

Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi - 66.

Dated 27.9.17

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

S. Maheshwari
27.9.17
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director (Publication)

Ans. d. 27/9/2017

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
uploaded at www.cwc.nic.in

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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 27/9/17 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hind
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

MP Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Khabar
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Elitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC

In a first, govt to run safety checks on 5,000 big dams

196 Of Them Are Over 100 Years Old

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Bengaluru: For the first time, the Centre is planning to conduct a 'break analysis' of 5,247 large dams across the country, and put in place an emergency action plan, especially for the 196 that are over 100 years old. Of these 196 dams, 72 are in the southern states and Maharashtra.

Break analysis is the examination of dams to identify potential failures that may result in an uncontrolled release of water. It involves the characterisation of threats to public safety that a dam poses.

The government has already drafted a 'dam safety bill', currently being re-worked by the Niti Aayog.

There are two safety issues: the risk of breach and floods, and the decreasing ability to hold as much water as the original capacity (which means less live storage and per capita availability of water). These concerns make maintenance more critical for dams, though not all are in a dilapidated condition or in need of immediate repair.

In October 1987, the Centre had constituted the National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS), which was tasked with overseeing dam safety and suggesting improvements. The committee, headed by the Central Water Commission chairman, met 37 times and has been instrumental in the maintenance of dams.

Dam expert Captain S Raja Rao, who was secretary of the Karnataka water resources department, said: "The safety aspect, especially with dams in flood-prone

RISKY RESERVOIRS

5,247

Number of large dams
(300+ million cubic metres
of water storage)

300 billion
cubic metres
Collective storage
capacity of these dams

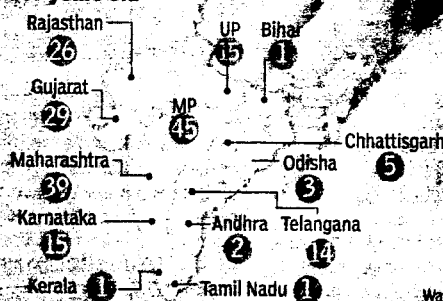
440

Number of large dams
under construction

196

Number of dams that are
over 100 years old

Number of
dams over
100 years old



Source: Central Water Commission



CATASTROPHIC CONSEQUENCES: Water flows out of a Puerto Rico dam damaged by Hurricane Maria in a photo from last week. Hundreds were evacuated from the vicinity amid fears of a dam break

areas, is critical. Take the Alamatti dam (in Karnataka), and you'll see its size was increased based on advice from the World Bank, but it has several drawbacks."

However, he pointed out that successive governments had been spending a lot of time and money on dam upkeep. "There is a continuous effort to improve the inspection galleries in dams (which are key indicators of a dam's health) and a project called DRIP (Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme) is under way," Rao said.

DRIP, which was started

under the UPA government in April 2012 and has been working with five state governments (Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha) and two agencies (Damodar Valley Corporation in Jharkhand and Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd), was conceived with an estimated budget of Rs 2,100 crore. The project cost has now been revised to around Rs 3,400 crore and the World Bank has agreed to fund 80% of that, DRIP director Pramod Narayan told TOI.

"While the goal is to eventually work on all dams in the

country, we are working on 225 dams, and these don't include all the 196 dams that are more than 100 years old. For the first time, last month, we prepared a draft emergency action plan, which deals with situations that (could) arise in case of a breach, areas affected, rehabilitation, and so on," Narayan said.

One big problem, Rao said, was the fact that the majority of India's large dams had dysfunctional scouring-slucers (which are responsible to keep silt out of the dams), affecting storage capacity and posing a threat to the structure.

The Tungbhadra dam in Karnataka is just 64 years old, and more than 37% of it is filled with silt. In June, the government conceded on the floor of the state assembly that it is impossible to remove more than 0.11% of the silt. "Older dams have a larger problem of silt," Rao said, while Narayan added that continuous monitoring and regular intervention alone can prevent this problem from worsening.

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नदी जोड़ो परियोजनाओं पर गडकरी की मुख्यमंत्रियों से चर्चा

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): केन्द्र सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी नदी जोड़ परियोजना को आगे बढ़ाने की पहल करते हुए गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र ने दमनगंगा-पिंजाल नदी जोड़ परियोजना को अंतिम रूप देने पर सहमति व्यक्त की है। केंद्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कल महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री देवेन्द्र फडणवीस, गुजरात के मुख्यमंत्री विजय रूपानी, उत्तरप्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ और मध्यप्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान के साथ नदी जोड़ परियोजना एवं इससे जुड़े विषयों पर चर्चा की। गडकरी ने कहा कि विभिन्न राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों के साथ उन्होंने जल संसाधन से जुड़े विभिन्न परियोजनाओं के बारे में चर्चा की। केन बेतवा



परियोजना पर चर्चा अंतिम चरण में है और मुझे विश्वास है कि इसका परिणाम जल्द सामने आयेगा। समझा जाता है कि गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र जल्द ही दमनगंगा-पिंजाल नदी जोड़ परियोजना पर जल्द ही औपचारिक समझौता कर सकते हैं। सूत्रों ने बताया कि उत्तरप्रदेश और मध्यप्रदेश ने केन बेतवा परियोजना के बारे में चर्चा पूरी करने पर सहमति जतायी

है। उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ ने कल गडकरी से मुलाकात की थी। बैठक के बाद आदित्यनाथ ने यह नहीं बताया था कि भेंट के दौरान क्या बातचीत हुई लेकिन मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने कहा कि बातचीत इस अटक की हुई परियोजना के इर्द-गिर्द ही थी। मध्यप्रदेश की केन नदी और उत्तरप्रदेश की बेतवा नदी को जोड़ने की भारत की पहली नदी जोड़ परियोजना तब मुश्किल में घिर गयी जब मध्यप्रदेश ने इस महत्वाकांक्षी परियोजना के प्रथम चरण में योजना में बदलाव की मांग की। ऐसे में प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय को जल संसाधन मंत्रालय और मध्यप्रदेश के बीच के गतिरोध को दूर करने के लिए दखल देना पड़ा।