

Times of India 23-February-2021

Won't let TN to use surplus Cauvery water, says K'taka CM

The Karnataka government will not allow Tamil Nadu to use surplus water from the inter-state Cauvery river and will take strong measures to protect the state's interests, chief minister B S Yediyurappa said on Monday. The Tamil Nadu government on Sunday laid the foundation for the first phase of the Rs 14,400 crore Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar river interlinking project, aimed at diverting over 6,000 cubic ft of surplus water to drier areas in southern districts. PTI

Times of India 23-February-2021

Sewage treatment plants to supply treated water to 14 SDMC parks

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New Delhi: South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has launched a project to supply treated water from sewage treatment plants (STP) to 14 parks.

SDMC has received around Rs 7 crore from the Union urban development ministry for installing the STP system at parks located next to drains and reviving a pond. The fund forms 80% of the total cost of the project while SDMC will finance the rest.

Each of these STPs will have the capacity to recharge 50 kilo litre of water (KLD) per day and help in resolving the problem of short or no supply of water in certain parks.

"After disconnecting tube-wells at many places following the National Green Tribunal's order for not withdrawing groundwater, short supply at parks has become an issue. While we are looking for alternative solutions such as connecting some parks with the nearby STPs of Delhi Jal Board through supply lines, it is a time-taking and costly affair. These STPs will at least help in



Two STPs will also be used for revival of a pond located next to a park

proper irrigation of 14-15 parks of minimum one acre area," said an SDMC official.

The sites include Bhim Basti at Aya Nagar; three places at Dwarka, Green Park and Chhatarpur. The work has started in Dwarka while the project was inaugurated at Aya Nagar on Monday.

"Two STPs will be installed because besides irrigation of the 1.5-acre park, these will also be used for revival of a pond located next to the park," said councillor Ved Pal. The park has

been using storm water getting collected in the pond. "Now water will be treated before entering the pond."

The park was redeveloped from barren land in 2018. "Residents have been uncomfortable due to the foul smell emitting due to direct use of drain water," said Pal.

SDMC aims to complete work at all sites by the end of March and will use a biological process for wastewater treatment that consumes less energy.

New Indian Express 23-February-2021

TN river-linking project 'not acceptable' for Karnataka govt

BSY says that he won't allow any State to utilise surplus waters from Cauvery

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WITH Tamil Nadu planning to utilise surplus Cauvery water to link rivers, the Karnataka government on Monday said it will strongly oppose the project and will push the much-delayed Mekedatu balancing reservoir project in the state.

As the Cauvery issue heated up, Kannada activists accused the Centre of favouring the Tamil Nadu project with an eye on the upcoming Assembly elections in that state.

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa said, "We will not allow Tamil Nadu or any other state to use surplus waters from the Cauvery river." What triggered the fresh war of words was the foundation stone-laying ceremony by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswamy on Sunday for an intra-state river-linking project by building a canal from

Cauvery river to Vaigai and Gundar rivers. The project plans to divert over 6,000 tmcft of surplus Cauvery water.

Deputy CM Dr C N Ashwath Narayan said Karnataka will take up the Mekedatu project and sought details of works taken up by the Tamil Nadu government, while Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi left for Delhi to file objections against the Tamil Nadu project. "We are preparing for a legal battle against the proposed irrigation project. The government has given clear directions to the concerned minister and officers to take up the Mekedatu project, which will help increase the quantum of drinking water to Ramanagara and other districts, and also augment hydel power generation," Dy CM said.

Opposition leaders and activists pressured the State Government to

take steps to stop the Tamil Nadu project. Former Prime Minister and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda said that the Centre should be pressurised to bring a halt to the project, while JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy said it is surprising that the State Government did not know about the project, though it was funded by the Central Government. "TN government was opposing the Mekedatu project from the beginning as it was sure that once the project comes up, it will not get surplus water. It is using the same surplus water to fill up 342 lakes. The issue of surplus water always triggers a war-like situation. The Union Government that did not help Karnataka with the Mekedatu project is supporting TN's river-linking scheme. This shows how the Centre is treating Karnataka," rued Kumaraswamy, taking to social media.

The Statesman- 23- February -2021

Uttarakhand tragedy: Rescue team near crucial junction in Tapovan tunnel

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
DEHRADUN, 22 FEBRUARY

The search and rescue team, making effort to reach the trapped workers in Tapovan tunnel since the past 17 days, are approaching a crucial junction point.

The rescuers have cleared debris till 170 Mts inside the tunnel, by Monday, and are about 10 Mts away from reaching the 'T-point' from where small tunnels connect to the main one.

According to the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority the search and rescue team has cleared debris from 170 Mts patch inside the tunnel.

Right from the day the disaster hit the remote part of Chamoli, the team are making efforts to reach the trapped workers.



Rescue workers inside Tapovan tunnel at Chamoli. ■ SNS

It was estimated that about 30-35 workers are stuck inside the tunnel. The effort was to reach the 180 Mts point, a junction

of small tunnels. So far 14 bodies have been recovered from the tunnel.

Different agencies are involved in the search and rescue operation and so far they have recovered 70 bodies from different places.

Still 134 people remain missing. ITBP, NDRF, SDRF, IAF and Indian Navy are deployed in the operation. Relief operations are going on at war footing in the flash flood hit villages.

Ration kits are being provided to affected families. So far 555 families have received ration kits and many others were provided solar lights.

A high level meeting of government officials, related to the Chamoli disaster, took place in New Delhi on Monday.

Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla chaired the meet-

ing to review the status of the artificial lake which has formed in the wake of the avalanche incident in the upper catchment of the Rishiganga River in Chamoli District.

Uttarakhand Chief Secretary Om Prakash joined the meeting through video conference and informed that based on the physical assessment of the artificial lake made on site by multiple scientific agencies and satellite data, there is no imminent danger as the volume of water is less than expected and is flowing through a natural channel which has been widened.

The Union Home Secretary reviewed the action being taken to allow for more flow to the water and removal of some obstructions which have formed at the site of the artificial lake.

Morning Standard 23-February-2021

Soon, city to have volunteers to protect wetlands

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

TO check encroachment and dumping of waste in wetlands across the national capital, the Wetland Authority of Delhi (WAD) is planning to recruit volunteers. The aim is to increase public participation in environment conservation and to fix accountability of the concerned land owning agency and officials.

The volunteers will be called 'Wetland Mitras (Wetland Friends)' and will send tip-off to the authorities or the land owning agency as and when they notice any illegal activities on wetlands. Wetland Mitra is a concept launched by the Union environment ministry to pre-



serve the ecological character of their wetlands. Kerala is the only state, which has implemented the idea effectively, said KS Jayachandran, member secretary of the WAD.

"Taking inspiration from successful model of Kerala, we are implementing the concept of Wetland Mitras in Delhi. Any individual, group or institution is willing to provide

their services for protection, management, and beautification of wetlands without any self consideration and financial benefit can apply to be nominated as Wetland Mitras," said the official.

"The government will empower local citizens to take charge of waterbodies in their respective localities. Whenever they see anything happening such as dumping of solid waste, sewage, or encroachment, they will take up the matter with the authority or the concerned land owning agency. Information coming from Wetland Mitras will be more authentic. It is a non-financial engagement and we want spirited persons to come forward," said Jayachan-

daran, who also holds the charge of the special secretary, department of environment and forest, Delhi government.

The authority has identified and listed about 1,000 waterbodies in Delhi. The residents, who are willing to join as volunteers under the programme, can visit the website of Delhi Parks and Gardens Society and download an application form.

"The greatest challenge for protection of water bodies is encroachment and to prevent infringement, you need people on ground. The information shared by Wetland Mitras will be on papers so will be the actions. It will ensure extreme order of accountability," Jayachandran further said.

Punjab Kesari 23-February-2021

कावेरी नदी के अतिरिक्त पानी का इस्तेमाल करने की किसी को अनुमति नहीं देगी सरकार

बेंगलुरु, (भाषा) तमिलनाडु सरकार द्वारा नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने की परियोजना के बारे में व्याप्त चिंताओं के बीच कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री बी एस येदियुरप्पा ने सोमवार को कहा कि उनकी सरकार किसी को भी कावेरी नदी के अतिरिक्त पानी का इस्तेमाल करने की अनुमति नहीं देगी और राज्य के हितों की रक्षा के लिए कड़े कदम उठाएगी।

गौरतलब है कि तमिलनाडु सरकार ने कावेरी, वैगई और गुंडर नदियों को जोड़ने वाली परियोजना के प्रथम चरण का रविवार को शिलान्यास किया इस पर 14,400 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे और छह हजार

क्यूबिक फुट अतिरिक्त पानी को दक्षिणी जिलों के सूखे इलाकों तक पहुंचाने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

एक सवाल के जवाब में येदियुरप्पा ने यहां

संवाददाताओं से कहा,

“हम यह नहीं होने देंगे

केवल बयान देने का

कोई अर्थ नहीं है। चाहे

कोई भी कारण हो हम

तमिलनाडु या किसी और

को अतिरिक्त पानी के

इस्तेमाल की अनुमति नहीं देंगे। हम

कड़े कदम उठाएंगे, आवश्यक

कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं।” यह पूछे जाने

पर कि क्या वह इस मुद्दे पर

सर्वदलीय बैठक बुलाएंगे,

येदियुरप्पा ने कहा, “हमने अभी इस

पर विचार नहीं किया है।”



Haribhoomi 23-February-2021

दिल्ली भाजपा ने चलाया जनसंपर्क अभियान

30 फीसदी लोगों को नहीं मिल रहा है नल से पानी

हरिभूमि न्यूज ► नई दिल्ली

केजरीवाल सरकार ने दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के 26 हजार करोड़ के घोटाले का कोई हिसाब-किताब नहीं दिया है। दिल्ली भाजपा प्रदेश अध्यक्ष आदेश गुप्ता ने आर के आश्रम मेट्रो स्टेशन के पास जल बोर्ड के घोटाले के खिलाफ जनसंपर्क अभियान की शुरुआत करते हुए केजरीवाल सरकार पर उक्त आरोप लगाए।

इस दौरान गुप्ता ने कहा कि 30 प्रतिशत लोगों को नल से पानी नहीं मिल रहा है और जिन्हें मिल रहा है वह पानी प्रदूषित होता है और लोगों का खरीदकर पानी पीना पड़ रहा है। जल बोर्ड में 26 हजार करोड़ रुपये के हुए बड़े घोटाले में केजरीवाल सरकार को घेरते हुए अध्यक्ष गुप्ता ने कहा कि इस मामले में दिल्ली सरकार



■ केजरीवाल सरकार ने जल बोर्ड के 26 हजार करोड़ का नहीं दिया हिसाब-किताब

की चुप्पी यह दर्शाती है कि दाल पूरी तरह काली है। भाजपा इस पर जन आंदोलन चलाएगी और दिल्ली के प्रत्येक मतदाता तक इस बात को पहुंचाएगी। इस अभियान के तहत पार्टी के युवा मोर्चा, महिला मोर्चा और अनुसूचित जाति मोर्चा के कार्यकर्ता सभी मेट्रो स्टेशनों पर और मेट्रो ट्रेन में मौन प्रदर्शन करेंगे।

