

Telangana Today- 23- September-2022

# TS expresses concern over Polavaram project

Seeks intervention of MoJS to arrange protection works from backwater effect

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

Expressing concern over Polavaram project backwater effect on Telangana, Irrigation and Command Area Development Special Chief Secretary Rajat Kumar sought the intervention of Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) Secretary Pankaj Kumar to address the State's concerns in right earnest.

He also requested to arrange protection works as necessary after a fresh backwater study by a neutral agency duly involving all stakeholders. A committee of a technical team comprising Chief Engineers from all riparian States and also from Central Water Commission (CWC) and the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) may be constituted in this regard, he said.

"There is every need for transparency in sharing the data and formulating a sound technical solution acceptable to all," he said in a letter to Pankaj Kumar.

According to Rajat Kumar, the major project was progressing without addressing the critical concerns raised by Telangana before various fora. The State was at the receiving end due to submergence for about a 30-km stretch upstream from Telangana and AP on either side of the main Godavari River to be caused by the Polavaram backwaters upon completion and storing of the water in the project.

The Supreme Court too, in its order dated September 6, 2022, on various suits filed against the Polavaram project, had suggested to the MoJS for discussion with all stakeholders so that the project could move forward and the concerns are addressed. As a meeting scheduled on September 14 was deferred, Rajat Kumar brought various aspects of

## *'Expedite appraisal of 1 TMC component of Kaleshwaram'*

**HYDERABAD:** Irrigation and Command Area Development Special Chief Secretary Rajat Kumar requested the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) Secretary Pankaj Kumar to issue instructions to Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) to complete the appraisal process of an additional one TMC component of the Kaleshwaram Project expeditiously, as any delay in granting clearances will cause irreparable damage to the interests of Telangana. In a letter to Pankaj Kumar, he

said the GRMB had stopped the process of according statutory clearances for additional one TMC works of Kaleshwaram Project citing the Supreme Court order in a Special Leave Petition (SLP) to maintain the status quo.

The SLP was filed on the contention that additional one TMC works are being carried out without obtaining statutory clearances. The Telangana government had already represented that an additional one TMC component was

not a new project and that it was part and parcel of the Kaleshwaram Project for which all statutory clearances were obtained.

In this connection, Chief Minister K Chandrababhu Naidu had personally met the union Minister of Jal Shakti on September 7 last year and requested to delete this project from the list of unapproved projects in gazette notification dated July 15, 2021. Subsequently, the matter was discussed with the Ministry comprehensively.

the project to the notice of the MoJS Secretary. Inadequacy of Polavaram spillway design, the need to study backwater for probable maximum flood, river cross sections, drainage congestion and stagnation of local streams due to backwater was brought to the Secretary's notice, apart from highlighting the problems being faced by the people due to the recent floods.

Referring to protective measures, he said the technical studies carried out by AP and the CWC so far had no mention of the area to be affected or on appropriate protective embankments in the Telangana territory. Telangana had no independent entity and opportunity till its formation in 2014 for seeking protection measures against the backwater effects, while Odisha and the then State of Madhya Pradesh (Chhattisgarh) had been vociferous in exerting the rights and concerns before all forums including the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT).

## *Necessary to examine Tribunal reports: State*

**HYDERABAD:** Irrigation and Command Area Development Special Chief Secretary Rajat Kumar urged Ministry of Jal Shakti to keep in abeyance all the clearances accorded to Upper Tunga and Upper Bhadra projects in Karnataka with immediate effect.

The Project Appraisal (South) Directorate of Central Water Commission (CWC), while according clearances to Upper Tunga and Upper Bhadra project, did not examine several interstate aspects related to allocations made by Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I (KWDT-I) and subsequent developments during the proceedings before KWDT-II, Rajat Kumar said in a letter to the MoJS Secretary.

He said the general en bloc liberty in utilisation of Krishna waters was not applicable to K-8 sub basin in toto, as utilisations in K-8 sub basin were subjected to

several restrictions explicitly mandated in Clause-IX of KWDT-I Award.

An examination of the KWDT-I report makes it clear that the tribunal did not allocate any water to Upper Tunga and Upper Bhadra projects. As such, Karnataka cannot reallocate water under en bloc unless and until it satisfies the conditions laid down by the Tribunal.

Contrary to the same, Karnataka has reallocated water to the projects in K-8 sub-basin disregarding the restrictions imposed by KWDT-I which would be resulting in over appropriation of waters of Tungabhadra depriving the interests of lower riparian States.

"It is necessary to examine all the interstate aspects and Tribunal reports in detail before considering clearance to these major projects," he added.

The Times of India- 23- September-2022

# SC cites 2017 verdict on Narmada settlement, says can't reopen case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The apex court on Thursday firmly blocked attempts to reopen relief, rehabilitation and compensation packages offered to Narmada Dam project-affected families (PAFs) in Madhya Pradesh citing its 2017 verdict giving Rs 60 lakh per family as full and final settlement of their claims.

Appearing for a PAF, senior advocate Sanjay Parikh argued before a bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, Hima Kohli and P S Narasimha that instead of Rs 60 lakh compensation, awarded by the SC in 2017 as full and final settlement of claims by PAFs, it should be Rs 30 lakh per hectare for their landholdings.

However, the bench said the compensation was fixed on February 8, 2017, by a three-judge bench, of which Justice Chandrachud was part of, in exercise of the apex court's

omnibus powers under Article 142 of the Constitution.

"Any modification of a decision rendered using Article 142 powers would not be permissible," the bench said agreeing with the contention of additional solicitor general Aishwarya Bhati.

In its February 2017 judgment, the SC had noted that of the 4,998 PAFs, 681 had not got compensation (510 PAFs, which had originally opted for the 'Special Rehabilitation Package' and 171 families which had claimed land in lieu of land).

After hearing contesting parties, the bench had ordered that "we are satisfied in directing the concerned authority, to pay compensation to the 681 'project affected families', who have yet to receive compensation, and who have been fully described above, at the rate of Rs 60 lakh per family, as a matter of full and final settlement".



## India Mulls Water Trading on Bourses



India could start trading in water on commodity exchanges, much like gold, silver, and crude oil. Niti Aayog will put out draft recommendations for public consultations, pitching all options, including futures and spot trading of water and tradable licences. **Yogima Seth Sharma** reports. ►► 14

# Niti Draft in the Works for Water Trading on Bourses

Aayog studying global benchmarks including futures & spot trading

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**New Delhi:** India could start trading in water on commodity exchanges, much like gold, silver, and crude oil. NITI Aayog will put out draft recommendations for public consultations, pitching all options, including futures and spot trading of water and tradable licences.

India is studying the global benchmarks and could soon lay out a roadmap for water trading as water is increasingly becoming a scarce commodity, a senior government official told ET. "The Aayog will come up with draft recommendations to promote water trading and setting up of water regulation authority," the official said.

Water is traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in the US. The contracts tied to California water prices see participation from actual users such as farmers and municipalities and financial investors like hedge funds.

The Murray-Darling basin in Australia also allows water trading at the regional level through tradable permits.

The move is expected to address India's severe water woes across agriculture and other water-dependent industries, helping develop a market that will also encourage investment in increasing supply.

"Water trading is a good idea and is happening in some parts of the world. It will help us in price discovery and price hedging as water is becoming a scarce commodity," Narinder Wadhwa, president, Commodity Participants Association of India.

### Liquid Market

India could allow trading in water  
**NITI Aayog** has conceived the idea  
Global scenario being studied to frame roadmap

#### Will help...

- In insuring farmers against drought
- Encourage efficient and productive use of water
- Help attract investment in water economy

#### Globally water trading is done at:

- Chicago Mercantile Exchange in the US
- Murray-Darling basin in Australia



**The move is expected to address severe water woes across water-dependent industries**

that water being a politically sensitive issue, it could take really long to build a consensus between relevant stakeholders if the government decides to go ahead with it.

The general perception is that trading water in the futures markets will help discover prices, leading to efficient use of the resource. Besides, the irrigated and rain-dependent agriculture in India could be in-

According to Wadhwa, there is, however, a need to create awareness among water users and water suppliers. "India will face a lot of resistance the moment water is made a tradable commodity," he cautioned.

A senior official at the Multi Commodity Exchange concurred

sured against droughts by locking in prices in the water futures market which would substantially reduce the government's additional expense on drought relief measures.

According to the World Bank, India has 18% of the world's population but only 4% of its water resources, making it among the most water-stressed regions in the world. A McKinsey report has projected India's water demand to grow to almost 1.5 trillion cubic metres by 2030 as against the current supply of approximately 740 billion cubic metres on the back of a shift in eating habits.

"As a result, most of India's river basins could face severe deficits by 2030 unless concerted action is taken, with some of the most populous, including the Ganga, the Krishna, and the Indian portion of the Indus, facing the biggest absolute gap," it said.



The Pioneer- 23- September-2022

# SC junks plea seeking modification of 2017 order on compensation to Narmada oustees



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a plea seeking modification of its 2017 order directing payment of final compensation of Rs 60 lakh to each of the families affected by the Sardar Sarovar project on the Narmada River.

A three-judge bench headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud said once the final settlement package has been determined as Rs 60 lakh per family, the modification would not hold as it would be a substantive review of the order of this court.

"The directions issued by this court under Article 142 of the Constitution are not susceptible to clarification or modification in this applica-

tion. We find no merit in this application, accordingly, the application is dismissed," the bench said.

Advocate Sanjay Parikh, advancing the arguments on behalf of an oustee, submitted that in items of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal, the entitlement of the applicant should have been for 4.293 hectares of land.

Parikh submitted that a proper reading of the top court's order would show that the compensation would have to be pegged at 30 lakh per hectare and the actual compensation would come to be Rs 1.28 crore.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, stated that the 2017 order was passed under Article 142 and a modification or clarification order cannot be passed as that would be a substantive review of the court's decision.

The top court on February 8, 2017, cleared the decks for monetary compensation for the oustees of the Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) on river Narmada in Madhya Pradesh by ordering Rs 60 lakh for each of the families which are likely to be displaced.

Earlier, Narmada Bachao Andolan had told the apex court that 192 villages and one township would be affected in Madhya Pradesh alone and about 45,000 affected people are yet to be rehabilitated.

Amar Ujala- 23- September-2022

## नर्मदा परियोजना : हर विस्थापित परिवार को देना होगा 60 लाख मुआवजा

नई दिल्ली। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने नर्मदा नदी पर सरदार सरोवर परियोजना से प्रभावित परिवारों को मुआवजे देने वाले अपने आदेश में संशोधन की मांग वाली याचिका को खारिज कर

**सुप्रीम कोर्ट का  
आदेश में संशोधन  
से इन्कार**

दिया। न्यायमूर्ति डी वाई चंद्रचूड़ की अध्यक्षता वाली तीन न्यायाधीशों की पीठ ने कहा कि एक बार अंतिम निपटान पैकेज

60 लाख रुपये प्रति परिवार के रूप में निर्धारित किया गया है। इसमें संशोधन नहीं होगा, क्योंकि यह इस अदालत के आदेश की एक वास्तविक समीक्षा होगी।

अधिवक्ता संजय पारिख ने एक विस्थापित की ओर से दलीलें आगे बढ़ाते हुए कहा कि नर्मदा जल विवाद न्यायाधिकरण की मदों में आवेदक का हक 4.293 हेक्टेयर भूमि का होना चाहिए था। शीर्ष अदालत के आदेश को ठीक से पढ़ने से पता चलता है कि मुआवजा 30 लाख प्रति हेक्टेयर आंका जाएगा और वास्तविक मुआवजा 1.28 करोड़ रुपये होगा। केंद्र की ओर से अतिरिक्त सॉलिसिटर जनरल ऐश्वर्या भाटी ने कहा, 2017 का आदेश अनुच्छेद 142 के तहत पारित किया गया था और एक संशोधन या स्पष्टीकरण आदेश पारित नहीं किया जा सकता। एजेंसी



Navbharat Times- 23- September-2022

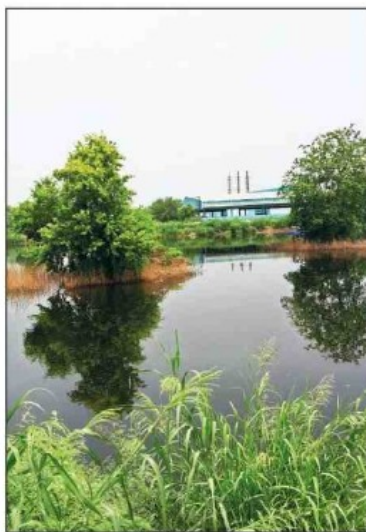
# दिखने लगा झीलों के पुनर्जीवित होने का फायदा, बढ़ा भूजल स्तर

## झीलों के आसपास ग्राउंड वॉटर में 1.5 से 1.75 मीटर तक वृद्धि

■ विशेष संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

राजधानी में झीलों को पुनर्जीवित करने के प्रयास के सकारात्मक नतीजे अब सामने आने लगे हैं। ऐसी झीलों के आसपास भूजल स्तर में 1.5 से 1.75 मीटर तक की वृद्धि दर्ज की गई है। इसके बाद झीलों को और अधिक गहरा किया गया है, ताकि भूजल स्तर में और अधिक सुधार आ सके। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड (डीजेबी) अब तक करीब 50 झीलों को रिवाइव कर चुका है। गर्मियों में हर साल पानी की कमी झेल रही दिल्ली में पानी की उपलब्धता बढ़ाने के लिए यह प्रोजेक्ट शुरू किया गया है। झीलों के रिवाइव होने के बाद अब यहां सौंदर्यीकरण और टूरिज्म सुविधाएं विकसित की जा रही हैं।

गर्मियों में राजधानी की प्यास बुझाने के लिए 250 रिजरवॉयर बनाने और 50 झीलों को रिवाइव करने का काम हो चुका है। डीजेबी के अनुसार, दिल्ली सरकार ने 159 तालाबों व जोहड़ों को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए 376 करोड़ और दो बड़ी झीलों को बनाने के लिए 77 करोड़ का बजट दिया था। 2017-18 में इस प्रोजेक्ट



अब तक 50 झीलों को पुनर्जीवित कर चुका दिल्ली जल बोर्ड, 250 रिजरवॉयर बनाए

पर डीजेबी ने काम शुरू किया था। साल-2024 तक इसका काम पूरा किया जाना है। 250 रिजरवायर और 50 झीलों का काम लगभग पूरा हो चुका है। इस प्रोजेक्ट में

पूरी तरह सूख चुकी और बुरे हालात में पड़ी झीलों को पुनर्जीवित करने के साथ-साथ कृत्रिम झीलों का निर्माण भी है। ये झीलें राजधानी के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में हैं। इसके अलावा छोटे तालाबों को भी पुनर्जीवित करने का काम चल रहा है।

### अर्बन फ्लडिंग से भी बचाएंगी ये झीलें

बारिश के पानी को भी इन झीलों में एकत्रित किया जा रहा है, जिससे ये अर्बन फ्लडिंग (बारिश के दिनों में अत्यधिक जलभराव) से भी राहत दिलाएंगी। साथ ही, भूजल स्तर बढ़ने से गर्मियों में पानी की सप्लाई बढ़ेगी। डीजेबी अधिकारियों के अनुसार, यह सीएम केजरीवाल का ड्रीम प्रोजेक्ट है जिसका मकसद भूजल स्तर को बढ़ाना है। प्रोजेक्ट के तहत बारिश के पानी और राजधानी के अपने पानी को झीलों में संरक्षित करके रखना है। साथ ही, झीलों के आसपास जैव विविधता को बढ़ाना भी है जिससे राजधानी के प्रदूषण स्तर में भी कमी आएगी।

राजधानी में 1000 एमजीडी पानी सप्लाई होती है। इसमें से करीब 900 एमजीडी पानी पड़ोसी राज्यों से मिलता है, जबकि 100 एमजीडी पानी दिल्ली का अपना होता है। यह पानी भूजल और रेनीवेल, रेन वॉटर हार्वेस्टिंग से मिलता है। इसी पानी को बढ़ाना मकसद है। राजधानी में पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के तहत सबसे पहले रजोकरी झील को रिवाइव किया गया था।