत्री सुक्खू ने उनसे समझौता ज्ञापन पर सहयोग भी मांगा।

जल और विद्युत परियोजनाओं पर हिमाचल प्रदेश और दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्रियों के बीच हुई बैठक में दिल्ली को पानी देने पर सहमति

हिमाचल के मुख्यमंत्री ने जिला ऊना में स्थापित होने वाले बल्क ड्रग पार्क के लिए भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबन्धन बोर्ड (बीबीएमबी) के सहयोग से विद्युत आपूर्ति पर चर्चा की। उन्होंने राष्ट्रीय महत्व की रेणुका और किशाऊ जल विद्युत परियोजनाओं के साझे जल बंटवारे के समझौते के बारे में भी चर्चा की। इस अहम बैठक में मुख्य सचिव प्रबोध सक्सेना और मुख्यमंत्री के प्रधान निजी सचिव विवेक भाटिया भी मौजूद थे। सोमवार को केजरीवाल ने ट्वीट कर कहा कि हिमाचल के मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सिंह सुक्खू से मिलकर खुशी हुई। हमने कुछ अच्छे फैसले लिए और वहां से इसे आगे बढ़ाएंगे। वहीं हिमाचल के मुख्यमंत्री सुक्खू ने कहा कि यमुना नदी के पानी के बंटवारे पर चर्चा हुई, जहां हम दिल्ली सरकार की मांगों पर सैद्धांतिक रूप से सहमत हुए

हैं। रेणुका और किशाऊ जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं के जल बंटवारा समझौते और राष्ट्रहित में उन्हें तेजी से पूरा करने पर भी चर्चा हुई है।

बता दें कि दिल्ली जल बोर्ड ने दिसंबर 2019 में हिमाचल प्रदेश से एक समझौता किया था। 21 दिसंबर 2019 को जल बोर्ड द्वारा जारी बयान में कहा गया था कि समझौते के तहत हिमाचल प्रदेश ताजेवाला बांध से दिल्ली को हर साल नवंबर से फरवरी के बीच 198 एमजीडी (368 क्यूसेक) व मार्च से जून के बीच 144 एमजीडी (268 क्यूसेक) अतिरिक्त पानी उपलब्ध कराएगा। समझौते के तुरंत बाद इस पर अमल होना था। बताया जा रहा है कि अतिरिक्त पानी के बदले जल बोर्ड द्वारा हिमाचल प्रदेश को 21 करोड़ भुगतान किया जाना था। इसके बाद हरियाणा ने अपर यमुना रिवर बोर्ड में शिकायत कर इस समझौते पर आपत्ति जाहिर की थी और सवाल उठाया था कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के पास अतिरिक्त पानी कहाँ है, जो दिल्ली को आपूर्ति करेगा? इसके बाद यह मामला ठंडे बस्ते में चला गया।