

Telangana Today- 07- July-2021

Water row: TS to fight on all forums

Will safeguard the interests of State and its farmers, says KCR

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

Chief Minister K Chandrashekhhar Rao reiterated that the government would put up an uncompromising fight on all forums to safeguard the interests of Telangana State and its farmers.

He observed that the actions of Andhra Pradesh government in utilisation of Krishna River waters, was detrimental to the interests of Telangana farmers. The State Cabinet has already decided to continue hydropower generation to operate the lift irrigation schemes in the State and also secure Telangana's rightful share of water in river waters. Under these circumstances, the government has decided to strongly raise the concerns of the State in the upcoming Parliament sessions as well as tribunals and courts.

The Chief Minister held a high-level meeting at Pragathi Bhavan here on Tuesday to finalise the future course of action of the State government to safeguard the State's rightful share in river waters. The State gov-



Chief Minister directs officials on the strategies to be adopted on behalf of the State to showcase the injustice done to the State on various platforms

ernment has already been pressuring the Centre on several occasions to finalise the Telangana's share of water in the rivers. It had already decided to take up the issue strongly on other platforms including the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT) and also Krishna River Management Board (KRMB).

During a six-hour marathon meeting, the authorities discussed discrimination towards Telangana in terms of river water sharing and irrigation facilities over several decades. Further, the high-level meeting has resolved to ensure that the injustice meted out to the farmers in undivided Andhra Pradesh, should not be allowed in the new State of Telangana under any cir-

cumstances. Chief Minister Chandrashekhhar Rao instructed the officials on the strategies to be adopted on behalf of the State to showcase the injustice done to the State on various forums.

Tourism Minister V Srinivas Goud, MLC Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, Government Chief Advisor Rajiv Sharma, Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, CMO Principal Secretary S Narsing Rao, Special Chief Secretary for Irrigation Rajat Kumar, CMO Secretaries Smitha Sabharwal and Bhupal Reddy, CM OSD Priyanka Varghese, Engineer-in-Chief C Muralidhar Rao, CMO OSD Sridhar Deshpande, Advocate General BS Prasad and other officials participated in the meeting.

Telangana Today- 07- July-2021

BJP to fight against illegal AP projects

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

The Telangana BJP State president Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Tuesday said that his party would fight against the injustice done to Telangana with respect to construction of illegal irrigation projects on the Krishna River. He was responding to a question on BJP's strategy to stop construction of illegal projects by AP government on Krishna River.

He said that the BJP would launch an agitation to highlight the injustice being meted out to Telangana. The Centre did what-

ever was required. The Ministry of Jal Shakti responded only after BJP wrote a letter to it. It was the Ministry that stopped the project while responding to BJP's letter, he claimed.

"The State government was supposed to bring the water issues to the Central government. Instead, we did it," Sanjay said. To another question that the BJP can stop the illegal projects as it is in power at the Centre, he said the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) gave instructions to AP government based on the letter written by BJP.

Deccan Chronicle- 07- July-2021

TS will raise AP's illegal projects in LS, RS: KCR

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JULY 6

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao is to field party MPs to fight against the Andhra Pradesh government's 'illegal projects' on Krishna during the monsoon session of Parliament from July 19.

TRS parliamentarians in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha will raise their voice against AP's projects and urge the Centre to stop AP projects and resolve Krishna water dispute permanently by making fresh water allocations to Telangana and AP.

The decision was taken

● **KCR REPORTEDLY** was angry with KRMB for including only the issues raised by AP in the agenda of the July 9 meeting and ignoring the matters raised by TS. So he decided to abstain from the July 9 meeting.

at a meeting convened by the CM at Pragathi Bhavan on Tuesday. He discussed the Krishna water dispute between TS and AP, a release issued by the CMO said.

The meeting decided to fight against AP's illegal projects on all platforms including courts and tri-

bunals to safeguard the interests of Telangana and continue the ongoing hydel power generation at all projects over Krishna till the water levels permit.

However, official sources said Telangana is likely to abstain from the meeting convened by the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) if it is held on July 9. The TS government has been demanding a full-scale meeting of KRMB after July 20, instead of a three-member committee meeting on July 9.

■ **Page 2: Technical teams are busy, TS tells KRMB**

Deccan Chronicle- 07- July-2021



A road at Gachibowli is inundated with water as rain lashes Hyderabad on Tuesday, after a dry spell for a week.
— R. PAVAN

Monsoon comes back to city after short dry spell

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, JULY 6

Monsoon rain returned to the city on Tuesday, after a sweltering week. Meteorologists say that such dry spells during the rainy season are not surprising.

On Tuesday, till 9 pm, Kakatiya Hills recorded the highest rainfall in the city of 60 mm.

During the monsoon season last year, Jogulamba Gadwal had 59 rain-free days, the highest, followed

by Wanaparthy with 57 days, Medchal-Malkajgiri 56, Khammam 37, Adilabad, Komaram Bheem-Asifabad, and Mancherla 35 and Bhadrachalam 30 dry days, according to data from the TS Development Planning Society.

A dry day is when cumulative rainfall received in 24-hour period is less than 0.2 mm, or not enough to be measured.

"The rainfall is high when the monsoon trough hits and leaves the subcon-

tinental," Y.V. Rama Rao, consultant, weather forecasting and analysis, told *Deccan Chronicle*.

Incidentally, last year, Hyderabad, along with Jogulamba Gadwal district, had the highest number of dry days at 278 days, followed by Wanaparthy district with 275.

During the northeast monsoon last year, different districts logged 57 to 58 dry days out of the 92-day season.

Millennium Post- 07- July-2021

Unprecedented success

The proactive path adopted by the present government has revolutionised the water sector through its people-driven initiatives



RATTAN LAL KATARIA

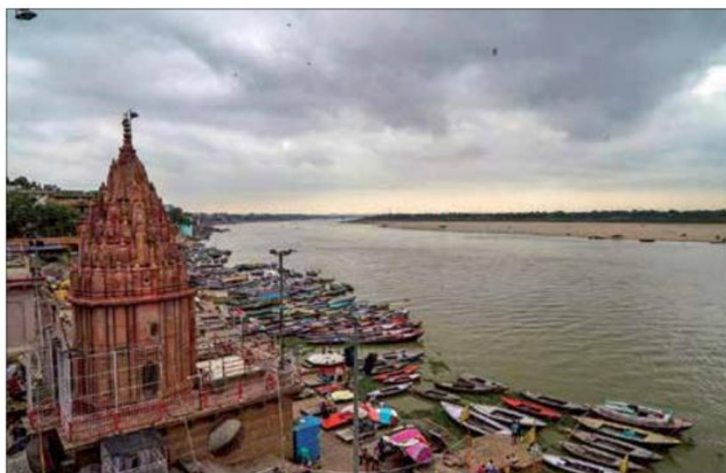
It is a matter of great pride for the country that, in less than two years, about 4.22 crore additional rural households have already been provided with new tap water connections

In a pond, there lived three fishes — one named 'Plan ahead', another 'Think fast' and the third 'Procrastinate'. One day, they overheard a fisherman who was planning to cast a net in the pond the next day. While 'Plan ahead' swam down the river the same night, 'Think fast' and 'Procrastinate' got caught the next day. 'Think fast' rolled its belly up and pretended to be dead, prompting the fisherman to throw it back into the water. 'Procrastinate' had no plan and was caught. Hence, in challenging times, we must plan ahead or plan to think fast.

The water sector in our country presents a grave challenge to our livelihoods and sustainability goals. The situation is no different than a metaphorical net cast by climate change and rapidly depleting groundwater. The time window available for any positive intervention is very thin. Realising this, Modi government 2.0 started by converging all water-related departments under a single Ministry of Jal Shakti to provide an integrated approach to the water sector. Simply put, this resulted in a situation where the surface water did not require any inter-ministerial consultation to connect with groundwater. The demand and supply of water could be assessed, estimated and planned under one executive in a single chamber. No matter how commonsensical this move may sound now, but it never rattled anybody's senses earlier.

Another paradigm shift has been in our approach to make people the drivers of all envisioned changes. This is evident in the structural and behavioural changes undertaken in sanitation and river rejuvenation since 2014. Swachh Bharat Mission and Namami Gange Programme are cases in point.

A historic milestone was achieved when the Prime Minister dedicated an open defecation-free India to the father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on October 2, 2019. Swachh



Transcending piecemeal interventions, Namami Gange has built a strong foundation with a basin-based approach

Bharat Mission, the world's largest sanitation and behavioural change programme, took the sanitation coverage of under 40 per cent in 2014 to universal sanitation coverage in just five years. More than 11 crore toilets were built in rural areas which, according to a UNICEF study, also resulted in a substantial reduction in groundwater contamination, soil contamination, and food and drinking water contamination. Thousands of *swachhagrahis* continue to devote themselves as ambassadors of change across India. Swachh Bharat Mission is indeed a one-of-its-kind sanitation programme unmatched anywhere in the world.

India cannot be imagined without River Ganga. Unlike previous efforts, the Namami Gange programme transcended the piecemeal interventions and built a strong foundation with a basin-based approach. It is now being considered as a model for the rejuvenation of other rivers. National Mission for Clean Ganga, the implementing arm of Namami Gange, was elevated to an authority with more financial and administrative powers. District Ganga Committees were formed to

engage the local administration and communities more effectively. Both the number of completed projects (147 out of 344) and the pace of expenditure (Rs 10,100 crore till March 2021 — more than double as compared between 1985-86 to 2014) present an optimistic picture. The innovations like Hybrid Annuity Model HAM and One City One Operator ensure optimal performance and longevity of the created sewerage infrastructure. It is a matter of satisfaction that all sewerage projects along Ganga in Uttarakhand and Jharkhand have been completed, arresting the flow of sewage into the river. Eyesores to local people, several drains have also been tapped, most notably the infamous Sisamau Nala in Kanpur and Chandreshwar Nala in Muni Ki Reti. The work on the CETP project for Kanpur tanneries has also started. The positive impacts of the Namami Gange programme in terms of water quality have also begun to show up as the entire stretch of 2,525 km has now been turned fit for bathing. For riverfront development, works on 144 ghats and 45 crematoria have been completed so far. Never before did biodiversity conservation get

so much attention under the Clean Ganga Project. At least six stretches have been identified as biodiversity hotspots. A self-motivated cadre of about 1,300 Ganga *praharis* has also been trained for biodiversity conservation. Special emphasis is being given to scientific afforestation, sustainable agriculture, organic farming and watershed development in the Ganga basin. To make Ganga *aviral*, the minimum e-flow in the river was notified in October 2018 — unprecedented in history. To make Namami Gange a people's movement and to re-establish people-river connect (Jan Ganga), as envisioned by the Prime Minister, various innovative awareness activities are undertaken regularly.

To take the transformational efforts in the water sector forward and keep the momentum going, Prime Minister announced the Jal Jeevan Mission on August 15, 2019, from the ramparts of Red Fort. The mission envisages providing functional tap connection to every rural household by 2024. While only 3.23 crore rural households (out of a total 19.19 crore HHs) had tap water connections up till August 2019, it is a matter of

great pride for the country that in less than two years, about 4.22 crore additional rural households have already been provided with new tap water connections. Besides, 6.35 lakh schools and 5.72 lakh *Anganwadis* have also been provided with tap water supply.

Supplying water to every household entails source sustainability. Jal Shakti Abhiyan aims to achieve exactly the same. After the success of JSA-I spanning across 256 districts, Phase-II was launched on March 22 this year on the occasion of World Water Day with the motto: 'Catch the rain: Where it falls, when it falls'. To inject the exuberance of youth in the JSA-II, National Water Mission, the implementing agency, collaborated with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) across 623 districts of the country. So far, 2.27 crore people have participated through NYKS. An expenditure of approx. Rs 14,000 crore has already been carried on various projects for rainwater harvesting, watershed development and pond rejuvenation etc.

To say that the water sector in India has undergone some drastic changes in the last few years would not be an exaggeration.

The story I quoted earlier aptly analyses the performance of the Modi government in the water sector viz-a-vis the previous governments. The Modi government's approach is marked by a proactive 'plan ahead' and 'think fast' approach in stark contrast to a passive approach marred by procrastination, as practised by earlier governments. However, the real success of the programmes can be attributed to the people of India. Surely, the people of India (Jan Shakti) will continue to support the government to revolutionise the water sector (Jal Shakti) in India.

The writer is Minister of State, Social Justice & Empowerment and Jal Shakti. Views expressed are personal

The Hans- 07- July-2021

No question of halting Mekedatu project, says BSY

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

KARNATAKA Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Tuesday said that the government will undoubtedly implement the Mekedatu project across river Cauvery.

Speaking to the mediapersons, Chief Minister BS B S Yeddyurappa said "there is no question of halting it for any reason. People of the state should have no doubts about it."

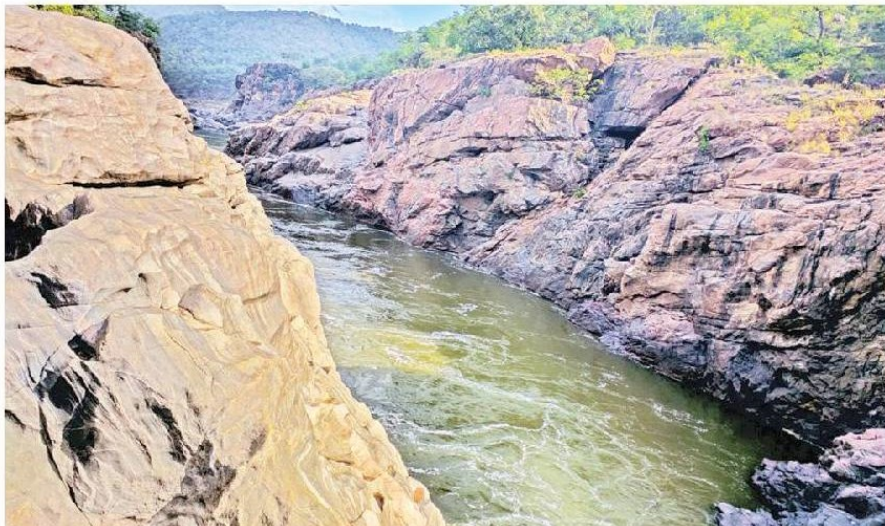
Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Basavaraj Bommai too on Monday had said that Karnataka will continue its legal battle with regards to implementation of Mekedatu project, as Yediyurappa's letter to his Tamil Nadu counterpart urging him not to object to it, did not elicit a positive response.

According to the Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa that things are "favourable" for Karnataka in this regard and that the project will be completed "within the legal framework" of it. "None can

stop this".

Karnataka has maintained that the project will benefit both states as the surplus water stored can be managed between the two during the distress year, and its implementation will in no way affect the interests of the farming communities of Tamil Nadu. While Tamil Nadu is of the view that the project would "impound and divert" the uncontrolled water flow due to Tamil Nadu from Kabini sub-basin, the catchment area below Krishnarajasagara, and also from Simsha, Arkavathy and Suvarnavathi sub-basins besides other small streams.

Mekedatu is a multipurpose (drinking and power) project, which involves building a balancing reservoir, near Kanakapura in Ramanagara district. The project once completed is aimed at ensuring drinking water to Bengaluru and neighboring areas (4.75 TMC) and also can generate 400 MW power, and the estimated cost of the project is Rs 9,000 crore.



The Statesman- 07- July-2021

SJVN completes Naitwar Mori project's tunnel excavation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SHIMLA, 6 JULY

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) on Tuesday completed the excavation of 4.3-kilometer-long head race tunnel of 60 MW Naitwar Mori hydro power project in Uttarakhand.

Informing about this, SJVN chairman and managing director N L Sharma said the power project had the potential to generate 265.5 million units of electricity every year and Uttarakhand will get 12 per cent free power as royalty.

He also inspected project sites and reviewed various components of the project which included head race tunnel, bar-



rage, powerhouse, surge shaft and 220 KV transmission line.

He stated that the project will further accelerate the union government's commitment of providing round the clock (RTC) energy to the nation and will also lead to the achievement of the shared vision of SJVN of becoming a 25,000 MW company by 2040.

"Timely completion of the project as well as the welfare of the employees is the hallmarks of SJVN's commitment," he added.

He encouraged the employees to work with dedicated hard work and keep up the pace for completing the project within scheduled time and urged them

to strictly follow safety protocols and Covid appropriate behaviour.

He added that SJVN was constructing its own Transmission Line of about 37 kms for transmission of electricity generated from the project which was targeted to be completed by April 2022.

"Commissioning of the Project will benefit the area and particularly project affected families as they will be provided an amount equivalent to the cost of 100 units of electricity per month for 10 years.

SJVN is also taking up various development works in the vicinity of the project under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)," he added.

The Tribune- 07- July-2021

Early environmental nod sought for Saraswati dam

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 6

Minister of State for Jal Shakti Rattan Lal Kataria met Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar and sought his intervention in expediting environmental clearance for a proposed dam at Adi Badri in Yamunana district. Kataria represents the Ambala parliamentary segment.

The project is critical for the success of Haryana Government's ambitious

scheme to revive the mythological Saraswati river. It envisages construction of a dam on the Somb river, a tributary of the Yamuna that flows through the Shivalik ranges. Water from the dam shall be brought to Saraswati reservoir and then released into the river. During the meeting, Kataria apprised the minister of the project's importance. Besides it being important from a heritage perspective, it is significant for ground water recharge, flood control, fish farming, tourism and recreation for Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Kataria also said the Ministry of Jal Shakti was providing technical assistance to Haryana Government in this regard.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that the Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradikaran (HSVP) is inviting applications from bidders for utilization of Sunflag Hospital, Sector-16A, Faridabad and has published "NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST [EOI]" dated 26.06.2021 vide Memo No. 7240 on their website EXCLUSIVELY and wherein it has been clearly mentioned that no