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भारत सरकार जल शक्ति मंत्रालय जल संसाधन नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग केंद्रीय जल आयोग जल प्रणाली अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय



Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Dept. of Water Resources, RD&GR
Central Water Commission
Water System Engineering Directorate

दिनांक: 18.10. 2019

विषय - समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग का प्रस्तुतीकरण।

जल संसाधन विकास और संबद्घ विषयों से संबंधित समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग को केंद्रीय जल आयोग के अध्यक्ष और सदस्य (कार्य योजना एवं परियोजना /अभिकल्प एवं अनुसंधान / नदी प्रबंध) के अवलोकन के लिए संलग्न किया गया है। इन समाचारों की कटिंग की सॉफ्ट कॉपी केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट पर भी अपलोड की जाएगी।

वरिष्ठ कलाकार

जल प्रणाली अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय

संलग्नकः उपरोक्त

उप निदेशक, (ज. प्र. आ.) निदे०

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जानकारी हेतु - सभी संबंधित केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट <u>www.ewc.gov.in</u> पर देखें।

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The secondary monsoon

There is little understanding of the behaviour

india's most torrential monsoon in a quarter century officially ended on Wednesday. This has been the most delayed withdrawal of the monsoon since 1961 but both the quantity and the timing have had no effect on the onset of the northeast monsoon, which officially commenced on Thursday. The NE monsoon rains contribute about 20% of India's annual rainfall and span October-December. While the southwest monsoon has been obsessively studied for centuries and there are well established correlations - for instance, temperatures in the Central Pacific, or land surface air temperature in north-western Europe – between them as well as the quantity and distribution of monsoon rainfall, no such determining parameters exist for the NE monsoon. At best, meteorologists have now progressed to giving a broad outlook of how the rains could pan out over the next few months. This year, however, is particularly significant. Monsoon rains in south India have been 15% above normal. In Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, where the Central Water Commission monitors over 30 reservoirs, their water levels were 44.2 billion cubic metres, or 84% of their total live capacity, and much higher than the 10year average of 66%. This means that excessive rains in the coming months could contribute to the saga of urban inundation.

Among the signatures of global warming is intense rainfall being concentrated over short spells and pockets and long periods of drought. The El Niño phenomenon, which has been linked to the abnormal warming of the equatorial waters off the central and eastern Pacific, has been connected with the failure of the southwest monsoon. However, researchers over the years have noted that this had an opposite effect on the NE monsoon leading to more voluminous showers in the winter and particularly over South India. This summer, the IMD, along with other meteorological agencies around the world, bet that monsoon rains would be on the lower side due to the possible emergence of an El Niño. Even after the threat of El Niño had waned, it didn't indicate that rains would be torrential in August and September. Conditions in the Indian Ocean turned favourable and led to the excessive monsoon activity this year. This shows that there is a paucity in understanding the behaviour of the Indian Ocean and its influence on the monsoons. India is moving to a system where dynamical models that run on powerful computers will become the mainstay of monsoon forecasting. However these too are heavily reliant on the behaviour of the Pacific Ocean and El Niño-related swings. India needs to step up research to improve the performance of these models. With climate change set to inescapably alter the ocean temperatures around the Indian neighbourhood, giving more importance to understanding the vagaries of the NE monsoon ought to be among India's key prongs to adapting to climate change.

THE STATES MAN-18-10-2019

THE PAST MONSOON

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During the monsoon period proper, from June to September, the rainfall over India and Burma as a whole was five per cent in excess of the normal. An unusual feature of the past monsoon was the small number of areas having large defects or excesses of rainfall. Only two regions departed by more than twenty per cent from the normal, namely, Central India with an excess of 37 per cent, and Sind with a defect of 31 per cent. The only regions in which the rainfall was at all in defect were Madras, Assam, the North-West Frontier Province, Hyderabad and Sind. In the first three of these the defect was less than 10 per cent, while the defect in Hyderabad was 17 per

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K WARNS INDIA ON 'DIVERTING

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan said that any attempt to divert the flow of rivers covered under the Indus Water Treaty by India would be considered an act of aggerssion and reserves the right to respond. While addressing a weekly press briefing on Thursday, Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Dr Mohammad Faisal was asked a question regarding Indian PM Narendra Modi's recent remarks to stop water flowing to Pakistan. The FO spokesperson said that Pakistan had "exclusive rights" over the waters of three Western rivers under the Indus Water Treaty. "Any attempt by India to divert the flows of these rivers will be considered an act of aggression and Pakistan has the right to respond." He said: "...the present government of India is bent upon making India an irresponsible, aggressive state that has no regard for human rights or international obligations."

INDIAN EXPRESS. 18.10.2019

Bid to divert water flow would be seen as act of aggression: Pak

Islamabad: Pakistan said on Thursday that it has "exclusive rights" over three Western rivers and any attempt by India to divert the flow of these rivers would be considered an "act of aggression".

Foreign Office spokesperson Mohammad Faisal made the remarks during his weekly media briefing here in response to a question regarding PM Narendra Modi's recent remarks to stop water flowing to Pakistan.

Faisal said that Pakistan had "exclusive rights" over the waters of three Western rivers under the Indus Water Treaty. "Any attempt by India to divert the flows of these rivers will be considered an act of aggression and Pakistan has the right to respond," he said.

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Water needs trans-disciplinary governance

t is inadequately recognised that water is India's most important sector in the infrastructure space. Even less understood is that water is the most unreformed of them all. Absence of reforms could not only jeopardise lives and livelihoods of millions but also seriously undermine India's growth. Ever since independence, water governance has suffered from hydro-schizophrenia: Where the left hand of drinking water does not know what the right hand of irrigation is doing and the right toe of surface water does not know what the left foot of groundwater is up to!

There are countless instances where a source of drinking water has run dry because farmers started

using the same aquifer to irrigate water-intensive crops. Rivers are increasingly drying up because of over-exploitation of groundwater, which supplies inflows into the river after the monsoon is over. River flow and quality also suffer because of destruction of catchment areas. And floods have become more frequent because natural drainage lines for excess water are blocked or encroached upon.

Each of these water challenges can be traced to the way we have divided water into silos and the complete absence of any meaningful dialogue across divisions impacting water. They also arise because we

have not understood that water is multi-dimensional and, therefore, demands trans-disciplinarity in governance. The two apex water organisations are the Central Water Commission (CWC), responsible for surface water and the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), dealing in groundwater, with analogous arrangements in each state. Not only have these organisations functioned unreformed since inception, they have also worked largely independently of, and often at cross-purposes with, each other.

Tragically, although groundwater now provides more than two-thirds of India's water, the more it has grown in significance, the weaker groundwater departments have become at the Centre and in the states. What is worse, surface water is handled mainly by civil engineers and groundwater by hydrogeologists, completely overlooking the fact that effective management of water requires professionals from many other disciplines. Despite India's avowed commitment to rejuvenating its rivers, revered by the people of this country, we have never had a single river ecologist or ecological economist in any department handling water anywhere in India. Despite the overwhelming fact that agriculture takes up most of India's water, monopolised by water-guzzling rice, wheat and sugarcane, we have not ever had even one agronomist within the water bureaucracy. While it is abundantly clear that the best work in water has happened wherever communities have been mobilised, whether in groundwater management or command area development, water departments have never included

social mobilisers. Nor have governments built institutionalised partnerships with those outside government, who could provide them the necessary intellectual and social capital, be they civil society, academia or corporate India.

It is with these considerations in mind that the Government of India committee for restructuring the CWC and CGWB, which I chaired in 2015-16, suggested a radically new architecture of water governance in India. We proposed that the CWC and CGWB be merged and their capacities greatly expanded to form a brand new National Water Commission (NWC). Such an NWC would enable: One, tran-

scending hydro-schizophrenia; two, bringing transdisciplinarity into water governance; and three, building a novel architecture of enduring partnerships with key stakeholders outside government, that would withstand the passing whims and fancies of changing bureaucrats and politicians. The report was very well received within government and outside, with the Ministry of Water Resources, Niti Aayog and the Prime Minister's Office all giving it strong endorsement. India's leading social science journal Economic & Political Weekly devoted an entire issue to an exhaustive and critical discussion of the report. However, concrete action on the report by government is still awaited.

The formation of the Jal Shakti ministry is an important first step in the direction of overcoming hydro-schizophrenia, bringing together the irrigation and drinking water departments within one ministry.

Now the two departments need to work in close coordination with each other. The real test will come when the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission begins to roll out on the ground. The only way the people of India can be assured safe and secure drinking water is if we are able to maintain source sustainability, in terms of both quantity and quality. Most of this water will be supplied from aquifers, which are also used for irrigation. Without the irrigation and drinking water departments working closely together, source sustainability cannot be assured. And without participatory management, these aquifers will simply run out of groundwater, whose quality will also deteriorate. This will require both strengthening of the rapidly evaporating groundwater departments throughout the country and also the closest possible involvement of primary stakeholders in the stewardship of groundwater.

If the Jal Jeevan Mission has to stand any chance of success, governments all over the country will need to build strong partnerships with civil society organisations, as well as the best scientific resources available in universities and academia. The humongous task of aquifer mapping and management, a pre-requisite for the success of the Mission, cannot be accomplished by government alone. Farmers, most critically, will need to be centrally involved. Once they understand the nature of the aquifers underlying their farms, they will be better placed to make informed decisions about their cropping patterns and water use. But the most important change in water governance will need to occur in the crop procurement policies of the Government of India. Unless we provide farmers a steady market for low water-consuming, locally appropriate millets, pulses and oilseeds by including them in the mid-day meal and Anganwadi programmes, the aquifers of the Jal Jeevan Mission will continue to be over-exploited and water security will remain a distant dream for the people of India. This means the Ministries of Agriculture, Food & Public Distribution and Women & Child Development will need to work in close co-ordination with the Jal Shakti Ministry. Both at the Centre and the states. Thus, multi-stakeholder, holistic, trans-disciplinary water governance is a pre-requisite for tackling India's

The writer is distinguished professor, Shiv Nadar University and former member, Planning Commission, Government of



WATER: REFORM **OR PERISH**

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Govt works on formula for sharing electricity between J&K and Ladakh

Centre is looking to suitably divide free electricity generated from hydropower assets between both UTs

Jipal Bhaska

utpal.b@livemint.com NEW DELHI

he government is trying to suitably divide the electricity generated from hydropower projects by Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corp. Ltd and NHPC Ltd between the two Union territories, created after the bifurcation of the Himalavan state

With the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act set to take effect on 31 October, allocating free electricity generated from these projects is a complicated issue given the sensitivities involved, two government officials involved in the process said on condition of anonymity.

India's power minister Rai Kumar Singh visited Srinagar last month, as the government plans to fully utilize its share of water under

the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960. Building hydropower projects on rivers originating in China and Pakistan is part of India's strategy to establish its prior-use claim over the waters.

"An advisory council has been constituted for the appropriation of assets. One of the issues before it is how to allocate the free power from NHPC' hydropower projects that earlier went to the state of Jammu and Kashmir. These are not easy questions (to answer),' said agovernment official aware of



A key issue before the government is how to allocate the free power from NHPC's hydropower projects that earlier went to the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

the deliberations, also requesting anonymity

The Union government may take recourse to the Gadgil formula for sharing of electricity, which is and whatever scheme needs to be set up to utilize our share of the water should be done. In some cases, we are allowed non-consumptive use and in some cases we water to go to its hostile neighbour. The Modi government is now keen to reclaim its share.

In the run-up to Haryana state assembly elections. Prime Minister

Narendra Modi on Tuesday promised the farmers of Haryana that the river water, which belongs to India but is flowing into Pakistan, will soon get diverted to the fields of Harvana and Rajasthan and will benefit farmers.

Apart from raising objections on the 330 megawatts (MW) project on the river Kishanganga, a tributary of Jhelum, Pakistan had also raised objections on the 1,000MW Pakal Dul and 48MW Lower Kalnai hydroelectric projects on the Che-

Chenah is a western river which originates in India and flows into Pakistan. The Indus Waters Treaty of 1960, inked after nine years of negotiations, says: "India shall be under an obligation to let flow all the waters of the western rivers, and shall not permit any interference with these waters, except for the following uses" such as domes tic use, non-consumptive use, agricultural use and generation of hydroelectric power

Aspart of India's plan to expedite strategically important hydropower projects, the Bharatiya Jan-ata Party (BJP)-ruled Himachal Pradesh recently inked agreements entailing an investment of ₹25,000 crore with central public sector units (PSUs), such as NHPC and NTPC Ltd, for setting up hydropower projects on the Chenab.

Queries emailed to the spokespersons of the ministries of home affairs and power and NHPC on 14 October remained unanswered till press time.

Union home secretary Ajay Bhalla and J&K chief secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam have been regularly meeting to lay the groundwork for the two Union ter

NHPC is the main supplier of electricity to J&K and the largest investor in the region with 2,339MW under operation, and plans to develop projects totalling 3.814MW on its own and through joint ventures. It has invested ₹20.778.38 crore in the erstwhile state and has been supplying electricity to J&K despite unpaid dues.

POWER PLAY

GOVT has to divide power generated from hydro projects run by JKSDCL and NHPC NHPC is the main supplier of power to J&K, with 2,339MW hydro projects in operation

THE Centre plans to fully utilize India's share of water under the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960.

IT may take recourse to the Gadgil formula for sharing of electricity generated

based on the investment made by the Centre and various states.

Singh, who also holds the portfolio of new and renewable energy ministry, had earlier said in an interview to Mint: "I have already told my ministry that the objective is to utilize all the water in our share

are allowed consumptive use. In either case, I have said that we have to go ahead and utilize our share."

According to the Indus Waters Treaty, whoever builds the project first will have the first rights on the river waters. Also, for many decades, India has allowed its share of

Holy Bein's source at Dhanoa village faces neglect

GURU'S 550TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

DEEPKAMAL KAUR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKERIAN, OCTOBER 17

Even as the 550th Gurpurb of Guru Nanak is approaching, little seems to have been done to upkeep the Holy Bein or its original source at Dhanoa village in the periphery of Mukerian.

The Bein is learnt to have originated from the water of the natural springs in the village. The groundwater level in the village has fallen, due to which there are no natural springs now. Water simply percolates from beneath the ground, but it is not in a volume so as to form

any free-flowing stream.

At the site, a historical baoli (stepwell) remains in a state of total neglect as Sikhs as well as Sanatan Dharam temple authorities are in a dispute over its ownership. The baoli, which is earlier learnt to have more water, now has about 5-feet-deep water, which is dark, filthy, covered with leaves and mosquitoes, and unfit for use.

From Dhanoa to the adjoining Terkiana village, the Bein hardly has any water. There are small puddles in it and most of it is filled with weeds and hyacinth. As the rivulet reaches Terkiana, water from Mukerian Hydel Project falls into it and makes a moving stream.

Peeved over the ecological changes in the area, former IAS officer P Ram had initiated Baba Nanak Kali Bein Project alongwith environmentalist Balbir S Seechewal in 2000. A member of the

Natural springs vanish, flow maintained by hydel project



Water from the Mukerian Hydel Project flows into the Bein at Terkiana village. PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

committee and social activist Surinder Saini, said, "The members, including senior officials from Forests, Horticulture, Irrigation and Local Bodies, held meetings at sites and envisaged a plan to bring about more plantations in the area to maintain the groundwater level so that springs could emerge again and a natural flow of Bein could be revived. But the project got shelved soon with hardly any work done."

Harnam Singh, a Dhanoa resident, said, "While earlier environmentalist Balbir S Seechewal used to come here and maintained the place along with his volunteers, he

is now working at some distance from here as he does not want to get into the village politics. He used to hold nagar kirtan on the occasion starting from here, but now it starts from adjoining villages."

Seechewal is currently spearheading a campaign to put pressure on the government to maintain Bein.

NGT chairman Justice Jasbir Singh visited Bein for the second time today and issued a deadline to the administration for October 31 to ensure that there is an alternate mechanism for discharge of sewage, may be on a temporary basis so that not even a drop of it does not make way into Bein till the Gurpurb celebrations are on.

Meanwhile, the government has decided to release 500 cusec freshwater into Bein from October 23 to facilitate the devotees to have a holy dip at Sultanpur Lodhi.

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'120 Pak. Hindu families living on Yamuna floodplains'

Green panel directs DDA to ensure removal of encroachment following report by urban body

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Around 700 Pakistani Hindu nationals, who had come to India on pilgrimage visas between 2011 and 2014, have continued to stay in jhuggis near Majnu Ka Tila in the national capital, revealed a joint inspection report furnished by the Delhi Development Authority to the National Green Tribunal.

The report was filed by the DDA following a plea that sought removal of encroachment from the Yamuna floodplains.

The report stated that around 120 families have been living in the area for the last few years and the matter is pending with the Ministry of Home Affairs pertaining to the "grant of Indian Citizenship or Long Term Visas to such Pakistani nationals who had come to India on pilgrim visas".

Following the submission of the report, an NGT Bench on Thursday directed the

DDA to ensure removal of the encroachment which had happened on the active floodplains.

"From the information gathered from occupants it was informed that they were asked to occupy the place by government officials, but there was no such written permission with the occupants. The occupants of this settlement were initially staying in jhuggis but later started construction of semi-permanent structures for

their stay," the report stated.

It also stated that several occupants have also obtained Aadhaar cards, PAN cards and bank accounts based on their Majnu Ka Tila address. "Their children are also going to a nearby government school. It was also informed by the occupants that financial assistance was given by the State government to the occupants whose jhuggis were gutted but they could not produce any document," read the

report.

While stating that the size of the settlement had increased over the last few years, the report added that the occupants have set up small shops near the sidewalk that was affecting movement of pedestrians and causing congestion. The report added that a demolition programme fixed by the land owning agency in September 2018 could not be completed due to "resistance from occupants".

Time-bound action plans more important: NGT

It raps DJB for not curbing water wastage

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI 41-18

Following a report furnished by the Centre pertaining to the curbing of wastage of water due to overflowing tanks in residential and commercial areas, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) came down heavily on authorities for not taking adequate steps to curb the same.

A Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel observed that while both the Ministry of Jal Shakti and Delhi Jal Board had filed their respective responses, the reports failed to show a "clear enforceable policy to check such misuse and wastage."

"The affidavit is vague and

general. It is stated that letter have been written to States. This itself can hardly be enough to discharge the public trust reposed in the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Apart from writing letters, there has to be specific time bound action plans and monitoring, which should include coercive measures for enforcement," the Bench said.

Terming the DJB's response as "wholly inadequate" the Bench added: "A very meager amount is said to have been recovered in spite of acknowledged problem of wastage of potable water. The environment law is not complied by recovery of some token amount from the violators."

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| The Hindu (Delhi) | The Tribune (Gurugram) | े दैनिक जागरण (नई दिल्ली) | |
| Pioneer (Delhi) | Financial Express | जनसन्ता (दिल्ली) | |
| राष्ट्रीय सहारा (दिल्ली) | दैनिक भास्कर (नई दिल्ली) | अमर उजाला (नई दिल्ली) | |

पानी को लेकर पंजाब-हरियाणा फिर आमने-सामने अब भाखड़ा जल को लेकर हुआ विवाद

फतेहगढ़ साहिब, (एजैंसी): एक तरफ सतलुज यमुना लिंक (SYL) नहर का विवाद कई सालों से सुलझ नहीं पाया है, वहीं अब भाखड़ा से सरहिंद नहर में पानी छोड़ने को लेकर पंजाब और हरियाणा फिर आमने-सामने हो गए हैं। पंजाब जहां नहर की दरार भरने के लिए कुछ दिन कम पानी छोड़ने की बात कह रहा है, वहीं हरियाणा ने कोरा जवाब दे दिया है कि वह पानी कम नहीं होने देंगे। दरअसल, गत दिनों गांव शहजादपुर में भूमि कटाव के बाद नहर में दरार आ गई थी। बाढ़ के खतरे को भांपते हुए पंजाब के सिंचाई विभाग ने भाखड़ा प्रबंधन बोर्ड को कुछ दिन नहर की मरम्मत के लिए पानी की मात्रा तीन हजार क्यूसिक करने की मांग की थी। इस पर हरियाणा का सिंचाई विभाग भड़क गया। उसने नियमों का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि यह इतनी बड़ी समस्या नहीं है जितनी पेश की जा रही है। न

and documented at WSE Dte, CWC.

SYL नहर का विवाद कई सालों से सुलझ नहीं पाया है वहीं अब भाखड़ा से सरहिंद नहर में पानी छोड़ने को लेकर पंजाब और हरियाणा फिर आमने-सामने हो गए हैं



तो पानी की मात्रा 5500 क्युसिक से कम हो सकती है और न ही क्लोजर लिया जा सकता है। इतनी मात्रा में ही अन्य तरीकों से दरार भरने का काम करवाया जाए। हरियाणा सिंचाई विभाग के सलाहकार हरमेल सिंह, एसई दें सरहिंद नहर से हरियाणा के अंबाला वीके कंबोज, एक्सईएन जगपाल सिंह और एसडीओ

रोहताश स्वामी ने नहर में दरार वाले इलाके का दौरा भी किया। इन अधिकारियों ने नहर में भूमि कटाव का जायजा लेते हुए बकायदा इसकी वीडियो बनाकर उच्च अधिकारियों को भेजी। बता साथ-साथ दिल्ली को भी पानी की सप्लाई जाती है।

रोज नई मुसीबत : हर प्रयास हो रहा विफल. नहीं भरी जा रही दरार

दूसरी तरफ नहर के आसपास के गांवों में दहशत के माहौल को दूर करने के लिए दरार भरने में जुटे पंजाब के सिंचाई विभाग के लिए नई मुसीबतें खड़ी हो रही हैं। अनेक प्रयास के बावजूद दरार को पूर्ण रूप से भरा नहीं जा रहा। उसी कारण पंजाब के सिंचाई विभाग ने नहर में पानी की मात्रा 9000 से 6500 क्यूसिक करवाई थी। इसके बाद भी दरार में सीमेंट, रेत व बजरी से भरे बैग नहीं टिके। फिर पंजाब ने पानी की मात्रा तीन हजार क्यूसिक करने की मांग की तो हरियाणा में खलबली मच गई। अब सीमेंट, रेत व बजरी से भरे बैगों को लोहे की तारों में लपेटकर इनके क्रेट्स बनाकर भूमि कटाव की जगह भरने का प्रयास किया जाएगा। सिंचाई विभाग के अनुसार यही अंतिम तरीका बचा है। अगर इसमें भी सफलता नहीं मिली तो यह मामला एक बार फिर गरमा सकता है।

DAINIK JAGRAN. 18.10-2019 भारत व हंगरी के बीच जल संरक्षण को लेकर एमओय

संवाद सूत्र, जोधपुरः नदियों के बेसिन मैनेजमेंट प्लानिंग तथा स्वच्छ जल और वाटर वेस्ट मैनेजमेंट के क्षेत्र में भारत व हंगरी के बीच एमओयू साइन किया गया है। दोनों देश जल प्रबंधन के क्षेत्र में उच्च स्तरीय तकनीक का आदान-प्रदान करेंगे।

जोधपुर के सांसद एवं केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्रसिंह शेखावत की मौजूदगी में एमओयू पर चर्चा हुई। मंत्री शेखावत हंगरी के बडापेस्ट में विश्वजल सम्मेलन में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व कर रहे हैं। सम्मेलन में केंद्रीय मंत्री के समक्ष प्रजेंटेशन दी गई। शेखावत ने हंगरी के राष्ट्रपति जेनोस एडर से शिष्टाचार भेंट की।

इंदिरा सागर बांध पर लगेगा 1,000 मेगावाट का अल्ट्रा मेगा फ्लोटिंग सोलर संयंत्र



मोपाल, (भाषा) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने खंडवा जिले में नर्मदा नदी पर बने एशिया के सबसे बड़ा बांध 'इंदिरा सागर बांध' पर 1,000 मेगावॉट अल्ट्रा मेगा फ्लोटिंग सोलर परियोजना विकसित करने की पहल की है। मध्यप्रदेश के नवीन एवं नवकरणीय ऊर्जा विभाग के प्रमुख सचिव मनु श्रीवास्तव ने बृहस्पतिवार को बताया, ''राज्य सरकार ने इंदिरा सागर बांध पर 1000 मेगावॉट अल्ट्रा मेगा फ्लोटिंग सोलर संयत्र विकसित करने की पहल की है। इसको स्थापित करने के लिए हमने तैयारियां भी शुरू कर दी है।'' उन्होंने कहा, ''इस संबंध में हम उन लोगों से चर्चा कर रहे हैं, जो इस सोलर संयत्र को लगाने में रुचि ले रहे हैं और जल्द ही इसको अंतिम रूप दे दिया जाएगा।'' श्रीवास्तव ने बताया, ''इस इस सोलर संयत्र को स्थापित करने की लागत करीब पांच करोड़ रूपये प्रति मेगावाट के हिसाब से आने का अनुमान है।'' इसी बीच, मध्य प्रदेश जनसंपर्क विभाग के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि इस परियोजना की स्थापना से प्रदेश को कई फायदे होंगे, जिसमें जलाशय का उपयोग भूमि के विकल्प के रूप में किया जाएगा। इसकी स्थापना से सस्ती विद्युत का अधिक उत्पादन होगा और वाष्पीकरण में कमी आने से जल—संरक्षण को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

उन्होंने कहा कि इसके अलावा, इस परियोजना की स्थापना से जल की गुणवत्ता में वृद्धि होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इस तरह यह परियोजना अपने तरह की अनोखी होगी। उल्लेखनीय है कि मध्यप्रदेश के इंदिरा सागर जलाशय को एशिया में सबसे बड़ा जल निकाय होने का गौरव प्राप्त है। इस जलाशय में जल निकाय का न्यूनतम क्षेत्र 26,710 हेक्टेयर है, जो 13,000 मेगावाट की सौर परियोजना को समायोजित कर सकता है। इसी के मद्देनजर यहाँ यह परियोजना विकसित की जायेगी। मध्य प्रदेश की बिजली खपत में एक चौथाई हिस्सा नवकरणीय ऊर्जा का है। करीब पौने पाँच हजार मेगावाट का विद्युत उत्पादन कर मध्यप्रदेश नवकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में अपनी अलग पहचान बनाने में सफल हुआ है। प्राकृतिक संपदाओं से भरपूर मध्यप्रदेश में बहुतायत में उपलब्ध नवकरणीय ऊर्जा स्त्रोतों से विद्युत उत्पादन पर सरकार विशेष ध्यान दे रही है। प्रदेश में सितम्बर—2019 की स्थिति में सौर ऊर्जा से 2071 मेगावाँट, पवन ऊर्जा से 2444 मेगावाँट, बायोमास ऊर्जा से 117 मेगावाँट और लघुजल विद्युत ऊर्जा से 96 मेगावाँट विद्युत का उत्पादन किया जा रहा था।