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The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

✓ Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

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Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

# KCR to start Ramadasu lift irrigation scheme on Jan. 31

**RAVINDRA SESHU | DC  
KHAMMAM, JAN. 26**

In a major success for the Telangana government, the Bhakta Ramadasu Lift Irrigation scheme in Khammam district, which would irrigate 60,000 acres, has been completed two months ahead of schedule.

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao had laid the foundation stone for the project on February 16, 2016 at Palair in Khammam district.

"It was targeted that the project will be completed by March 2017. But the project is completed two months ahead and earlier than expected. It is one of the fastest completed projects in the country," the state government said in a statement on Thursday.

Mr Rao would dedicate the project to the people on January 31, the birth anniversary of 17th century saint-poet Bhakta Ramadasu.

The scheme would irrigate 60,000 acres in hitherto parched lands in Tirumalayapalem, Kusumanchi, Nelakondapally, Mudigonda, Khammam Rural mandals under



A file photo of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao laying the foundation stone for the Bhakta Ramadasu Lift Irrigation scheme project at Palair in Khammam district on February 16, 2016.

Palair Assembly constituency represented by roads and buildings min-

ister Tummala Nageswara Rao and also Dornakal mandal of

Mahabubabad district.

"Under this scheme 5.5 TMC water from Nagarkurnool Sagar Balancing Reservoir at Palair is pumped from a height of 125.700 metres to DBM-60 (Sriram Sagar Project state II) which is at a height of 187 metres and be released at the 45th km," the state government said in a release.

Having identified irrigation as a priority area, Mr Rao entrusted the responsibility of completing the project to Mr Nageswara Rao and irrigation minister T Harish Rao, it said.

The project works have progressed expeditiously and the private firm that undertook the construction succeeded in completing it with the cooperation of government.

"Normally for any lift irrigation scheme, it will take two years to complete civil, mechanical electrical, laying of pipelines etc. But due to the coordinated efforts by irrigation, revenue, power departments and the working agency, these works on this project were completed at a fast pace," the government statement said.

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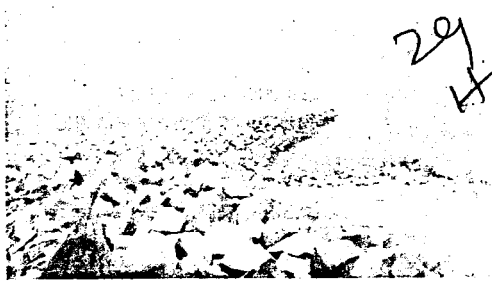
# Refugees in their land as Ganga swallows home

"Not the first time that the area people have been displaced...it has been going on for the last 3 decades"

Soumya Das

MURSHIDABAD: Another winter has passed but several thousand people who repeatedly get displaced in Murshidabad district due to the erosion of the banks of the Ganga are going through the ordeal again, with no one bothered to take measures to prevent the erosion.

The river swallowed their houses and land again in between October and November last year. The villagers claimed they have become "refugees" in their own country yet again. This is not the first time that these



SAVING THE LAND: Boulders piled up on the river banks in Kamalpur village to prevent erosion. PHOTO: SOUMYA DAS

people, mostly bidi workers and daily wage earners, have been displaced by the mighty river. It has been going on for

the last three decades. The 120-km stretch of the right bank of the Ganges -- from Farakka to Jalangi in the dis-

trict -- is especially prone to erosion.

## Displacement

The displacement due to river bank erosion took place mainly in the district's Suti, Raninagar II, Bhagobangola II and Lalgola blocks. Speaking to *The Hindu*, the locals said that if river embankments were set up in between the dry season, from March to July, the displacement could have been minimised. But West Bengal irrigation minister Rajib Banerjee said that the protection of river banks was the Centre's responsibility.

"Now we are just refugees in our own country. I had to spend the winter living in a temporary shelter with my family of seven. Even the lives of stray dogs are more valued than us," said Golam Hussain, a labourer and a resident of the Char Krishnapur Bhagobangola II block, who has lost his house for the third time since 1989.

Habibur Rehman, a resident of the same village was seething in anger when narrating his ordeal. He said that if the Ganges swallowed his land again, he will have no choice but to "squat" on others' land.

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## Final notification soon on acquiring land for Almatti dam: M B Patil

VIJAYAPURA, DHNS: The final notification on acquiring land for raising the height of Almatti dam to 524.256 metres and for implementing the third phase of the Upper Krishna Project (UKP) will be issued shortly, Minister for Water Resources M B Patil said here on Thursday.

Speaking to journalists after attending the Republic Day programme at the B R Ambedkar Stadium, he said the process for acquiring 86,000 acres of land for rehabilitation and reconstruction of villages set to be submerged when the dam's height was raised was under way. As per

the new land acquisition law, land losers will get four times the value of their land or the consent award. It will be up to them to accept either option, he said and added that no farmer would be pressured to accept any particular mode of compensation.

Referring to the nine sub schemes under the third phase of the UKP, Patil said a final order on the works would be issued in a week. The government aims to irrigate 15.50 lakh acres of land and refill all the 184 tanks in Vijayapura district under 10 schemes, he added.

**DH News Service**

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## 'NO SCOPE UNDER INTER-STATE RIVER WATER DISPUTES ACT' Odisha govt shoots down negotiation committee

**statesman news service**

BHUBANESWAR, 28 JAN: Odisha government today rejected the negotiation committee constituted by the Centre to resolve the Mahanadi water dispute with Chhattisgarh.

The chief minister Mr Naveen Patnaik questioned the validity of constituting such a negotiation committee and said there is no scope for it under the Inter State River Water Disputes Act.

In a strongly worded letter to Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi, the CM said the move to form a negotiation committee was clearly aimed at delaying setting

up of a Tribunal as sought by Odisha government. "The delay is to allow Chhattisgarh government to complete construction of its projects upstream of Mahanadi," he said. Describing the negotiation committee as an "unprecedented" step, the CM asserted that Odisha had since November last year asked for establishment of a Tribunal under the Act. He expressed his "deep concern" that the Centre had failed to direct Chhattisgarh government to stop its unilateral construction work of barrages and dams upstream of Mahanadi.

"The negotiation committee is not in accordance with Section

4(1) of the Inter state river water dispute act and its composition is arbitrary," stated Mr Patnaik.

The Act fixes the responsibility of the central government to negotiate with the chief ministers which water resources minister Mrs Uma Bharati did, but failed to resolve the problem. The Act does not empower the centre to form a committee to record its findings like assessment of yield etc. The CM also objected to the fact that the negotiation committee is to be headed by a member of the central water commission and five others belonging to central agencies besides members from Maharashtra, Jharkhand and

Madhya Pradesh. The centre has arbitrarily nominated the engineering in chief of Odisha to the committee. It may be recalled that earlier this month, the Centre had announced the formation of a negotiation committee over the Mahanadi water dispute. Earlier it had held two unsuccessful round of talks at the official and CMS level.

In his letter to the PM today, the CM said as a final chance to arrive at a resolution, a meeting of concerned CMs could be convened by the PM. It is pertinent to note here that Odisha government has also moved the Supreme Court in the matter.

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## Our riverwaters not for other states: CM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATTI (TARN TARAN), JANUARY 28  
Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal said here today that the state's riverwaters were not meant for other states.

"Various states are blessed with natural resources. Rajasthan has marble, while some have coal or iron ore. They enjoy its dividends. Punjab has been blessed with water and it should be allowed to use it as per its wish," he said, addressing a rally in support of his son-in-law, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Adaish Partap Singh Kairon.

Badal accused the Congress and AAP of trying to spread

29-Jan T  
Congress and AAP leaders are trying to vitiate communal harmony. ☹☹

Parkash Singh Badal, CHIEF MINISTER

communal disharmony. In a slip of tongue, he said, "Aapan barhe bhairhe din liande han (We have brought dark days)." But he instantly corrected himself: "...dekhe han (We have seen dark days)," blaming the Congress for the same.

Alluding to Khalistani supporters, he said, "AAP is associated with those people due to whom the situation had deteriorated in Punjab."

## Badals lacked will to resolve SYL: Yechury

OUR CORRESPONDENT

HOSHIARPUR, JANUARY 28

"During every election in Punjab, the SAD-BJP and the Congress start raking up the issue of water. In reality, water is no issue. It a natural resource and decision on sharing natural resources could be taken only by sitting together," said CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury, while addressing a rally at Garhshankar this evening.

"There was SAD-BJP government in Punjab, while there is BJP-led government in Haryana as well as the Centre. If the Badals had the will to resolve the water issue,

☹☹ For them (Akalis), it is an issue to exploit people's sentiments to get votes. ☹☹

Sitaram Yechury, CPM LEADER

they could have done so by involving all stakeholders. But they didn't do it because for them it is an issue to exploit people's sentiments to get votes," said Yechury.

On demonetisation, he alleged: "Before its declaration, the BJP and its allies got their 90 percent money converted. Modi should apologise to the people of the country."

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सीवर की वजह से दूषित हो चुके 83 जलाशय नई तकनीक के जरिये स्वच्छ किए जाएंगे

# जलाशय कम खर्च में साफ होंगे

हे-30-1-17

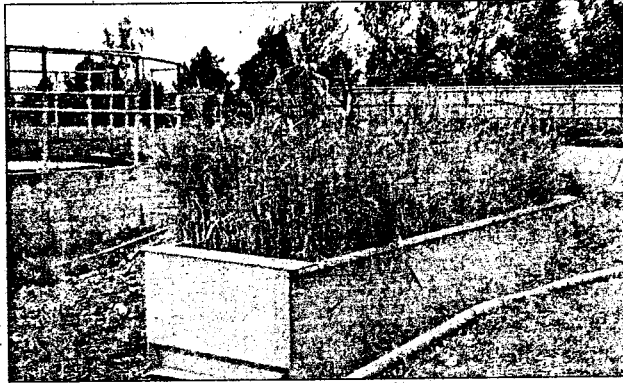


नई दिल्ली | निर्मल यादव

दिल्ली सरकार ने सीवर से दूषित हो चुके जलाशयों को कम खर्च में साफ करने का काम शुरू कर दिया है। दिल्ली जलबोर्ड ने इन जलाशयों को दुरुस्त करने के लिए कंस्ट्रक्टेड एंड फ्लोटिंग वेटलैंड तकनीक को अपनाया है।

सीवर की वजह से दूषित हो चुके 83 जलाशयों को इस तकनीक से साफ किया जाएगा। इसकी शुरुआत पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के तौर पर चार जलाशयों से कर दी गई है। इनमें मिर्जाओकला स्थित दो तालाबों के अलावा कैर और आयानगर स्थित दो तालाब शामिल हैं।

**कैसे होती पानी की सफाई:** जलक्षेत्रों के किनारे पाई जाने वाली कांस, जूट, बांस, कवायर और रीड सहित अन्य प्रकार की घास पोषक तत्वों (न्यूट्रेंट) के रूप



कंस्ट्रक्टेड एंड फ्लोटिंग वेटलैंड तकनीक कुछ ऐसे काम करती है। • फाइल फोटो

में सीवर का इस्तेमाल करती है। रीड बेड का क्षेत्र और इसके पौधों की मात्रा सीवर के बहाव क्षेत्र पर निर्भर करती है।

ये पौधे सीवर और अन्य अपशिष्ट का भक्षण कर पानी को साफ करने करने का काम करते हैं। अपशिष्ट से मुक्त रीड बेड के नीचे बचे हुए पानी को जलाशय के आसपास पार्क आदि विकसित कर सिंचाई के काम में लाया जाता है। रीड बेड से मिलने वाली जूट, कांस और अन्य प्रकार की घास को बेच कर जलबोर्ड

जलाशयों के आसपास विकसित किए गए पार्कों का रखरखाव करेगी। इसमें सिर्फ पानी के पंपिंग सेट लगाने, रीड बेड विकसित करने और रीक्रिएशनल पार्क बनाने में ही खर्च करना पड़ता है।

यह खर्च एसटीपी जैसी योजना से दस गुना तक कम होता है। जलबोर्ड की योजना भविष्य में इस तकनीक को बड़े पैमाने पर लागू कर नजफगढ़ और शाहदरा जैसे बड़े नालों को भी इसके दायरे में लाने की है।

**क्या है यह तकनीक**

फ्लोटिंग वेटलैंड के तहत सीवर के बहाव क्षेत्र में रीड बेड विकसित किया जाता है। इसमें जलक्षेत्र के आसपास नमी वाले इलाके में उगने वाली जूट, कांस और बांस जैसी घास को लगाया जाता है। इसमें रीड नामक घास का पौधारोपण सबसे ज्यादा उपयोगी माना जाता है। राजधानी स्थित पूसा और अन्य संस्थानों में रीड बेड की मदद से सीवर ट्रीटमेंट तकनीक को पहले से ही इस्तेमाल में लाया जा रहा है। जलशोधन मामलों के जानकार संजय शर्मा के मुताबिक फ्लोटिंग वेटलैंड तकनीक के तहत सीवर के बहाव क्षेत्र में विकसित किया गया रीड बेड, घास के बागान की तरह दिखता है लेकिन असल में यह दूषित पानी पर तैरता रहता है। इसीलिए इसे फ्लोटिंग वेटलैंड कहते हैं।

**कम खर्च में काम होगा**

जलबोर्ड के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि इस तकनीक से जलाशयों को साफ करने में मंहगे सीवर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट (एसटीपी) की तुलना में दस गुना कम खर्च होगा।