

The Times of India- 10- September-2023

Noida To Install CCTVs To Check Encroachments On Floodplain

Power Dept To Snap Connections To Illegal Units Built Along Hindon, Yamuna

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Noida: The Noida administration has decided to install CCTV cameras on the floodplains of the Yamuna and Hindon rivers to check encroachment.

District magistrate Manish Kumar Verma chaired a meeting with members of the Ganga committee on Friday and discussed steps to save the embankments of the rivers.

"We have to take steps to check encroachments along the rivers. As part of it, we will install CCTV cameras to keep an eye on the floodplains. There are some unauthorised industrial units in these areas. We have asked the power department to disconnect their supply," he said.

The floodplains have seen heavy construction – from farmhouses to small housing colonies built as extensions of villages. This July, thousands of houses built right on the Hindon's course were inundated as the river swelled because of heavy rain in the catchment area, underlining the extent of encroachments.



HINDON

After the waters subsided, the displaced people returned to the floodplains and resumed construction, pointing out that they had been tricked into buying plots along the rivers at cheaper rates. The Noida Authority demolished a few farmhouses on the Yamuna floodplains until the owners moved the Allahabad high court and secured a stay on the drive.

Petitions on encroachments along both rivers are being heard in the NGT and the high court. The NGT had in July ordered the Noida ad-

ministration to demarcate the floodplains afresh.

In Noida, the Hindon flows for 45.5km and passes through 28 villages before meeting the Yamuna at Momnathal in Sector 150. The Yamuna, which separates Noida from Haryana and Delhi, traverses nearly 80km of the district.

District forest officer (DFO) PK Srivastava said the project to install CCTV cameras would need time. "We will first have to identify the areas where the cameras could be installed. This will take time because there is no power connection



YAMUNA

on the floodplains. Without power, there is no point fixing the cameras," he added.

The irrigation department, Srivastava said, will soon carry out the demarcation exercise that the NGT had directed.

Akash Vashisht, a member of the Ganga committee, said though the floodplains were already encroached, the installation of cameras would ensure no new colonies came up in the area.

"People will know they are under watch. This will help us ensure the existing colonies are not extended," he told TOI.

District magistrate Verma also reviewed the work of the pollution committee and asked officials to take adequate measures before winter.

"Gautam Budh Nagar is an industrial hub and sees high traffic volume. We must take effective measures to prevent air pollution. The directions of NGT and Pollution Control Board should be ensured and wherever NGT rules are found to be violated, punitive action should be taken by imposing fine there," the administration said in a press note.

File photos

The Sunday Standard- 10- September-2023

REVIVING DYING CANALS

Chhattisgarh's strategic initiative on soil and water conservation has helped improve groundwater levels and ensured year-round water availability in the state, writes **Ejaz Kaiser**

+ve CHHATTISGARH

RENEWED focus on the role of forests in water conservation and management of streams has begun yielding promising results in Chhattisgarh. The state forest department pursuing a concept under the Narwa project, aimed at soil and water conservation that rejuvenated water channels, river drains and improved ground water table.

A singular Narwa concept on rejuvenation and augmentation of groundwater revived as many as 6,395 rivulets, culverts, water resources in forested areas of Chhattisgarh since mid-2019. The idea on Narwa, which focuses on reviving canals, is incorporated under Chhattisgarh's flagship programme—Narwa-Garwa-Guruwa-Baari laying emphasis on boosting rural economy.

The forest department emerged as a key performer to revive, revitalise and rejuvenate Narwa in jungle areas with Chhattisgarh Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) designated as the nodal branch to implement it.

Mechanism behind project

To implement Narwa project, the sites were selected with the help of GIS based data for treatment (attending) of drainage lines and watercourses.

The frontline forest personnel were offered expert training on mobile application, GIS-based surveys and monitoring of Natural Resource Management. Catchment Area Treatment plans were prepared with detailed study reports prepared by experts and technical team. A series of watershed drainage line structures was constructed to reduce run-off, prevent soil erosion and enhance the ground water level. Village communities were taken into confidence before the execution with interactive sessions.



Workers constructing canals under the project; (R) A rejuvenated rivulet | EXPRESS



Under the Narwa Development Programme, Chhattisgarh has succeeded in reviving 6,395 canals out of 8,000 canals across the forest areas. —Mohammed Akbar, State minister of forest and climate change

SUCCESS STORY

Chhattisgarh has an intricate ecological network of water bodies. However, owing to the degradation of forests, change in the pattern of land use, increased pressure on natural ecosystems, such networks of streams was discontinued. It resulted in speedy run-off of water through the streams, groundwater depletion, increased soil erosion and reduced productivity of land.

The revival of the networks through the Narwa project has safeguarded fertile productive top-soil of land, maintaining ground water level, ensuring streams remain perennial and cater to the essential needs of the ecosystem

and the communities throughout the year.

The projects under the CAMPA annual plan of operations have been implemented in all 41 territorial forest divisions, 2 national parks, 3 Tiger reserves and one Elephant reserve with little diverse required actions of the region. Besides improving quality of forest cover, the water availability provided irrigation facilities to local villagers.

"Under the Narwa Development Programme envisioned by CM Bhupesh Baghel, Chhattisgarh has succeeded in reviving 6,395 canals out of 8000 canals across the forest areas. The initiative led to a notable

rise of over 20 cm in the groundwater level of surrounding regions. Treated canals now provide year-round water for wildlife, local inhabitants, agriculture and fisheries", said Mohammed Akbar, state minister of Forest and Climate Change.

Since 2019 till July 2023, over 130 lakh groundwater augmentation structures have been constructed with an investment of ₹873 crore. The move gave sustainable means of income for the local community.

"Chhattisgarh has succeeded in finding a way out on restoring watercourses besides conservation and elevation of groundwater levels," said V Sreenivasa Rao, principal chief conservator of forests and Head of Forest Forces.

The Sunday Standard- 10- September-2023

TN to move CWRC as K'taka reduces Cauvery release

T MURUGANANDHAM @ Chennai

KARNATAKA government which was to honour the order of the Supreme Court by releasing 5,000 cusecs till September 12, reduced the release to around 3,000 cusecs during the past three days. On Saturday morning, Karnataka released 2,787 cusecs to Tamil Nadu from KRS and Kabini reservoirs. Objecting to this, the Tamil Nadu government will lodge a complaint with the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) which will hold a review meeting on September 12.

Official sources said depending on the orders of the committee, the state government will decide about bringing to the notice of the Supreme Court immediately the Karnataka government's failure to honour the SC verdict to release 5,000 cusecs per day till September 12. The SC had fixed the next hearing about the dispute to September 21.

However, political parties and farmers' associations have expressed their expectations that Tamil Nadu should immediately move the SC since the standing crops are starving. Meanwhile, in delta districts, the farmers are looking up to the sky for rain to save the standing Kuruvai crops.

The Joint Movement for Cauvery Basin Protection has decided to organise protests in

TN parties, farmers want state to move SC

Political parties and farmers' associations have expressed their expectations that Tamil Nadu should immediately move the SC since the standing crops are starving. Meanwhile, in delta districts, the farmers are looking up to the sky for rain to save the standing Kuruvai crops

eight delta districts on September 20 to put pressure on Karnataka to release water due to Tamil Nadu. Storage level in Mettur dam stood at 15.70 tmcft against the total capacity of 93.47 tmcft. Due to rains in catchment areas, the inflow into the dam stood at 6,479 cusecs and outflow at 6,502 cusecs Karnataka had already filed a review petition on September 2 seeking a reduction in quantity of water to be released from 5,000 cusecs to 3,000 cusecs.

However, Tamil Nadu had contested Karnataka's appeal saying the CWMA had already drastically reduced the quantum of water to be released and seeking further reduction would be unfair.

PMK founder S Ramadoss, in a statement here, said Karnataka had stopped releasing water despite SC's order to release 5,000 cusecs by September 12. Tamil Nadu should move the SC without waiting for September 21 to save the crops.



Navbharat Times- 10- September-2023

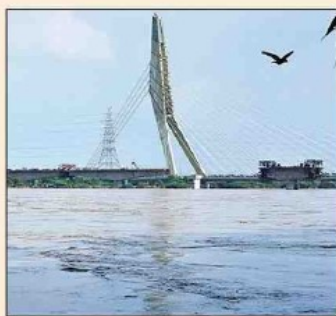
ओखला वेस्ट वॉटर प्लांट अक्टूबर तक होगा शुरू

यमुना में सीवर का पानी जाने से रोकने की कवायद

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यमुना में सीवर का गंदा पानी जाने से रोकने और पानी को ट्रीट करने के लिए ओखला, कोंडली और रिठाला में जो वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट बन रहे हैं, उनका काम लगभग पूरा हो चुका है। ओखला में बनने वाले वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट का काम अगले महीने तक पूरा हो जाएगा। अक्टूबर में ही इस प्लांट को चालू करने का प्लान है। रिठाला वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट का काम भी पूरा हो चुका है, लेकिन यह चालू नहीं है। कोंडली में बनने वाला वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट पूरी तरह से अब चालू हो चुका है।

22 ड्रेन की गंदगी सीधे यमुना में जाती है : जलबोर्ड अफसरों के अनुसार दिल्ली में कुल 22 ड्रेन ऐसे हैं, जिनका गंदा पानी सीधे यमुना में जाता है। इससे यमुना का पानी प्रदूषित हो रहा है। 22 ड्रेन में से कुछ ऐसे ड्रेन भी हैं जिनसे सबसे ज्यादा गंदा यमुना में जाता है। इनमें आईएसबीटी ड्रेन से रोजाना



करीब 35 एमएलडी, दिल्ली गेट ड्रेन से 90 एमएलडी, सेन नर्सिंग होम ड्रेन से 68 एमएलडी, बारापुला ड्रेन से 140 एमएलडी और शाहदरा ड्रेन से करीब 500 एमएलडी सीवेज वॉटर यमुना में जा रहा है। इन सभी ड्रेन को ट्रेप कर पानी ट्रीट करने के लिए ओखला, कोंडली और रिठाला में वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट बनाने का प्लान बनाया गया। तीनों प्लांट का काम लगभग पूरा हो चुका है। कोंडली में बनने वाला 45 एमजीडी का प्लांट फंक्शनल भी हो चुका है और करीब 20-22 एमजीडी पानी ट्रेप कर उसे ट्रीट भी किया जा रहा है।

रिठाला का प्लांट भी अगले महीने होगा चालू

रिठाला में 70 एमजीडी क्षमता का जो वेस्ट वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट बन रहा है, उसका काम भी पूरा हो चुका है। इस इलाके से जितने भी ड्रेन से यमुना में गंदा पानी जाता है, उसे ट्रेप भी कर दिया गया है। लेकिन, यह प्लांट अभी फंक्शनल नहीं हुआ है। अगले महीने तक फंक्शनल होगा और पानी को ट्रीट करना शुरू किया जाएगा। ओखला में सबसे अधिक 124 एमजीडी (786 एमएलडी) क्षमता का वेस्ट वॉटर प्लांट बनाया जा रहा है। प्लांट बनाने का काम अक्टूबर तक पूरा होगा। अक्टूबर में ही इस प्लांट को फंक्शनल करने का भी प्लान है। इस प्लांट के फंक्शनल होने के बाद साउथ और साउथ-ईस्ट जिले में स्थित जिस ड्रेन से सीवेज वॉटर यमुना में जाता है, उसे ट्रेप कर ट्रीट करना आसान हो जाएगा।