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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. Mahendran
30.11.18

SPA (Publicity)

o/c

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
30/11/18

Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
30/11

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

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

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 30/11/2018 in the

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SC orders public hearing on Polavaram

Directs Centre to file affidavit detailing conduct of hearing in Odisha, Chhattisgarh

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the Centre to hold a public hearing with the people affected by the Polavaram dam project in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, saying in a democracy the citizens had "a right to know what is happening".

A Bench led by Justice Madan B. Lokur categorically said the dam project could not be taken forward without first holding the public hearing.

The hearing would have the affected people voice their grievances about the submergence of their land, compensation, and rehabilitation among other issues. It is a ground-level enquiry.

The court directed the Centre to file an affidavit on Saturday detailing the conduct of the public hearing, including which government agency would hold it. The court said it would pass or-

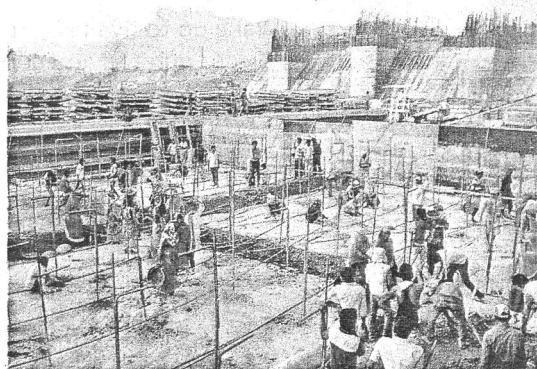
ders on Monday.

Telangana counsel, senior advocate C.S. Vaidyanathan, said a public hearing had already been held before the bifurcation of the State, but stressed that there should not be any submergence in Telangana. "In a democracy, people have a right to know what is happening," the court observed orally during the hearing.

Appearing for the petitioner NGO, RELA, senior advocate Jayant Bhushan and advocate Sravan Kumar submitted that the dam design had been changed and new components had been added, thus requiring a new environmental clearance.

Violation of award

Primary among the questions being considered by the Bench is whether the dam project and its design, as approved by the Central Water Commission, is in consonance with the Godavari



In full swing: Construction workers at the Polavaram project in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. ■ FILE PHOTO

Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) award of 1980.

A series of 13 questions were framed by the Bench in a suit filed by Odisha against Andhra Pradesh in 2007. Among the 13 queries, the court had also decided to look into the back water effect of the project.

Crucially, the court has to

examine whether the change in the design of Polavaram project, especially in so far as it raises the spillway discharge capacity from 36 lakh cusecs to 50 lakh cusecs, is so fundamental that it amounts to violation of the GWDT Award, and, therefore, requires fresh statutory clearances to be obtained.

Odisha forum wants survey

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

The People's Forum Against Polavaram asked the Odisha government on Thursday to conduct a detailed survey of areas in Malkangiri district that will be affected by the project. It also demanded the provision of land rights for tribals living in areas that are likely to be affected by the project before the conduct of public hearing on it.

Bhala Chandra Sarangi, the convenor of PFAP, alleged that the Odisha Government is not prepared to conduct public hearings.

According to Mr. Sarangi, the Odisha government should immediately start grass-roots level survey so that when the Supreme Court orders for public hearing, the real people to be affected can voice their views.

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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

The Hindu (Website) ✓

TAMIL NADU

CWMA's approval is key: chairman

T. Ramakrishnan

CHENNAI, NOVEMBER 30, 2018 01:08 IST

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'CWC's nod was for DPR preparation'

Roles of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) and the Central Water Commission (CWC) are well defined and there is no need to view one body as superior to the other, said S. Masood Husain, chairman of the CWC and CWMA.

Answering a question on whether it would not have been better if the CWMA decided first on any proposal of the Karnataka government on the Mekedatu project than what the CWC had done now, Mr. Husain, who is officiating as the chief of the authority, told *The Hindu* on Wednesday night: "Both are separate entities and their roles have been defined. The Commission is a body which considers reports [submitted by States on the water sector] and all relevant factors like techno-economic."

Reiterating that the CWC's nod to Karnataka for preparing a detailed project report (DPR) on Mekedatu "did not amount to giving approval for execution" of the project, he said the DPR — which had to be prepared with the consent of the CWC and the Central Electricity Authority — would require the green signal of the Authority first. "Without the CWMA's approval, the advisory committee of the Union Water Resources Ministry would not clear it," he pointed out, adding that the CWC's approval for the DPR would come up for discussion at a meeting of the Authority on December 3. As Tamil Nadu is part of the CWMA, it can express its position on the DPR when the Authority is to deliberate on it.

'Technical proposal'

Distinguishing a feasibility report from a DPR, Mr. Husain explained that while the former was a "preliminary report", the latter would deal elaborately with "a technical proposal." Besides, the DPR preparation involved different stages and this would take time. "Let them prepare DPR," he said, adding that Karnataka had to adhere to conditions stipulated by the Commission.

The CWC chairman added that the case of Karnataka was that the Mekedatu project would facilitate "better implementation" of the final order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, as modified by the Supreme Court in February this year.

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Kerala floods: Centre approves additional Rs 2,500 cr relief

RAHUL TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 29

FOUR MONTHS after the devastating Kerala floods, the Centre has approved an additional Rs 2,500 crore for relief and rehabilitation work. The Centre had earlier sanctioned Rs 600 crore for the same.

In September, the Kerala government had submitted a memorandum demanding Rs 4,800 crore with details about the loss of human life, properties, infrastructure and damage to crops. However, a committee headed by Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba cleared Rs 3,100 crore, which includes the Rs 600 crore sanctioned earlier, officials confirmed.

The decision will now be put up before the high level committee (HLC) headed by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, who along with Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh, will announce the final package, officials said.

The inter-ministerial Central team (IMCT), headed by Special Secretary B R Sharma, visited Kerala for on-the-spot assessment of damage and additional requirement of funds, and it was based on his report that the sub-committee of national executive committee (SC-NEC), headed by Gauba in conformity with norms, recently approved the quantum of additional assistance from the National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF), a senior government official explained.

An amount of Rs 600 crore had been sanctioned earlier as advance assistance, the Home Ministry clarified, following con-

troversy that the Centre had turned down the UAE's offer of Rs 700 crore for relief and rehabilitation works in Kerala. The government had said that India will not take any financial assistance from foreign governments, in sync with an existing policy since 2004, when the Centre finalised a disaster aid policy in the wake of the devastating December 2004 tsunami.

In September, the Centre had also enhanced its contribution in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) from 75 per cent to 90 per cent, with effect from April 1 that will also benefit Kerala. Under the Disaster Management Act 2005, a financial mechanism has been set up by way of National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) at the national level and SDRF at the state level to meet the rescue and relief expenditure during any notified disasters.

At least 488 people died in Kerala due to the rains and floods this monsoon. The large-scale devastation had affected 14 districts in the state.

Meanwhile, the Home Ministry, in a separate communication to states and union territories, cautioned that while submitting a memorandum for central assistance, the state government "should ensure that their memorandum is strictly in conformity with the government of India approved items and norms".

"This is the main reason for the gap between the assistance projected by the state government in their memorandum and NDRF assistance recommended by the SC-NEC and approved by the HLC," a letter from MHA's joint secretary Sanjeev K Jindal states.

Vijayan: Centre has sought Rs 290 cr for relief, rescue aircraft

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
NOVEMBER 29

KERALA CHIEF Minister Pinarayi Vijayan told the Assembly on Thursday that the Union government has sought Rs 290 crore from the cash-strapped state towards the cost of launching aircraft for the rescue mission during the recent floods and supplying rations to flood-affected people.

He said the amount that reached the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund would not be sufficient to meet the cost of flood-relief activities. Besides, the state has to now pay the Union government towards the cost of deploying aircraft for rescue operations and supplying provisions, he said.

The CM said that till November 27, an amount of Rs 2,683.18 crore had reached the CM's distress fund. This included the sum collected from state government employees through 'salary challenge'. So far, the government has spent Rs 688.46 crore. Another Rs 1,357.78 crore has to be spent from the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund towards compensation for houses damaged in the floods.

The State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has Rs 987.73 crore. Of this, Rs 586.04 crore has been spent so far. As per the current



Pinarayi Vijayan

Amount that reached CM's fund would not be sufficient, Vijayan said

scenario, the state will require an additional Rs 706.74 crore for clearing outstanding liabilities. Even if the entire amount in the SDRF is utilised, the state cannot clear its liabilities, he said.

The CM said that as per a scientific evaluation of the United Nations, Kerala has suffered loss of Rs 26,718 crore and rebuilding the flood-hit state would require Rs 31,000 crore.

Vijayan also wrote to Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh that the high-level committee on natural disaster mitigation and relief should be convened immediately to ensure more aid for the state.

In two earlier memoranda, the state sought aid of Rs 5,616 crore. The state has also sought Rs 2,000 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

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Cool it

Increased exposure to heatwaves needs a policy response, nationally and globally

The staggering loss of an estimated 153 billion hours of labour during 2017 due to rising temperatures around the globe is a reminder to governments that they are not doing enough to dramatically curb greenhouse gas emissions. The *Lancet* countdown on health and climate has reported that India was particularly affected by the rising frequency of heatwave events and lost about 75 billion hours of work, a significant part of it in the agricultural sector. This has worrying implications for rural employment and the well-being of a large section of the population that depends on farming. At stake for all countries in the developing world is the health of millions, many of them already vulnerable to extreme weather events. Coming on the eve of the UN climate conference in Katowice, Poland, the report of the *Lancet* panel for 2018 brings clarity, placing connected issues in perspective for governmental action. It is vital that India gets more ambitious about cutting back on carbon emissions, even as it presses for the fulfilment of the climate finance obligations of developed countries under the Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. A further reduction in the share of coal in the energy mix through sustained support for renewable energy, particularly solar photovoltaics, must form the cornerstone of national policy. This must be matched by a shift away from use of fossil fuels for transport, and the induction of more electric vehicles. Such a policy would yield the parallel benefit of improving air quality; ambient air pollution led to the premature death of an estimated half a million people in India in 2015.

The consensus on climate change is that it has begun to affect the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events. India's approach to adaptation should, therefore, prepare for catastrophes with a well-considered plan to provide relief and rehabilitation. If the Centre and State governments can arrive at a consensus on the strong climate link to the excessive rain in Kerala and Cyclone Gaja in Tamil Nadu, for instance, a case could be made for climate funds under the Paris Agreement. Such a claim has to be supported by a perspective plan that identifies vulnerable regions and communities, and incorporates transparent systems for funds utilisation. The importance of funds for adaptation is underscored by *Lancet's* finding that 99% of losses from climate-related events in low-income countries were not insured. From a public health perspective, the report sounds a warning that rising temperatures will enable the dengue virus and malaria to spread farther and faster. This is also true of some other infections. The aggravated impact of climate change on health is a serious issue for policymakers to consider when they gather in Katowice for the conference on December 2.

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‘गंगा’ संग्रहालय बनाने की तैयारी

नमामि गंगे

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

राष्ट्रीय गंगा स्वच्छता मिशन (एनएमसीजी) गंगा नदी के इतिहास, इससे जुड़ी पौराणिक कथाओं तथा इसके लोक महत्व को लेकर गंगा संग्रहालय बनाने पर विचार कर रहा है। इसके लिए गुरुवार से शुरू हुए दो दिवसीय सम्मेलन में देश-विदेश के विशेषज्ञ गहन मंथन कर रहे हैं।

इस खास सम्मेलन में भारत के साथ यूरोपीय संघ के विशेषज्ञों को आमंत्रित किया गया है। सम्मेलन का विषय ‘गंगा

मंथन

- देश विदेश के विशेषज्ञों के साथ शुरू हुआ दो दिन का मंथन
- गंगा के इतिहास, लोक महत्व व पौराणिक कथाओं का होगा जिक्र

संग्रहालय विकास विचार : भारत तथा यूरोप के बीच अनुभव और विचारों का आदान प्रदान है। सम्मेलन में पहले दिन लोक जीवन पर गंगा के प्रभाव तथा इसके संरक्षण की योजनाओं पर विचार किया गया।

सम्मेलन में जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय में सचिव यूपी सिंह ने कहा कि गंगा के

बिना हमारा वजूद नहीं है। सारी नदियां महत्वपूर्ण हैं, लेकिन गंगा का महत्व भारत में बहुत ज्यादा है, क्योंकि यह महज एक नदी भर नहीं है। यह करोड़ों लोगों के जीवनयापन का साधन व उसकी आस्था भी है।

संग्रहालय में गंगा की पौराणिक कथाओं तथा इसके आध्यात्मिक महत्व, इसे संरक्षित करने के प्रयासों, गंगा के आसपास चल रही आर्थिक गतिविधियों तथा इसकी जैव विविधता और इसमें रहने वाले जलचरों के बारे में व्यापक जानकारी दी जाएगी। उन्होंने उम्मीद जताई कि अंतरराष्ट्रीय विशेषज्ञ गंगा संग्रहालय की अवधारणा को मजबूती प्रदान करेंगे।

‘संग्रहालय के लिए अभी स्थान का चयन नहीं हुआ’: एनएमसीजी के निदेशक आरआर मिश्रा ने कहा कि यह संग्रहालय कहाँ खोला जाएगा इसके लिए अभी स्थान का चयन नहीं हुआ है।

उन्होंने कहा कि लोगों का गंगा से धार्मिक तथा आर्थिक लगाव है और उन्हें इससे जुड़ाव महसूस हो, इसके लिए यह संग्रहालय महत्वपूर्ण साबित होगा।

सम्मेलन में देश-विदेश के करीब 35 विशेषज्ञ भाग ले रहे हैं। इसके अलावा मंत्रालय के प्रतिनिधि भी गंगा सफाई से जुड़े कार्यक्रमों की जानकारी विशेषज्ञों में साझा कर रहे हैं।

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रोजाना छोड़ा जा रहा है लाखों गैलन प्रदूषित पानी यमुना नदी को नाला बना रहा नजफगढ़ ड्रेन

राकेश शर्मा

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी):

दिल्ली की लाइफ-लाइन यमुना नदी को नजफगढ़ ड्रेन वर्षों से गंदे नाले में तब्दी कर रहा है। नजफगढ़ नाले के माध्यम से यमुना में रोजाना लाखों गैलन प्रदूषित पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। हालात यह है कि नदी को विकसित करने के लिए वर्षों से योजना बन रही है लेकिन ठोस काम न होने के कारण यमुना नदी की हालत चिंताजनक है।

इस नदी में नजफगढ़ ड्रेन के अलावा छोटे-बड़े 22 से अधिक नालों से 850 मिलियन गैलन प्रदूषित पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। इन सब नालों में नजफगढ़ ड्रेन का हिस्सा लगभग 67 फीसदी है। इसके बाद दूसरे नंबर पर शाहदरा ड्रेन है। दिल्ली के यमुना के 22 किलोमीटर हिस्से पर एक रिपोर्ट तैयार हुई थी जिसमें कहा गया था कि दिल्ली में यमुना गंदा नाला बनकर रह गई है। इसका सबसे बड़ा कारण यमुना में गिरने वाले 22 गंदे नाले हैं। इसमें गिरने वाले



फोटो: मिहिर सिंह

पानी को साफ नहीं किया जा रहा। इसके अलावा इसमें सीवरेज की मात्रा भी रहती है। नजफगढ़ ड्रेन में आसपास की कई कॉलोनियों का सीवर मिल रहा है जो सीधे यमुना में चला जाता है। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के अनुसार इन कॉलोनियों की संख्या बढ़ चुकी है। ऐसे में नजफगढ़ ड्रेन में मिल रहे सीवर की संख्या भी पिछले कुछ वर्षों में काफी तेजी से बढ़ी है।

दिसंबर तक तैयार हो जाएगा इंटरसेप्टर

दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के उपाध्यक्ष दिनेश मोहनिया ने बताया कि नजफगढ़ नाले को साफ करने के लिए दिसंबर तक इंटरसेप्टर प्रोजेक्ट काम पूरा हो जाएगा। इस प्रोजेक्ट के पूरा होने के बाद दिल्ली से आने वाला सीवर का पानी यमुना में जाना बंद होगा। साथ ही गंदा पानी भी यमुना में सीधे नहीं छोड़ा जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि यमुना को साफ करने के लिए दिल्ली सरकार हर संभव प्रयास कर रही है। एसटीपी व अन्य के निर्माण की दिशा में काम किया जा रहा है।

हरियाणा से आ सकता है गंदा पानी

नजफगढ़ नाले में हरियाणा के तरफ से आने वाला गंदा पानी आ सकता है। इस गंदे पानी को रोकने के लिए दिल्ली जल बोर्ड ने कई बार हरियाणा सरकार को पत्र लिखा है। इस संबंध में बोर्ड के उपाध्यक्ष दिनेश मोहनिया ने बताया कि बादशाहपुर ड्रेन के रास्ते आने वाला करीब 50 एमजीडी गंदा पानी यमुना में आ सकता है। इस गंदे पानी को लेकर हरियाणा को लिखा गया है।