

Times of India- 28- October-2021

DJB to give direct water connections

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board (DJB) will provide household water connection to all the consumers, and intermediaries will be removed, Delhi government said in a statement. "It includes laying water pipelines and installation of meters at consumers' premises. This approval will help in resolving complaints of water contamination, reduce unauthorised connections and increase the number of functional meters in the network of the board," said the statement, issued on Tuesday night after water Minister Satyendar Jain held a meeting with DJB officials.

DJB currently maintains over 13,000km of water pipeline network, but the connection from the pipeline to individual households was the responsibility of in-

dividual consumers.

"Many times, it was observed that due to damaged pipeline and leakage at joints, contamination was caused, which could not be resolved by DJB because it was beyond its jurisdiction. With the new policy, DJB can now rectify problems of old pipelines in the existing colonies and provide new meter connections in upcoming colonies," the statement said.

For meter connections, DJB approved a cost of Rs 4,000 for colonies under A, B, C category; Rs 2,000 for D and E category and a flat rate of Rs 1,000 for F, G, H category colonies and villages, respectively. For commercial connections, the rate will be double of domestic category, i.e., Rs 8,000; Rs 4,000 and Rs 2,000, respectively. IANS

The Hindu- 28- October-2021

Chances of opening dam shutters rise

Tamil Nadu ready to release Mullaperiyar water on Friday: Minister

GIJI K. RAMAN
IDUKKI

The chances of opening the spillway shutters of Mullaperiyar dam have increased with the water level reaching close to the upper rule curve level fixed by the Central Water Commission (CWC).

The water level reached 137.75 ft by 7 p.m. on Wednesday after remaining steady at 136.60 ft from Tuesday morning.

Water Resources Minister Roshy Augustine said the dam would be opened on Friday. The water from the Mullaperiyar dam will reach the Idukki reservoir which at present is on orange alert le-

vel. Mr. Augustine said that Tamil Nadu officials had informed that if the water level did not decline, the dam would be opened on Friday.

As per the rule curve till October 31, the upper rule curve level is 138 ft. The new upper rule curve level will come into effect from November 1 which is 139.50 ft.

According to the officials, the dam will be opened at 7 a.m. The district administration has made arrangements to open the dam, said the Minister.

On Tuesday, the high power committee had decided to follow the rule curve of Mullaperiyar dam. A detailed re-

port of the rule curve was submitted before the Supreme Court last week. The maximum storage level is 142 ft. As per the decision, water will be released when it reaches 138 ft.

Kerala had earlier demanded Tamil Nadu to inform the State at least 24 hours prior to the opening of the dam.

IMD forecast

Earlier in the day, Revenue Minister K. Rajan, citing India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasts, said the State was likely to receive isolated heavy rainfall till October 31 under the influence

of a westward-moving low pressure area formed in the Bay of Bengal. Yellow alerts have been issued in several districts, including Idukki till October 31.

Given the possibility of northeast monsoon rainfall strengthening, arrangements have been made to open 20 relief camps within 27 km of the Mullaperiyar dam. The Idukki district administration has collected the details, including mobile phone numbers, of more than 3,000 people belonging to 884 families so that prompt communication was possible in the event of an emergency, Mr. Rajan said.

The Hindu- 28- October-2021

Mullaperiyar water level can stay, says panel

But Kerala does not agree, SC told

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supervisory Committee recommended in the Supreme Court on Wednesday that there is no need to change the water level in the Mullaperiyar dam.

Appearing before a Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar, Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, for the committee, informed the court that Kerala did not agree with its opinion.

Tamil Nadu said the water level in the dam was 137.6 ft on Wednesday. Kerala

wants the court to direct Tamil Nadu, which manages the dam, to not allow the water stored to cross 139 ft.

It said that an increase in the water level and its eventual release would risk floods, and endanger the lives of lakhs of people in Kerala.

Tamil Nadu argued that Kerala was exaggerating. Rain had already stopped. Besides, there were the top court's judgments that fixed the maximum water level at 142 feet.

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The court asked Kerala to respond to the committee report on Thursday.

Ms. Bhati was given two days' time on Monday to report back to the court with the decision of the supervisory committee.

"The water level is 137.6 ft. Rainfall has abated," said senior advocate Shekhar Naphade, for Tamil Nadu. "In social media in Kerala there is a continuous campaign going on. The Kerala Chief

Minister has made a statement in the Assembly that all these apprehensions are misplaced."

The case concerns a petition filed by Idukki resident Dr. Joe Joseph and office-bearers of the Kothamangalam block panchayat in Kerala, who had expressed their apprehensions about the supervision of water levels in the Mullaperiyar dam located along the Periyar tiger reserve.

Millennium Post- 28- October-2021

Fruitful endeavour

Nexus of Good



ANIL SWARUP

A young IAS officer made water conservation a people's campaign in districts of Uttarakhand, showcasing its benefits

Importance of water conservation is gradually getting recognised by one and all. There is a realisation that this aspect cannot be postponed anymore. Recognising the gravity of the situation, Government of India (GoI) launched 'Catch the Rain' campaign to prioritise and speed up water conservation works.

When Mayur Dixit, a young IAS officer, got posted as Chief Development Officer in Almora district in Uttarakhand, he could discern the need for working towards rejuvenation of river Kosi flowing in Kumaon region of the state. This river has been the lifeline of Almora town and many other adjoining towns and villages. Rejuvenation of the river had also been the priority of the state government but was perhaps not taken up at the local level in the right earnest.

Even at this young age, Mayur realised that the plan will have to be a people's campaign rather than a government programme. Hence, village representatives, SHG groups, schools, NGOs, armed forces and mahila- and yuvak mangal dals were involved right from the beginning. GIS technology was used to ensure efficiency and proper monitoring. Funds were arranged using convergence from schemes like MGNREGA and CAMPA. The adopted methodology entailed extensive plantation of broad-leaf trees and creation of mechanical structures like infiltration trenches and holes, small ponds in the catchment area of river Kosi and its tributaries. It was evident that the river, not being glacier-fed, could be recharged only by



The exposed benefits will prioritise water conservation at the village level

raising the groundwater level in the catchment area, thereby rejuvenating the streams and tributaries of the river. Millions of plants have been planted, along with creating trenches and other structures in this process which commenced in January 2018. The process is still on. This effort of the district administration has been recognised by the Government of India. The district received the National Water Award. It has also registered its name in Limca Book of Records for planting a maximum number of trees in one hour across 110 villages. The results of the water conservation efforts have started to show up and the river has now recorded an increase in water flow. GB Pant Institute of Environmental Studies, located near Almora, has been tasked by the GoI to monitor and provide scientific support to the district admin-

istration. Future challenges are likely to continue. There will be challenges in sustaining the momentum and getting people's support in maintaining water conservation-related activities. However, in view of the visible benefits accruing to all, there is a likelihood of continued priority being accorded to water conservation-related schemes at the village level. For the same reason, it is also felt that the concerned departments will remain motivated towards the task.

After getting transferred to Udham Singh Nagar District as Chief Development Officer, Mayur discovered that rejuvenating water bodies appeared to be even more critical in this district. Udham Singh Nagar lies in the terai region and is also known as the wheat & rice bowl of Uttarakhand. Agricultural practices are water intensive in this area as most of the

irrigation is done through tube wells. This has led to a steep depletion of the groundwater table in recent years. So, the district administration decided to recharge the groundwater table by identifying and rejuvenating village ponds across the district. More than 550 traditional ponds were identified using revenue records, and joint teams of revenue, block, Panchayati raj and other departments were made to remove encroachments from these water bodies. Alongside, development plans were made for using MGNREGA and NRLM schemes. Ponds were cleaned, dug up before monsoons and then were handed over to SHG groups for fisheries, horticulture and other livelihood activities. Rainwater now filled ponds which were once encroached. This has acted as a motivating factor for the team. Several challenges were faced during this campaign, including convincing farmers and villagers to give up encroached land for pond creation, excessive pollution and garbage dumping in village ponds, inadequate MGNREGS labour rate and excessive supply of groundwater (due to numerous tube wells). The locals could not initially visualise the consequences of depletion of groundwater level. These were indeed major challenges. Regular monitoring and coordination from district administration, creating employment opportunities for local SHGs and use of technology in demarcation & mapping helped overcoming these challenges.

Learning from his previous two experiences, when Mayur got posted as District Magis-

trate in Uttarkashi, he adopted a similar approach here as well. Two major rivers of India, Ganga and Yamuna, have their origins in the district. There are several high-altitude wetlands and lakes in the district that store rainwater and recharge groundwater tables. However, on account of erratic rainfall, urbanisation and soil erosion, many of the streams which used to originate naturally in these mountains were either completely lost or their discharge had decreased substantially. Mayur initiated Mission Indravati in the district to rejuvenate the Indravati river. This river is a major tributary of river Bhagirathi (Ganga) but has seen reduced discharge in recent years. Work has begun in 10 villages and higher-reach forest areas from where the river originates. Construction of check dams, trenches, plantation and ponds is planned using GIS methodology. Meetings have been conducted in all villages and an implementation plan has been developed with Gram Panchayats themselves.

Mayur has demonstrated that a civil servant with vision, passion and meticulous planning can deliver. Another remarkable feature of his style of functioning is taking all the stakeholders into confidence right from the planning stage itself. This makes them partners in the decision-making process, and makes execution of his ideas seamless. He is also making use of his learnings wherever he has got posted so far. What Mayur has achieved so early in his career is truly exemplary and inspiring. He presents a great example of Nexus of Good.

Views expressed are personal

Convincing farmers and villagers to give up encroached land for pond creation had been one of the many challenges faced by the officer

Financial Express- 28- October-2021

**Work on Nag River
revitalisation
project approved**

THE WORK ON the ₹2,117-crore Nag River revitalisation project in Nagpur will start soon, with the finance ministry's expenditure finance committee giving its approval, an official statement said on Wednesday. The project was conceptualised by Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari.

Rajasthan Patrika- 28- October-2021

जलवायु परिवर्तन उपायों के निवेश में भारत शीर्ष 10 देशों में

अमरीका पहले, चीन दूसरे, स्वीडन तीसरे और ब्रिटेन चौथे नंबर पर

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
patrika.com

लंदन. जलवायु परिवर्तन के बढ़ रहे दुष्प्रभावों को रोकने के लिए भारत प्रभावी कदम उठा रहा है। पेरिस समझौते के बाद पांच साल में भारत जलवायु प्रौद्योगिकी निवेश के मामले में शीर्ष 10 देशों की सूची में नौवें स्थान पर है।

भारतीय जलवायु प्रौद्योगिकी कंपनियों ने 2016 से 2021 के बीच निवेश के रूप में एक अरब डॉलर

पेरिस समझौते के बाद निवेश...

जलवायु परिवर्तन को लेकर हुए पेरिस समझौते के बाद अमरीका में सबसे अधिक निवेश हुआ है। इस दिशा में काम के मामले में यूरोप सबसे आगे है। जलवायु परिवर्तन को रोकने के लिए ब्रिटेन में हर स्तर पर सबसे प्रभावी कदम उठाए गए हैं। इसके पीछे क्लाइमेट से जुड़ी 416 कंपनियां हैं जो दुनिया के किसी देश से अधिक हैं।

प्राप्त किए हैं। यह खुलासा ग्लासगो में होने वाले जलवायु परिवर्तन सम्मेलन 'सीओपी26' से ठीक पहले लंदन एंड पार्टनर्स और डीलरूम की ओर से जारी रिपोर्ट में हुआ है।



अमरीका में 5 तो ब्रिटेन में 7 गुना निवेश

2016 से अब तक वैश्विक जलवायु तकनीक निवेश अमरीका में करीब पांच गुना तो ब्रिटेन में सात गुना अधिक हुआ है। इससे उम्मीद है कि शून्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन में मदद मिलेगी।

ये हैं शीर्ष दस देश

पेरिस समझौते के बाद दुनिया में 494.80 अरब डॉलर का निवेश हुआ।

देश	कितना निवेश
अमरीका	48.7
चीन	18.6
स्वीडन	5.8
ब्रिटेन	4.3
फ्रांस	3.7
जर्मनी	2.7
कनाडा	1.4
नीदरलैंड	1.3
भारत	1.0
सिंगापुर	0.70

निवेश
अरब डॉलर
में है।