

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

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

Dated 21.12.2018.

*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 will be uploaded on the CWC website.

P. Meherdram  
21.12.2018  
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

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21/12/18

Director, WSE Dte.

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21/12

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at [www.cwc.nic.in](http://www.cwc.nic.in)

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Time of India (New Delhi)  
Indian Express ✓  
Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)  
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu (New Delhi)  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald  
The Times of India (A)  
Business standard  
The Economic Times

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

# Dam Safety Bill: its objective, the objections

**PRADEEP KAUSHAL**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 20

WHEN THE government introduced the Dam Safety Bill, 2018 in Lok Sabha last week, BJD floor leader Bhartuhari Mahtab questioned Parliament's competence to do so. Days later, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami wrote to the Prime Minister flagging his concerns about the Bill. In June, too, the Tamil Nadu Assembly had passed a resolution demanding the Bill be kept in abeyance till a consensus was arrived at with all states.

The Bill provides for "surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance of specified dams for prevention of dam failure related disasters and to provide for institutional mechanism to ensure their safe functioning".

## Why dam safety

Of India's 5,254 large dams, some 75% are over 25 years old, and 164 more than 100 years old. There have been 36 dam failures. There has been a lack of a uniform law and an administrative regime for dam safety. While the Central Water Commission (CWC) has made efforts through National Committee on Dam Safety, Central Dam Safety Organisation and State Dam Safety Organisations, these agencies do not have statutory powers and can only make recommendations.

## The Bill

The Dam Safety Bill was first introduced in

Lok Sabha in 2010. It sought to mandate the Centre, state governments and individual owners of dams to establish a mechanism for safety. It was to be initially applicable only to Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and the Union Territories; the two states had passed resolutions under Article 252(1) of the Constitution requesting Parliament to make a law. The Speaker referred the Bill to a Parliamentary Standing Committee, which submitted its report in 2011. It suggested that provisions be added for punishing the owner in case of dam failure and fixing liability for compensating affected people, and that an independent regulatory authority on safety measures and a national-level early warning system be set up.

On June 13, 2018, the Cabinet approved the draft of the Dam Safety Bill, 2018. With most recommendations of the standing committee incorporated, it was introduced in Lok Sabha on December 12.

## Regulatory structure

The legislation provides for a National Committee on Dam Safety, to be headed by the CWC chairperson and with members nominated by the Centre; there will be representatives of the Centre and states (through rotation) as well as dam safety experts. The committee will formulate policies and regulations, which are to be implemented by a centrally appointed National Dam Safety Authority, headed by an officer of at least Additional Secretary rank. The authority will also resolve issues between State Dam Safety



Mullaperiyar dam. Source: tn.gov.in

Organisations (SDSOs) or between a SDSO and any individual dam owner, lay down regulations for dam inspection and for accreditation to construction and designing agencies. The Bill provides for a safety unit in each dam to be set up by individual dam owners.

For violation of directives under the Bill, punishment is imprisonment up to one year or a fine, or both; if an offence leads to loss of life, imprisonment may be up to two years.

## Grounds for opposition

In cases where a dam is owned by one state and located in another, or extends over multiple states, or is owned by a central public sector undertaking, the Bill provides that the National Dam Safety Authority will act as the SDSO. This provision is the primary reason for opposition from Tamil Nadu.

"Tamil Nadu's Mullaiperiyar,

Parambikulam, Thunakkadavu and Peruvuripallam dams are owned, operated and maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu by virtue of Inter-state Agreements, but are located in a neighbouring state (Kerala)," the Chief Minister wrote to the Prime Minister on December 14. He recalled a 2014 Supreme Court verdict that "upheld the rights of Tamil Nadu" on the Mullaperiyar dam in increasing its height to 142 feet and ultimately 152 feet. "Therefore, to deny Tamil Nadu the right to be the Dam Safety Authority with regard to these four dams and vesting the powers to the National Dam Safety Authority would be tantamount to encroaching on the rights of Tamil Nadu, which is unconstitutional," he wrote, urging the PM to withdraw the Bill.

In Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Water Resources Arjun Meghwal, who tabled the Bill, argued that Article 252 empowered the Centre to legislate for two or more states by consent. The BJD's Mahtab, however, wanted to discuss the issue further. With the debate failing to progress, Mahtab wrote to the Speaker the next day, pointing out that water is listed as a state subject. "As regulation of the safety of dams has not yet been declared by Parliament to be expedient in public interest, it would be prudent to believe that Parliament has no powers to make law for the state or for that matter by the Union Government at this juncture," he wrote. The issue, he maintained, needed to be deliberated in the Standing Committee. "Parliament should not do anything that would not stand scrutiny of law."

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Time of India (New Delhi)  
Indian Express  
Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)  
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu (New Delhi)  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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AIADMK legislators protest against the construction of Mokedatu dam on Cauvery river, at Parliament House on Thursday. Anil Sharma

## Karnataka MPs unite against TN counterparts in LS over Mokedatu

**KRISHN KAUSHIK &  
SOWMIYA ASHOK**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 20

THE MORNING session of the Lok Sabha saw barely 20 minutes of business on Thursday as legislators from Karnataka and Tamil Nadu protested over the proposed Mokedatu dam project on the Cauvery river. As MPs from Tamil Nadu raised slogans against the proposed project in Karnataka, which has already received the Union government's conditional clearance, Parliamentarians from Karnataka sitting on treasury and opposition benches came together to back construction of the dam.

Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan adjourned the House after the legislators were joined by TDP MPs seeking special assistance for Andhra Pradesh's new capital and Congress lawmakers raising slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Rafale deal.

AIADMK's P Venugopal started a short-lived discussion on the topic after an adjournment motion, calling it a "very serious livelihood issue of lakhs of farmers of Tamil Nadu", referring to the permission granted for the project by the Central Water Commission (CWC) to Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited, Karnataka. He said the CWC allowed preparation of DPR for construction of reservoir "in clear violation of the award given by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal".

"It is being constructed not just for drinking water, but also to increase the extent of irrigation," Venugopal said. He claimed that the CWC "did not consider the genuine and justifiable objection of Tamil Nadu" and "this is going to affect the livelihood of lakhs of farmers who depend on Cauvery water".

Chief Minister had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 27 asking the Centre to "instruct the CWC to withdraw the permission". Tamil Nadu Assembly passed a unanimous resolution, he said, during a special sitting on December 6 and sent it to the Union Government.

Speaking later, Dharwad MP Prahlad Joshi of the BJP emphasised that the project only aims to store water for drinking and not for irrigation. He said that it is a "balancing reservoir" and "the in-principle approval is given for it". Karnataka will not utilise "that water for irrigation, and the entire water that will be stored in Mokedatu will further flow to Tamil Nadu".

The Speaker adjourned the House as protesting leaders from Karnataka raised slogans in the Well, joined by TDP members demanding special assistance for Andhra Pradesh's new capital Amravati and Congress legislators raising slogans over Rafale deal.

However, an AIADMK leader continued protesting even after the session was adjourned, saying there was a partnership between Congress and BJP in Karnataka.

Parliamentarians from Karnataka carried similar placards which did not bear the name of a party or logo, stating "Cauvery Karnataka's Right, We Support Mokedatu".

Earlier in the morning, Karnataka MPs from all parties met at the residence of Union Minister D V Sadananda Gowda to discuss the dam project. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State for Drinking Water and Sanitation Ramesh Jigajinagi were also present. Gowda told reporters that Karnataka MPs will come together to support the dam project on December 27 as a response to their Tamil

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 21.12.2018 in the

Hindustan Times

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The Time of India (New Delhi)

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## Khattar for 50 lakes around Delhi

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 20

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Thursday directed senior officers to get about 50 lakes and reservoirs constructed in areas surrounding Delhi to prevent the probability of floods in the rainy season.

He was presiding over a review meeting of the Irrigation and Water Resources Department. During the monsoon, the flow of water increased in rivers, raising chances of low-lying areas getting flooded. Excess water should be collected in these lakes or reservoirs to avoid such a situation, he said.

The Chief Minister directed officers to get these lakes and reservoirs constructed on barren or saline land. After identifying such areas, these should be developed as lakes or reservoirs, he said. — TNS

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 21.12.2018 in the

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### यमुना की सफाई पर 25 वर्षों में 1514 करोड़ खर्च

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने गुरुवार को कहा कि यमुना नदी की सफाई एवं संरक्षण पर पिछले 25 वर्षों के दौरान 1514 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक खर्च किए गए हैं। लोकसभा में पीके कुनहालिकुट्टी के प्रश्न के लिखित उत्तर में जल संसाधन राज्य मंत्री सत्यपाल सिंह ने कहा, यमुना की सफाई भी नमामि गंगे मिशन का हिस्सा है और भारत सरकार यमुना कार्य योजना के तहत 1993 से चरणबद्ध ढंग से हरियाणा, दिल्ली और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों को वित्तीय सहायता देकर प्रदूषण के स्तर को रोकने के लिए राज्य के प्रयासों को सहायता दी जा रही है।



News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 21.12.2018 in the

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Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald  
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Business standard  
The Economic Times

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

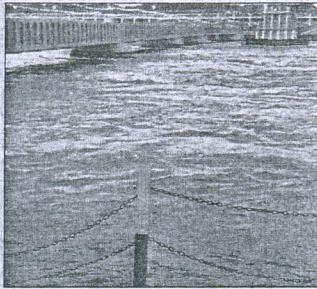
प्रयोगशाला के लिए कर्मचारियों की भर्ती शुरू, देहरादून-काशीपुर और रुड़की में निर्माण किया जाना है

# गंगाजल की गुणवत्ता हर महीने परखी जाएगी

देहरादून | कार्यालय संवाददाता

राज्य में गंगा और सहायक नदियों के पानी की जांच हर महीने की जाएगी। इसके लिए देहरादून, काशीपुर और रुड़की में प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड की तीन अत्याधुनिक लैब जल्द स्थापित की जाएंगी। तीनों लैबों के लिए कर्मचारियों की भर्तियां गुरुवार से शुरू हो गईं।

पीसीबी के सदस्य सचिव एसपी सुबुद्धि ने बताया कि करीब आठ करोड़ रुपये केंद्र से लैबों के निर्माण को मिला है। जल्द ही इन तीनों जगहों पर एक एक आधुनिक लैब तैयार की



जाएगी। इसमें गंगा और अन्य नदियों के पानी की जांच हो सकेगी। हर माह इनकी मॉनिटरिंग की जानी है। सुबुद्धि के अनुसार प्रदेश भर में गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों की 31 जगहों

## आधुनिक लैब बनेंगी

- 03 लैब बनाई जाएगी प्रदेशभर में  
गंगा जल की जांच को  
31 स्थानों से पानी लिया जाएगा  
नियमित रूप से जांच के लिए  
08 करोड़ रुपये दिए हैं केंद्र  
सरकार ने लैब बनाने के लिए



लैब बनने से गंगा और सहायक नदियों के जल शुद्धता की जांच में आसानी हो जाएगी। इससे गंगा की शुद्धता को बरकरार रखने के लिए ठोस नीतियां और योजनाएं बनाई जा सकेंगी।

-एसपी सुबुद्धि, सदस्य सचिव, पीसीबी

पर नियमित सैंपलिंग होगी। जिससे कि इन नदियों में जल प्रदूषण की जानकारी लगातार मिलेगी। प्रदूषण के कारण और निदान आसने हो पाएंगे। इन लैबों में तैनाती के लिए तीन तीन

जूनियर लैब असिस्टेंट और 12 जेएफआर की नियुक्ति होनी है। इनकी भर्ती प्रक्रिया शुरू कर दी गई है। गुरुवार को सौ लोगों ने इंटरव्यू दिए। जल्द ही परिणाम जारी किए जाएंगे।

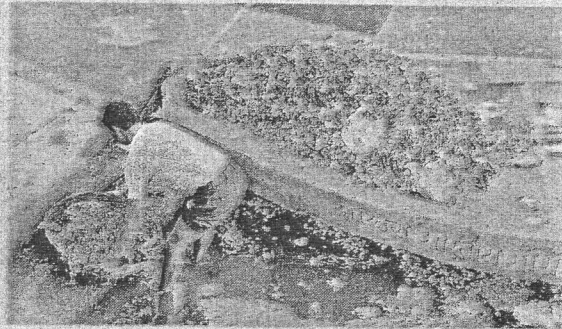
Hindustan Times  
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Hindustan (Hindi)  
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Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu (New Delhi)  
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# नमामि गंगे परियोजना : लोकसभा में आंकड़े पेश गंगा को निर्मल करने पर एक चौथाई ही खर्च कर <sup>RP-20</sup> पाई सरकार, हालात वैसे ही



गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों-यमुना, चंबल, बेतवा को साफ करने के लिए शुरू की गई 'नमामि गंगे' परियोजना लेट-लतीफी की भेंट चढ़ती दिख रही है। 2015 में शुरू की गई परियोजना को 2020 तक पूरा होना था। आवंटित बजट 20 हजार करोड़ में से इस साल 30 नवंबर तक सिर्फ एक चौथाई ही खर्च हो पाया है। आंकड़े संसद में सरकार ने दिए हैं।

## गंगा पर किन राज्यों में कितना खर्च

	■ खर्च करोड़ों में
■ उत्तर प्रदेश	1,538
■ उत्तराखंड	440
■ बिहार	820
■ प. बंगाल	700
■ झारखंड	115

## राजस्थान : चंबल नदी पर ध्यान नहीं

**20** पिछले दो साल से एक रुपए भी खर्च नहीं (2016-17)

## मध्य प्रदेश : बेतवा पर इस साल खर्च नहीं

■ खर्च : करोड़ **6,500**  
**3,390**  
(2015-16) (2016-17)