

Times of India 26-March-2021

Ensure status quo on Yamuna water supply for 24 hours: SC

Jal Board Claims Repair Work Not Urgent, Can Be Deferred

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New Delhi: Following a panic plea by Delhi government about the impending 25% reduction in water supply to the national capital, the Supreme Court on Thursday ordered Punjab government and Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) to continue full supply of water as done earlier for the next 24 hours.

Taking up an urgent application by Delhi Jal Board, a bench led by Chief Justice S A Bobde said water supply was a fundamental right and ordered status quo till March 26. DJB said Punjab government and BBMB were scheduling repair of the sluice gates of Bhakra main canal that carries water to Delhi and it is expected that supply will be hit by 25%.

This could lead to a clash

between Delhi and Punjab, the latter being very sensitive to sharing its share of water with neighbouring states. Its water dispute with Haryana and Rajasthan over construction of Sutlej-Yamuna Link canal has been a much litigated issue and the Amarinder Singh government, in its earlier tenure, had resorted to the extreme step of scrapping water agreements with Rajasthan and Haryana.

The DJB employed a battery of lawyers — senior advocates A M Singhvi, Vikas Singh and lawyer Gautam Narayan — to argue that the repair work could easily be carried out in the autumn or winter season, when Delhi's requirement of water is considerably less than the summer months.

The bench told the counsel that if repair work was required to maintain the integrity of

the water channel, then it would be difficult to stop the work. However, Narayan said that DJB officials had visited the site and found that the repair work was not urgently required and could be deferred. Singhvi

DJB SAYS

Several requests have been made to Punjab government to desist from their proposed course of action

termed the repair work routine and said any reduction in water supply would severely affect the national capital.

Appearing for Haryana, senior advocate Shyam Divan said the DJB was making a series of false statements before the SC and claimed that Haryana

had been providing the mandated full supply of water to Delhi. "Water supply to Delhi from Haryana has not been reduced by even a drop," he said.

DJB said, "Several requests have been made to Punjab government and its officials to desist from their proposed course of action over the past few weeks and defer the proposed action till after the summer season or provide an alternative source of supply of raw water to Delhi to cater to its drinking water needs. These have fallen on deaf ears."

"Present writ petition is being filed on an emergent basis owing to the fact that nearly 40% of supply from the Yamuna river is proposed to be cut off, resulting in reduction of about 215 MGD of drinking water. As a result, Delhi will be starved of at least 25% of its drinking water supply."

Times of India 26-March-2021

Ensure no untreated sewage is released in the drains, says DPCC

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New Delhi: After noticing formation of froth in the Yamuna, DPCC has written to Haryana and Uttar Pradesh governments asking them to upgrade sewage treatment plants, treat sewage and remove water hyacinth from pondage of Okhla Barrage.

According to DPCC, foam formation in the Yamuna was due to the presence of phosphates, surfactants and untreated sewage.

In a letter to the principal secretary, irrigation department, UP, and chairperson of UP Pollution Control Board, DPCC said: "Hindon cut canal carrying waste from UP discharges into the Yamuna at upstream of Okhla Barrage. This canal carries pollutants, which enters Hindon river from the paper and sugar mills, along with Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Shamli & Meerut. The canal then enters Hindon cut canal at Indra Kunj, which flows into

the Okhla barrage. Direct the concerned departments to take necessary action for upgradation of STPs and treatment of sewage or wastewater to meet the standards of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) with bio-nutrient removal."

Reiterating that UP irrigation department maintained the Okhla barrage, DPCC said it has found large amount of water hyacinth growth on the pondage of the barrage, which needed to be cleared, as the dying weeds continuously released surfactants.

DPCC wrote to chairman of Haryana State Pollution Control Board and said, "Untreated sewage from Haryana is entering Delhi from Sonipat, Gurgaon and Badshahpur drains and falling into Najafgarh drain." Haryana government was directed to ensure there was no discharge of untreated sewage into the Yamuna. DPCC asked the officials from both the states to take necessary action and send the action taken report to its office urgently.

Deccan Chronicle 26-March-2021

TAPPING | SUPPLY Meters needed for free drinking water Aadhaar card link till April 30

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, MARCH 25

In order to avail the 20,000 litres of free drinking water under the special scheme, the time limit for linking of Aadhaar cards of those with water meters was extended to April 30.

In a review meeting, the Hyderabad metropolitan water supply and sewerage board decided that 500 teams

would work on the ground to assist households in connecting their Aadhaar cards to the scheme. It has been noted that many prospective beneficiaries are facing snags and those who have new meter boards are not able to connect. The domestic connections will have to be provided by April 10 and bulk connections will be carried out later. It was noted that the

linking process in slums has been completed for 1,05,892 connections. This is 50 per cent of the 2,00,785 connections in such areas. In the domestic category, there are a total of 7,64,568 connections. The linking process has been completed for 1,52,588 connections. In the bulk category, 1,594 connections were linked and there are 22,111 more connections yet to be linked.

Those who have not installed new water meters cannot avail of the facility of free drinking water. Hence an awareness drive will be carried out in apartments and gated communities by HMWSS to help them avail of the scheme. Installation of new water meters is required and HMWSS is facilitating this with their contractors in different zones.

Deccan Herald 26-March-2021

Upper Bhadra: Jal Shakti ministry nod for nat'l tag

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Upper Bhadra project moved a step closer towards attaining the national project tag. In a significant move, an investment committee of the Jal Shakti Ministry on Thursday gave its nod to grant the national project tag to the Upper Bhadra with an estimated investment of Rs 16,125 crore.

A proposal will be sent to Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking a final approval to accord the national project status to the Upper Bhadra project, said an official in the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Once the project gets the national project tag, the Centre will provide funds to implement various irrigation programmes to address the irrigation and drinking water needs of the parched districts in central Karnataka.

Earlier, the state government had sent a proposal to the Centre seeking national project status to Upper Bhadra project so that it could execute the project at the earliest with the help of central funds.

The two-decade-old project, now estimated to cost Rs 22,000 crore, will become the first from the state to receive the national project tag.

Upper Bhadra project closer to national status

The Upper Bhadra project is just one step away from being declared as a national project, with an investment committee in the Union Jal Shakti Ministry on Thursday giving its nod. The proposal will now go to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the prime minister for final approval.

After that, the Centre is expected to provide Rs 16,125 crore for irrigation programmes in the state.

New Indian Express 26-March-2021

Cauvery water never under the bridge of elections

S KUMARESAN @ Chennai

THE Cauvery water dispute is back in poll rhetoric in Tamil Nadu after Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami invoked it while campaigning at Bhuvana-giri in Cuddalore district last Friday. Levelling charges against former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi in connection with the dispute, Palaniswami had said that all disputes over Cauvery were addressed by former Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa. In response, DMK's mouth piece *Murasoli* has come out with two pieces of editorials.

The Chief Minister had said that Karunanidhi had betrayed the State by not opposing construction of Kabini dam when he was the Chief Minister and added that

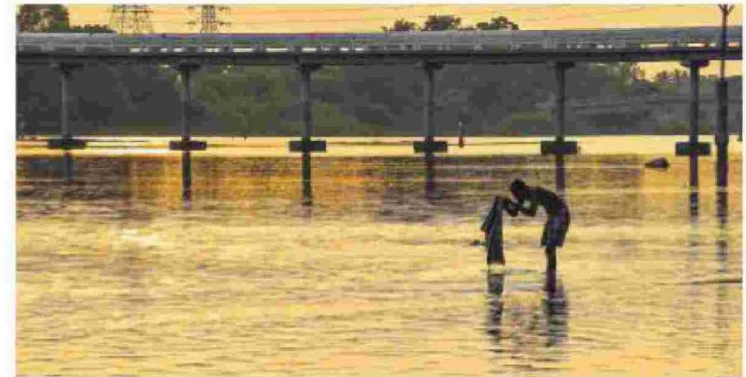
no issue over Cauvery water would have arisen if Karunanidhi had stalled the project. He further said that Jayalalithaa, when she was the Chief Minister, addressed all issues over the Cauvery water sharing. Recalling that the final verdict of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal was pronounced in 2007, Palaniswami questioned why the DMK did not make efforts to publish the verdict in Union government's gazette. It was published in the gazette only as a result of Jayalalithaa's struggles by approaching Supreme Court.

The *Murasoli* editorial on March 23 quoted DMK president MK Stalin from his campaign at Orathanadu in Thanjavur district, in which he said Karunanidhi was not the Chief Minister when Kar-

nataka government started constructing the dam at Hemavathi across Cauvery in 1968. The late leader was then Public Works Minister and had held talks with the Karnataka government over the issue following the instructions of the then CM CN Annadurai, the piece quoted Stalin as saying.

On the Kabini dam, the editorial said the efforts to construct the dam commenced in 1958 and the efforts to construct the Hemavathi dam began in 1968. The then Chief Minister Karunanidhi approached the Supreme Court in 1969 seeking a stay on the efforts of the Karnataka government to construct dams across Cauvery river. But, the Supreme Court dismissed the petition in October 1971.

Elaborating on the Cauvery Wa-



ter Disputes Tribunal's verdict in 2007, another editorial published on March 24 said that the then DMK-led State government moved the Supreme Court for want of 60 TMC of more water from the Cauvery since the Tribunal, in its verdict, had missed a total of 4.56 lakh acres of irrigation area.

The final hearing of the case was held in 2017 when Palaniswami was the Chief Minister and also held the PWD portfolio, the editorial said, and slammed that the Palaniswami-led government

for failing to put forth valid arguments before the court based on the Tribunal's guidelines.

The editorial blamed the 'lethargic' attitude of the government as the State lost 14.75 TMC of water. The Supreme Court reduced that amount of water from the 192 TMC awarded by the Tribunal by citing that Tamil Nadu had more ground-water resources.

Going through the arguments of both the DMK and the AIADMK only results in more confusion than clarity regarding the row.

Hindustan Times 26-March-2021

SC notice to Punjab, Haryana govts and Bhakra board on water supply to Delhi

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NEW DELHI: Noting that drinking water is a fundamental right, the Supreme Court on Thursday issued notices to the Punjab and Haryana governments and the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) on a petition by the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) that repair work on the Nangal Hydel channel gates will lead to a severe water crisis in Delhi.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) SA Bobde noted the matter was "serious", and sought responses from Punjab, Haryana and BBMB within a day. "The respondents are directed to maintain status quo on supply of water to Delhi till tomorrow i.e. 26th March," said the bench, which also comprised justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian.

Delhi receives at least 232 MGD (million gallons per day) of water through the channel, which helps meet nearly 25% of the city's daily water requirement, estimated to be around 935 MGD.

Anticipating water scarcity, DJB rushed to the Supreme Court to seek a stay on repairs scheduled to be undertaken by BBMB in April and May.

"We have no problem with the repairs being carried out. But do not touch it in April when there is a peak demand of water in the city," senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi submitted for DJB.

Over the past few months, DJB has written six letters to Punjab, Haryana and BBMB, citing postponement of repairs of the hydel channel to the monsoon months of July-August, but received no response, Singhvi said.

The bench wanted to know the nature of repairs being carried

out. "If repair is integral to the water channel, we won't stop them," the bench said. Singhvi told the court that the repairs can be carried out later as well, and requested for a stay till the matter is taken up.

This is the second petition by DJB before the top court concerning the supply of water to the Capital. In January, it filed a petition accusing the Haryana government of releasing untreated water into the Yamuna, leading to high ammonia levels in the water that posed a health hazard to residents of the national capital. The Haryana government claimed that the problem was at Delhi's end.

The second petition is still pending in the court and will be taken up on Friday along with the fresh petition by DJB.

On Thursday, the Delhi government counsel Vikas Singh accused Haryana of limiting water supply

to Delhi. For Haryana, senior advocate Shyam Divan argued that "not even a single drop was being withheld from Delhi". Singh urged the apex court to consider sending a court commissioner for spot verification.

The bench said: "Since it's a matter of fundamental right to water we will not entertain any technical objections and if required we may appoint a commissioner to visit the spot."

The spokesperson for BBMB said reports that water flow to Delhi will stop were a "hoax". He said the board has given assurance to the Centre that the drinking water for Delhi will continue to flow from Nangal hydel channel. The Delhi government could not be reached for a comment.

Spokespersons for the Punjab and Haryana government did not respond to queries till the time of going to print.

Telangana Today 26-March-2021

[Agricultural Sustainability]

Stopping the water pandemic

Integrated water resource management, policy regulatory mechanisms with differential entitlements and pricing will help



KALU NAIDU

March 22 is celebrated internationally as the World Water Day by the United Nations. The day, just gone by, was first proposed in Agenda-21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) at Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The day was observed formally as the first World Water Day in 1993. The first and foremost objective of this day is to advocate sustainable management of freshwater resources, which is considered as one of the targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Water is an important resource for the very survival/existence of plants as well as animal species. It is essential for human beings, poor or rich. The acute water crisis has only increased. The crisis is in both rural and urban areas. Metro cities like Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad are the worst hit during summer. It is going to be another pandemic after the coronavirus. The government of India has formed the Jal Shakti ministry to address this acute water crisis.

Farm Production

Water is an essential component for agriculture production and plays a key role in increasing farm production and sustenance of livestock. It is important for food security. The exponential population growth, size of urbanisation and climate change are ultimately increasing the demand for water resources. Thus, the need of the hour is to use the water resources in a sustainable manner in agriculture as well as other sectors.

According to a Central Water Commission report, total freshwater available in India is estimated at 4,000 billion cubic metre (Bm³), of which only 1,123 Bm³ is utilised while the remainder is lost. India's utilisable freshwater resources equal 1,123 Bm³; 690 Bm³ surface water and 433 Bm³ groundwater, where the share of agriculture in water resources is 82%, households 9%, industry 2% and the remaining 7% is for all other purposes. However, in the case of groundwater, the share of agriculture,



In the last five decades, the government has primarily focused on water-intensive crops such as wheat, paddy to achieve National Food Security Mission

urban households and rural inhabitants is at 89, 50 and 85 per cent respectively.

In India, groundwater is extensively pumped from many aquifers to provide water for domestic, industrial and agricultural uses. When the rate of extraction exceeds the rate of recharge by natural processes, groundwater is said to be in a state of overdraft and water levels drop. Under prolonged overdraft conditions, the water level of an aquifer can fall to a depth where it is no longer economically feasible to pump and the resource becomes exhausted.

Overexploitation of Groundwater

According to a NITI Aayog report, India is the largest extractor of groundwater in the world. In fact, overexploitation of groundwater is contributing to "the

worst water crisis in its history". The reasons for the rise in overdevelopment and ever expanding overdeveloped districts in the country are oversubsidised power, (helps cheap extraction of groundwater) and absence of regulation on withdrawal of groundwater.

Another reason, and a major contributor to reducing the water quality, is soil erosion. Soil erosion from agricultural land increases loading of nutrient-enriched sediment into surface water which negatively affects the aquatic organism. In addition, the use of fertilizers, especially the content of nitrogen and phosphorous generally limits algal growth in lakes and reservoirs causing dramatic shifts in aquatic ecosystems. The excess application of manure to cropland would lead to NO₃ leaching to groundwater. In addition, zoonotic pathogens present in manure can impair water quality and pose a public health concern. Pesticides used in agriculture pose another threat to water quality. Pesticides can migrate off the farm and into the food chain.

It is fact that about 90% of the water is consumed in India's farming and about 80% of this irrigation is used for water-intensive crops like paddy, wheat and sugarcane, which has high water retention. Thus, farmers need to go for crop

varieties of paddy, wheat and sugarcane, which require less water. This can be one of the effective ways of solving India's water problems. In India, most farmers grow these water-intensive crops even in drought-prone areas too due to the steady demand for these crops. The government also emphasises food security through various incentives to farmers.

Addressing Conservation

The biggest irony is that since the last five decades, the government has primarily procured wheat, paddy to increase the buffer stock of foodgrains in order to achieve the National Food Security Mission. Therefore, it is time we diversified into crops, especially less water-intensive ones like millets, pulses and oilseeds in drought-prone areas, which can directly help the nutrition security of India in addition to creating an enormous and steady demand for these crops. Farmers in the dry land area must be incentivised to grow such less water-intensive crops.

Thus, it is necessary for State governments as well as other institutions and stakeholders to come up with a long-term solution to address the conservation of water resources and equal accessibility for all. The first and foremost is to evolve a better strategy that includes integrated water resource management for conservation and equitable distribution; with provisions of water policy regulatory mechanisms with differential entitlements and pricing.

Secondly, rehabilitate old and run down systems, expand irrigation where feasible, incentivise promotion of water-neutral or water-positive technologies, recharge underground water sources, sprinklers, drip irrigation and ridge and furrow irrigation.

Thirdly, go for a holistic approach to restore healthy water resources: land, water and agriculture being State and/Concurrent subjects, there is a need for such institutional arrangement for addressing grassroots level implementation issues; strategising policies for bringing better coherence among various policies/programmes aimed at agricultural/water use sustainability; and monitoring progress towards sustainability by setting specific physical targets, timelines and arranging money and incentive structure for enhanced public and private investment.

(The author is a Research Associate at ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi)

The Tribune 26-March-2021

Scanty rain, damaged *kuhls* have Kangra farmers worried

LALIT MOHAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, MARCH 25

As if scanty rain in February and March was not enough, damage to *kuhls* is causing additional worries to the farmers in Kangra district. After deficient rainfall, *kuhls* are the only reliable source of irrigation. The farmers are complaining that most of the *kuhls* in the area are damaged. They are alleging that because of lack of maintenance of *kuhls* in many areas by the Irrigation Department farmers are not getting water.

Kuhls are drains which carry water from natural streams. These are the traditional source of irrigation.

In Panchrukhi, farmers are complaining that the Ladoh-Panchrukhi *kuhl* is not working. Kuldeep Sharma, former village pradhan, alleged that in the past 10 years, the department had spent about Rs 1.5 crore on the maintenance of *kuhls*. However, it was still broken at many places. Even the small dam, constructed in a rivulet to divert water to the *kuhl*, is damaged. The result is that farmers of the area were not getting water for irrigation.

Satish Sharma, another farmer, said in Panchrukhi, the wheat crop on about 200 acres was on the verge of getting damaged in absence

The dried up Ladoh-Panchrukhi *kuhl*. TRIBUNE PHOTO

TRADITIONAL SOURCE OF IRRIGATION

- *Kuhls* are drains which carry water from natural streams. These are the traditional source of irrigation.
- Farmers allege that because of lack of maintenance of *kuhls*, they are not getting water.

WHEAT CROP ON 200 ACRES FACE THREAT

“The wheat crop on about 200 acres is on the verge of getting damaged. Farmers will not be able to recover even their cost of sowing. We have written to the Chief Minister and IPH officials, requesting them to repair the *kuhl*. However, no action has been taken. — Satish Sharma, A FARMER

of irrigation facility. The farmers would not be able to recover even their cost of sowing if any irrigation facility was not made available.

“We have written to the Chief Minister and IPH officials, requesting them that the water stream should be repaired, however, no action has been taken,” he said.

Kangra district has about 400 *kuhls*. Of these, about 100 *kuhls* are maintained by the department while the remaining 300 are maintained by villagers.

Superintending Engineer, IPH, Suresh Mahajan said under the PM Krishi Yojana, 111 *kuhls* would be concretised. Of these, 39 were in Kangra.

Business Line 26-March-2021

‘Two hydro electric projects fully compliant with Indus Water Treaty’

India assures Pakistan that data on Pakal Dul, lower Kalnai projects would be shared

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, March 25

Pakistan raised concerns on the design of the two Indian hydro electric projects – the 1,000 MW Pakal Dul and the 48 MW Lower Kalnai – on tributaries of the Chenab river, at the Permanent Indus Commission meeting this week, but India maintained that these are fully compliant with the Indus Water Treaty.

“Discussions continued on the designs of two Indian projects, namely, Pakal Dul (1,000 MW) and Lower Kalnai (48 MW). Indian side held that these projects are fully compliant with the provisions of the Treaty and



Pakistan also requested India for information on the other Indian hydropower projects that are being planned

provided the technical data in support of its position,” the MEA said in a statement at the conclusion of the two day meeting on Wednesday.

Treaty details

Under the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty, signed between India and Pakistan in 1960, the two Commissioners are required to meet at least once every year, alternately in India and Pakistan. “The meeting could not be held last year due to restrictions induced by the prevailing Covid-19

pandemic situation,” the release said. Pakistan requested India for information on design of other Indian hydropower projects being planned to be developed. “Indian side assured that the information (on other projects) will be supplied as and when required under the provisions of the Treaty,” the release added.

As per the Indus Water Treaty, the eastern rivers of Beas, Sutlej and Ravi are under India's control, while Pakistan controls the western rivers of Indus, Chenab and Jhelum.

Jansatta 26-March-2021

यमुना जल आपूर्ति पर यथास्थिति बरकरार रखने का आदेश

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 25 मार्च।

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने गुरुवार को पंजाब व हरियाणा की सरकारों और अन्य को शुक्रवार तक दिल्ली में यमुना के पानी की आपूर्ति पर यथास्थिति बरकरार रखने का निर्देश दिया। सुप्रीम कोर्ट दिल्ली जल बोर्ड (डीजेबी) द्वारा दायर एक अर्जी पर सुनवाई कर रहा था। इसमें हरियाणा सरकार को यमुना में प्रदूषक तत्वों को छोड़े जाने से रोकने और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी को पर्याप्त पानी देने के निर्देश दिए जाने का अनुरोध किया गया है।

मुख्य न्यायाधीश शरद अरविंद बोबडे, न्यायमूर्ति एस बोपन्ना और न्यायमूर्ति वी रामासुब्रह्मण्यम के तीन सदस्यीय पीठ ने हरियाणा, पंजाब और भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबंधन बोर्ड (बीबीएमबी) को नोटिस जारी किए और

उन्हें शुक्रवार तक अर्जी पर अपने जवाब देने के निर्देश दिए। जल बोर्ड की ओर से पेश वरिष्ठ वकील अभिषेक मनु सिंघवी ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में जल स्तर गिर गया है। हरियाणा की ओर से पेश हुए वरिष्ठ वकील श्याम दीवान ने कहा कि पानी की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति की गई है।

मामले में पेश हुए वरिष्ठ वकील विकास सिंह ने कहा कि पानी के स्तर की पुष्टि करने के लिए एक अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त होना चाहिए। इसका प्रतिवाद करते हुए दीवान ने कहा कि मामले में अदालती आयुक्त की नियुक्ति के लिए कोई अर्जी दायर नहीं की गई है। पीठ ने कहा—यह पानी के मौलिक अधिकार से जुड़ा मामला है। हम इस तकनीकी मुद्दे पर नहीं जाएंगे कि क्या अर्जी के बाद ही अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त किया जा सकता है। अगर जरूरत हुई तो हम नियुक्त कर सकते हैं। जल बोर्ड की ओर से ही वकील गौतम नारायण ने

दलील दी कि हरियाणा का कहना है कि वे कुछ मरम्मत का काम कर रहे हैं।

सिंघवी ने कहा कि नहर में मरम्मत का काम मार्च और अप्रैल में नहीं होना चाहिए जब पानी की मांग सबसे ज्यादा होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि जल बोर्ड ने पिछले महीने हरियाणा को इस मुद्दे पर कई पत्र लिखे लेकिन किसी का भी जवाब नहीं आया। उन्होंने कहा—हमारी दो करोड़ की शहरी आबादी है। हमारे पास लुटियंस दिल्ली भी है और आम आदमी भी है। इससे 25 फीसद जल आपूर्ति में कटौती होगी। पीठ ने अर्जी पर नोटिस जारी करते हुए कहा कि वह मामले पर शुक्रवार को सुनवाई करेगा।

अदालत में दायर नई अर्जी में जल बोर्ड ने कहा है कि हरियाणा सरकार को पानी छोड़ने के निर्देश दिए जाएं ताकि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में पानी की गंभीर किल्लत की आशंका से बचा जा सके।

Rajasthan Patrika 26-March-2021

यूपी-एमपी के बीच औपचारिक करार

केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना का सपना होने जा रहा साकार

बुंदेलखंड में अब नहीं होगी पानी की किल्लत:मोदी

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
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लखनऊ. उत्तर प्रदेश के बुंदेलखंड में लोगों की पानी की समस्याएं दूर करने के लिए पीएम मोदी सरकार ने बड़ा फैसला लिया है। पीएम मोदी सरकार ने बुंदेलखंड में सूखे के संकट दूर करने को लेकर केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना की मुहिम छेड़ दी है। अब केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना एक बड़ा आकार लेगी। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की मौजूदगी में लगभग डेढ़ दशक से भी ज्यादा समय से अटकी पड़ी केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना को लेकर यूपी और एमपी सरकार के बीच औपचारिक करार हो गया है।

आयोजित वर्चुअल कार्यक्रम में केन्द्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत, यूपी के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ और एमपी के मुख्यमंत्री



शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने करार पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर कर इस परियोजना को औपचारिक स्वीकृति दे दी है। अब इस करार के बाद यूपी को 1700 एमसीएम पानी मिलेगा, जिससे बुंदेलखंड के 2.51 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में बेहतर सिंचाई व्यवस्था हो जाएगी।

जल दिवस पर वर्चुअल कार्यक्रम में पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी ने इसे 'ऐतिहासिक' करार देते हुए कहा कि समझौता पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर महज एक

केन-बेतवा परियोजना में क्या है खास

बुंदेलखण्ड क्षेत्र में उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश को सिंचाई व पेयजल की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने हेतु साल अगस्त-2005 में केन्द्र सरकार, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार और मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के मध्य केन-बेतवा नदी बेसिन के जल बंटवारे को लेकर समझौता हुआ था, लेकिन बाद की सरकारों द्वारा कोई कार्यवाही

नहीं की गई। परियोजना से उत्तर प्रदेश के जनपद-महोबा, ललितपुर, हमीरपुर, झांसी एवं बांदा में कुल 2.51 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्रफल में सिंचाई व्यवस्था उपलब्ध और सुदृढ़ की जाएगी। नपद-झांसी, ललितपुर और महोबा के क्षेत्रों में लगभग 21 लाख जनसंख्या को पेयजल की सुविधा उपलब्ध हो सकेगी।

कागज पर दस्तखत भर नहीं है, बल्कि यह समूचे बुंदेलखंड के सुनहरे भविष्य की भाग्य रेखा है। जल प्रबंधन के इस प्रयास से बुंदेलखंड की प्यास भी बुझेगी और प्रगति भी होगी। केन-बेतवा लिंक परियोजना से शुरू हो रहा नदी जोड़ो अभियान देश में नदी जल प्रबंधन

की दिशा में एक ःति है। इसका लाभ पीढ़ीं तक मिलता रहेगा। इसका सीधा फायदा बुंदेलखंड के 5 जिलों को होगा, जिसमें बांदा, झांसी, महोबा, ललितपुर और हमीरपुर जिले शामिल हैं।

मुख्यमंत्री योगी ने अपने सम्बोधन में कही ये बात: इस

अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने इसे पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के सपनों को साकार होना बताया है। सीएम ने कहा कि इस समझौते से बुंदेलखण्ड क्षेत्र के जनपद बांदा, झांसी, महोबा, ललितपुर एवं हमीरपुर में कुल 2.51 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में सिंचाई व्यवस्था उपलब्ध एवं मजबूत होगी। इसके साथ ही झांसी, महोबा, ललितपुर एवं हमीरपुर में पेयजल हेतु 21 लाख की जनसंख्या को 67 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर जल उपलब्ध कराया जा सकेगा। इस परियोजना के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश के पन्ना जनपद में केन नदी पर दौधन बांध बनाया जाएगा। जिससे 221 किलोमीटर लम्बी लिंक चैनल निकाली जाएगी, जो कि झांसी के निकट बरुआ में बेतवा नदी को जल उपलब्ध कराएगी।

Haribhoomi 26-March-2021

दिल्ली जल बोर्ड द्वारा दायर अर्जी पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने दिया निर्देश | दिल्ली में यमुना के पानी की आपूर्ति पर यथास्थिति बरकरार रखें, हरियाणा, पंजाब व बीबीएमबी को नोटिस किया जारी

एजेसी नई दिल्ली

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने गुरुवार को पंजाब, हरियाणा सरकारों और अन्य को शुक्रवार तक दिल्ली में यमुना के पानी की आपूर्ति पर यथास्थिति बरकरार रखने का निर्देश दिया।

सुप्रीम कोर्ट दिल्ली जल बोर्ड (डीजेबी) द्वारा दायर एक अर्जी पर सुनवाई कर रहा था जिसमें हरियाणा सरकार को यमुना में प्रदूषक तत्वों को छोड़े जाने से रोकने और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी को पर्याप्त पानी देने के निर्देश दिए जाने का अनुरोध

किया गया है। प्रधान न्यायाधीश एसए बोबडे, न्यायमूर्ति एस बोपन्ना और न्यायमूर्ति वी रामसुब्रह्मण्यम की तीन सदस्यीय पीठ ने हरियाणा, पंजाब और भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबंधन बोर्ड (बीबीएमबी) को नोटिस जारी किए और उन्हें शुक्रवार तक अर्जी पर अपने जवाब देने के निर्देश दिए। जल बोर्ड की ओर से पेश वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता एएम सिंघवी ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में जल स्तर गिर गया है। हरियाणा की ओर से पेश हुए वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता श्याम दीवान ने कहा कि पानी की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति की गई है।



यह पानी के मौलिक अधिकार से जुड़ा मामला

मामले में पेश हुए वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता विकास सिंह ने कहा कि पानी के स्तर की पुष्टि करने के लिए एक अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त होना चाहिए। दीवान ने कहा कि मामले में अदालती आयुक्त की नियुक्ति के लिए कोई अर्जी दायर नहीं की गई। पीठ ने कहा कि यह पानी के मौलिक अधिकार से जुड़ा मामला है। हम इस तकनीकी मुद्दे पर नहीं जाएंगे कि क्या अर्जी के बाद ही अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त किया जा सकता है। अगर जरूरत हुई तो हम

नियुक्त कर सकते हैं। जल बोर्ड की ओर से ही अधिवक्ता गौतम नारायण ने दलील दी कि हरियाणा का कहना है कि वे कुछ मरम्मत का काम कर रहे हैं। सिंघवी ने कहा कि नहर में मरम्मत का काम मार्च और अप्रैल में नहीं होना चाहिए जब पानी की मांग सबसे ज्यादा होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि जल बोर्ड ने पिछले महीने हरियाणा को इस मुद्दे पर कई पत्र लिखे लेकिन किसी का भी जवाब नहीं आया। उन्होंने कहा कि

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Punjab Kesari 26-March-2021

यमुना से दिल्ली को जलापूर्ति मामले में यथास्थिति बरकरार रखने का निर्देश

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : उच्चतम न्यायालय ने बृहस्पतिवार को पंजाब, हरियाणा सरकारों और अन्य को शुक्रवार तक दिल्ली में यमुना के पानी की आपूर्ति पर यथास्थिति बरकरार रखने का निर्देश दिया। उच्चतम न्यायालय दिल्ली जल बोर्ड (डीजेबी) द्वारा दायर एक अर्जी पर सुनवाई कर रहा था जिसमें हरियाणा सरकार को यमुना में प्रदूषक तत्वों को छोड़े जाने से रोकने और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी को पर्याप्त पानी देने के निर्देश दिए जाने का अनुरोध किया गया है। प्रधान न्यायाधीश एस ए बोबडे, न्यायमूर्ति ए एस बोपन्ना और न्यायमूर्ति वी रामसुब्रह्मण्यम की तीन सदस्यीय पीठ ने हरियाणा, पंजाब और भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबंधन बोर्ड (बीबीएमबी) को नोटिस जारी किए और उन्हें शुक्रवार तक अर्जी पर अपने जवाब देने के निर्देश दिये। जल बोर्ड की ओर से पेश वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता ए एम सिंघवी ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में जल स्तर गिर गया है। हरियाणा की ओर से पेश हुए वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता श्याम दीवान ने कहा कि पानी की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति की गई है। मामले में पेश हुए वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता विकास सिंह ने कहा कि पानी के स्तर की पुष्टि करने के लिए एक अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त होना चाहिए।

दीवान ने कहा कि मामले में अदालती आयुक्त की नियुक्ति के लिए कोई अर्जी दायर नहीं की गई। पीठ ने कहा, “यह पानी के मौलिक अधिकार से जुड़ा मामला है। हम इस तकनीकी मुद्दे पर



● तीन सदस्यीय पीठ ने हरियाणा, पंजाब और भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबंधन बोर्ड को नोटिस जारी किए

नहीं जाएंगे कि क्या अर्जी के बाद ही अदालती आयुक्त नियुक्त किया जा सकता है। अगर जरूरत हुई तो हम नियुक्त कर सकते हैं।” जल बोर्ड ओर से ही अधिवक्ता गौतम नारायण ने दलील दी कि हरियाणा का कहना है कि वे कुछ मरम्मत का काम कर रहे हैं। सिंघवी ने कहा कि नहर में मरम्मत का काम मार्च और अप्रैल में नहीं होना चाहिए जब पानी की मांग सबसे ज्यादा होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि जल बोर्ड ने पिछले महीने हरियाणा को इस मुद्दे पर कई पत्र लिखे लेकिन किसी का भी जवाब नहीं आया।

कॉलेजियम की सिफारिशों पर एटर्नी जनरल से जवाब-तलब

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने उच्च न्यायालयों में न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति के लिए कॉलेजियम द्वारा की गयी 55 नामों की सिफारिशों पर विचार करने को लेकर गुरुवार को एटर्नी जनरल के के वेणुगोपाल से वक्तव्य देने को कहा। न्यायाधीशों के नामों की ये सिफारिशें लंबे समय से लंबित हैं। मुख्य न्यायाधीश शरद अरविंद बोबडे, न्यायमूर्ति संजय किशन कौल और न्यायमूर्ति सूर्यकांत की खंड पीठ ने ‘पीएलआर प्रोजेक्ट्स लिमिटेड बनाम महानदी कोलफील्ड्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड’ मामले की सुनवाई के दौरान कहा, ‘हमने (न्यायाधीशों के) नाम तय किये हैं, लेकिन विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय ने छह माह से अधिक बीत जाने के बाद भी इसे हरी झंडी नहीं दी है।’ न्यायमूर्ति कौल ने कहा, ‘45 नाम ऐसे हैं जिनकी सिफारिशें उच्च न्यायालयों ने की हैं, लेकिन उन्हें सुप्रीम कोर्ट कॉलेजियम नहीं भेजा गया है। दस नाम ऐसे भी हैं जिन्हें कॉलेजियम ने हरी झंडी दे दी है लेकिन सरकार की ओर से अधिसूचना जारी नहीं हो पा रही है।’