Telangana Today- 10- September-2021

KRMB urged to stop water diversion

AP diverting water through Pothireddypadu Head Regulator, says Telangana

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Telangana government requested the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to immediately stop water diversion through Pothireddypadu Head Regulator since it is in violation of KWDT-I Award. It also urged the board to take action against the AP government for diverting water.

In a letter to the KRMB Chairman, Telangana Engineer-in-Chief (General) Irrigation and Command Area Development department C Muralidhar said Srisailam project was conceived as an hydro-electric project and Planning Commission sanctioned it as an hydro-electric project only. KWDT-I has also considered it as hydro-electric project and allocated 33 TMC for evaporation losses without any diversion for irrigation, he said.

In Inter-State agreements of 1976 and 1977, all the three riparian States agreed to divert 15 TMC from Srisailam reservoir to Madras for drinking water supply, during July to October, to be conveyed through an open line channel from Srisailam to Penna designed to carry a discharge not exceeding 1500 cusecs. It was also stipulated that the system was utilized only for water supply to Chennai. In 1981, the Planning Commission gave clearance for Srisailam Right Bank Canal (SRBC) for a reallocation of 19 TMC (out of 811 TMC allocated to AP) to be diverted from Srisailam.

The Central Water Commission (CWC) while approving SRBC, stated that

The Srisailam project was conceived as an hydroelectric project.

the components of "the approach channel, head regulator, 16.34 km long main canal up to cross regulator at the tail end (including the cross regulator) are proposed to serve Madras city water supply also."

The report states "The total water requirements of 19 TMC earmarked for the project area to be drawn from Srisailam reservoir during flood period of Krishna river (July to October) and regulated into SRBC at Banakacherla regulator." Hence, the total water to be drawn from Srisailam reservoir is 34 TMC during flood period from July to October.

The capacities of Srisailam Right Main Canal (SRMC) and three regulators approved by the CWC are to discharge under flood flow conditions are Head Regulator from Srisailam Reservoir, cross regulator at the end of main canal to fill Gorakallu and Owk reservoirs of SRBC and a regulator on the left side of main canal upstream of cross regulator to feed the link channel which joins the Velugodu reservoir of Madras water supply.

In 1984, disregarding the Inter-State agreements, the CWC approvals and KWDT-I Award, AP increased the SRMC to 20,000 cusecs, as against originally designed capacity of 11,150 cusecs. It increased regulator capacity of link channel to Madras water supply to 11,150 cusecs and the regulator capacity of SRBC to 11,150 cusecs apart from introducing a new regulator called escape regulator with a capacity of 11,150 cusecs.

As per letter and spirit of the Inter-State agreements, Planning Commission approval and KWDT-I award, canal intended for the Madras water supply should not have any irrigation component. Contrary to this, erstwhile AP enhanced the capacity of the regulator.

The escape channel was, in fact, provided to supply water to KC Canal ayacut which is totally in contravention to the KWDT-I Award, Planning Commission approval and interstate agreements. The capacity of SRBC regulator was also enhanced to provide irrigation to more areas contrary to the KWDT-I Award and Planning Common approvals.

Further, before KWDT-II, TS was contesting the reallocation of return flows generated inside basin by utilisations in Telangana projects and savings of a project whose allocations are protected on the basis of historical use by the KWDT-I to SRBC project which serves entirely outside basin.

The flood flows should be drawn at +880 ft and above levels of Srisailam reservoir and not at lower levels. The required quantum of 1500 cusecs for Madras water supply and 750 cusecs for SRBC can be diverted at lower levels with a minimum draw level of +854 ft.

Hence, it is not entitled to draw this 2250 cusecs (1500+750cusecs) below +854 ft even during monsoon period flood flows. It was not intended that the levels have to be build up the Srisailam reservoirs to +854 ft to facilitate the drawls of 2250 cusecs.

Later, the SRMC further was increased to 44000 cusecs capacity in 2006, and now enhancing to 88,000 cusecs. Also, an additional regulator for Galeru Nagari Sujala Sravanthi (GNSS) with 22,000 cusecs at Banakacherla was constructed.

Keeping these in view, the Telangana government has urged the KRMB to allow AP to draw only 34 TMC of water during flood period through PRP Head Regulator and SRMC above +880 ft level.

Deccan Herald 10- September-2021

Porunai River Civilization dates back to 3,200 years

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Carbon dating analysis of rice with soil found in a burial urn in Sivakalai in southern Tamil Nadu during an archaeological excavation has revealed that they go back to 1155 BCE.

This means the Porunai River (Thamirabarani) civilisation in Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts of Tamil Nadu dates back to 3,200 years, much older, albeit for now, than the Vaigai River civilisation which is believed to be 2,600 years old.

The findings by Beta Analytical Lab in Florida, was announced by Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday in the Assembly. The latest finding has once again narrowed the gap between civilisations in the south and the Indus Valley Civilisation.

"It is the duty of this government to scientifically prove that the history of the Indian sub-continent is written from the Tamil landscape," Stalin said and added that a museum displaying artefacts will be set up. He said the government will carry out excavations in neighbouring states and countries to explore Tamil roots. Studies will be carried out in Pattanam in Kerala, with similar plans at Talakad in Karnataka, Vengi in Andhra Pradesh and Palur in Orissa.

The findings come amid discoveries from excavations in Sivagangai district.

Times of India- 10- September-2021

2-Yr Deadline To Revive Delhi's 22 Key Lakes, 200 Waterbodies

Jain Instructs Officials To Transform Landscape To Attract Global Tourists

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New Delhi: Satyendar Jain, Delhi water minister and Delhi Jal Board chairman, chaired a meeting on the revival and rejuvenation of water bodies in the city on Thursday and set a deadline of two years to revive 22 key lakes and 200 waterbodies in the capital. Jain said the different aspects of reviving each waterbody has been studied. The lakes are to be developed into landscaped tourist spots and will be fed year-round with water from existing or new sewage treatment plants.

"The lakes should have clean water throughout the year. It must be ensured that maximum groundwater is recharged through these waterbodies," Jain told the meeting. "Sludge and solid waste should be cleaned and the ecosystem rejuvenated. The lakes should be developed as public spaces with proper landscaping."

Jain added, "The landscaping should transform the sites in such a way that they attract attention and find a place on the maps of every tourist across the world."

RESTORING THE ECOSYSTEM

- **22 key lakes and 200 waterbodies will be revived** across Delhi over two years using recycled water
- **Landscaping to be done** for a number of waterbodies and lakes to make them attraction points for visitors
- **Sludge and solid waste to be removed** regularly so that the waterbodies remain clean
- **Additional recharge wells to be created** near these waterbodies and lakes to increase their water recharging capacity; nearby drains carrying clean rainwater to be linked to them
- **DJB currently working on 45 waterbodies**, expected to be completed by the end of this year

Artist's impression

Sewage water remediation and lake development at Rohini water treatment plant

22 LAKES BEING REJUVENATED

Pappankalan STP lake, Dwarka WTP lake, Nilothi STP lake, Najafgarh STP lake, Rohini STP lake, Iradat Nagar lake, Timarpur lake, Tikri Khurd lake, Sanjay Lake, Shahdara link drain lake, Sonia Vihar pond, Roshanara lake, Satpula lake, Bhalswa lake, Hauz Khas, Paschim Vihar, Tihar lake, Rajghat lake, Todapur lake, Smriti Van lake, Indira Jheel, Sanoth lake

To expedite work, Jain bifurcated the responsibilities between Delhi government's two engineering departments. In addition, DJB will ensure that the waterbodies receive recycled water throughout the year from STPs even as the irrigation & flood control department will work on the landscaping.

In the meeting, Jain also instructed the officials to create additional recharge wells near waterbodies and lakes to increase their water-recharging capacities. He further directed them to see that drains carrying clean rainwater were connected to nearby ponds and lakes.

Some of the key waterbodies among the 22 that are set to be rejuvenated include the Hauz Khas Lake, Sanjay Lake in east Delhi, Roshanara Lake, Bhalswa Lake, Timarpur Oxidation Lake and Rohini Lake, the last two having been designated as key projects by the DJB chairman.

"The rejuvenation of Timarpur Oxidation Lake and Rohini Lake are two of our most important projects. These lakes should be restored as per expectations and the officials should work hard to make the plan yield the planned results," said Jain. While the Timarpur waterbody is spread across 38 acres, the Rohini Lake occupies a space of 40 acres.

DJB is already working on reviving 45 waterbodies, and the work is expected to be completed by the end of the year. These ponds were largely dealing with the direct sewage inflow from nearby areas. Officials said that to tackle this problem, decentralised sewage treatment plants are being installed for site-specific treatment of wastewater.

Times of India- 10- September-2021

'Corpses didn't contaminate Ganga water'

Faryal Rumi | TNN

Patna: No trace of the novel coronavirus was found in water samples collected from the Ganga in some Bihar and Uttar Pradesh districts where bodies of suspected Covid-19 victims had washed ashore a few months ago, according to a multi-agency study anchored by the National Mission for Clean Ganga.

"Our teams collected samples in two phases from several districts of Bihar and UP and sent them to CSIR-IITR Lucknow. The report will be officially released in a couple of days. The main finding is that the water had not been contaminated by bodies supposedly infected with the virus," state pollution control board chairperson Ashok Ghosh said.

Indian Express- 10- September-2021

ARMY VETERANS RAISE GANGA REJUVENATION AWARENESS THROUGH 5,000-KM WALKATHON

New Delhi: A group of Army veterans has walked 5,530 km across the country in 190 days to raise awareness on rejuvenating the Ganga.

The Army veterans, under the banner of Atulya Ganga, have come up with a Ganga Health Dashboard for water quality, a plan to close 329 nullahs trickling into the river and a model defining Ganga as a legal entity, a statement said. In the course of their journey, from Gangotri to Ganga Sagar they came up with solutions after consultations with stakeholders.

Over the next five years, they will also conduct a mass communication drive with awareness talks along the river banks, tree plantation drives, involve local communities, work for the Nishad (fisherfolk) community and campaign to include Ganga rejuvenation in school syllabus, the statement said.

Atulya Ganga co-founder Manoj Keshwar argued for demarcating the land that can be called as Ganga river and its floodplains, and the need to rethink dams and barrages in view of flooding in the Himalayas. **ENS**

The Tribune- 10- September-2021

5 quality monitoring stations for Yamuna, Ghaggar soon

MUKESH TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PANIPAT, SEPTEMBER 8

To assess the pollution level in the Yamuna and Ghaggar, the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) has started setting up real-time water quality monitoring stations (RTWQMS).

The Centre Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had recently launched the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWQMP) and decided to install the real-time monitoring stations to assess the quality of the water bodies with the support of the state pollution boards.

Now, the HSPCB has decided to set up five such stations — three for the Yamuna in Yamunanagar, Panipat and Sonepat districts and two stations for the Ghaggar at Panchkula and Sirsa.

Sources said the HSPCB would observe several parameters, including pH, turbidity, conductivity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, dissolved ammonia, biochemical oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand, nitrates and chlorides in the river water online.

Two real-time water quality monitoring stations are being established for Ghaggar river in Panchkula. FILE PHOTO

TO BE INSTALLED BY DECEMBER-END

"The tendering process is under way and we are hoping that the stations will be installed by December-end. The approximate cost of each station will be over Rs 50 lakh. S Narayanan, MEMBER SECRETARY, HSPCB

The stations will be operational in a real-time mode and the central station will be able to access the data from any of these stations.

S Narayanan, Member Secretary, HSPCB, said they had started the work on the process to install the RTWQMS.

The board has decided to install RTWQMS on the basis of "3+2 formula" — three stations on the Yamuna and two on the Ghaggar.

The stations will help them to identify the places where the Yamuna and Ghaggar were more polluted and the contribution of the states to the pollution of the water bodies, he added.

Notably, the pollution level in the Yamuna has been a bone of contention between Delhi and Haryana. The Delhi Government has blamed Haryana for polluting the Yamuna several times.

"We will install five stations as a pilot project," said Narayanan.

"The places finalised for the installation of the RTWQMS are Majri Chowk in Panchkula, Ottu Weir in Sirsa, Tajewala on Hathnikund Barrage in Yamunagar, Yamuna Bridge in Panipat and the Eastern Peripheral Way on the Delhi border in Sonepat," he said. "Tendering process is underway and we are hoping that the stations will be installed by December-end," Narayanan said.

Though the final cost of the RTWQMS will be clear after the tender process, the approximate cost of each station will be over Rs 50 lakh, he said.

The Hans- 10- September-2021

TS shoots another missive to KRMB

Demands AP to stop illegal diversion of Srisailam water

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

WITH the return of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao to Hyderabad, the State Government has decided to continue its fight over utilisation of Krishna waters. The Irrigation department shot off another letter to KRMB (Krishna River Management Board) demanding to stop Andhra Pradesh from illegal diversion of water from Srisailam and allow only use of 34 tmc ft of water from Pothireddypadu Head Regulator.

It may be mentioned here that the Irrigation department had written more than a dozen letters to the KRMB against Andhra Pradesh on issues related to Krishan waters.

State Engineer – In-Chief C Muralidhar lodged a complaint with the board on unauthorised construction of Andhra projects - Pothireddypadu, SRMC (Srisailam Right Main Bank Canal), Banakacherla regulator (Srisailam Right Bank Canal SRBC), Escape Regulator and regulator for link channel. He said that the capacity of the SRBC regulator was enhanced to provide irrigation to more areas contrary to the KWDT-1 (Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal-1) award.

The letter said SRMC capacity was increased to 44,000 cusecs in 2006 and now enhanced to 88,000 cusecs. Also, an additional regulator for GNSS (Galeru Nagari Sujala Sravanti) with 22,000 cusecs at Banakacherla was constructed. All these projects were constructed disrespecting the inter-state agreements, CWC approvals and KWDT-1 award. Muralidhar reiterated that the Srisailam project was conceived as a hydro – electric project and the Planning Commission also approved.

Continued on Page 7

Continued from P1

The KWDT-1 had allocated 33 tmc ft for evaporation losses without any diversions from it for irrigation. He said, "Escape Regulator is a misnomer and it is actually intended for providing irrigation. The escape channel was, in fact, provided to supply water to the KC canal ayacut which is totally in contravention to the KWDT-1 award, the Planning Commission approval and interstate agreements." The Irrigation officials said that the TS government would continue the fight against the diversion of Krishna water by AP outside the basin until the board takes measures in accordance with the agreements.

The Hans- 10- September-2021

Centre submits report to NGT on Rayalaseema project

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

THE Central government on Wednesday submitted its report on the controversial Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme of Andhra Pradesh to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) Chennai.

The, Union Ministry of Environment and Forests in the report stated that it had stopped the works of the project now. It mentioned a report submitted by the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) on the project. It also told the tribunal about the permissions and clearances related to environment.

Meanwhile, AP government has urged the tribunal to conserve their arguments over the competency of the tribunal to take action regarding the alleged violations committed by it. The government sought time from the tribunal on the issue. The tribunal adjourned the matter to September16.

It may be noted here that the Telangana government had already submitted pictures and videos to the tribunal to prove that the works on the project were going on at the project site.

Millennium Post- 10- September-2021

'Water bodies to be revived, transformed into tourist spots'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Delhi Water Minister Satyendar Jain on Thursday said that water bodies, including lakes, in the city will be revived through sustainable methods and transformed into tourist spots.

The minister also directed officials to complete the work of revival and rejuvenation of 22 lakes and 200 water bodies in two years, according to an official statement.

Ecosystems around lakes will be rejuvenated using native plants species, Jain, who is also the chairperson of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB), said in a meeting to review water body and lake rejuvenation projects.

According to the statement, Jain said that lakes in Delhi will be transformed into tourist spots.

There should be no delay in work due to improper inter-departmental coordination. The lakes should remain filled with clean water throughout the year.

It should be ensured that maximum groundwater is recharged through these water bodies, he said.

The statement quoted the minister as also saying, The lakes should be developed as public spaces with proper landscaping.

He gave a deadline of two years to officials to complete revival and rejuvenation work of all 22 lakes and 200 water bodies.

Jain said that sludge and solid waste in lakes should be cleaned and the ecosystem should be rejuvenated.

The landscape of all the lakes including the rejuvenated ones should be worked upon. To achieve this, we will take the help of experts. The landscape of the lakes should be transformed in such a way that they become the centre of attraction for people and be on the maps of every tourist across the world, Jain said.

He also instructed officials to create additional recharge wells near water bodies and lakes to increase their water recharging capacity.

The minister directed that drains carrying clean rainwater should be connected to nearby water bodies and lakes.

According to the statement, the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) is working on 45 water bodies and is expected to complete its work by the end of this year.

The Statesman- 10- September-2021

Centre increases MSP for wheat by ₹40 per quintal

SNS & PTI
NEW DELHI, 8 SEPTEMBER

The government today hiked the minimum support price for wheat by Rs 40 to Rs 2,015 per quintal and for mustard seed by Rs 400 to Rs 5,050 per quintal for the current crop year in order to boost crop area as well as income of farmers.

The decision to increase the MSPs (minimum support prices) was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

MSP is the rate at which the government buys the grain from farmers. Currently, the government fixes MSPs for 23 crops grown in both kharif and rabi seasons.

Sowing of rabi (winter) crops begins from October immediately after the harvest of kharif (summer) crops. Wheat and mustard are major rabi crops.

According to an official release, the CCEA has approved increase in MSPs for six rabi crops for the 2021-22 crop year (July-June) and 2022-23 marketing season.

Wheat MSP has been increased by Rs 40 to Rs 2,015

per quintal for this crop year from Rs 1,975 per quintal in the 2020-21 crop year.

The cost of production of wheat is estimated at Rs 1,008 per quintal, the release said.

The government has procured a record of over 43 million tons of wheat during 2021-22 rabi marketing season, as per official data.

The support price of barley has been hiked by Rs 35 to Rs 1,635 per quintal for the 2021-22 crop year from Rs 1,600 per quintal in the previous year.

Among pulses, the MSP for gram has been increased by Rs 130 to Rs 5,230 per quintal from Rs 5,100 per quintal while that for lentil (masur) has been hiked by Rs 400 to Rs 5,500 per quintal from Rs 5,100 per quintal.

In the case of oilseeds, the government has increased the MSP for mustard seed by Rs 400 to Rs 5,050 per quintal for the 2021-22 crop year from Rs 4,650 per quintal in the previous year.

The MSP for safflower has been raised by Rs 114 to Rs 5,441 per quintal from Rs 5,327 per quintal.

"Government has increased the MSP of rabi crops for the 2022-23 rabi marketing season to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce," the release said.

The government said the increase in MSPs for of rabi crops for the 2022-23 marketing season is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSPs at a level of at least 1.5 times of the average cost of production, aiming a reasonably fair remuneration for farmers

"The expected returns to farmers over their cost of production are estimated to be highest in case of wheat and mustard seed (100 per cent each), followed by lentil (79 per cent), gram (74 per cent); barley (60 per cent) and safflower (50 per cent)," it added.

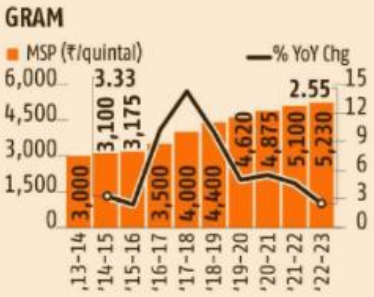
Business Standard 10-September-2021

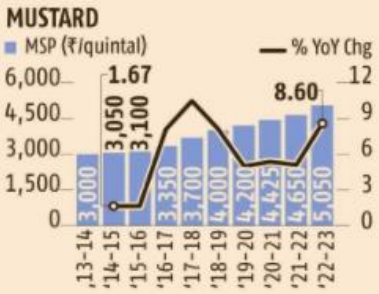
MSP HIKES NEED TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY HIGHER YIELDS: EXPERTS

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of rabi crops for the 2022-23 marketing season, which will start from April, was announced on Wednesday. The maximum rise was reserved for oilseeds and pulses, while the least increase was for cereals, in this case wheat. But some experts feel that just increasing the MSP without a rise in yields and without a big rise in procurement doesn't serve the purpose. "Increasing MSP is good but it has its own limitations as beyond a point it will start pinching the consumers. Therefore, MSP hikes need to be supplemented by rising yields which can happen through better seeds and better farming practices," said Bimal Kothari, vice-chairman of Indian Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA). Meanwhile, in the Rabi 2022-23 report, the CACP — which recommends the price — said the cost of production data for crops comes with a two-year lag, which makes projections difficult. Business Standard looks at the MSP hikes of main rabi crops in the last 10 years and their percentage rise compared to previous years.

COMPILED BY SANJEEB MUKHERJEE

DECADAL TREND IN MSP





Data is for crop marketing years

Sources: Ministry of Agriculture and trade Sources

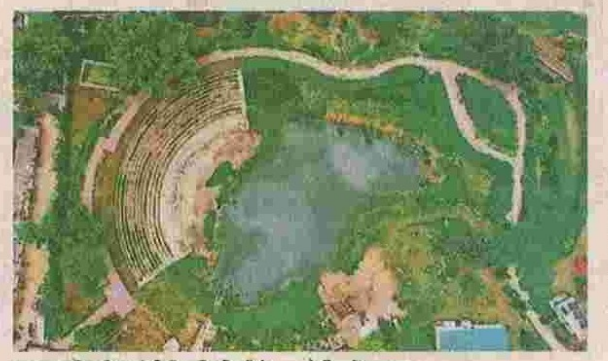
Dainik Jagran- 10- September-2021

सभी झीलें बनेंगी पर्यटन स्थल

जल मंत्री ने अधिकारियों के साथ की समीक्षा, दो वर्ष में काम पूरा करने का निर्देश

राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : जल मंत्री एवं दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष सत्येंद्र जैन ने कहा है कि दिल्ली सरकार राजधानी में मौजूद सभी 22 झीलों को पर्यटन स्थल के रूप में विकसित करेगी। वह बृहस्पतिवार को विभाग के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के साथ बैठक कर रहे थे। इस दौरान उन्होंने दिल्ली में बन रहे जलाशयों और झीलों के पुनर्विकास से संबंधित सभी परियोजनाओं की समीक्षा की। उन्होंने अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिए कि झीलों और दो सौ जल निकायों के पुनर्निर्माण का काम दो वर्ष में पूरा किया जाए। इनमें से 45 जल निकायों के पुनर्निर्माण का कार्य इस वर्ष के अंत तक हर हाल में पूरा हो जाना चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा कि यह सुनिश्चित किया जाना चाहिए कि इन जल निकायों के माध्यम से अधिकतम



इस तरह विकसित होंगी दिल्ली की झीलें ● सौ.दिल्ली सरकार

भूजल पुनर्भरण हो। इसके लिए झीलों के आसपास कुएं बनाए जाएं। बरसाती नालों को आसपास के जलाशयों और झीलों से जोड़ा जाए ताकि बारिश का पानी उनमें भर सके। उन्होंने कहा कि जल निकायों के पुनर्निर्माण के काम में कई तरह की बाधा है। कई जल निकायों के आसपास सीवेज गिरता था। इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए डिसेंट्रलाइज्ड सीवेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट (डी-एसटीपी) बनाए गए हैं। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड शोधित पानी का उपयोग करके सभी झीलों और हरित क्षेत्रों का कायाकल्प कर रहा है। जैन ने कहा कि निर्माण कार्य में तेजी लाने के लिए दिल्ली सरकार के दो इंजीनियरिंग विभागों के बीच जिम्मेदारियों को विभाजित किया गया है। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड यह सुनिश्चित करेगा कि सभी झीलें और जल निकाय एसटीपी से शोधित किए गए पानी से पूरे साल भरे रहें। वहीं, सिंचाई और बाढ़ नियंत्रण विभाग भू-निर्माण और लोगों के लिए सार्वजनिक स्थान बनाने पर काम करेगा।

उन्होंने कहा कि तिमारपुर आक्सीडेशन झील और रोहिणी झील का कायाकल्प दो महत्वपूर्ण परियोजनाओं में से हैं। इन झीलों को उम्मीदों के अनुरूप रूपांतरित किया जाना चाहिए। तिमारपुर झील 38 एकड़ में और रोहिणी झील 40 एकड़ में फैली हुई है। इसके अलावा नालों के प्रबंधन के लिए भी कार्ययोजना बनाने को कहा गया है।