



The work of bringing water to the fields through a large-scale canal system is underway. New water channels are being constructed. Some are saying that water will come to our village after 25 years, while others are saying 30 years. Punjab was once known as the state of water, but our water seemed to have disappeared somewhere. We are searching for water and bringing it to the fields.

Bhagwant Singh Mann, Chief Minister, Punjab

Bhagwant Singh Mann's transformative leadership REVIVAL OF AGRICULTURE: CANAL WATER REACHES JANISAR VILLAGE AFTER 35 YEARS, TRANSFORMING FARMERS' FORTUNE

Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab Government has embarked on a transformative mission to ensure that every village receives access to canal water, a vital resource for agricultural prosperity. This mission marks a significant milestone in Punjab's agricultural landscape, aiming to rejuvenate farmlands and uplift the livelihoods of rural communities. After a gap of approximately four decades, Janisar village in Fazilka witnessed the arrival of irrigation water. This significant milestone encompassed 548 acres of agricultural land, marking a transformative moment for the region. The achievement followed the installation of a pipeline and the restoration of water courses along the Muktsar distributary. The disparity in water supply stemmed from discrepancies in channel levels, notably at Ramgarh Chuge village, where the channel's elevation exceeded that of Janisar village by 6-7 feet. Additionally, multiple damages along the water channel exacerbated the situation. Addressing these challenges, a 500-mm diameter underground pipeline was laid across the



4,300-foot stretch, complemented by the reconstruction of approximately 2,000 feet of the water channel. With the completion of these infrastructural enhancements, the operationalization of canal number 67836 TF Muktsar heralds a new era of irrigation for the region, benefitting 548 acres of farmland.

The resurgence of irrigation water has infused optimism among local farmers, who had long grappled with water scarcity and unworkable groundwater conditions. With hopes pinned on improved agricultural productivity, the arrival of irrigation water marked a promising chapter in the village's agricultural landscape. The recent achievement of bringing canal water to Janisar



Punjab Govt Initiates Azamwala Minor Reconstruction

Punjab government recently laid the foundation stone of the reconstruction work of Azamwala Minor. The 13.41 km long minor, with an estimated cost of over Rs 9.5 crore, will enhance irrigation facilities for approximately 13,885 acres and ensure full water reach to the tail end. The Punjab government under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann has restored and strengthened approximately 14 thousand water courses in the state. Emphasizing maximum use of canal water, the government pointed out its potential to conserve underground water and reduce electricity consumption for agriculture sector. The Punjab government also encouraging farmers to adopt drip irrigation, with subsidies provided by the government.

village in Fazilka district after a hiatus of 35 years signifies the tangible impact of the government's efforts. For generations, farmers in this region have struggled with water scarcity, hindering their ability to

cultivate crops and sustain their families. With canal water now flowing into their fields, farmers can look forward to increased crop yields, improved agricultural productivity and enhanced economic prospects.

Unique Effort of Punjab Government: Digitization for Canal Water Enhancement



In a groundbreaking move, Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann led Punjab government has embarked on a transformative journey towards digitizing consolidation and flood prevention processes, yielding significant improvements in the utilization of canal water. This innovative initiative promises a plethora of benefits, ranging from precise tracking of canal water consumption to bolstering administrative and policy decisions. The strategic move towards digitization is poised to revolutionize water management in the agriculture and horticulture sectors, contributing significantly to the state's agricultural and water resource management.

Improvement through Digital System:

One of the key outcomes of this digital transition is the ability of the Punjab Government to accurately track canal water consumption and enhance its overall management. This not only ensures efficient use of water resources but also provides critical support for administrative and policy decisions.

Better Water Planning:

The digitization initiative opens avenues for superior water management in agriculture and horticulture sectors. By leveraging digital tools, the state government can optimize fertile land management and ensure the timely supply of the right amount of water to farmers. This represents a crucial step towards sustainable and effective water resource utilization.

Automated Process Tool:

Automation takes center stage as the processes of consolidation and flooding become streamlined, resulting in reduced processing time and decreased reliance on human labour. This automation not only increases efficiency but also contributes to resource conservation.

Emphasis on development of areas around Ranjit Sagar Dam, Shahpur Kandi Dam and Kandi areas of Hoshiarpur district

Clearance from the Drainage Wing will be mandatory for any project within 150 meters of natural water bodies

Talwara Water Supply Project based on canal water will supply clean and drinking water to 197 villages of Talwara, Hajipur, Bhunga and Dasuya blocks

Revolutionizing Punjab with Innovative Canal Cleaning Strategies and Fiscal Efficiency

Punjab government led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's transformative leadership is propelling the state to unprecedented heights, bringing about substantial improvements for its people. The decisions undertaken by the government, under Chief Minister Mann's astute guidance, are proving to be monumental, surpassing even the most optimistic expectations. One such groundbreaking initiative is the shift towards departmental-level cleaning of canals and other water courses, departing from the traditional contract system within the Irrigation Department.

This visionary approach is not only cost-effective but also marks a departure from the conventional practice of allocating significant funds annually for canal cleaning. The government, under Bhagwant Singh Mann's leadership, has taken a historic step by acquiring



Work worth Rs 83.78 lakh done for just Rs 19.84 lakh

Furthermore, the financial impact of this shift is noteworthy. The cost of cleaning canals and other water courses using the government's Poclain machines amounted to a mere Rs 19.84 lakh, a fraction of the estimated Rs 83.78 lakh that would have been incurred through the traditional tender process. Additionally, the utilization of previously idle staff, including drivers and support personnel, adds another layer of economic efficiency, resulting in substantial savings for the department.

10 Poclain machines for canal cleaning operations. This move is anticipated to yield substantial savings in the years to come, while also ensuring a more efficient and accountable canal cleaning process. The elimination of the need for tenders at the departmental level not only

streamlines the process but also enhances accountability among departmental employees. The Poclain machines, strategically acquired by the Punjab government, are proving to be versatile assets with benefits extending beyond canal cleaning.

Punjab government's bold move to provide canal water to the tail ends for farmers

Punjab government reopened 14,103 water courses that had been closed for decades as part of efforts to save underground water

In a significant stride towards the conservation of underground water, Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann led Punjab government has undertaken reopening of 14,103 water courses that were closed for several decades. This crucial decision follows Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's directive to ensure canal water availability for Punjab farmers, offering them access to canal water after a prolonged hiatus. Strengthening the canal water network not only promises improved irrigation facilities but also contributes to the conservation of groundwater.

The department's monumental efforts have resulted in the restoration of 14,103 water courses that remained closed for an extended period. This marks a substantial advancement in irrigation practices with canal water, elevating the farming community's accessibility. Recognizing the significance of farmers relying on canal water, the government has accorded them a special status, streamlining administrative processes and addressing any grievances.

To expand the irrigated area using



canal water, the Punjab Government invested Rs 200 crore through MNREGA to reopen the previously closed water courses. Over 20 percent of the state's canals are currently operating beyond capacity, ensuring water reaches the tail ends. Continuous inspections by department officials, from Patwari to XEN, aim to facilitate canal water distribution to farmers effectively. In the past, only 21 percent of area is irrigated through canal water, with the

majority relying on groundwater. The recent initiative is poised to substantially increase the area irrigated with canal water, in a concerted effort for the welfare of farmers and groundwater conservation. Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann has instructed officials to free encroached canals and ensure water reaches every corner. The overarching goal is to minimize groundwater usage and maximize canal water distribution to fields.

What happened to the Bengaluru dream?

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vendor's borewell supplying to the complex had gone dry. The complex receives Cauvery water only thrice a week. "The committee has decided to use rain water harvesting tanks to store water. We request all residents not to waste water," the message stated.

A 'water conservation alert' message by Prestige Wellington Park in Jalahalli, stated that BWSSB had abruptly reduced water pressure in its supply, impacting the quantity of water. The property manager will henceforth monitor use of water by residents, the notice further said.

Meanwhile, a number of gated communities have said no to Holi parties this year and urged residents to not play with water. "Adjustments have to be made. It's not business as usual. But the government also has to do the needful," Vikram Rai of BAF said.

Bengaluru has been one of the biggest beneficiaries of India's on-going residential real estate boom. Around 63,980 homes were sold in the city last year, 29% more than 2022. This year, Anarock Property Consultants expects roughly 51,680 units to be completed in Bengaluru. When people start living in these apartments, it would only add to the stress.



Housing societies and businesses are monitoring their water usage now. MINT

"Bengaluru has seen a massive growth in the number of houses. Yet, a lot needs to be done on the infrastructure front," said Saurabh Garg, founder and chief business officer at proptech company NoBroker. The company, through its society management app NoBrokerHood, is building content to convey good practices in water usage through push notifications to residents.

It is collaborating with housing societies to install water sensors in overhead tanks or digital water metres to monitor consumption.

Businesses, meanwhile, are also stressing on water conservation. The Bengaluru chapter of the National Restaurants Association of India (NRAI), an industry body, is advising

member restaurants to curb the usage of water in various ways. Dry mopping and drinking water served only on request are two of them.

"Restaurants mostly have borewells of their own, many of which have gone dry. Those that get Cauvery supply can't rely on it entirely because it's not uninterrupted," Chethan Hegde, the Bengaluru chapter head of the association, said.

WATER LITERACY

The privileged don't always understand that some resources are finite. They need to be mindful of how they use these resources, including water.

S. Vishwanath, advisor, Biome Environmental Trust, a non-profit, said that a key step is to create water literacy—people must know the source of water, where it goes after usage, how much we consume, the cost of production, and the price we pay.

Treatment of water, enforcing rainwater harvesting systems and installing sewage treatment plants would be critical, going forward.

"Treated water can be a good source for non-potable purposes. We are hopefully learning how important lakes are to both managing droughts and floods. Lake rejuvenation is critical, as is rainwater harvesting and we need to do a lot more," he said.

भविष्य के निर्माण के लिए 'कैच द रेन' अभियान में हों शामिल : शेखावत

■ सहारा न्यूज ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली।

केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने आज वर्षा जल संचयन के लिए 'जल शक्ति अभियान : कैच द रेन-2024' की शुरुआत की। यह अभियान 'नारी शक्ति से जल शक्ति' थीम पर आधारित है। शेखावत ने कहा कि महिलाओं का सशक्तिकरण करने से राष्ट्र सशक्त होगा। उन्होंने महिला सशक्तिकरण एवं जल सुरक्षित भविष्य के निर्माण के लिए 'कैच द रेन' अभियान में शामिल होने का आह्वान आम जनता से किया।

राजधानी के एनडीएमसी कन्वेंशन सेंटर में आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम में 'जल शक्ति अभियान : कैच द रेन' अभियान के

■ महिलाओं के सशक्तीकरण
से राष्ट्र सशक्त होगा : शेखावत

पांचवें संस्करण का शुभारंभ किया। 'नारी शक्ति से जल शक्ति' थीम वाले इस अभियान में जल संरक्षण एवं प्रबंधन में महिलाओं की अभिन्न भूमिका पर बल दिया गया है। इस दौरान शेखावत ने दो पुस्तकों 'जल शक्ति अभियान 2019 से 2023- द जर्नी फॉर सस्टेनेबल वाटर फ्यूचर' और 'महिला शक्ति की 101 झलक : जल जीवन मिशन के प्रिज्म के माध्यम से' को जारी किया। इस अवसर पर अपने संबोधन में शेखावत ने कहा कि महिलाओं का सशक्तिकरण करने से राष्ट्र सशक्त होगा। उन्होंने जल शक्ति

अभियान, स्वच्छ भारत अभियान, जल जीवन मिशन और अटल भूजल योजना जैसी योजनाओं व अभियानों की सफलता में योगदान देने और सराहनीय कोशिश करनेवाली महिलाओं की सराहना की। उन्होंने कहा कि महिलाओं ने अपने सामूहिक प्रयासों के माध्यम से जल संसाधनों का संरक्षणप्रभावी रूप से किया है।

महिलाओं में अनुकूलन एवं नवाचार करने की क्षमता है, जो जल संसाधन प्रबंधन में एक सकारात्मक बदलाव लाने के लिए अपनी शक्ति एवं क्षमता का प्रदर्शन करती है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में, हमारा लक्ष्य भारत को एक वैश्विक विनिर्माण केंद्र बनाना है, जिससे देश की आर्थिक गतिविधियों में वृद्धि होगी।