Telangana Today- 30- August-2021

Tenders for 3 reservoirs soon

Government to construct 10 tmcft capacity reservoir at Lingampally village

STATE BUREAU
Warangal

Ministers Errabelli Dayakar Rao and Satyavathi Rathod at a review meeting on Devadula project works, in Warangal on Sunday.

The State government will call for tenders for construction of three reservoirs - Uppugallu, Palakurthy and Chennur - under package 6 of the J Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Project soon, Ministers Errabelli Dayakar Rao and Satyavathi Rathod said here on Sunday.

A 10 tmcft capacity reservoir would also be constructed as part of the lift irrigation project at Lingampally village in Station Ghanpur constituency to provide irrigation facility to upland areas in Jangaon district, they said.

Addressing a review meeting on minor irrigation and JCR Devadula Project works in erstwhile Warangal district on Sunday, the Ministers said successive government in united Andhra Pradesh had neglected the Devadula Lift Irrigation Project.

"The lift irrigation project was initially proposed to irrigate 1,22,700 acres with a capacity of 5.18 tcmft. But it was neglected by successive governments. However, after the formation of Telangana State, Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao redesigned the project to provide irrigation facility to 6.25 lakh acres utilising 60 tmcft of water from Godavari river. As part of this, the construction of the Sammakka-Saralamma barrage at Tupakulagudem was undertaken to lift Godavari water for nine months," they said, adding that the present storage capacity under the Devadula outcrop was only eight tmcft.

"In view of this, the government will construct 10 tmcft capacity reservoir at Lingampally besides constructing the three other reservoirs," they said and asked the officials to complete the pending land acquisition for construction of Devadula canals in all the constituencies including Narsampet, Parkal, Palakurthi and Janagaon at the earliest. They also added that check dams would be constructed in every constituency in erstwhile Warangal district wherever they are required. MPs, MLAs attended the meeting.

Deccan Chronicle- 30- August-2021

26% DEFICIT RAIN IN AUGUST SO FAR, SAYS IMD

New Delhi, Aug. 29: The rainfall in August has been deficient by 26 per cent so far, with shortfalls in two successive months triggering fear of a below normal monsoon this year.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD) data, the rainfall in July was seven per cent less than normal.

"August recorded 26 per cent deficiency till yesterday (August 28)," IMD Director General Mrutunjay Mohapatra said, adding that the shortfall has been recorded in north and central India.

June recorded 10 per cent more rainfall.

The IMD will soon release a forecast for September, he said. The shortfalls in two successive months in the four-month Southwest Monsoon season from June 1 to September 30 have triggered fear of a below normal monsoon this year.

The IMD had earlier predicted a normal monsoon this year.

Skymet Weather, a private weather forecasting agency, has downgraded their forecast to a below normal monsoon this year.

The Pioneer- 30- August-2021

Watering the droughts with Israel

It is now India's responsibility to provide the right platform and allocate necessary resources to expedite the implementation of water projects

PADMALOCHAN **DASH**

(The writer is an ICSSR Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of National Security Studies,Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.)

Towards the actualisation of the Indian Prime Minister's envisaged Water Mission, it is argued that an autonomous "Institute of Indo-Israel Strategic Partnership in Water" be given official sanction at the earliest. It is believed that this proposed institute can be the catalyst in the achievement of India's water-security objectives.

In the face of rising water scarcity, the issue of water security has become a focus area. Pollution, climate change, population growth, and groundwater depletion are putting pressure on water resources making water management a big challenge. And to overcome this, the country requires suitable technological interventions. India, by going for a projected institutionised water-partnership with Israel, can attain this objective.

There are areas where the prospects of Indo-Israel water cooperation are high. These include the areas of water conservation, water recycling, integrated water infrastructures in the field of irrigation, advance transportation and networking models for drinking water, advance water practices, and building a sustainable water eco-system. These are some of the critical areas which demand promising research and innovation.

Restoration of Water Ecosystem: Freshwater ecosystems are subject to multiple anthropogenic threats, and restoration initiatives are important to break the impending ecological crisis and protect the biodiversity for

the future generation to sustain. A modern water infrastructure system is needed to contribute to the enhancement and restoration of the water ecosystem.

Critical desalination initiative (CDI): There is a pressing need for curtailing the pressure on freshwater reserve; and as an alternative, it requires harnessing water through the desalination process. Sea water harvesting, ifcatalysed and then channelised for the regular household, industrial and agricultural usages,can help in minimisingscarcity fears.India, with a 7,500-kilometre coastline, has a huge potential for CDI. It is envisioned that CDI can enhance the green water inventiveness, thus fulfilling the impending water deficiencies.

The field of water management necessitates things like domain knowledge, precise technologies, and the already-implementing confrère of efficacious proficiencies. Israel has excellent technological solutions and innovations in the field and has emerged as the true world leader in the field of water management and water recycling. It generates state-of-the-art water infrastructure and alternative sources of water and India, by going in for a strategic water partnership, can greatly benefit from Israel's best water practices.

Areas requiring technological intervention which Israel can provide include water efficiency, water assessment, monitoring, measurement and management, wastewater treatment, water recycle and reuse, groundwater assessment and recharge, real-time detection and situational awareness, accurate water flow data, drip irrigation, and precise agro-water solutions.

While, the Bundelkhand water management project, the Indo-Israeli Agricultural Project (IIAP), and the Israeli-given drip irrigation technology are some of the starters, Israel is keen to further its offer for large-scale solution to water problems in India. When Union Minister of Jal Shakti visited Israel to attend the "WATEC" event, it was realised that with necessary stimulating incentives from the Indian government, Israel's expertise can becomethe effective intervention into India's several water projects.

Israel has been in the process of identifying joint areas of undertakings and is fairly leading the water solution projects in India. It is now India's responsibility to provide the right platform and allocate necessary resources so that the incubation as well as the implementation of large-scale Indo-Israel water projects becomes quicker.

Although India and Israel have established cooperation channels and joint programmes of implementation, such collaboration has to be intensive. Meanwhile, the transfer and acquisition of incubated models and technologies must be institutionally streamlined. The model National Water Scheme and Water Infrastructure Grid are the envisioned water programmes that require close attention. This will only become possible when state-of-the-art research facilities are set up under an autonomous institutional body.

India, having a huge set of diverse topographic settings and water bodies, can provide 'ample possibility of incubation' for the model water projects. In the long run, such experiments and models can be the answer to the hastily approaching water crises in India as well as across the globe at large.

The Pioneer- 30- August-2021

IMD: Rainfall in August deficient by 26%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) data has shown that rainfall in August has been deficient by 26 per cent so far, with shortfalls in two successive months triggering fear of a below normal monsoon this year.

The rainfall in July was seven per cent less than normal. "August recorded 26 per cent deficiency till yesterday (August 28)," IMD Director General Mrutunjay Mohapatra said, adding that the shortfall has been recorded in north and central India. June recorded 10 per cent more rainfall. The IMD will soon release a forecast for September, he said.

Presently, of the 694 districts, 251 witnessed deficient rainfall or drought like situation due to lack of rainfall. India received 630 mm rainfall as against the normal of 696.6 mm since the onset of the southwest monsoon on June 1, a deficiency of 10 percent. Punjab, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Lakshadweep are among the rain deficient States and Union Territories.

The shortfalls in two successive months in the four-month Southwest Monsoon season from June 1 to September 30 have triggered fear of a below normal monsoon this year.

The IMD had earlier predicted a normal monsoon this year. Skymet Weather, a private weather forecasting agency, has downgraded their forecast to a "below normal" monsoon this year.

According to the IMD data, the country received 10 per cent less rainfall from June 1 to August 28. The IMD had predicted normal rainfall for August (94 to 106 per cent of Long Period Average or LPA), but it appears that the forecast will be off the mark.

Rainfall over the country as a whole during the second half (August to September) of the 2021 Southwest Monsoon season is most likely to be normal with a tendency to be in the positive side of the normal, the IMD had said earlier this month.

The IMD has four meteorological divisions covering different parts of the country. The northwest India which covers the north Indian plains and the hill states has recorded 13 per cent less rainfall than normal.

The central India division which encompasses Gujarat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra has recorded 14 per cent deficiency.

The east and northeast India division that includes Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and the northeastern states has recorded eight per cent deficiency.

The south peninsula division which covers all the southern states has recorded 5 per cent more rainfall than normal.

The Hindu- 30- August-2021

A fine line

Infrastructure development and eco-conservation should go hand-in-hand

The need for infrastructure development in the Himalayan region rubs up against the environmental and ecological challenges that they pose. The Uttarakhand government has for decades envisaged hydroelectric projects as the way forward to power the State, premised on the region's undulating topography. However, the rising frequency of intense rains has been contributing to landslips, avalanches, and the loss of lives and property. All of this has a bearing on hydroelectric projects being situated in terrain prone to environmental shocks. In the aftermath of the devastating Kedarnath floods of 2013, the Supreme Court ordered a halt to hydroprojects in the Alaknanda and Bhagirathi river basins pending a review on whether they exacerbated the damage. The last few years have seen considerable friction on this issue, especially because the future of hydroprojects is closely linked to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programme. For the health of the river, it must be allowed to flow unimpeded, and hydropower projects are an obstacle. A committee of experts recommended to the Court that almost all hydropower projects, cleared by the Government for construction, be scrapped. Proponents of six of these projects approached the Court on the grounds that they had obtained prior clearances and scrapping projects would entail significant losses. Since then, the Centre has been trying to walk a fine line between salvaging some of them while acknowledging, at least on paper, the environmental costs.

There have been divisions even within various Central ministries: the Water Resources Ministry, which manages the NMCG, is opposed to hydropower projects while the Ministry of Power roots for them. Through the years, whenever a group of experts has recommended a cessation of infrastructure development, there is always another group of experts, usually affiliated to government institutions, that differ and recommend the opposite. The avalanche in Chamoli this February, that destroyed two power projects and killed at least 200, was only the latest reminder of the fraught risks that committees and their tussles inadequately account for. The Centre has been saying that it is not too keen on new hydropower projects and is only permitting those that are at least 50% complete to go ahead given the sunk costs. While such statements have been made in Parliament, they do not appear in the latest affidavit to the Court; so there are concerns on whether this is indeed a lasting policy commitment. Uttarakhand, like all other States, is not immune from the demands for reliable power and infrastructure from its people. Along with better dialogue, power companies and the Centre must inspire greater trust in the residents of the region: infrastructure development will have to necessarily account for the region's constraints.

Business Standard 30- August-2021

15th FC seeks ₹1.42 trn for water & sanitation

This is 60% of the total allocated amount to rural local bodies across country

RUCHIKA CHITRAVANSHI
New Delhi, 29 August

In order to push tap water supply and better sanitation facilities in villages, the Fifteenth Finance Commission (15th FC) has recommended a ₹1.42-trillion tied grant to local rural bodies and panchayats for the next five years (from 2021–22 to 2025–26).

This tied grant is 60 per cent of the total amount of ₹2.37 trillion allocated to rural local bodies and is meant for ensuring supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting, and water recycling. It is also to be used for sanitation and maintenance of open defecation-free status in villages.

The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation - under the Jal Shakti ministry - will be the nodal department for determining the eligibility of the rural local bodies for the 15th FC's tied grant for water and sanitation and has recommended the release of funds to the finance ministry. The department has recommended release of the first instalment to 25 states.

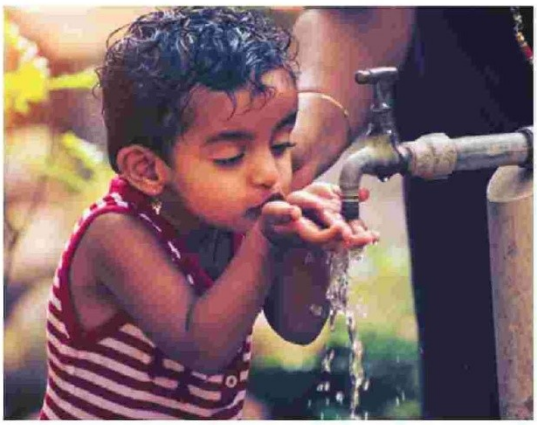
A media statement by the Jal Shakti ministry said the funds will help village panchayats function as local public utilities with a focus on service delivery. With the latest allocation, along with the budgetary support from the Centre and states, the share for the Jal Jeevan Mission is more than the ₹1 trillion available for making provision of piped water supply in villages this year.

DRIVING THE FLOW

Year-wise allocation of tied grant (In ₹ crore)

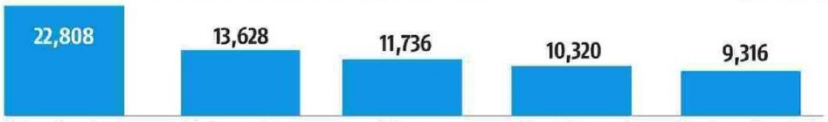
TOTAL 1,42,084

Year	Tied grant
2021-22	26,940
2022-23	27,908
2023-24	28,212
2024-25	29,880
2025-26	29,144



STATES WITH HIGHEST ALLOCATIONS

(In ₹ crore)



Source: Jal Shakti Ministry

The government is also planning to take up a massive drive to sensitise, train, and empower panchayat functionaries to utilise this fund to ensure tap water supply and improved sanitation in villages. The ministry has prepared a manual for utilisation of these funds and shared it with states to further disseminate it among panchayats in the vernacular languages.

In partnership with states to make the provision of tap water supply to every rural household, the Jal Jeevan Mission - with an outlay of ₹3.6 trillion - has been under implementation since August 2019.

The government has selected 84 institutions to act as key resource centres to impart training and capacity building of gram panchayats for ensuring assured water supply, improved sanitation, and hygiene.

"States need to identify nodal departments and put in place a system in accordance with the guidelines during the 15th FC period," observed the Jal Shakti ministry.

States have been asked to institute a robust 'operation and maintenance' policy to recover service charges from households. This is expected to help them meet the recurring expenditure on rural water supply and sanitation services in villages for long-term and assured service delivery.

For this, every village will have to draw up a five-year action plan for the same duration as the 15th FC's period. The plan will consist of components of drinking water source strengthening, water supply, greywater treatment and its reuse, operation and maintenance, solid and liquid waste management, among others.

Dainik Bhaskar- 30- August-2021

जल संकट के बीच पर्यटकों के लिए तत्पर प्रशासन

दो माह बाद नर्मदा बांध पावरप्लांट शुरू बोटिंग के लिए छोड़ा पानी

भास्कर न्यूज | केवडिया

कोरोना काल के बीच वर्तमान में पॉजिटिव केस न के बराबर है जिसके चलते सरकार की ओर से पर्यटन स्थलों को खुला किया गया है। जिससे स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी और केवडिया के अन्य स्थलों पर पर्यटकों की भीड़ सर्वाधिक आकर्षण कर रही है। ऐसा कह सकते है कि राज्य में एक दिन में 30 से 35 हजार पर्यटक दर्ज हो रहे है। ऐसे में बड़ी मात्रा में केवडिया में आने वाले पर्यटकों को बोटिंग की सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए नर्मदा में पानी छोड़ना जरूरी है। नर्मदा बांध का दो महीनों से बंद बिजलीघर शुरू करने के बाद हजारों क्यूसेक पानी नर्मदा नदी में छोड़ा जा रहा है, जिससे नर्मदा डैम से वीयरडैम तक 12 किलोमीटर का सरोवर पानी से लबालब हो गया है। इसलिए यहां बोटिंग की सुविधा शुरू कर दी गई है। नर्मदा नदी के गोरा किनारे एक सुंदर घाटी बन रही है। इधर, नर्मदा घाट का काम चल रहा था इसके लिए नर्मदा नदी खाली कर दी गई थी इसलिए रिवरबेड पावरहाऊस बंद कर दिया गया था। अब नर्मदा घाट का काम पूरा होने के बाद केवडिया से स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी तक जलमार्ग शुरू कर क्रूज बोट सेवा शुरू की गई है। इसके साथ ही नर्मदा घाट पर आरती का भी रिहर्सल भी किया जाएगा।

नर्मदा डैम का जलस्तर 24 घंटे में 28 सेमी बढ़ा

नर्मदा बांध।

अभी 47 % ही भरा नर्मदा डैम

नर्मदा डैम के जलस्तर में पिछले 24 घंटे में 28 सेमी की बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है। डैम का जलस्तर 115.95 मीटर तक पहुंचा है। ऊपरी क्षेत्र से पानी की आवक 27177 क्यूसेक है जिसकी तुलना मुख्य कैनाल में 13124 क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। कुल पानी का जत्था स्टोरेज 4339.53 मिलीयन क्यूबिक मीटर है यानि की लगभग 47 प्रतिशत भरा हुआ कह सकते है।