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Deccan Chronicles (Hyderabad)-09 October 2021

CM: AP GOVT MADE CENTRE ISSUE WATER GAZETTE

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 8

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao held the AP government responsible for the Centre issuing gazette in July taking over all irrigation projects on Krishna and Godavari rivers under its control.

Speaking in the Assembly on Friday, Rao said he had offered his cooperation and support to the AP government to resolve all water sharing disputes between both states through mutual talks but the AP government ignored it, took unilateral decisions on constructing new projects besides lodging series of complaints with the Centre and filing cases in courts against Telangana.

"These hasty and unilateral decisions of AP the government gave scope for the Centre to take over all our projects on Krishna and Godavari under its control," Rao said. However, he said, he was making all efforts to ensure that the implementation of Centre's gazette was postponed from October 14.

"I recently met Union Jal Shakti minister in Delhi twice and took up this issue. I sought postponement of the implementation of the gazette. I am waiting for a positive response. If not, I am ready to lead an all-party delegation to Delhi to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and request him to postpone the gazette," he stated.

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Hindustan Times-09 October 2021

Olympians, Paralympians proud to have auctioned gear for a cleaner Ganges

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For those who had been glued to the recent Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, it will be interesting to note that the precious gear of sportspersons that recently went under the hammer, has now got its right price! The e-auction of these prestigious equipments — which were presented by Olympians and Paralympians to Prime Minister Narendra Modi — ended recently, and gold medallist Neeraj Chopra's javelin received the highest bid of ₹1.5 crore!

Among the favourite picks in terms of the highest bid at the auction was the autographed fence of Bhavani Devi (₹1.25 crore), Sumit Antil's javelin (₹1.002 crore), an 'angavastra' autographed by the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic contingent (₹1 crore) and Lovlina Borgohain's boxing gloves (₹91 lakh).

The proceeds of this e-auction were pledged to Namami Gange Mission, for the conservation of river Ganga. And the sportspersons were delighted to be a part of this initiative.

Para badminton player Pramod Bhagat, 33, who won a gold medal in Tokyo Paralympics says, "For me, Ganga is a holy river, and if I can be a part of its cleaning, then it's a proud moment for me. That's why I gave up my racket with which I won the gold. Every player's equipment is very special to them, and that racket is special to me. The fact that my racket was destined to benefit the nation in so many ways is something I'm very happy about!"

And gold medallist, para javelin thrower Sumit Antil, who is now hailed as the boy with a golden leg, got emotional when he was asked about what his javelin meant to him. "My most favourite memory with my javelin is that I made new Paralympic records with it, back to back. Hum koi bhi equipment jab use karte hain, toh humare ghar pe pehle uski pooja hoti hai. And the fact that my javelin will be used to clean the Ganges is an honour for me. Koi bhi sportsperson ke liye desh ki seva se badh kar kuch nahin hota, uska favourite equipment bhi nahin. Our life is also dedicated to the nation," says the 23-year-old.



Neeraj Chopra's javelin received the highest bid of ₹1.5 crore
PHOTO: PTI



PV Sindhu's racket and bag received a bid of more than ₹80 lakh PHOTO: ANI



The bid for Pramod Bhagat's racket crossed ₹80 lakh PHOTOS: TWITTER



Hockey stick autographed by the Indian women's hockey team received a bid of around ₹80 lakh

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The Statesman-09 October 2021



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

A way to battle flood damage

SIR, This is with reference to your front page report "Mamata blames DVC, Jharkhand for West Bengal floods" (*The Statesman*, October, 2). Floods in West Bengal have become an annual ritual in every monsoon, and provoke blame games without any plan of corrective action. Providing relief never alleviates woes of affected people who cry for a permanent solution. It is

unfortunate that persons at the seat of power take a casual attitude to sufferings of victims and appear indifferent to execute action plans. It is now well known that the basic reason for floods is breaches in protective earthen river embankments and no attempt is ever made to make them breach-resistant against river forces. After "Aila" happened in 2009 in the State,

the Water Resources Wing of Civil Engineering department of IIT Kharagpur had developed, on a request from the State Government, a design of innovative, reinforced breach-resistant earthen river embankments and offered it to the then Government for construction of pilot project at vulnerable locations to test its efficacy. But regrettably there was no further response, either for discussion or for implementation. Since then, all endeavors in this regard have failed to awaken the government.

Unable to accept such apathetic attitude year after year, the IIT Alumni Association, Salt Lake Chapter sent a letter this year to Mr.

Bankim Hazra, Hon'ble Minister, Sunderban Development, Govt. of West Bengal, enclosing a number of relevant documents urging him to make necessary action to stop annual ritual of floods - by providing either IIT's offer of breach-resistant reinforced earthen embankments or any other alternative available method, to mitigate people's suffering and insecurity. There was no response.

As a last hope, we now appeal to the Chief Minister, through your paper, to take personal initiative to make the State free from floods by providing breach-resistant protective embankments at locations, based on either IIT's offered innovation or any other alternative. Incidentally, IIT's innovation is not only flood preventive

SPAM-HIT

SIR, Peace of mind is a luxury nowadays and the poorest of poor enjoy this luxury. The person who is away from modern gadgets always goes to bed contented and happy. Technology is great, it has made our life a little better than it was a decade ago but we have traded our peace of mind for that. Was there not enough cacophony that the spam calls have also added to it? Almost every service provider spams us with calls enough to get us fuming and annoyed. Even after blocking those numbers, I have no earthly idea how they come up everyday with a different number to spam. This is harassment and we have long been mute spectators. I think it is time we knock the law's doors.

Yours, etc., Noopur Baruah, Tezpur, 7 October.



but also has other multiple benefits like: a) Cost Effectiveness, for it is rural employment oriented, b) increasing water resources through prevention of rain-water loss through floods, c) reduction of pollution and d) siltation of rivers both by

stopping of land pollution and silt into the river through rain and flood water run off.

Yours, etc., Amal Biswas,
President, IIT Kharagpur
Alumni Association,
Salt Lake Chapter, Kolkata,
5 October.

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The Times of India-09 October 2021

