

I/73818/2021

Hindustan Times- 12- October-2021

# 83mn rural houses getting piped water under Centre scheme: Data

**Zia Haq**

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**NEW DELHI:** A little over 83 million rural households, or 43% of the country's 192 million rural households, now have access to piped drinking water connections under the flagship Jal Jeevan Mission but some large states with poor health outcomes have been slow to expand coverage, official data shows.

A marquee programme of the Modi government, the Jal Jeevan Mission, launched in 2019, aims to connect every rural household with a tapped water facility by 2024.

Access to clean water is one of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs.

Six states and Union territo-

**SIX STATES AND UTs HAVE COME OUT ON TOP WITH 100% COVERAGE SO FAR, THE DATA SHOWED**

ries have come out on top with 100% coverage so far, the data show. These are Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra And Nagar Haveli, Goa, Telangana, Puducherry and Haryana. Haryana is the latest state to achieve the target ahead of schedule.

Although the mission's deadline is over two years away, some large states have been able to cover less than a quarter of total rural households, the data show.

Among them is Uttar Pradesh, which has covered only 12.74%

of its 26.4 million rural households so far.

The state has drawn up a largescale engineering project to extend tap water connections in Bundelkhand, one of the driest parts of the country.

In terms of overall households covered, Uttar Pradesh has been the slowest in implementing the programme.

The state is key to improving India's overall health parameters, especially among children, because it is the country's most populous state.

The Bundelkhand leg of the Jal Jeevan Mission comprises 467 piped drinking water schemes under 32 projects. Of these, 43 are surface water-based schemes and 424 are ground water-based.

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Telangana Today- 12- October-2021

# GRMB proposes to supervise Pedda Vagu

Says officials of TS, AP will continue to handle operations in their jurisdictions

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

With the gazette notification on projects' control issued by the Union Jal Shakti Ministry coming into force on October 14, the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) has proposed to supervise the operations of Pedda Vagu project on Godavari on a pilot basis.

The Telangana State government has already requested the Centre to postpone implementation of the gazette notification, and the irrigation officials have made it clear that they would take necessary action only after consulting the State government.

## Overall operations

The GRMB meeting chaired by its chairman J Chandrashekhar Iyer at Jala Soudha here on Monday said the officials of both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh would continue to handle the operations in their respective jurisdictions, while the Board would only monitor the overall operations.

**It is not possible to hand over all the projects on Godavari to the Board as requested by AP. There are issues related to the projects which must be addressed before taking further steps**

— Rajat Kumar, TS Principal Secretary for Irrigation

Officials of both the States have asked the Board to give clarity on the seed money to be deposited for expenditure towards the irrigation projects on Godavari.

Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Telangana Principal Secretary for Irrigation Rajat Kumar said the gazette notification does not mention the Centre taking over the irrigation projects and the river management boards are restricted to monitoring the operations. He stated that the irrigation projects would go under the purview of the Board only if the State government hands them over and a decision on handing over Pedda Vagu project will be taken after consulting the State government.

About 2,000 acres of aya-

cut in Telangana and 13,000 acres of ayacut in Andhra Pradesh are under the purview of Pedda Vagu project. "It is not possible to hand over all the projects on Godavari river to the Board as requested by the Andhra Pradesh government. There are many issues related to the projects which must be addressed before taking further steps. Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao has already urged the Centre to give more time in this regard. Only the Pedda Vagu project will be brought under the purview of the GRMB after getting the State government's approval," Rajat Kumar said.

Not surprisingly, the Andhra Pradesh government continued with the double standards by de-

manding that the Board take over all the irrigation projects of Telangana on Godavari River under its purview. They also wanted the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to take over all the joint irrigation projects on Krishna River including Jurala project as well as the pump houses generating power at Srisailem project, under its purview.

## Rubbishing arguments

However, the Andhra Pradesh government officials rejected Telangana's demand to hand over Siler Hydel Power project to the Board.

Further, Telangana government rubbished the arguments of Andhra Pradesh that it was diverting Godavari River water to fill its tanks and other water bodies during the lean period denying drinking water to Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh authorities also alleged that Telangana was releasing water from Srisailem project in the name of hydel power generation.

Deccan Chronicle- 12- October-2021

# Centre may delay takeover of water projects in TS, AP

**L. VENKAT RAM REDDY I  
DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 11

The implementation of the Centre's gazette from October 14 taking over all irrigation projects on the Krishna and the Godavari hangs in the balance as no consensus could be reached between the Centre, Telangana and AP governments though the deadline is just two days away. Speculation is rife in official circles that the Centre may postpone the implementation of gazette by a few more weeks.

The Centre is making last-ditch efforts to convince the Telangana and the Andhra Pradesh governments to hand over the projects by holding full-fledged meetings of the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) and Krishna River Management Board (KRMB).

On Monday, the Centre convened a GRMB meeting with senior irrigation officials of both states to discuss taking over Godavari projects. The KRMB meeting will be held on Tuesday. The Centre urged both the states to deposit

seed money of ₹200 crore each to the KRMB and the GRMB to enable boards to meet operational costs.

However, the TS government is pinning its hopes on the Centre postponing the implementation of the Gazette from October 14 following the request made by Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao during his recent Delhi visit when he met union jal shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat twice and sought postponement.

■ Page 5: TS opposes Centre's takeover bid



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Times of India- 12- October-2021

# Sabarmati turns red then dead

## 15-Yr Study Tracks Water Quality

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Ahmedabad: The Sabarmati has been suffering silently but scientists recently have found ways of measuring the agonies it is enduring. One method was to map the water quality index (WQI). Can the river support life? How good or safe is the river water for human use? A 15-year study, from 2005, recorded the WQI of the Sabarmati deteriorating severely all along its length. If 0 was the best number and 1 the worst on the WQI, then the Sabarmati's score in its final leg after it passed through Ahmedabad and before it met the Arabian Sea varied between 0.45 and 0.7.

The study was conducted by a team of researchers from International Water Association (IWA). A team consisting of Anant Patel and Karishma Chitnis measured water para-



meters at Dharoi dam, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad, and Rasikapur.

"At Rasikapur location, which is in the downstream of Sabarmati river, the WQI value ranged between 0.45 to 0.7, which showed the effect of industrial effluent discharge on final river water quality," the paper states. "Whereas at upstream points such as the Dharoi dam, the WQI ranged from 0.3 to 0.5, which is an indication of less pollution load on the river compared to downstream."

The Sabarmati flows from Aravalli hill ranges in Rajasthan and meanders across 371km — 48km in Rajasthan and the remaining 323km in Gujarat. At its 51km stage, the river combines with Wakal bank on the left. At the 67km mark, it merges with Sei stream on the right bank and with Harnav at 103km on the left

bank. Wakal, Sei, Harnav, Hathmati, and Watrak are small tributaries of the Sabarmati in Gujarat.

But to understand the degradation of the river, a team of geographic information system (GIS) experts from three universities examined LANDSAT satellite images from the US Geological Survey to measure the turbidity levels of the Sabarmati, which runs through the heart of Ahmedabad.

The study was published in October last year. Turbidity is a way to gauge water's cloudiness. The experts found that pollution levels dropped by

re than 36% in the April-May period last year. Turbidity levels had gone up as high as 19.39 milligram per litre (mg/l) by February that year. In May, they dropped to just 5 mg/l. The river stretch near Sardar Patel Bridge had the highest amount of metal contamination when compared to upstream, suggesting high anthropogenic activities, the research paper said. 'Anthropogenic' denotes origin in human activities. The paper was carried in the reputable journal of Remote Sensing Applications: Society and Environment published by Elsevier.

"We noticed that the average suspended particulate matter (SPM) in Sabarmati river water has significantly decreased by about 36.48% when compared with the pre-lockdown period," the paper had said. "And a drop of 16.79% was observed from the previous year's average SPM."

The authors of the paper were Mohammad Adil Aman of the department of remote sensing and GIS applications at Aligarh Muslim University; Mohammed Salman of the department of geography at Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi; and Ali Yunus of National Institute for Environmental Studies, Tsukuba, Japan.

### TRAGIC FLOW

36% during the lockdown. Maps were acquired for a five-year period: 2015 to 2020. The maps clearly show that the river stretch within the city normally appears deep yellow, red, and green: the signs of heavy pollution. The river turned blue, reflecting the hue of resurrection, during the corona closure.

The LANDSAT maps contained colour coded reflectance data. They showed turbidity levels, which result from industrial and domestic sewage discharges, improving by mo-

**RIVER SUTRA**  
SAVE SABARMATI  
A TIMES OF INDIA ENDEAVOUR

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The Hindu- 12- October-2021

# GRMB to begin management of projects with Peddavagu

Telugu States not keen on handing over projects to River Board, say officials

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

A meeting of the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) on implementation of the board purview, scheduled from October 14 as per a gazette notification issued by the Ministry of Jal Shakti on July 15, was held here on Monday to collect the information about the Godavari Basin projects in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

However, the two States stuck to their stand taken already – AP insisting on all projects in the Basin in Telangana to be brought under the board purview, while Telangana opposing it on the ground that there is no need to hand over the management of projects which have clear water allocation. At the same time, they were unwilling to give up the management of some projects in the Basin on the pretext that



Godavari flood water released from Sriram Sagar Project in Nizamabad district during recent heavy rains. •K.V.RAMANA

they were utilising water going waste into the sea.

The Telangana authorities led by Special Chief Secretary Rajat Kumar attended the meeting and suggested that river board to take up the management of only Peddavagu medium irrigation project on experimental basis to begin with. The project constructed across Ped-

davagu, a tributary of Godavari, near Aswaraopet in Bhadrachalam-Kothagudem district, has over 2,000 acres ayacut in Telangana and over 13,000 acres in A.P.

It is stated that the board authorities too have decided to focus to make a start by taking up the management of Peddavagu project to begin with.

Telangana authorities were understood to be of the view that the success of the Peddavagu management by the river board could encourage the member States give their nod to a few more projects.

On the other hand, the authorities have also brought to the board's notice that Chief Minister K. Chandrabab Naidu had already taken up the issue of postponing the implementation of purview with the Centre and they were hopeful of a positive response.

The meeting was chaired by GRMB Chairman J. Chandrabab Naidu and was attended by officials of Telangana and A.P. as also those of the river board. The board authorities have also asked the two States to submit the DPRs of other projects mentioned in the schedules at the earliest.



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The Telegraph- 12- October-2021

## Recent crisis sheds light on treatment process

# How water reaches your homes

**SUBHAJOY ROY**

**Calcutta:** Over the past few days, several households in the city received less than usual water.

This happened because the water treatment plants of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation (CMC) were forced to cut down on their production because of excess sludge in the Hooghly water. More sludge meant more time for treatment and the production was hit.

During the water crisis, **Metro** tried to find out how water from the Hooghly makes it to the tap in our homes.

### Intake of raw water

The raw water of the Hooghly is pumped up from the river and taken into the five water treatment plants of the CMC — Palta, Dhapa, Garden Reach, Watgunge and Jorabagan. While some plants like the one at Palta is located right near the river bank, some like the one at Dhapa is located far away where the water reaches through underground pipes.

### The settling tank

The first stage in the treatment process is to put the raw water into a settling tank. The impurities that are of bigger size settle down at the bottom of the tank.

"The cleaner water in the upper part of the tank crosses over a wall and enters into another container," said an engineer of the CMC's water supply department. The wall, called baffle wall, is kept in the tank with the purpose that only the clean water from above goes to the next stage after breaching the top of the

wall. The water at the bottom remains within the enclosed area and is taken out later.

### Clariflocculation

This second stage of treatment helps to separate the impurities in water that may have escaped the settling tank.

In this stage coagulants like alum are added to the water. The water is run through a clariflocculator, a mechanical unit where remaining finer particles come together to form flocs. In the process, they become heavy and drop below.

The clean water from above is now sent to a filter bed, the next stage of treatment.

### The filter bed

The water, which now consists of even fewer solid particles, is passed through a filter bed consisting of gravels and sand. "After passing these three stages, the water is clean enough for drinking," said a CMC engineer.

The water is collected in a storage tank for distribution.

### Chlorination

In this stage, chlorine is mixed with the water as it kills harmful microbes that may be present in the water. A CMC engineer said chlorine was added to the water near the point where it entered the distribution pipes.

### Distribution

The main lines from the treatment plants take the water to booster pumping stations located across the city. In booster stations, the water is given an extra thrust by using pumps so that it reaches the farthest house under its area.

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The Pioneer- 12- October-2021

## भारत जल की अनूठी पहल : वाटर ऑन व्हील्स

**पायनियर समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली**

सब तक स्वच्छ जल की पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में कार्यरत टेक फर्म भारत जल ने वाटर फिल्टरेशन प्लांट का नेटवर्क तैयार करने और सभी वाटर एटीएम को ई-कार्ड्स से जोड़ने के लिए नई पहल की है। इस महीने शुरू हो रही पहल के तहत दिल्ली में कुतुबमीनार, बदरपुर बार्डर, तुगलकाबाद, अपोलो अस्पताल लाजपत नगर मार्केट, छतरपुर मेट्रो स्टेशन आदि 35 से ज्यादा प्राइम लोकेशन पर ये ई-कार्ड स्थापित किए जाएंगे। पीने के साफ पानी के अलावा वाटर एटीएम से 10 रुपये में नींबू पानी भी मिलेगा। पीने का पानी तीन रुपये में 250 मिली और 10 रुपये में एक लीटर मिलेगा।

एक हालिया अध्ययन के मुताबिक, 70 प्रतिशत भारतीयों तक

साफ पीने का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं है। 42 प्रतिशत लोगों को पीने के पानी के लिए रोजाना 500 मीटर तक की दूरी तय करनी पड़ती है। स्वच्छ पीने योग्य पानी की उपलब्धता को दोगुना करने और कहीं आने-जाने वालों को किफायती दर पर पानी उपलब्ध कराने के साथ-साथ रोजगार के अवसर सृजित करने के लक्ष्य के साथ भारत जल ने अपनी पहल शुरू की है। दिल्ली नगर निगम से लाइसेंस प्राप्त कर भारत जल ने वाटर फिल्टरेशन प्लांट का बड़ा नेटवर्क तैयार किया है और वाटर एटीएम को ई-कार्ड से जोड़ा है। ये ई-कार्ड जरूरत वाले इलाकों में जाकर न्यूनतम कीमत पर पानी उपलब्ध कराते हैं। टेक्नोलॉजी के जरिये यह सुनिश्चित किया जाता है कि इनमें किसी तरह की छेड़खानी न हो और ग्राहकों को साफ पानी मिले।

आत्म-निर्भरता और मेक इन इंडिया की पहल पर केंद्रित भारत जल एक घरेलू कंपनी है, जो देश को स्वस्थ और बेहतर बनाने की दिशा में प्रयासरत है। इस पहल के जरिये दो से पांच साल के भीतर 10 हजार रोजगार के अवसर सृजित होंगे। फिरोज मोहन मलिक ने कहा, भारत जल 75 प्रतिशत कम कीमत पर भारतीयों को साफ पानी उपलब्ध कराने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। हमने अब तक 45 लाख लोगों को स्वच्छ जल मुहैया कराया है और पूरे देश में इसे विस्तार देने की दिशा में काम कर रहे हैं। हमने पानी जैसी आवश्यक आवश्यकता तक सभी की पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने का लक्ष्य रखा है। इसी के साथ हम जल्द ही चाय, कॉफी और सूप जैसे पेय पदार्थ भी कम कीमत पर उपलब्ध कराएंगे। इससे ऑफिस आने-जाने वाले लाखों लोगों को सहूलियत मिलेगी।