



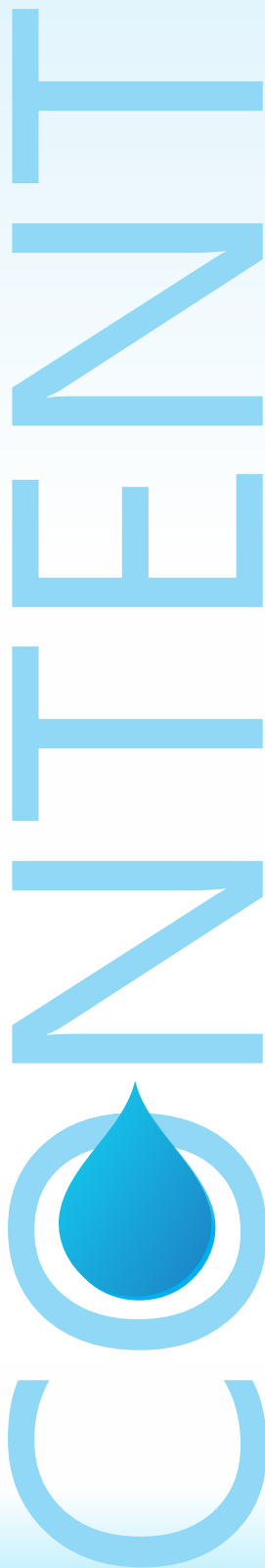
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
भारत सरकार
Department of Water Resources,
River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
Government of India

save
water



जल चर्चा
JAL CHARCHA
APR - JUN 2025





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From the Chief Editor's Desk

Renewing India's Water Promise From Source to Society



As we look back on the second quarter of 2025, the Ministry of Jal Shakti's commitment to securing India's water future has gained steady momentum.

The key highlight of this quarter was the Ministry's celebration of the International Day of Yoga on 21st June, 2025, observed nationwide with widespread public participation. Officers/Staff of the Ministry and its organisations all over the country, participated in yoga sessions on this day, sending a strong message of harmony between individual wellness and environmental responsibility. In Delhi, Yoga session was organised at Yamuna Ghat, emphasizing twin aspects of promoting holistic health through yoga and supporting the rejuvenation of rivers like the Yamuna through Jan Bhagidari.

Another significant milestone of the quarter was remarkable progress achieved under the "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB)" initiative which was launched under JSA:CTR on 6th September 2024 in Surat, Gujarat by Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti. Against an ambitious goal of creating one million groundwater recharge structures by 31st May 2025, the campaign exceeded expectations completing 2.3 million structures in just nine months out of identified 2.7 million structures. This collaborative effort aims to enhance water recharge through rainwater harvesting, aquifer recharge, borewell recharge and recharge shafts, supported by CSR funds from industrial houses, civic bodies and water sector enthusiasts.

In Northeast, new partnerships are bringing fresh ideas and practical skills to water management. In April, local water experts rolled up their sleeves for a hands-on workshop led by the North Eastern Hydraulic and Allied Research Institute (NEHARI) and the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), diving into the latest GIS and Remote Sensing tools. This training has empowered professionals to plan and monitor water resources more effectively than ever before. Meanwhile, the Brahmaputra Board is forging new partnerships through the India-EU Water Initiative, working closely with European experts to bring innovative and sustainable water solutions to the region.

At the same time, the Namami Gange programme widened its focus to include more environmental and technological efforts. One important step was launching a real-time E-flow monitoring system for 11 major Ganga projects. This tool makes it easier to see what's happening, helps keep track of rules, and ensures that enough water is flowing in the river as required. This strengthens the river's health and supports its ongoing restoration.

The Ministry also marked key activities through its field offices and technical wings. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) contributed meaningfully to the Ministry's efforts this quarter through a mix of field reviews, training programmes, and outreach activities. From guiding young officers to facilitating expert discussions, CGWB's work reflected a steady push toward improving how we understand and manage our groundwater resources.

The North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management (NERIWALM) continued its work across the Northeast with a focus on training, research, and outreach. During this period, the institute held programmes on GIS, irrigation, water quality, and springshed development, while also engaging with students and officers on water literacy and local challenges like erosion and displacement. It also strengthened partnerships and advanced projects in lab accreditation and regional planning, furthering its commitment to sustainable water and land management.

Ministerial field visits have been central to ensuring policy translates into action. In Gorakhpur and surrounding districts, comprehensive reviews were held for projects under Jal Jeevan Mission, Namami Gange, and local water body rejuvenation. These visits have brought a renewed sense of urgency to getting things done on time and involving local communities every step of the way.

Across India, momentum is building as states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat rally communities around water harvesting, step well restoration, and the cleaning of key rivers. These regional efforts are all guided by the belief that water should be everyone's responsibility.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti remains committed to a future where every citizen plays a part. It is a vision where science meets service, and conservation goes hand in hand with awareness. As the monsoon arrives, it is up to all of us, the people of India, to value every drop and turn our collective action into lasting water security for every corner of the country. Looking ahead, the focus will remain on reaching every last household, restoring our rivers, and ensuring that every citizen becomes a steward of water.

Debashree Mukherjee
Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR
Government of India



INSIGHTS

Atal Bhujal Yojana: Integrating Administration, Science and Community for Groundwater Sustainability

Groundwater forms the backbone of India's water security, supporting over 85% of rural drinking water and 60% of irrigation needs. However, indiscriminate extraction, declining recharge, and limited public awareness had led to widespread depletion and imbalance. To address this, the Government of India launched its implementation from April 2020. The scheme aims to promote community-led, data-driven, and administratively efficient groundwater management across the most water-stressed regions of the country.

Administratively, Atal Jal is the first-of-its-kind Programme-for-Results (PforR) in India's water sector. Unlike traditional schemes, where funding precedes implementation, Atal Jal disburses funds to states only upon achieving specific, independently verified results through Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) in the form of incentives, which are again invested in water conservation activities. With a total outlay of ₹6,000 crore, shared equally between the Government of India and the World Bank, the programme operates in over 8,203 gram panchayats across 80 districts and 229 blocks in seven states: Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. By aligning funding with performance, the scheme ensures accountability, transparency, and efficient use of public resources. Notably, 100% of WSPs at GP level have been prepared and annually updated, 198% of the target area (8.9 lakh hectares) has adopted water-efficient irrigation, and 1,333 gram panchayats and 61 blocks have recorded improved groundwater levels.

From a management standpoint, Atal Jal is centred on decentralised planning and community ownership. Gram panchayats are equipped to prepare and annually update Water Security Plans (WSPs) using participatory rural appraisal and local data inputs. These plans are implemented through convergence with existing Central and State government schemes. Under the Atal Jal, over 1.2 lakh training programmes have been conducted, empowering local institutions such as Village Water & Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to take leadership roles. Special emphasis on women's participation (minimum 33%) has helped mainstream gender equity in water governance. More than 79,000 water conservation and recharge structures have been created under the scheme.

Scientifically, Atal Jal ensures that groundwater planning is data-backed and climate-resilient. Tools like Digital Water Level Recorders (DWLRs), rain gauges, flow meters, water quality testing kits and GIS mapping provide real-time information on aquifer conditions and water levels. Communities use this data to develop village-level water budgets and implement smart irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, sprinkler systems, Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR), crop diversification, and laser land levelling. Mobile apps enable real-time monitoring, while "Jal Chaupals" promote knowledge-sharing and collective decision-making at the grassroots.

In summary, Atal Bhujal Yojana represents a robust integration of science, administration, and community-based management. It not only addresses the technical challenges of groundwater depletion but also fosters behavioural change and institutional capacity at the grassroots level. As the scheme serves as a national model for sustainable water governance, anchored in evidence, inclusivity, and citizen empowerment.

Subodh Yadav

Additional Secretary

Department of Water Resources,
RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched Web based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal

The comprehensive five-day program featured a blend of insightful lectures and practical, hands-on sessions. Participants were introduced to the fundamental principles of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems, along with exploring open data sources relevant to the water resources sector. A dedicated segment focused on Google Earth Engine and its diverse applications in water resource management.



Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched Web based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal at New Delhi. Central Water Commission monitors Live Storage Capacity of 161 important reservoirs of country an issues weekly bulletin on every Thursday. The total live storage capacity of these reservoirs at FRL is 182.375 BCM which is about 70.74% of the total live storage capacity estimated to have been created in the country. This Bulletin is sent to PMO, Niti Aayog, MoJS, MOP, MOA&FW, IMD, Disaster Management Authorities and all concerned states as well as uploaded on CWC web site. The storage position is updated every Thursday and Advisories are issued to concerned State Governments in case of (likely) critical situation of storage.

The present system involves manual generation of various Graphs, Charts and Tables etc. for inclusion in the bulletin. However, in the new portal all required data analysis and generating maps, tables, graphs etc. including issuing the final bulletin, shall be done automatically by clicking the button(s) once the data is entered in the portal. Also, through this portal, general public can get information about the storage status

of any particular reservoir or any state or country as a whole. If required, any person can also download the bulletin from the portal. Dated 3.4.2025, first bulletin of the Financial Year 2025-26 has been issued with the launch of Web based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti.



Live storage status of reservoirs is a very important input for the decision makers in order to priorities the requirements of water in terms of its domestic, agriculture, power, navigation and recreations uses. It indicates the level of water security in the country. It also helps respective authorities to plan various agricultural activities across the country.

Water is a critical resource that underpins not only our daily lives but also the economic and social well-being of our communities. Agriculture is a primary source of



income and livelihood for a substantial portion of India's population, particularly in rural areas. Reservoirs are crucial for irrigation as they store water during wet periods, enabling its regulated release for agricultural use during drier seasons, ensuring a reliable water supply for crops and mitigating the impacts of water scarcity. They also provide a safeguard during the dry season and help us mitigate the impacts of extreme weather patterns, which are becoming more frequent and intense due to climate change.

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched Water Resource Census application and portal at New Delhi

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched Water Resource Census application and portal at Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi. The Water Resource Census application and portal aids in the following census schemes.

1. The 7th Minor Irrigation Census
2. 2nd Census of Water Bodies
3. 1st Census of Springs
4. 1st Census of Major and Medium Irrigation Projects

A 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the reference year will be 2023-24 agricultural year (July 2023- June 2024) under Irrigation Census Scheme.



The main objective of the Water Resource Census is to build a comprehensive and reliable database in the irrigation sector for effective planning and policymaking including water use efficiency, water budgeting etc. The digital application for collection and validation of data significantly enhances data accuracy while reducing the time required for conduct of census.

The key features of the censuses are the following:

- Paperless and end-to-end digital solution: mobile application for data collection and web application for management and validation processes
- Ground truthing of data received from SAC database during 2nd Census of Water Bodies
- Recording Latitude, Longitude and images of all schemes
- Pre-population of previous census data (6th MI and 1st Water body Census) using LGD codes in the mobile application during data collection to the extent possible
- Use of reverse GIS technology for ensuring accurate recording of Lat/Long of all scheme wherever village boundaries are available
- Use of LGD codes for preparing frame of census

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched a new website of the DOWR, RD & GR based on DBIM Framework

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil launched a new website of Ministry of Jal Shakti (DOWR, RD & GR) in Digital Brand Identity Manual (DBIM) format with objective to align to cohesive digital ecosystem across all Ministries/Department today at Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.

The upgraded website is among the first few government platforms to be successfully on boarded & revamped in full compliance with the latest DBIM and Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) 3.0.

Aligned with the Prime Minister's vision of a harmonized and unified digital identity for Government of India, the Key Features of the New Website are :

- 1. Consistency Across Government Websites:** The DBIM framework ensures a unified look and feel across all government websites. This consistency not only strengthens the government's digital identity but also helps in promoting trust and recognition among citizens.
- 2. Uniform User Experience:** The new website is designed to provide a uniform user experience across all central government portals. Citizens will now find it easier to navigate and access information across different departments, thanks to standardized menus, layouts, and features.
- 3. Enhanced Accessibility:** The website complies with the latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) of STQC, making it accessible to all citizens, including those with disabilities.
- 4. Optimized for Speed and Performance:** Leveraging the DBIM framework's optimized coding structure, the website offers faster load times and improved performance, ensuring a seamless experience even on low bandwidth connections. This is particularly beneficial for users in rural and remote areas.



5. Centralized Banner Publishing System: One of the standout features of the DBIM framework is the centralized banner publishing system integrated with My Gov. This system allows us to publish important government announcements, public service messages, and critical information directly across all government websites. This centralized approach ensures that citizens receive the latest updates promptly, improving communication and outreach.

6. Mobile-Friendly Design: The responsive design ensures that the website functions smoothly across all devices, including smart phones, tablets, and desktops. This flexibility enhances the overall user experience, especially for citizens who predominantly use mobile devices to access online services.

7. Centralized Content Management: The framework includes a centralized content management system (CMS) that allows for efficient updates and maintenance across various government portals. This reduces the time and effort required for website management and ensures up-to-date information is available to the public.

8. Improved Security Features: The DBIM framework is built with robust security protocols, including SSL encryption, secure authentication, and regular vulnerability assessments. This ensures that citizen data remains safe and secure, in line with the government's data protection policies.

The upgraded portal now features a unified interface, consistent branding, and technology standardization, making Department of Water Resources, RD & GR an exemplar of digital excellence and accessibility.



Union Minister Shri C. R. Patil inaugurated Symposium on “Dam Safety Act, 2021: Towards Integrated Dam Safety Management” in New Delhi

Shri C. R. Patil lauded the role of NDSA in Dam safety Management

Union Minister highlighted how the Act has created a structured safety framework and institutional set up in ensuring compliances of the provisions of the Dam Safety Act

Three Years of NDSA's Journey marked with Key Releases and Discussions on Implementation Challenges

Union Minister Shri C. R. Patil inaugurated Symposium on “Dam Safety Act, 2021”: Towards Integrated Dam Safety Management”organised by National Dam Safety Authority” (NDSA), DoWR, RD & GR, Govt. of India in the presence of Minister of State for Jal Shakti Dr. Raj Bhushan Choudhary in SCOPE Convention Centre, New Delhi today. This event highlighted the progress made in improving dam safety, and it emphasized the need for integrated dam safety management through involvement of all Stakeholders.



Shri C. R. Patil, outlined the efforts in implementation of the Dam Safety Act. Union minister highlighted how the Act has created a structured safety framework and institutional set up in ensuring compliances of the provisions of the Dam Safety Act. While lauding the role of NDSA in Dam safety Management, HMoJS encouraged stakeholders to view dam safety not merely

as compliance; but, as a commitment to human safety, ecosystem preservation, and national resilience. HMoJS emphasized that every specified dam owner must earmark sufficient funds as mandated; and uphold global best practices and advanced technology for a secure water future. He highlighted that dams are getting old and more efforts are needed to take preventive measures for Dam Safety.

Dr. Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Minister of State for Jal Shakti, urged states to adopt risk-based prioritization tools and integrate startups and private sector innovation into dam safety practices. Also emphasised on the importance of Dam Health and Rehabilitation Monitoring Application, i.e. DHARMA Portal as a repository of data of all the specified dams of the country.



Key releases during the Symposium:

- The National Register of Specified Dams-2025 was released, providing a comprehensive database of all the 6628 Specified dams in the country.
- Guidelines for Preparing Operation & Maintenance Manual for Ungated Dams was released, aimed at improving safety protocols of dams.
- A Compendium on regulations published under the Dam Safety Act, 2021
- The National Strategy for Developing Dams as Sustainable and Responsible Tourism Destinations was introduced to

explore eco-friendly tourism opportunities.

Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR elucidated the efforts made by NDSA in implementation of provisions of Dam Safety Act, 2021 in close association with all other stakeholders. She outlined that India is one of the leading countries in Dam Safety management. However, she cautioned the dam fraternity that any complacency in dam safety efforts could derail the process. She stressed upon the need for integrated Dam Safety Management, by taking care of each & every aspect related to Dam Safety in a holistic manner and need to have plans in place for ground implementation of various measures required to improve the safety performance of the dams. She also pointed out that dam safety is becoming increasingly difficult with climate change.

Shri Anil Jain, Chairman, NDSA highlighted the achievements during the Authority's three-year journey and reiterated that dams are not just engineering marvels, but lifelines critical for irrigation, power



generation, and flood protection. He stressed that ensuring dam safety is a shared national responsibility.

Shri R.K. Choudhary, CMD, NHPC presented a perspective on dam safety compliance and risk mitigation strategies. He elaborated on best practices in structural health monitoring and adaptive management strategies adopted by NHPC to enhance dam resilience. He shared about the best practices being followed by them for all the Dams of NHPC. He emphasised that NHPC is maintaining their Dam Safety Dam Management data through their in-house portal of NHPC, which is called "SAHAJ SEWA". Dr. Sanjay Belsare, Secretary, CADWM, Maharashtra

highlighted on-ground progress, particularly in enhancing inspection protocols and capacity building, while also pointing out challenges like funding constraints and manpower shortages.

The technical sessions by NDSA focused on the evolution and key regulatory provisions of the Dam Safety Act, 2021, emphasizing the significance of a structured legal framework in ensuring the long-term safety and maintenance of dams. Further, the role of NDSA in implementing the Act and the challenges ahead were discussed. The need for capacity building among dam owners and state agencies, particularly in monitoring, inspection, and emergency action planning was highlighted.

State representatives from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Meghalaya shared their experiences and challenges in implementing the Act. They highlighted key issues such as fund constraints and trained manpower. Senior officials from the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), and key stakeholders from states and public sector organizations were also present at the event. More than 250 delegates from 18 states attended the event, representing various sectors involved in dam safety management.

Cabinet approved Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management as a sub-scheme of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for the period 2025-2026

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today approved the Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management (M-CADWM) as a sub-scheme of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for the period 2025-2026 with an initial total outlay of Rs.1600 crore.

The scheme aims for modernization of the irrigation water supply network to supply of irrigation water from existing canals or other sources in a designated cluster. It will make robust backend infrastructure for micro-irrigation by farmers from established source to the Farm gate upto 1 Ha with underground pressurized piped irrigation. The use of SCADA, Internet of things technology will be used for water accounting and water management. This will increase the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) at the farm level, increase agriculture production & productivity; and thereby increase the income of farmers.

The projects will be made sustainable by Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) to the Water User Society (WUS) for management of irrigation assets. The Water User Societies will be given handholding support for linking them with existing Economic Entities like FPO or PACS for five years. The youth will also be attracted to farming, to adopt the modern method of irrigation.

The initial approval is for taking up pilot projects across various agroclimatic zones in the country by challenge funding to the states. Based on the learning's in design and structuring of these projects, National Plan for Command Area Development and Water Management will be launched starting from April 2026 for the 16th Finance Commission period.



A strong step towards Ganga conservation: Key projects approved in the 61st Executive Committee meeting of NMCG

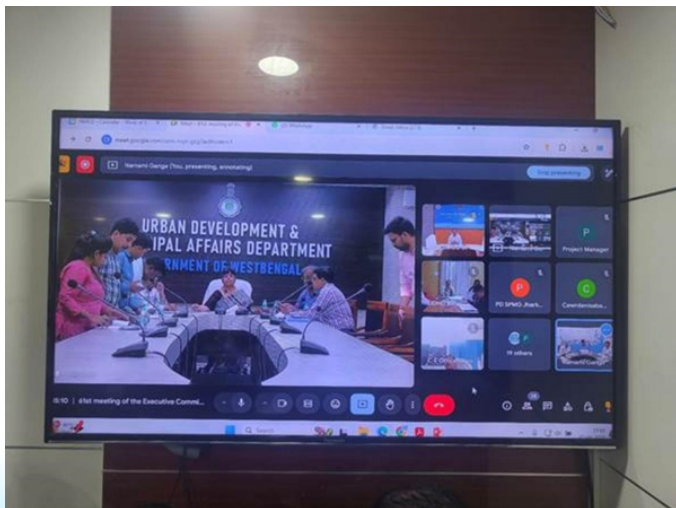
The 61st Executive Committee Meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, chaired by Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Director-General NMCG

The meeting approved making DDA Biodiversity Parks as Knowledge cum-Skill Development Centre for National Mission for Clean Ganga

**Executive Committee deliberated and sanctioned
sewerage projects of more than 900 Crore**

In a decisive move to combat pollution and revive the lifeline of millions, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has taken another transformative step forward. The 61st Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), chaired by Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Director-General NMCG, has approved several major projects aimed at the conservation and rejuvenation of the Ganga River. These initiatives are in line with the mission's goals of enhancing river cleanliness, promoting sustainable development, and preserving the environmental and cultural heritage of the Ganga.

They mark a significant leap in enhancing river cleanliness, curbing pollution at its source, and safeguarding the rich ecological and cultural heritage that flows with the river's timeless journey.



Executive Committee deliberated and sanctioned sewerage projects of more than 900 Crore. The Detailed Project Report related to interception, diversion, STP and other allied works in Moradabad town in U.P. Zone-3 and Zone-4 for "Prevention of Pollution in Ramganga River" was approved. This ambitious project, with an estimated cost of ₹409.93 crore, aims to make the Ramganga River pollution-free. Under the project, modern Sewage Treatment Plants with capacities of 15 MLD in Zone-3 and 65 MLD in Zone-4 will be constructed. Along with this, 5 major drains will be intercepted and diverted.

Another significant initiative for Arrah town in Bihar has been approved. This project is related to the interception, diversion, and construction of a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), with an estimated cost of ₹328.29 crore. Under this project, a state-of-the-art STP with a capacity of 47 MLD will be constructed, along with the establishment of a 19.5 KM long sewer network. This scheme will be based on the Hybrid Annuity Model, which also includes operation and maintenance for 15 years. The aim of this initiative is not only to provide a permanent solution to the sewage problem of Ara city, but also to effectively reduce the level of pollution in the Ganga by purifying the untreated water falling into the river.

In the meeting, an important project related to the “Interception and Diversion of 14 Untapped Drains of Kanpur City, Uttar Pradesh” was approved at an estimated cost of ₹138.11 crore, which will give a new direction to the city’s drainage and sanitation system. Under this project, sewage falling directly into the river from drains will be intercepted and conveyed to treatment plants through proposed sewage pumping stations and manholes. This project will involve the interception of 14 major drains of the city.



The Executive Committee approved a significant initiative in Pujali Municipality of West Bengal under the Namami Gange programme. Under this project, an Integrated Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) was approved, with a total estimated cost of ₹5.96 crore. Under this project, a state-of-the-art 8 KLD capacity faecal sludge treatment plant will be set up, which will not only improve urban sanitation but also play a crucial role in maintaining the purity of water sources.

A major initiative approved in the meeting was a Nature Based Solution project with a focus of Yamuna rejuvenation in National Capital. EC approved the installation of pilot CAMUS-SBT (Continuous Advanced Mite Utilizing System – Soil-Based Treatment) plants for the treatment of liquid pollutants in the Shahdara drain, aiming to achieve water quality standards as prescribed by the NGT (National Green Tribunal). Under this project, CAMUS-SBT plants with capacities of 5 MLD will be installed.

To strengthen the research program of NMCG, EC approved the establishment of the NMCG-IIT Delhi-Dutch Collaboratory for Intelligent River Systems and Clean Yamuna (IND-RIVERS). This innovative initiative is launched under the India-Netherlands Water Strategic Partnership, aiming to build Centres of Excellence focused on critical areas like urban rivers and nature base solution. The centre is a unique combination of a premier academic institution, Government Department and an international partner to focus on action-oriented research and practical solution to the challenges faced in the area.



The Executive Committee also approved for study and documentation of traditional wooden boat-making craft thriving for centuries in the Ganga basin.

The meeting approved to make DDA Biodiversity Parks as Knowledge cum-Skill Development Centre for National Mission for Clean Ganga, DOWR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. The project, with a total estimated cost of ₹8.64 crore. The initiative aims to develop Biodiversity Parks with Delhi's Yamuna Biodiversity Park as a knowledge partner.

After the successful implementation of these initiatives, the efforts for the cleanliness and rejuvenation of the Ganga River and its tributaries will receive a new direction and momentum. These projects will not only help in pollution control and water conservation, but will also be milestones in preserving the riverine heritage and developing sustainable water management systems. Through these initiatives, ecological challenges associated with rivers can be addressed, ensuring a clean, healthy, and sustainable future for the communities dependent on them. This comprehensive effort is a strong and inspiring step towards making rivers life-giving once again.



The meeting was attended by Sh. Mahabir Prasad, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor of Ministry of Power, (additional charge) DOWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti; Sh. Nalin Srivastava, Deputy Director General of NMCG; Sh. Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Executive Director (Technical); Sh. Brijendra Swaroop, Executive Director (Projects) Sh. S.P. Vashistha, Executive Director (Administration); Sh. Bhaskar Dasgupta, Executive Director (Finance); Ms. Nandini Ghosh, Project Director of West Bengal SPMG; Sh. Animesh Kumar Parashar, Managing Director of Bihar BUIDCO; and Sh. Prabhash Kumar, Additional Project Director of Uttar Pradesh SMCG.

Namami Gange Mission 2.0: 7 major sewerage infrastructure projects completed in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Delhi in the 2nd half of FY 2024-25

With the commissioning of these projects, the total capacity under Namami Gange Program stands at 3722 MLD and total number of STPs commissioned at 157

The total cost of these projects is 1772 crore



Under Namami Gange Mission 2.0, the completion of 7 major projects in the second half of FY 2024–25 marks a significant achievement. Located in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Delhi, these projects primarily focus on preventing sewage from entering rivers, thereby, improving water quality and rejuvenating the rivers. Additionally, other projects in Uttarakhand has been partially ready for operation. The completed projects mark an important step in infrastructure advancement in sewerage treatment and would lead to furtherance of the objective of river rejuvenation. With the commissioning of these projects, the total capacity under Namami Gange Program stands at 3722 MLD and

total number of STPs commissioned at 157.

47.70 MLD STP at Farrukhabad

The total cost of these projects is ₹1772 crore, aiming to enhance wastewater treatment in various regions. In Farrukhabad, Uttar Pradesh, the rejuvenation of the Ganga has received fresh momentum. Here, a state-of-the-art STP with a capacity of 47.70 MLD and an interception and diversion network has been set up at a cost of ₹261 crore —taking a major step towards restoring the Ganga's natural purity.



33 MLD STP at Ayodhya



In the sacred city of Ayodhya, a 33 MLD capacity STP and interception & diversion network have been established at a cost of ₹ 222 crore to make the Saryu River clean and uninterrupted. This initiative will not only uphold the city's religious significance but also contribute to environmental balance. Additionally, in Muzaffarnagar district, a 32.50 MLD capacity STP along with an interception and diversion network has been completed with the total project cost of ₹234 Crore. This project will aid in the rejuvenation of the Kali West and Hind on rivers. These projects are based on the Hybrid Annuity Model, which not only ensures their success but also enhances their environmental effectiveness.

10 MLD STP at Bakhtiyarpur



In Bihar too, major projects have been started for the conservation of the Ganga River. In Bakhtiyarpur, a 10MLD STP and an interception & diversion network have been constructed at a cost of ₹85 crore, offering hope for pollution-affected areas. In Fatuha, a 7 MLD STP has been established under a ₹35.49 crore project, improving the region's drainage system. Similarly, in Phulwari Sharif, a 6 MLD STP project has been launched at a cost of ₹46 crore, taking another step toward cleanliness and sustainable development. All three projects are based on the DBOT (Design-Build-Operate-Transfer) model.

32.50 MLD STP at Muzaffarnagar

In Delhi, the construction of Asia's largest STP with a capacity of 564 MLD and an interception & diversion network has been completed at a cost of ₹666 crore. This ambitious project, aimed at conserving the Yamuna River, is based on the DBOT model and follows NGT norms using A2O (Anaerobic-Anoxic-Oxic) technology.

6 MLD STP at Phulwari sharif



In the first half of the financial year 2024–25, eight pollution control projects namely: Patna-Danapur, Patna Maner, Kairana, Lucknow, Munger, Mirzapur, Ghazipur and Bareilly were completed. Thus, a total of 15 ambitious projects have been successfully completed in the financial year 2024–25. These projects have been implemented at a total cost of ₹3,184 crore.

10 MLD STP at Fatuha

These accomplishments represent significant progress in achieving cleaner rivers and improved urban sanitation, while also reinforcing the mission's core objective of sustainable and holistic river rejuvenation.



Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil reviewed the Jalaj Initiative and charted a new path for river conservation and livelihood generation

Along with conservation, Jalaj aims at creating economic opportunities and enhancing community participation in river rejuvenation efforts: Shri C.R. Patil

Union minister lauded the innovative models developed under Jalaj and emphasized the need to scale up successful practices across other major river basins

Jalaj has empowered over 5,000 members of the boating community and supported more than 2,400 women in 42 districts across nine states

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil, chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of the Wild life Institute of India's livelihood-focused project 'JALAJ'. The Jalaj program under the aegis of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), is a significant component of the Government's Arth Ganga vision — linking people to rivers through sustainable economic activities. Along with livelihood focus, the project aims at creating societal awareness towards aquatic biodiversity conservation.



Highlighting its pivotal role, the Union Minister emphasized that along with conservation, JALAJ aims at creating economic opportunities and enhancing community participation in river rejuvenation efforts. Jalaj has successfully connected river conservation with livelihood generation by promoting eco-tourism, sustainable farming, skill development, and artisanal production across the Ganga basin. The initiative aims at establishing 75 Jalaj centers, with various models such as Dolphin Safaris, Home stays, Livelihood Centers, and Awareness & Sale Points etc. Jalaj has empowered over 5,000 members of the boating community and supported more than 2,400 women in 42 districts across nine states.



It emerged in the review that JALAJ aims at symbiotic linkage between river and communities and helps in educating people on values of conserved Ganga river. The review noted that Jalaj has conducted 263 training programs and mass outreach efforts through digital and print media, including YouTube channel. Shri C.R.Patil reviewed efforts to further enhance the livelihood potential of Jalaj and stressed its role as a bridge connecting communities to river ecosystems, making river conservation an economically rewarding endeavour. He appreciated the innovative models developed under Jalaj and emphasized the need to scale up successful practices across other major river basins like the Godavari, Periyar, Pampa and Barak whose ecological assessments were also reviewed in the meeting.



To further strengthen outreach and awareness, a dedicated Jalaj informative website was launched by Sh. C.R.Patil. The website serves as a comprehensive resource hub, offering detailed insights into various Jalaj models such as Homestays, Dolphin Safaris, Livelihood Training Centers, and Awareness and Sale Centers. It also showcases success stories on how the Jalaj initiative has empowered community members, particularly women, by linking them to marketing centers. The website displays a range of eco-friendly products crafted by Ganga Praharis and aims to create widespread awareness about threatened aquatic biodiversity, including the Ganga River Dolphin, crocodilians, freshwater turtles, and water birds.

Additionally, a Jalaj Products Catalogue was launched which has been developed, profiling sustainably produced goods prepared at Jalaj Production Centers, categorized into stationery items, home décor, apparel, body and skincare, and edibles. Furthermore, "Saanskritik Lehren," a special feature under Jalaj, was released by Sh. C.R. Patil highlights the cultural ecosystem service value of the Ganga River, emphasizing its deep connection with India's heritage, traditions, and the livelihoods of millions. Jalaj's success has been widely recognized. The Hon'ble President of India lauded it during Gaj Utsav 2023, and Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi mentioned Jalaj as a model for freshwater conservation in his "Mann Ki Baat" address and at ICCON 2023, Mysore.

The Jalaj initiative, by linking conservation efforts with livelihood generation, stands today as a shining example of how environmental protection and socio-economic development can go hand-in-hand — truly realizing the vision of Arth Ganga.

NMCG Approved Key Projects for Ganga Rejuvenation via ecosystem restoration in 62nd Executive Committee Meeting

The meeting chaired by the Director-General, NMCG, focused on sustainability in river rejuvenation



In a significant push towards holistic river and environmental rejuvenation, the 62nd Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), chaired by Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Director-General, NMCG, focused on sustainability in river rejuvenation. Conservation of critical wetlands and promoting the reuse of treated wastewater through city specific reuse plans,

were deliberated in the meeting. The Committee approved projects that align with the mission's objectives of ecosystem restoration across the Ganga basin. It may be noted that Namami Gange program has been recognised as one of the TopTEN, World Restoration Flagship initiatives by UN Decade (UNEP & FAO)

In another important development, the EC gave the green light to the "Conserving and Sustainably Managing Nathmalpur Bhagad (Wetland) in Bhojpur District, Bihar" project, with an estimated cost of ₹3.51 crore. The project is the fifth wetland being undertaken under NGP. It aims to establish an effective management arrangement for Nathmalpur Bhagad. So far, under Namami Gange conservation of 4 wetlands have been already sanctioned at:

1. Kalewada Jheel, Muzaffarnagar, UP
2. Namiya Dah Jheel, Prayagraj, UP
3. Reoti Dah Wetland, Ballia, UP
4. Udhwa Lake (Ramsar Site) Sahibganj, Jharkhand

It focuses on integrating biodiversity and ecosystem service values into river basin conservation and developmental planning. The project proposes a dual approach with interventions at the sub-basin (Ghaghara, Gomti & Sone confluence) and site levels (Nathmalpur Bhagad), including activities such as wetland delineation, hydrological regime enhancement, species and habitat conservation, ecological assessment, risevaluation, capacity building, communication and outreach, and monitoring mechanisms to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of the wetland ecosystem.



The EC also approved funding of ₹34.50 lakh for the "Capacity Building Initiatives for making water-sensitive cities in the Ganga Basin" project for the preparation of City Plans and training on the reuse of treated wastewater for Agra and Prayagraj Districts in Uttar Pradesh. The project aims at preparation of city level reuse plan aligned to the National Framework for Safe Reuse of Treated Water (SRTW) developed by NMCG.

These project approvals reaffirm NMCG's commitment to integrated water management and environmental restoration. As the Mission continues to evolve, such strategic decisions will play a pivotal role in achieving the vision of a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable river ecosystem for future generations.

The meeting was attended by Sh. Mahabir Prasad, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor of Ministry of Power, (additional charge) DOWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti; Sh. Nalin Srivastava, Deputy Director General of NMCG; Sh. Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Executive Director (Technical); Sh. Brijendra Swaroop, Executive Director (Projects) Sh. S.P. Vashistha, Executive Director(Administration); Sh. Bhaskar Dasgupta, Executive Director (Finance); Sh. Prabhash Kumar, Additional Project Director of Uttar Pradesh SMCG and Sh. S. Chandrasekhar, I.F.S., Chief Conservator of Forest -cum-State Nodal Officer, Environment & Climate Change, Bihar.



63rd Meeting of NMCG: Green Signal to Key Projects for Environmental Flow in Ganga's Tributaries



Under a concrete and holistic initiative towards the rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries, the 63rd Executive Committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga was organized. The focus of the meeting was—Sustainability and Innovation—which are completely aligned with the core objectives of the mission such as improving water quality, sustainable urban water management, and restoration of the ecosystem in the Ganga basin.

On this occasion, various projects were approved, which included infrastructure projects, scientific studies, technical solutions, and rejuvenation plans. Their objective is not just short-term improvement, but to ensure long-

term and measurable impact, so that the existence of rivers and water bodies remains safe for future generations.

During the meeting, sewage management project in the historic city of Agra, Uttar Pradesh, was approved, with a total budget of ₹126.41 crore. Under this project, 40 interception and diversion structures will be constructed, along with 21.20 kilometers of interception and diversion sewer lines. In addition, 8 modern pumping stations will be installed, and effective trash screens will be placed in 5 major drains to protect water sources from pollution. This project is based on the Design-Build-Operate-Transfer model, which makes it a technically and managerially impactful and long-term solution.

For promoting a deep understanding of environmental flow, the committee approved two major projects: "Environmental Flow Assessment of Kosi, Gandak and Mahananda Rivers" with a budget of approximately ₹6 crore, and "Environmental Flow Assessment in Ghaghara and Gomti River Basins" with an estimated cost of approximately ₹8 crore. These two projects will pave the way for the development of sustainable and adaptive flow regimes in rivers over the next three years.

Further, a project was approved for monitoring the effectiveness and creating guidelines for Johkasou technology-based and other compact plug & play technologies domestic wastewater treatment. This project is being initiated with the objective of strengthening the quality and sustainability of on-site sewage treatment in India.

The meeting approved the project "Conservation and Management of Ramsar Site 'Asan Wetland' in Dehradun District of Uttarakhand" with an allocation of Rs 2.47 crore for the next two years. The goal of this initiative is to rejuvenate the biodiversity and ecological health of the wetland. It includes approval for the development of wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring systems along with planning the conservation measures.

This meeting of NMCG was not merely a formal occasion for approval of plans, but the beginning of a new journey—where the depth of tradition and the flight of modern technology, the softness of nature and the strength of science, the spirit of sustainable development and public participation created a wonderful confluence. Every step taken towards a clean, prosperous and vibrant river is not only taking the Namami Gange Mission to new heights, but is also becoming an inspiring example for the entire nation.

The meeting saw the participation of key officials, including: Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Director General, NMCG, Shri Mahavir Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shri Nalin Srivastava, Deputy Director General, NMCG, Shri Anup Kumar Srivastava, Executive Director (Technical), Shri Brijendra Swaroop, Executive Director (Project), Shri S.P. Vashishtha Executive, Director (Administration), Shri Bhaskar Dasgupta, Executive Director (Finance), Ms. Nandini Ghosh, Project Director of West Bengal, Shri Prabhash Kumar, Additional Project Director from Uttar Pradesh, SMCG, Dr. Ramakant Pandey, Managing Director UP Jal Nigam (Urban).

Ministry of Jal Shakti Celebrated International Day of Yoga with Enthusiasm and Public Participation Across the Country

The main event was organised on the banks of the river Yamuna at the BSF Kayaking Camp, Zero Pushta Park, New Delhi

The event highlighted the Ministry's commitment towards promoting wellness with the message of water conservation and river rejuvenation

A large number of citizens, including "Water Warriors" and people from all walks of life, gathered on the riverbank to perform yoga in unison

The Ministry of Jal Shakti actively participated in the International Day of Yoga 2025 with wide spread celebrations at various locations across the country where the Ministry has its presence, including regional offices and training institutions. Officers, staff members, and the general public joined in large numbers to mark the occasion with collective spirit and enthusiasm.



The main event was organised on the banks of the river Yamuna at the BSF Kayaking Camp, Zero Pushta Park, New Delhi by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). The event highlighted the Ministry's commitment towards promoting wellness with the message of water conservation and river rejuvenation.



Prior to the start of the yoga session, all participants at the Yamuna event were virtually connected to the national-level celebration led by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, held in Visakhapatnam. The live telecast inspired participants across the country and set the tone for a day dedicated to health, harmony, and environmental consciousness.



The Yamuna event witnessed the presence of Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, and Shri Rajeev Mittal, Mission Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Mr Kamal Kishore Soan, MD Jal Jeevan Mission, along with senior officers of the Ministry. A large number of citizens, including "Water Warriors" and people from all walks of life, gathered on the riverbank to perform yoga in unison.



The event served as a meaningful convergence of two national priorities— physical and mental well-being through yoga, and environmental

stewardship through river rejuvenation. It reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to reviving river Yamuna and promoting jan bhagidari (public participation) in conserving our water bodies.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti remains dedicated to nurturing holistic and sustainable connections between people and rivers, fostering both inner balance and environmental responsibility.

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil Chaired 15th Meeting of Empowered Task Force (ETF) on Ganga Conservation

Shri C.R. Patil reviewed key activities and progress made by NMCG

Union minister appreciated the accelerated pace of implementation of infrastructure projects and the outcomes achieved through enhanced coordination among stakeholders

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Patil, chaired the 15th meeting of the Empowered Task Force (ETF) on Ganga conservation, reaffirming the government's commitment to making the river cleaner and more sustainable through an integrated, time-bound, and technology-driven approach. Union Minister reviewed key activities and progress



made by NMCG. Shri C.R. Patil appreciated the accelerated pace of implementation of infrastructure projects and the outcomes achieved through enhanced coordination among stakeholders. Notably, 10 projects were inaugurated or had foundation stones laid in Bihar during this period.

Enhanced Effectiveness of Financial Management in NMCG: Union Minister of Jal Shakti was apprised of significant improvements made in the area of financial management of NMCG. Significant reduction in pendency of Utilization Certificates, resolution of long pending taxation issues and effective implementation of Treasury Single Accounts system has led to marked improvement in financial administration of NMCG. Further, adoption of insurance surety bonds as a valid alternative to traditional bank guarantees for Bid Security, Performance Security, and Mobilization Advance would help in ease financial pressure on contractors, promote broader industry participation, and fast-track project execution. He underlined the government's commitment to reducing procedural bottlenecks and fostering an enabling environment for infrastructure delivery.

Sustaining River Rejuvenation Efforts: To address challenges posed by urban expansion and the emergence of new drains, NMCG has drafted two protocols—one to sustain zero untreated sewage discharge and another for maintenance of I&D structures. The Union Minister welcomed this forward-looking initiative and directed that District Ganga Committees be actively involved in the implementation and monitoring of these protocols. He stressed the



importance of continuous vigilance to preserve the gains made under the Namami Gange Programme.

Safety Audit and Evaluation of STPs: Union Minister emphasized the need for occupational and safety audit of STPs and evaluation by third party agencies for ensuring effectiveness in STP operation. It was decided that NMCG would continue to ensure that regular safety drills are carried out at all sites and that immediate corrective measures be implemented. He emphasized that workplace safety is non-negotiable and must be prioritised at all levels. It was decided to entrust third party evaluation of STPs to premier institutes like SLCR (IIT BHU) and Centre of Excellence (IIT, Delhi) to ensure that STPs are functioning effectively. Shri Patil

reviewed the online monitoring framework of STPs and expressed his satisfaction over technology based monitoring.

During the meeting, Shri C.R. Patil also launched two key initiatives to enhance scientific engagement and ecological understanding:

Riverathon 1.0 – A national-level hackathon organised in collaboration with Amity University, focusing on innovative, data-driven solutions for river rejuvenation. The hackathon covers themes such as flood plain mapping, biodiversity, disaster management, and environmental monitoring using LiDAR data.

Eight Ecological Status and Trends Books – Released for the rivers Ramganga, Gomti, Kosi, Damodar, Yamuna, Ghaghra, Gandak, and Sone. Developed in partnership with the Wildlife Institute of India, these booklets provide valuable insights into the ecological health trends of key river systems in the Ganga basin.

The meeting brought together key stakeholders from various ministries and state governments, including Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Director General of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Executive Directors of Namami Gange Mission, and representatives from the Ministries of Power, Tourism, Housing and Urban Affairs, and Environment, Forest, and Climate Change. State-level dignitaries from Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar, also participated, ensuring a collaborative approach toward advancing river rejuvenation efforts.



REVIVING RIVER TARA



In a quiet corner of the hills, a small river named Tara shimmered through a sleepy valley. She wasn't mighty like the Ganga or Brahmaputra, but to the villages she touched, she was everything—a source of water, shade, songs, and stories.

Tara flowed joyfully in the monsoon, racing over pebbles and weaving past rice fields. But her real strength wasn't in the rain—it was in something quieter, deeper.

Beneath the soil, tucked among rocks and roots, lived her hidden guardian: the underground stream. This gentle flow, invisible to the eye, fed Tara drop by drop even after the skies dried up. It was this earth-fed lifeline that kept her singing through the summer, when the world turned brown and thirsty.

But the valley changed.

The forests were cleared. Concrete replaced grasslands. The villagers began drawing more and more water from the ground, never realizing that each litre taken weakened Tara's hidden heart. One dry season, Tara did not return. Her bed cracked. The birds stopped nesting. The air stood still.

The people panicked. "Where did Tara go?" they cried. The elders remembered springs that once bubbled year-round. The children missed the cool splash of her stream. The village knew then—Tara hadn't disappeared; her underground breath had been taken away.

So they worked—not to pour water into her bed, but to nourish the land that fed her. They planted native trees. They dug recharge pits to let rain sink into the ground. They stopped wasteful pumping and built tiny check dams to slow the water and let it seep back into the earth.

A year passed. Then another.

And one spring morning, Tara returned—not with a roar, but with a whisper. A stream gently trickled through her old course. Frogs sang again. The soil smelled sweet. Tara was home.

Now, in the village school, children recite this rhyme:

***"Water underground is shy,
But helps the rivers never dry.
Plant a tree, dig a pit,
Let the Earth have every bit!"***

(Madhukar Singh)
Technical Secretary to
AS, DoWR, RD & GR



Atal Jal App – Making Groundwater “INVISIBLE TO VISIBLE”

The Atal Jal Mobile App is a community-centric digital platform developed by the National Project Management Unit (NPMU), Ministry of Jal Shakti under the Atal Bhujal Yojana to support participatory groundwater management across 8,203 water-stressed Gram Panchayats in seven states: Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

This mobile application serves as a transparent and real-time public disclosure tool for groundwater data and related information, enabling local stakeholders, policymakers, and the public to make informed decisions based on scientific data.

Key Features of the App

1. **Dashboard:** Offers a comprehensive overview of groundwater conditions, levels, and water quality at the Gram Panchayat level.
2. **General Information:** Displays data on population, geographical area, annual rainfall, and groundwater abstraction wells.
3. **Detailed Groundwater Data:** Provides granular insights into groundwater levels (with time-series graphs), water quality (based on Water Quality Index), artificial recharge, and water conservation structures.

4. **Water Level Monitoring:** Real-time visualization of groundwater level trends through graphs and tables.
5. **Water Quality Insights:** Presents scientifically derived water quality status for informed community-level assessment.
6. **Structure Mapping:** Location-based mapping of groundwater-related structures and monitoring equipment.
7. **Artificial Recharge & Conservation Structures:** Detailed information on the availability and operational status of recharge systems and conservation infrastructure.

Outcomes and Benefits

The Atal Jal App marks a transformative step in water governance by achieving the following:

- **Empowerment:** Enables Gram Panchayats to make data-driven decisions for sustainable groundwater management.
- **Transparency:** Facilitates public access to updated groundwater data, reinforcing accountability and trust.
- **Participation:** Encourages community involvement in data collection and usage, strengthening local stewardship.
- **Sustainability:** Promotes responsible use of groundwater through informed planning and monitoring.

Download Now!

Join the movement towards sustainable groundwater management.

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GIS & Remote Sensing Training for Water Resources: A SUCCESS FOR NEHARI, BRAHMAPUTRA BOARD AND NIH



The North Eastern Hydraulic and Allied Research Institute (NEHARI), in a significant collaboration with the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), successfully conducted a five-day training workshop on "GIS & Remote Sensing for Water Resource Sector" Held from April 22nd to 26th, 2025, which aimed to equip professionals with advanced skills in these critical fields for effective water resource management in the region.

The training was under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Ranbir Singh, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of the Brahmaputra Board, the initiative underscored the board's commitment to fostering expertise in cutting-edge technologies. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Ranjit Deka, Director of NEHARI, who emphasized the paramount importance of efficient water resource practices and highlighted the indispensable role of GIS and Remote Sensing in achieving these goals.



The comprehensive five-day program featured a blend of insightful lectures and practical, hands-on sessions. Participants were introduced to the fundamental principles of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems, along with exploring open data sources relevant to the water resources sector. A dedicated segment focused on Google Earth Engine and its diverse applications in water resource management.

The hands-on sessions provided invaluable practical experience, covering a wide array of topics including:

- Overview of GIS Interface and adding data layers and basemaps
- Downloading datasets from USGS Earth Explorer and BHOONIDHI, as well as other open sources
- Utilizing Google Earth Engine for water resource applications
- Creating vector data through digitization tools
- SAR data processing
- River Bank Migration Analysis
- Watershed delineation and determination of watershed characteristics using Digital Elevation Models (DEMs)
- Advanced GIS operations such as interpolation, extraction, reclassification, change determination, and model building.



The training benefited from the expertise of distinguished faculty members from the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), the North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC), and the National Water Academy (NWA), Pune, ensuring a rich and diverse learning experience.

The training program culminated in a valedictory session chaired by Dr. Ranbir Singh, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, Brahmaputra Board. Dr. Ranjit Deka, Director, NEHARI, provided a concise summary of the intensive five-day workshop. In his valedictory address, Dr. Singh reiterated the critical importance of "GIS & Remote Sensing for Water Resource Sector" and emphasized its direct impact on organizational performance and effective decision-making.

A total of 23 participants received certificates of successful completion. These participants hailed from various offices of the Brahmaputra Board and Water Resource Departments of different states across NE India, including Assam, Mizoram, Sikkim, West Bengal, Meghalaya, and the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), underscoring the regional significance and widespread impact of the training.

It is to be noted that the North Eastern Hydraulic and Allied Research Institute (NEHARI) is a premier research institute under the Brahmaputra Board. It provides technical support and capacity development on hydraulic, hydrological, geotechnical, and allied aspects related to water resources management in the North Eastern region.

Brahmaputra Board Spearheads Integrated Water Management in North East under India-EU Water Initiative

The Brahmaputra Board is taking a leading role in fostering sustainable water resource management across the North Eastern Region of India, particularly within the framework of the India-EU Water Initiative (IEWI). This significant collaboration, which evolved from the India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP), is designed to enhance the political and strategic framework for effective cooperation on water management issues between the European Union and India's Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The IEWP embarked on its journey in 2016, with Phase 1 running from July 2017 to October 2020, followed by Phase 2 from November 2020 to September 2023. The current phase, now christened the India-EU Water Initiative (IEWI), commenced on March 1, 2024, and is set to span three years until February 2027. This initiative, co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), places a strong emphasis on strengthening collaboration with vital Indian institutions like the Brahmaputra Board.

Strategic Dialogue Defines Collaboration

A pivotal moment for this collaboration occurred on March 6, 2024, when a meeting was held under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, DOWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, with an EU delegation.

The meeting centered on "Development and Implementation Support to the India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP Action)" and "Support to Ganga Rejuvenation (SGR)." A crucial outcome of this high-level discussion was the decision to offer technical assistance to the Brahmaputra Board, highlighting the Board's recognized importance in

regional water governance.

Further solidifying this partnership, a significant meeting took place on May 8, 2024, at the Brahmaputra Board's conference hall in Guwahati. Chaired by Dr. Ranbir Singh, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of the Brahmaputra Board, the meeting's primary objective was to define the scope of technical support to be provided under Phase 3 of IEWI specifically for the Brahmaputra Board. The robust participation from Brahmaputra Board officials, alongside representatives from the EU Delegation (GIZ) and other organizations, underscored the Board's proactive engagement. Discussions focused on areas where the IEWI could offer invaluable technical assistance, reinforcing the Board's capacity and ongoing projects. Furthermore, a request was made for a meeting involving relevant stakeholders in the Brahmaputra basin, including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and State Government, to ensure a unified understanding of ongoing efforts.

Brahmaputra Board Leads the Way in Barak River Basin Management

A cornerstone of the Brahmaputra Board's deepened engagement with the IEWI is the development of the Barak River Basin Management (RBM) Plan. This initiative, a key priority under Phase 3 of IEWI, directly strengthens the Brahmaputra Board's mandate for integrated river basin management. The Board is championing a truly participatory approach, ensuring that all basin states and relevant stakeholders are actively involved in creating a comprehensive and effective framework for sustainable management of the Barak River basin.

Under the leadership of Dr. Ranbir Singh, Chairman, Brahmaputra Board, crucial stakeholder

consultation meetings have recently been convened:

- **Mizoram Consultation:** A significant consultation meeting for the Barak RBM Plan was held in Mizoram, attended by Shri K.R. Meena, Chief Secretary, Mizoram, and Dr. Ranbir Singh. The meeting saw active participation from all departments of the Mizoram government, following a presentation by the EU/GIZ team.

- **Manipur Consultation:** In Manipur, a similar stakeholder consultation was convened for the Barak RBM Plan, drawing participation from over 15 stakeholder departments of the Manipur government. Shri Prashant Kumar Singh, Chief Secretary, Manipur, alongside Dr. Ranbir Singh, guided the discussions to identify key water management issues specific to the Barak Basin in Manipur. The EU/GIZ team also made a presentation, fostering active dialogue among all attendees.

Under the leadership of Dr. Ranbir Singh, Chairman, Brahmaputra Board, crucial stakeholder consultation meetings have recently been convened:



● **Meghalaya Consultation:** On April 11, 2025, Meghalaya hosted its inaugural consultation meeting for the Barak RBM Plan in Shillong. This session saw robust participation from various Meghalaya government departments, including Water Resources, Public Health Engineering, Power, Forest & Environment, Soil and Water Conservation, Fisheries, and Transport. Officials from the Brahmaputra Board, the GIZ/IEWI team, Central Water Commission (CWC), National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), and the North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) were also present. Dr. Ranbir Singh extended his appreciation to Shri Shakil Ahmad, Additional Chief Secretary, Meghalaya, for facilitating the consultations, and to Ms. Laura Sustersic of GIZ for her valuable input.

Through these comprehensive consultations, critical water management issues for the Barak Basin have been identified, including water scarcity, flooding, erosion, water pollution, and spring degradation. The Brahmaputra Board, in collaboration with IEWI, plans to hold similar consultations in the remaining basin states of the Barak River – Nagaland, Assam, and Tripura – to ensure a holistic understanding of the river basin's challenges.

Charting a Future of Sustainable Water Governance

The Brahmaputra Board's insights are crucial for the development of River Basin Management Plans for other selected tributaries of the Brahmaputra, including proposals for a GIS Web Portal and MIS Dashboard to enhance stakeholder engagement and monitoring.

Furthermore, the Brahmaputra Board is a key participant in the proposed trilateral water cooperation between India, the EU, and Africa. This ambitious initiative aims to leverage India's extensive technical and managerial expertise in water management, facilitating twinning opportunities with international river boards and water authorities, such as the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) and the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA).

The Brahmaputra Board's commitment to advancing integrated and sustainable water management, reinforced by its strategic partnership with the India-EU Water Initiative, underscores its pivotal role in safeguarding the water resources of the North Eastern Region for future generations.



Activities undertaken by CGWB Officers during April and May, 2025



Shri Subodh Yadav, AS, MoJS visited DAV College site in Lucknow to review the construction of deep and shallow piezometers under Package-6 of PIB. Shri S.K. Swaroop, Scientist-D and OIC, RPMU, briefed him on the drilling operations.



As part of the activities under World Environment Day 2025, a plantation drive was conducted at the Kendri Division XIII Workshop in Raipur. The initiative was led by Dr. Prabir K. Naik, Regional Director, along with Shri K. C. Nayak, Executive Engineer, Division XIII, and officers from CGWB, NCCR, Raipur.



As part of the Swachhata Pakhwada, 2025 celebrations, all the officers/officials of CGWB, SER, Bhubaneswar actively participated in the cleanliness drive that includes the self-cleaning of the office desks, chambers by weeding out of physical files, disposal of the office scrap & cleaning up off the wastes to upkeep the office premises.

26 newly inducted Trainee Officers from Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, are undertaking a one-week study tour (from May 19 to May 23, 2025) at the Central Ground Water Board's Mid-Eastern Region office in Patna.

Webinar / Meetings/ training attended by CGWB officers during April and May, 2025



Scientists from Central Ground Water Board participated in the Workshop-cum-Orientation Programme on the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" 2025, organized by the National Water Mission. Chairman, CGWB encouraged all participants and assured the Mission Director of NWM that the JSA, 2025 will be a success.



Sh. Subodh Yadav, IAS, AS, MoJS and Shri Pratul Saxena, Member & PD, Atal Jal, visited CGWB, NR office in Lucknow. They conducted a detailed review of regional activities and held focused discussions on key areas, including NAQUIM 2.0 outcomes, progress of Pz and EW/OW packages under PIB, groundwater resource estimation, monitoring of groundwater levels and quality, report sharing with the state government, chemical analysis capacity, geophysical survey feasibility, CGWA matters, and the region's financial progress.



Sh. S K Ambast, Chairman, CGWB, chaired the 13th Meeting of National Level Expert Committee (NLEC) which was held at Central Headquarters, Faridabad.



केंद्रीय भूमि जल प्राधिकरण, नई दिल्ली में संयुक्त राजभाषा कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यशाला में केंद्रीय भूमि जल प्राधिकरण और राज्य एकक कार्यालय नई दिल्ली के अधिकारियों एवम कर्मचारियों ने भाग लिया। इस कार्यशाला का विषय अन्य शीर्षक के साथ साथ मुख्य शीर्षक राजभाषा में AI का प्रयोग था।

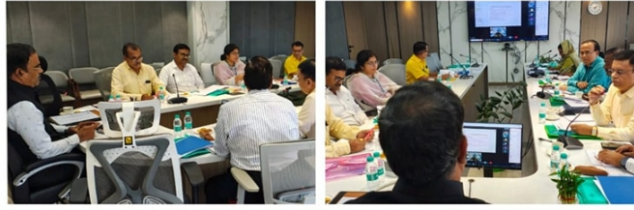


CGWB, NWHR, Jammu organised the 4th Quarterly Dialogue along with Central Water Commission and various lined departments of UT of J&K on the theme "High frequency Hydraulic Head Data as tool for decision making in Water Management."

Smt. T.S. Anitha Shyam, Member (South) chaired a review meeting with the officers and officials of the South Western Region, Bengaluru to discuss about the planned activities of AAP 2025-26 and future activities to be taken up.



The first State Level Committee (SLC) meeting on the Ground Water Resource Assessment (GWRA) of Manipur 2025 was held on 22nd May 2025 in the office chamber of Sri Robert Singh Kshetrimayum, IAS, Secretary, MID Manipur and Chairman of the SLC.



Tier-III training program was conducted by CGWB, MER, Patna at Government Engineering College, Buxar on the topic 'Groundwater Development and Management.' The video for awareness on protection of children falling into open bore well was also shown during the program.



1st SLC meeting for GWRA 2025 held under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary Sh. Sanjay Khandare, IAS, WSSD, Govt. of Maharashtra. Reports on GWRA 2024, NAQUIM 2.0 (2023-24), GW Quality Maharashtra state 2023-2024, Groundwater Year Book 23-24 were also released by Principal Secretary Sh. Sanjay Khandare, IAS.



Activities undertaken by CGWB Officers during June, 2025



Dr. S. K. Ambast, Chairman, and Shri T. B. N. Singh, Member, CGWB, addressed the Environment Conclave 2025 organized by the Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry in collaboration with the Gujarat Pollution Control Board.

Groundwater Data, Groundwater Quality Data, Geophysical Data, and Groundwater Exploration Data. He also presented the High Frequency DWLR Hydrographs for hard rock and soft rock formations, along with their interpretation.



Smt. T.S. Anitha Shyam, Member (South), visited SECR Chennai, where she inspected the DWLR installed at the PIB site and reviewed the progress of the Annual Action Plan (AAP) 2025–26. She also inspected the Chemical Laboratory and the Divisional Office.



Shri Subodh Yadav, IAS, AS, MoJS, visited CGWB, WCR, Ahmedabad. During the visit, he inaugurated the Regional Chemical Laboratory, exhibition-cum-Training Hall, and Regional Office Data Centre (RODC). Dr. Ratikanta Nayak, RD, briefed him on the status of instruments in the Regional Chemical Lab and functioning of the four verticals of RODC —

Shri Upendra Dhonde, SUO (Pune), delivered a lecture on "Groundwater Rules and Regulations in India" at the National Water Academy (NWA), Pune. The lecture was part of a week-long training programme on "Water Laws and River Valley Disputes" organized by NWA.



Officers from SUO, Ranchi have conducted pre-monsoon microplastics sampling for Urban Ranchi as part of the NAQUIM 2.0 initiative.

Webinar / Meetings/ training attended by CGWB officers during June 2025



Shri Subodh Yadav, IAS, AS, MoJS, visited CGWB, WCR, Ahmedabad. During the visit, he inaugurated the Regional Chemical Laboratory, exhibition-cum-Training Hall, and Regional Office Data Centre (RODC). Dr. Ratikanta Nayak, RD, briefed him on the status of instruments in the Regional Chemical Lab and functioning of the four verticals of RODC — Groundwater Data, Groundwater Quality Data, Geophysical Data, and Groundwater Exploration Data. He also presented the High Frequency DWLR Hydrographs for hard rock and soft rock formations, along with their interpretation.



Smt. T.S. Anitha Shyam, Member (South) attended the stakeholder workshop on the Chennai Aquifer Management System as the Chief Guest, with representatives from the State Ground Water Department and Anna University serving as Guests of Honour. Various line departments presented their data and expressed their commitment to collaborate in the NAQUIM study.

Inaugural session of mandatory training of two weeks duration, on "Operation and Maintenance of Vehicles for Staff Car Driver- GR-I was held at IDTR in collaboration with RGNGWTRI.

Postgraduate students from Pune University successfully completed their summer internship at Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), CR, Nagpur, held from 2nd to 13th June.

Shri T. Raja Babu and Shri Sushanta Kumar Ratha, from CGWB, SR participated and delivered lectures at a one day workshop on "Characterisation of Groundwater Dynamics in the Krishna-Godavari Delta using Groundwater Levels, Hydrochemistry, Isotopes, and Emerging Contaminants.", organized by NIH Roorkee at Vijayawada.

Public Interaction Programs organized by CGWB during June, 2025

In accordance with the directions of Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C. R. Patil, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), CR, Nagpur, organized a Public Interaction Programme (PIP) on the theme "CGWA Functions and Activities" at Universe Banquet, Elite House, Andheri East, Mumbai District.



Major Activities of NERIWALM for the Month of April-June, 2025

A) Training Programmes:

1) NERIWALM organized a one-week in-campus training program on “Application of QGIS in Water Resources Management” from 7th April to 11th April 2025, in collaboration with the North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC). Resource persons for the training were from NESAC, and the participants included officers and staff of NERIWALM.



Figure 1: View of the in-campus training program held from 7th April to 11th April, 2025 at NERIWALM.

2) NERIWALM conducted an insightful one-day training program on “Water Literacy – A Pertinent Issue” for the UG and PG students of Darrang College on 23.04.2025. The program aimed to enhance awareness and understanding of the importance of water conservation, sustainable usage, and the role of youth in ensuring water security.

Total Participants: 31 students



Figure 2: View of the Water Literacy training at NERIWALM.

3) NERIWALM organized Induction Level Training Course on Overview of Water and Land Management and Springshed Management for the officers of Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) from 28.04.2025 to 02.05.2025.



Figure 3: View of the Induction Level Training Course for the CGWB.

4) NERIWALM organized a workshop on 27th May 2025 with farmers, PRI members, and officers from the Water Resources Department, NEHARI, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and Rainforest Research Institute at its campus. The event was conducted as part of the ongoing project titled “Livelihood Problems and Probable Lasting Solutions for Displaced People due to Bank Erosion in the Brahmaputra Valley.”



Figure 4: Photograph of the Workshop on Livelihood Problems and Probable Lasting Solutions for Displaced People due to Bank Erosion in the Brahmaputra Valley, Tripura.

5) NERIWALM organized a two-day training program on “Irrigation Water Management” for the officers nominated from various divisions of the Irrigation Department, Govt. of Nagaland. The sessions were held at the office of the Executive Engineer, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Nagaland on 20.05.2025 and 21.05.2025.



Figure 5: View of the training on Irrigation Water Management.

6) NERIWALM conducted a two-day training programme on Water Quality Monitoring for NGOs from Nagaland on 20th and 21st May 2025 at the Water Resources Department, Government of Nagaland. The training included classroom sessions along with practical demonstrations on the analysis of basic water quality parameters.



Figure 6: Photograph of the training on Water Quality.

7) NERIWALM organized a three-day training program on “Hydrological Modelling” for officers and trainers from the North Eastern States, held from 28th May to 30th May 2025 at NERIWALM, Tezpur. The program included detailed classroom deliberations and hands-on sessions, providing participants with both theoretical knowledge and practical experience in hydrological modelling techniques.



Figure 7: Photographs of the training on Hydrological.

B) Research and Development programmes:

1) Analysis of Hydrogeomorphic and Social Aspects of Dam In Lower Reaches Of Ranganadi HPP, With Special Emphasis On Climate Change:

NERIWALM, in collaboration with NIH, is conducting a study on Hydrogeomorphic and social aspects of the Ranganadi HPP with a focus on climate change. Key progress includes temporal analysis of climate trends, mapping of channel sinuosity and river course change, land use/land cover classification using GIS, socio-economic survey of 118 households, and documentation of the Ranganadi river flood event in May 2025.



Figure 8: Photograph captured during survey.

2) NERIWALM signed MoU with NEDFi for a project titled A Comprehensive Study on the Sustainable Development of the Irrigation Sector of Assam. The inception report for the project was submitted by NERIWALM on 19th May, 2025.



Figure 9: Photograph captured during survey.

1) NERIWALM successfully completed the second NABL assessment for the Soil and Water Testing Laboratory on 7th and 8th June, 2025.



Figure 10: Photograph captured during the NABL.

गंगा नदी में जैव विविधता संरक्षण की दिशा में नए अध्याय की शुरुआत



भारतीय संस्कृति, इतिहास और आध्यात्मिकता की जीवंत प्रतीक गंगा नदी, सदियों से जीवन, आस्था और उत्सव की बहती धारा रही है। हिमालय से निकली यह नदी करोड़ों जीवनों के लिए मातृत्व की छाँव बनकर बहती आई है, लेकिन समय के साथ प्रदूषण और मानवीय हस्तक्षेप ने इसकी स्वच्छता और जैव विविधता को प्रभावित किया। इस सबके बावजूद, 'नमामि गंगे मिशन' ने गंगा के पुनर्जीवन के लिए एक नई दिशा दी है, जो अब एक महाअभियान बन चुका है, नदी को नई ऊर्जा और संकल्प के साथ पुनः सजग कर रहा है।

गंगा का पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र अब अद्भुत पुनर्जागरण की ओर बढ़ रहा है, और इसका सबसे स्पष्ट उदाहरण है—रेड क्राउन रूफ्ड कछुए की गंगा में तीन दशक बाद हुई ऐतिहासिक वापसी। यह कछुआ अब एक जीव मात्र नहीं, बल्कि गंगा के नवजीवन और जैव विविधता के संरक्षण की सफलता का प्रतीक बन चुका है। इसकी उपस्थिति ने गंगा की धाराओं में फिर से उम्मीद की लहरें जगा दी हैं, और प्रकृति और मानव के सामंजस्य की यह कहानी आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए पर्यावरण संरक्षण की प्रेरणा बन रही है।

गंगा का पारिस्थितिकी पुनर्जागरण

गंगा का पुनर्जीवन केवल एक नदी की सफाई भर नहीं है, बल्कि यह समग्र पर्यावरणीय स्वास्थ्य और मानव कल्याण की दिशा में एक निर्णायक कदम है। 'नमामि गंगे मिशन' ने गंगा की स्वच्छता और जैव विविधता को पुनःस्थापित करने के साथ-साथ स्थानीय समुदायों के लिए पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता और नए अवसर प्रदान किए हैं। इस अभियान ने संकटग्रस्त प्रजातियों, खासकर कछुओं के लिए सुरक्षित आश्रय स्थापित किए हैं, जिससे नदियों के किनारे की जैव विविधता को बल मिला है। प्रकृति, संस्कृति और मानव जीवन के बीच स्थापित हुआ यह संतुलन न केवल स्वस्थ पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का संकेत है, बल्कि यह आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए एक प्रेरणास्पद उदाहरण भी है।

नमामि गंगे मिशन की दूरदर्शी रणनीति

नमामि गंगे मिशन केवल एक स्वच्छता अभियान नहीं, बल्कि गंगा की जैव विविधता, पारिस्थितिकी और सांस्कृतिक महत्व को पुनर्जीवित करने का एक दूरदर्शी प्रयास है। इस समग्र दृष्टिकोण में जल की स्वच्छता और पारदर्शिता को प्राथमिकता दी गई है, साथ ही संकटग्रस्त कछुओं के संरक्षण को भी महत्व दिया गया है, जो गंगा के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के लिए अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के हैदरपुर वेटलैंड, सारनाथ कछुआ रेस्क्यू केंद्र और अन्य कछुआ अभयारण्यों में किए गए वैज्ञानिक शोध और अध्ययन ने कछुओं के प्राकृतिक आवासों की बहाली में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है। इन प्रयासों ने पर्यावरण संरक्षण का एक प्रभावशाली मॉडल प्रस्तुत किया है, जो गंगा के साथ संतुलन साधने की प्रेरणा बन रहा है।



हैदरपुर वेटलैंड: संरक्षण की नई उम्मीद

उत्तर प्रदेश के हरियाली से घिरे हैदरपुर वेटलैंड कॉम्प्लेक्स ने प्रकृति संरक्षण और जैव विविधता के विस्तार में एक नई उम्मीद जगाई है। यह रामसर साइट न केवल स्थानीय स्तर पर, बल्कि वैश्विक पर्यावरणीय संरक्षण के लिए भी अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। यहां की शांत और स्वच्छ जलधाराएँ कछुओं सहित अन्य जलीय जीवों के लिए आदर्श प्राकृतिक आवास प्रदान करती हैं। वैज्ञानिकों और पर्यावरण विशेषज्ञों के लंबे अध्ययन और शोध के बाद इसे संकटग्रस्त कछुओं की पुनःस्थापना के लिए सर्वोत्तम स्थल माना गया है। इस दिशा में संरक्षणकर्ताओं ने कछुओं की आबादी बढ़ाने, उन्हें सुरक्षित वातावरण प्रदान करने और उनके प्राकृतिक आवासों में पुनर्स्थापना करने के लिए एक व्यापक और व्यवस्थित योजना तैयार की है।



कछुओं की पुनःस्थापना का ऐतिहासिक कदम

२६ अप्रैल, २०२५ को एक ऐतिहासिक पहल के तहत, गरहैटा कछुआ संरक्षण केंद्र से २० रेड क्राउन रूफड कछुओं को सावधानीपूर्वक हैदरपुर वेटलैंड में छोड़ा गया। इस प्रक्रिया में वैज्ञानिकों ने अत्याधुनिक सोनिक टैग तकनीक का उपयोग किया, जिससे कछुओं की निगरानी संभव हुई। इस अभियान की खास बात यह रही कि कछुओं को दो अलग-अलग क्षेत्रों में छोड़ा गया— एक समूह को वेटलैंड के बैराज क्षेत्र में तथा दूसरे को गंगा के मुख्य जलमार्ग में। यह पता लगाने के लिए किया गया कि इन दोनों जगहों में से कछुओं के लिए कौन-सा क्षेत्र अधिक सुरक्षित और सुविधाजनक साबित होता है।

'सॉफ्ट' बनाम 'हार्ड' रिलीज़ रणनीति

यह पहल अपने आप में अद्भुत और वैज्ञानिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि पहली बार इस प्रक्रिया में 'सॉफ्ट' और 'हार्ड' रिलीज़ रणनीति का प्रयोग किया गया है। सॉफ्ट रिलीज़ रणनीति में कछुओं को धीरे-धीरे उनके नए आवास के प्रति अभ्यस्त किया जाता है, जबकि हार्ड रिलीज़ में उन्हें सीधे नए आवास में छोड़ दिया जाता है। अगले दो वर्षों तक वैज्ञानिक इन कछुओं की गतिविधियों, व्यवहार और जीवित रहने की दर की गहराई से निगरानी करेंगे।



गंगा के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की बहाली का व्यापक प्रभाव

रेड क्राउन रूफड कछुओं की गंगा में वापसी न केवल एक जैविक सफलता है, बल्कि यह गंगा के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में स्थिरता और संतुलन बनाए रखने में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रही है। इनकी पुनःस्थापना से न केवल गंगा के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का स्वास्थ्य सुधरेगा, बल्कि जैव विविधता में भी सुधार होगा, जिससे पूरी नदी प्रणाली का जीवन और समृद्धि बढ़ेगी। यह प्रक्रिया गंगा के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के लिए एक नया युग लेकर आई है, जिसमें हर जीव, चाहे वह कछुआ हो या जलजीव, अपने पारिस्थितिकीय कर्तव्यों को निभाकर नदी के संतुलन में योगदान कर रहा है।

सामूहिक भागीदारी की प्रेरणा

यह अभियान हमें यह महत्वपूर्ण संदेश देता है कि पर्यावरण संरक्षण एक व्यक्तिगत प्रयास नहीं, बल्कि एक सामूहिक कार्य है, जिसमें सरकार, वैज्ञानिकों, समुदायों और स्वयंसेवी संगठनों की भागीदारी अनिवार्य है। नमामि गंगे मिशन ने यह साबित कर दिया कि जब सभी हितधारक मिलकर एक साझा उद्देश्य के लिए काम करते हैं, तो कोई भी पारिस्थितिकी संकट असंभव नहीं होता। इस मिशन ने यह सिद्ध किया है कि सही रणनीति, दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति और सामूहिक प्रयासों से हम पर्यावरणीय समस्याओं का समाधान कर सकते हैं। यह मिशन हमें बताता है कि जब हम सभी एकजुट होकर कार्य करते हैं, तो परिवर्तन न केवल संभव, बल्कि अपरिहार्य हो जाता है।

भविष्य के लिए उम्मीद की किरण

रेड क्राउन रूफड कछुओं की वापसी गंगा की जैव विविधता के पुनःस्थापना की दिशा में पहला सफल कदम है। आने वाले समय में इस प्रयास का विस्तार और भी अन्य विलुप्त होती प्रजातियों की बहाली में किया जाएगा। नमामि गंगे मिशन अब एक ऐसी मिसाल बन चुका है जो विश्व स्तर पर जल संरक्षण और जैव विविधता पुनःस्थापना के लिए एक प्रेरणा के रूप में देखा जा सकता है। आने वाले समय में इस प्रयास का विस्तार अन्य विलुप्त प्रजातियों के संरक्षण और बहाली के क्षेत्र में किया जाएगा, जिससे गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को संजीवनी मिलेगी।

निष्कर्ष

गंगा नदी के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की बहाली के लिए रेड क्राउन रूफड कछुए की यह वापसी महज शुरुआत है। आने वाले वर्षों में गंगा की यह पुनःस्थापित जैव विविधता न केवल पर्यावरण बल्कि सांस्कृतिक और सामाजिक दृष्टि से भी लाभदायक होगी। यह पहल आश्वस्त करती है कि यदि ठोस योजनाओं और दृढ़ संकल्प के साथ प्रयास किए जाएँ तो बड़ी पर्यावरणीय चुनौतियों का सामना किया जा सकता है। नमामि गंगे मिशन की यह सफलता भारत के लिए एक पर्यावरणीय पुनर्जागरण का प्रतीक है।

7th Meeting of the Steering Committee of Ken-Betwa Link Project (SC-KBLP)



7th meeting of the Steering Committee of Ken-Betwa Link Project (SC-KBLP) under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR was held on 24.04.2025 at Vigyan Bhawan (Annexe), New Delhi.



21st Meeting of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TFILR)

21st meeting of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TFILR) under the Chairmanship of Chairman, CWC was held on 12.06.2025 at Sewa Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode.



National Water Informatics Centre

ROADMAP AND ACTION PLAN OF NWIC

The role and functions of National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) may broadly be classified into the following 5 key pillars of action.

- (I) Water Data Governance
- (ii) Water Data Publishing
- (iii) Water Data Visualizations
- (iv) Water Data for Decision Support Systems
- (v) Water Data for Innovations in Water Sector

API CATALOG IN DATA DOWNLOAD MODULE OF INDIA-WRIS

The data dissemination platform of NWIC, India-WRIS (Water Resources Information System) has introduced a new feature to the users to fetch the data vide API through the API Catalog under Data Download module, in the header menu of its website. This module provides access to the time series datasets. This data API's are based on Basin Level Hierarchy as well as Administrative Level Hierarchy. Following are the datasets that are available.

- Rainfall
- Ground Water Level
- Evapo Transpiration
- River Water Level
- River Water Discharge
- Reservoir
- Relative Humidity
- Wind Direction
- Temperature
- Suspended Sediment
- Solar Radiation
- Soil Moisture
- SnowFall
- Atmospheric Pressure

TRAINING ON WIMS MODULES

Training sessions were conducted on 25th March, 2025 to support implementing agencies of National Hydrology Project (NHP) to familiarize them with various features and functionalities of Water Information Management System (WIMS) modules. These modules are Station Management, MIS Dashboard, Email & SMS, Managing Contacts, Data-Entry, Data View, Data View Management, Data Entry for Stage Summary Discharge.

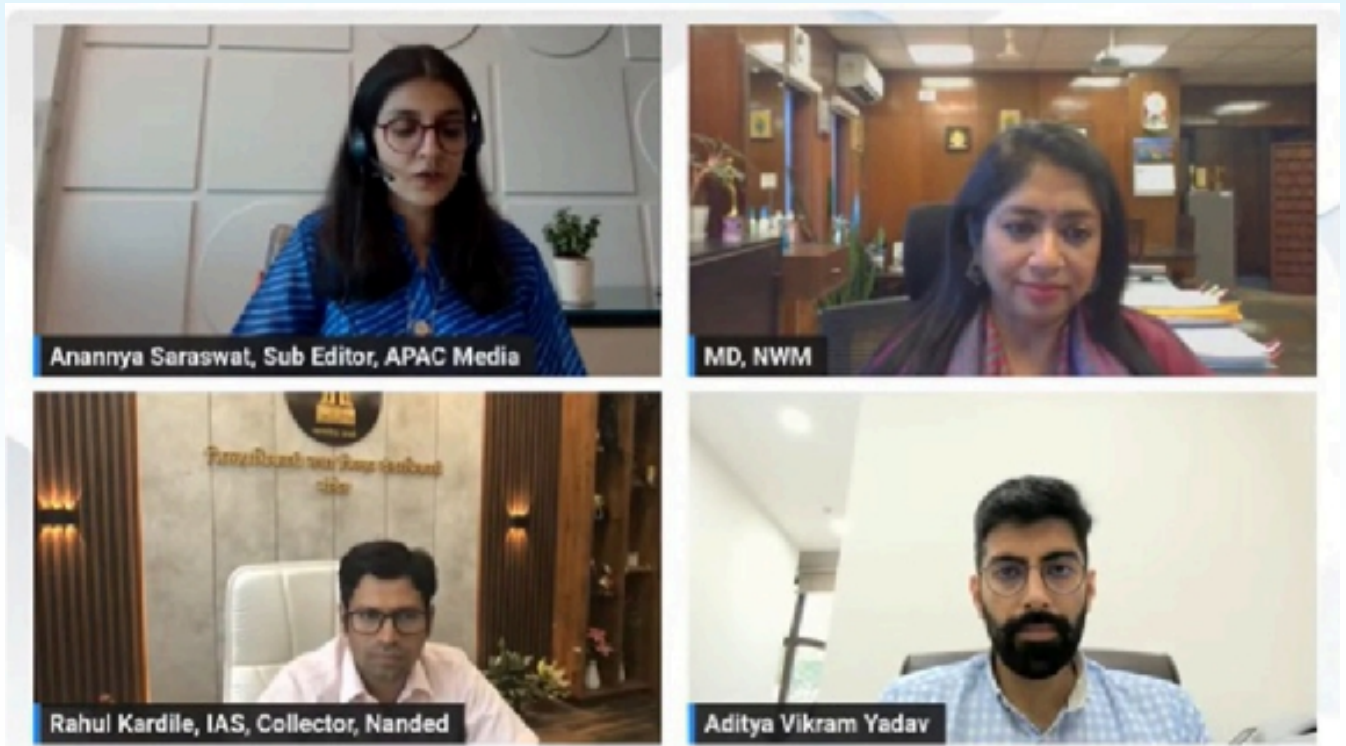
The sessions consisted of a detailed presentation on these modules, providing a thorough understanding, followed by a live demonstration.

TRAINING ON INDIA-WRIS MODULES

Training sessions were conducted on 26th and 27th March, 2025 for Implementing Agencies of NHP on Functionalities & Overview of India-WRIS (Water Resources Information System) Hydro-meteorological & Legacy Data Modules, India -WRIS Surface water Modules and Ground water Modules

The training included a presentation, live demonstration, and a Q&A session.

47th Edition of Dialogue with District Magistrates (DMs)



The session began with an introduction to the 57th edition of the 'Water Talk' series, jointly organized by the National Water Mission (NWM), The Ministry of Jal Shakti and DWR, RD & GR held on April 02, 2025. Ms. Annanya Saraswat of APAC News Network extended warm welcome to Ms. Archana Varma, Additional Secretary & Mission Director of National Water Mission, NWM, and the speakers, Sh Rahul Kardile, IAS., Collector, Nanded District and Shri Aditya Vikram Yadav, JS in CM's Secretariat, Assam. During the 47th edition of the Water Series Webinar organized by the National Water Mission, Sri Rahul Kardile presented a detailed account of the initiatives undertaken during his tenure as the District Collector of Nanded, Maharashtra, to address water scarcity and improve local water management through participatory and sustainable approaches. Despite receiving moderate annual rainfall of around 100 cm, Nanded district faced significant challenges including seasonal flooding during the monsoon, acute water scarcity during summer season, and an unbalanced cropping pattern that saw Rabi cultivation lagging significantly behind Kharif. These issues were compounded by the fragmented origin of the Dham River, extensive siltation of its tributaries, and a marked decline in the groundwater table, as confirmed by the Groundwater Surveys and Development Agency (GSDA).

To tackle these interrelated issues, a multi-pronged strategy was adopted, focusing on river rejuvenation, artificial groundwater recharge structures, revival of old and neglected water bodies, and the promotion of micro-irrigation systems. Using data from the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Applications Centre (MRSAC), 175 groundwater-stressed villages were identified. Planning for these interventions was carried out in close coordination with grassroots-level functionaries such as Gram Sevaks and Talathis, ensuring a community-driven and inclusive approach. One of the notable achievements during his tenure was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bajaj Foundation under a unique public-private-community partnership model. The funding structure comprised 45% contribution from the NGO, 50% from government sources, and 5% from the local community. Despite the economic challenges faced by this agrarian and low-HDI district, the administration successfully mobilized community contributions. As a result, 215 kilometers of nallahs were deepened across 96 villages, directly benefiting over 70,000 acres of agricultural land and more than 10,000 farming families.

To enhance the sustainability of these interventions, the district administration collaborated with the Social Forestry Department to undertake plantation activities. Around 38,000 bamboo saplings and Stylohamata grass were planted along nallah banks to stabilize soil and prevent re-siltation, while also providing fodder and fuel to nearby communities. The model was further expanded with the involvement of other NGOs such as the Art of Living Foundation, which adopted the same funding pattern to replicate similar efforts in additional villages. In parallel, the administration implemented Maharashtra's 'Galactic Scheme,' a program that encourages desilting of water bodies and the distribution of nutrient-rich silt to farmland in order to enhance soil fertility and agricultural productivity. The initiative gained popularity, particularly among marginal farmers who also benefited from state-supported incentives. Another critical intervention was carried out under the state's 'Salaha Januya Nadi' (Know Your River) initiative, which focused on creating public awareness around river conservation without any dedicated funding. The campaign empowered local communities to study and evaluate the health of rivers in their vicinity. In Nanded, this process revealed alarming degradation at the origin of the Dham River, including silted and blocked tributaries and altered water flows due to deforestation and unregulated sand mining. Acting on the findings, the district administration allocated over 22 crore from the District Planning Committee (DPC) to carry out the restoration of the Dham River's origin. This included the construction of continuous contour trenches (CCTs), gabion structures, and loose boulder structures (LBS).

The work, located in remote forested areas, was carefully supervised by the Collector himself, who personally visited the sites multiple times to ensure the highest standards of execution and transparency. Pre and post-work documentation was maintained to ensure accountability and encourage future replicability. Additionally, a locally-led initiative in the aspirational block of Karanja resulted in the construction of more than 390 low-cost 'ray bandharas'- simple sandbag check dams designed to retain post-monsoon water flows. These structures were built entirely through community participation and without any government expenditure, demonstrating how low-tech, high-impact solutions can be deployed effectively at scale. By the end of his tenure in November, Shri Rahul Kardile reported that 110 kilometers of nallah deepening had been completed, covering 36 villages and positively impacting approximately 12,000 hectares of farmland. These outcomes reflected a holistic model of integrated water resource management-grounded in technical planning, supported by public-private partnerships, and driven by community ownership.

The second presentation was made by Sri Aditya Vikram Yadav on afforestation and eco-restoration of a remote riverine island in Sivasagar district through bamboo plantation over 120 hectares, funded through a unique public-private partnership model and MGNREGA. The plantation, located in a critical elephant corridor, aimed at generating future income for local Panchayati Raj Institutions while addressing issues of erosion, encroachment, and human-elephant conflict. The partnership model ensured that while the private partner handled planting and maintenance at no cost to the government, future profits from bamboo monetization would be equally shared between the Panchayat system and the investor. To mitigate elephant raids on farmlands, the administration developed a 'resting zone' using silviculture plantations such as vetiver and napier grass, along with banana and wild paddy crops. The result was a complete halt to elephant incursions in nearby villages for the first time in recent memory. The bamboo plantation is also expected to contribute significantly to Assam's growing demand for raw material for bioethanol production, as it feeds into the supply chain of the upcoming NRL refinery in Golaghat district. Following both presentations, Ms. Archana Varma, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, National Water Mission, delivered the keynote reflections. She commended the systemic, community-centric approaches in both Nanded and Sivasagar, emphasizing the critical importance of storage augmentation, river health improvement, catchment protection, and convergence of government schemes. She noted that despite divergent ecological contexts, both initiatives had common strengths in public participation, afforestation, and nature-based solutions. While appreciating the innovative public-private model in Sivasagar, she suggested building greater local institutional capacity for managing such projects to reduce dependence on external private entities. She emphasized that future interventions, particularly in ecologically sensitive zones such as riverine islands, must maintain a delicate balance between development and conservation. Concluding her remarks, she reiterated the broader objectives of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, which now include river basin restoration alongside groundwater recharge and urged district collectors to focus on source sustainability for drinking water schemes through decentralized and perennial water storage systems.

59th Edition of Water-Talk



The 59th Water Talk session began with a warm welcome extended to all participants, emphasizing the purpose of the Water Talk series as a platform for meaningful discussions on water resource management. The session was hosted under the aegis of the National Water Mission, the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. It opened with a short film showcasing the initiatives of the National Water Mission and the broader Jal Shakti Abhiyan, focusing on themes such as water conservation, rainwater harvesting, traditional water systems, water use efficiency, and the "Catch the Rain" campaign. Following the video, the host Ms. Annanya Saraswat, from APAC News Network welcomed distinguished speakers, including Ms. Archana Varma, Additional Secretary and Mission Director of the National Water Mission, Mr. Snehit Prakash, Regional Director of BORDA South Asia, and Ms. Ansu Chariyan, Lead Integrated Water Management at BORDA South Asia.

Ms. Archana Varma, AS & MD, delivered the keynote address highlighting the critical importance of community-led and scientifically-informed water conservation efforts. She drew attention to the Government of India's strategic shift from solely supply-side water management to a more balanced and inclusive approach that integrates demand-side management. This includes reducing, recycling, recharging, and respecting water a strategy that recognizes water as a finite and invaluable resource. A focal point of her remarks was the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" and its evolution into the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) movement, which was officially launched on September 6, 2024. Ms. Archana Varma underscored how this initiative stands out due to its emphasis on whole-of-government and whole-of-society participation. The JSJB initiative has succeeded in mobilizing communities, NGOs, corporate CSR arms, RWAs, and panchayats without any direct financial disbursement from the Ministry, instead relying on convergence and community commitment.

She noted that although India's total available freshwater is estimated at 1126 billion cubic meters, the demand is projected to rise to approximately 1180 billion cubic meters by 2050. This implies a persistent deficit unless significant efforts are made on the demand side. The JSJB initiative is positioned to address these gaps through participatory water management, with particular attention to last-mile delivery, especially in agriculture and small towns, which are often overlooked. The AS & MD shared promising statistics from the field, including the construction of over 15 lakh

water conservation structures, of which 12.5 lakh have already been completed. These range from borewell recharge systems to gabion structures and small check dams. Importantly, these results have been achieved without direct government funding, highlighting the power of community ownership and decentralized action. She cited Rajasthan's Baran district as a leading example where the District Magistrate successfully mobilized CSR funding for community-led water initiatives. Furthermore, she explained how JSJB 2.0, launching on June 1, aims to scale this momentum and construct 2 million structures.

The program's success relies on encouraging local leadership and participation, integrating traditional knowledge and modern science, and ensuring sustainability through local accountability and ownership. After her address, the session transitioned to BORDA South Asia's presentation, led by Ms. Ansu Cheria and Mr. Snehit Prakash. The presentation focused on BORDA's community-based interventions in small towns across India, emphasizing the link between water conservation and urban development. The BORDA team elaborated on their experiences in facilitating water and wastewater resilience through partnerships with municipalities, local communities, and NGOs. They reiterated several key themes raised earlier, including the need for efficient water use, the importance of inclusive planning at the last mile, and the value of small but scalable interventions.

The BORDA representatives discussed how community engagement can improve the implementation and sustainability of water projects, particularly in urban areas experiencing rapid growth and increasing water stress. The session focused on sharing key learnings and experiences from decentralized water and sanitation initiatives undertaken in small towns across India and neighboring countries. The objective was to highlight practical, community-driven models that have addressed critical infrastructure challenges in underrepresented urban areas, particularly those facing harsh climatic conditions or located outside traditional planning frameworks. The session concluded with acknowledgment of the shared responsibility among government, civil society, and citizens in securing India's water future. The National Water Mission reaffirmed its commitment to enabling dialogue, collaboration, and innovation in the water sector, particularly in underserved urban and semi-urban settings.



Centre clears Rs 800-crore aid under Yamuna cleaning project

GAYATHRI MANI NEW DELHI, MAY 24

IN A major fillip to the Delhi government's plan to provide sewer connections in slums and unauthorised colonies in the Capital, the Centre has cleared financial assistance of Rs 800 crore under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme 2.0.

It was desired that UT (union territory) should carry out the audit of STPs to ensure optimum utilisation. The UT was also advised to work holistically for Yamuna rejuvenation and sewage management, and to have a clear digital processing strategy to work out its reuse/processing.

The Delhi government plans to install around 13,000 new sewer connections in slum areas, and 2.5 lakh sewer connections in unauthorised colonies and other residential areas.

Besides, initiatives such as recycling and reuse of 50 million litres of water per day and increasing sewage treatment capacity are also on the cards.

Cleaning of Yamuna and an increase in the overall sewage treatment capacity in the Capital were among the BJP's key poll promises in the run-up to the Assembly elections earlier this year.

The Expenditure Finance Committee, a key body within the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, recently approved the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) proposal for the construction of 40 decentralised sewage treatment plants (DSTPs) and extension of sewer lines in Outer Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs 3,104.57 crore.

The proposal aims to curb the flow of untreated water into Yamuna and is aimed at covering 416 unauthorised colonies and 115 villages across seven Assembly constituencies in the city, benefiting approximately 35 lakh residents, as per officials.

Of the total amount, the Centre will provide financial assistance of Rs 804.58 crore to Delhi under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme.

"The rest of the funds will be arranged by the UT from their funds," the official document reads.

Jal Shakti schemes

MPs, representing almost all political parties in Parliament, had taken part in the discussion on the Ministry's Demand for Grants 2025-26, the source said.

In that discussion in March, several MPs had raised the issue of alleged irregularities and corruption in implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Participating in the discussion on March 19, NCP (Sharad Pawar) member Nilesh Dnyandeo Lankar said, "Har Char Jal is also a very important scheme of our Prime Minister. A target of providing 55 litre water every household has been set under this scheme. Around 830 schemes have been sanctioned in my constituency and 972 villages have been covered under this scheme. Officials claimed that out of 830, works of 230 schemes have been completed. But the ground reality is different and not even 50 schemes have been completed yet. A lot of corruption cases came to light and local villagers have sent me written complaints about it."

"These complaints are about the tendering process, quality of work and payment of bills, and corruption is quite visible at first sight. Works have been awarded to ineligible contractors. Bills have been generated for incomplete works. To lay pipes, it is necessary to dig at least 4-5 feet, but pipes have been fitted at the depth of 1 feet only. I have got photos and videos of these corrupt activities. I have sent a pen-drive and photographs to the Hon'ble Minister too," said Lankar, who represents Ahmednagar in Maharashtra.

An Expenditure Secretary-led panel had recommended a 46 per cent cut in the Jal Shakti Ministry's demand of Central funding of Rs 2,791 lakh crore for four years ending December 2028, amid concerns about some states approving inflated work contracts to provide tap water connections to rural households under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Since the launch of the Mission in 2019, 6.4 lakh water supply schemes with a total estimated cost of Rs 8,29 billion crore—more than double the scheme's original outlay of Rs 3.60 lakh crore (Centre: Rs 2.08 lakh crore, States: 1.52 lakh crore)—have been approved by the states.

To meet the additional requirement of funds, the Jal Shakti Ministry had approached the Expenditure Finance Committee, headed by the Expenditure Secretary, for approval of Rs 2.79 lakh crore additional central funding over and above Rs 2.08 lakh crore. However, the EFC recommended only Rs 1.51 lakh crore as the Central share, 46 per cent lower than the amount sought by the Ministry.

On May 21, The Indian Express reported that an investigation of the data uploaded by states and UTs on the Jal Jeevan Mission dashboard showed that a crucial change in tender guidelines three years ago led the check on expenditure, and lifted to cost escalations. This resulted in additional costs totalling Rs 16,839 crore for 14,586 schemes, an increase of 14.58 per cent from their estimated cost.

Govt: IWT will be on hold till Pak stops terror export entirely

Times News Network

New Delhi: The Indus Waters Treaty will remain suspended until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abandons its support for cross-border terrorism, Union Jal Shakti ministry has conveyed to the cabinet secretary in its monthly report. Though the ministry has articulated the country's well-stated position on the issue after keeping the treaty in abeyance, the communication assumes significance in the wake of the latest missile from Pakistan appealing to India to reconsider the 1960 treaty.

In a report to cabinet secretary T V Somanathan Tuesday, Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary of Union Jal Shakti ministry, said govt announced the treaty would be held in 'abeyance' with immediate effect in the event of a "Pakistan-sponsored" terror attack on civilians in Pahalagam.

CISF deployed at Bhakra dam amid Punjab cops' bid to 'take control'

Chandigarh: Amid the ongoing water-sharing dispute between Punjab and Haryana, the Centre has approved the deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at the Bhakra dam project.

The move follows recent move by the Punjab police to take control of central-enclosed points of the dam. Sources said MHA sanctioned the creation of 286 posts in CISF's security wing for induction at the Bhakra project in Nangal, Punjab and a letter to this effect was sent to the central paramilitary force on May 19.

Subsequently, CISF issued directions to facilitate accommodation, transport, security logistics and other amenities for deploying its personnel at Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), Nangal. A few weeks ago, the Punjab govt had deployed massive forces for the dam following BBMB's decision to release additional 400 cusec of water for Haryana.

Meanwhile, Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann, who reached Nangal dam on Wednesday, said his govt would raise a demand for reconstruction of BBMB in the May 24 meeting of NIA Ganga. Addressing a rally at the dam, Mann said that he would take up this issue in the meeting which is to be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Jal Shakti schemes: MPs meet today to discuss issues, concerns

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, MAY 21

JAL SHAKTI Minister C.R. Patil has invited around 60 Lok Sabha members to hold an informal interaction Thursday on the points and concerns they had raised during a discussion on his Ministry's Demand for Grants for financial year 2025-26.

The meeting, which will be held at the Parliament House Annex building, is likely to see members discussing issues related to different schemes of the Ministry including the Jal Jeevan Mission and Namami Ganga.

The meeting comes at a time when the Centre has decided to send 100 teams of Central Nodal Officers (CNO) for ground inspection of Jal Jeevan Mission schemes across the country amid concerns over irregularities in several states.

A source said the Ministry has written to around 60 Lok Sabha members, inviting them to attend the interaction. This

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

India in no hurry to review suspension of IWT: MoJS

IANS

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) is in no hurry to dilute the decision to keep the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance, a stand taken by the Centre as part of tough measures announced against Pakistan after the Pahalagam attack, a top official said on Friday.

The Treaty figured prominently in MoJS monthly report sent to the Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan earlier in the week, indicating a status quo on the suspension.

Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, "noted in the monthly report that the IWT shall remain suspended until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abandons its support for cross-border terrorism".

The Indian government is

in no hurry to consider a request from Pakistani Water Resources Secretary Syed Ali Murtaza offering to discuss objections raised by New Delhi earlier while seeking the IWT's renegotiation.

The developments on the IWT came close to Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and his predecessor Mehbooba Mufti taking contradictory stands on calls for revival of the Tubul Navigation project in J&K after the suspension of the IWT.

The Tubul Navigation project - the Jehlum-fed Wular lake in Bandipora district - was launched in 1987 but paused in 2007 amid objections from Pakistan under the IWT.

With India suspending the Treaty on April 23, a day after the Pahalagam terror attack, Abdullah on Thursday called for resumption of work in the project on Wular Lake.

In a post on X, the Chief Minister said that since the water pact with Pakistan has been kept in abeyance: "I wonder-if we will be able to resume the project."

Mufti opposed the idea and described CM Abdullah's suggestion as "irresponsible and dangerously provocative".

Earlier last month, Union Minister of Jal Shakti C.R. Patil launched a web-based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal.

The Central Water Commission monitors Live Storage Capacity of 161 important reservoirs of country on an issue weekly bulletin on every Thursday. The total live storage capacity of these reservoirs is 182,375 billion cubic meters (BCM) which is about 70.74 per cent of the total storage capacity estimated to have been created in the country.

Pak. wrote to India about restarting talks on Indus Waters Treaty, say sources

The Hindu Bureau

Pakistan has said it is willing to restart talks with India on the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), which India has kept in abeyance following the Pahalagam terror attacks, government sources, on condition of anonymity, told The Hindu on Thursday.

A letter from Syed Ali Murtaza, Secretary, Pakistan Ministry of Water Resources, to India Water Resources Secretary, Debashree Mukherjee, was received "two weeks ago", sources said. The letter asked for India to nominate representatives who could engage in talks with Pakistan's India Commission, they added.

The Hindu could not independently confirm the content of the letter as well as whether it was sent following Operation Sindoor. "It was amid all the happenings," a source said but declined to share a finite date.

The External Affairs Ministry declined to comment. The Hindu has written to Mr. Murtaza, but has not received a response.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar told presspersons on Thursday: "The Indus Waters Treaty is being held in abeyance and will continue to be held in abeyance until the cross-border terrorism by Pakistan is credibly and irrevocably stopped."



Members of discussion: India has kept the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance following the Pahalagam terror attacks.

Under the IWT, both India and Pakistan have Indus Commissioners who lead delegations for talks regarding water-sharing aspects governing the treaty which has been in force since 1960.

"Written four times" in September that no more meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission would be held till the governments of India and Pakistan meet and discuss the renegotiation of the IWT. The last meeting reportedly happened in Delhi in May 2022. Since January 2023, India has written four times to Pakistan to initiate talks on revising the treaty but, according to sources, not received a response.

"India's position is that no negotiation of the treaty will be done only government representatives and not any Indian Commission representative. Pakistan offered to meet at a neutral venue but we proposed that we meet in Islamabad. Following this there was a silence for four of five months and now they have sent us this letter," a person familiar with the talks regarding the treaty, said The Hindu.

The letter, sources said, has Pakistan's objection to the IWT. India cannot create significant hydel power storage on the western rivers of Indus, Jhelum, Chenab and must maintain water levels at present levels to avoid any unauthorised flow or disruption of Pakistan's agriculture happens.

In HC, Haryana & Centre oppose Punjab plea in BBMB case

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

The Centre, Haryana and the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) today opposed the Punjab's plea for recalling the Punjab and Haryana High Court's May 9 order in the Bhakra water dispute.

Haryana, among other things, described Punjab's actions as unlawful, misleading, and in breach of judicial orders.

Punjab had prayed for recalling the order, saying the court, on May 6, was given the impression that the meeting was held on May 2 on the issue of extra water release, but there was no specific agenda. The HC had then directed the state to check by the May 2 meeting decision. Punjab said the direction, however, was passed as a result of erroneous, factually incorrect and legally unsustainable submissions by

'DEFIANT, OBSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE'

Haryana said deploying the police at the Bhakra-Nangal Dam and forcibly taking over the operations, despite the clear order passed by this court on May 6, showed the defiant and obstructive attitude of Punjab and Haryana.

Responding to Punjab's application, Haryana said water released by the BBMB was "the lifeline of the farmers of Haryana". It submitted that deploying the police force at the Bhakra-Nangal Dam and forcibly taking over the operations and regulation, despite the clear order passed by this court on May 6, showed the "defiant and obstructive attitude of Punjab", it added. "Giving up the matter, the Division Bench of Chief Jus-

tics Sheel Nagu and Justice Sumet Goel granted Punjab a day's time to respond to the averments, even as its senior counsel Gurminder Singh, appearing with Additional Advocate-General Chanchal Singla, termed the responses filed by the Centre, Haryana and BBMB as "misleading and far from the truth".

The Centre was represented by Additional Solicitor-General Satya Pal Jain and senior counsel couple Dinesh Jain, Advocate-General Pravinindra Singh Chauthan and Ad-

ditional AG Deepak Balyan appeared for Haryana. The BBMB, in its affidavit, said Punjab's application lacked merit and came too late. "In case there was any infirmity in the May 6 judgment, the application should have been filed immediately after the judgment and not after directions were issued for compliance," it said.

The BBMB said even if the court's direction regarding water release was recalled, the main order restraining Punjab officials from interfering in the dam operations still stood, as do contempt proceedings. The Centre, in its response through the Ministry of Power, said the BBMB had already taken a majority decision on April 30 to release water to Haryana in accordance with the BBMB rules of 1974, "no further action is warranted by the Centre under Rule 7".

चिन्ता पर नहर के विस्तार में जुटा भारत

सिंधु नदी सिंचिनीकरण के बाद कई परियोजनाओं को लेकर संभावनाएँ बनायीं जा रही हैं।



सिंधु नदी सिंचिनीकरण के बाद कई परियोजनाओं को लेकर संभावनाएँ बनायीं जा रही हैं। सिंधु नदी सिंचिनीकरण के बाद कई परियोजनाओं को लेकर संभावनाएँ बनायीं जा रही हैं। सिंधु नदी सिंचिनीकरण के बाद कई परियोजनाओं को लेकर संभावनाएँ बनायीं जा रही हैं।

Modi to discuss Polavaram issues

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, MAY 16

The Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh, which was given a national project status by the Centre, is likely to be discussed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a high-level meeting on May 28.

Sources said Modi was expected to interact with the Chief Ministers of Telangana, AP, Odisha and Chhattisgarh during a video conference to discuss various aspects of the project.

Telangana has been raising concerns over submergence in the state in the backwaters of the Godavari river once the Polavaram project begins impounding water. It had taken these concerns to the notice of the Jal Shakti

ministry and the Central Water Commission earlier. Odisha and Chhattisgarh have raised similar concerns.

The project envisages diverting 80 tmc ft of water from Godavari to River Krishna with the water to be shared between the states that are party to the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal, including Maharashtra and Karnataka. Chhattisgarh and Odisha are to give 1.5 tmc ft and 5 tmc ft as their share of the water from the project.

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



MINISTER'S FIELD DAY... The Minister's Field Day was held in Nangal, Punjab, where the Minister interacted with the people and inspected the dam project.

CLIMATE CHALLENGE... The project faces significant challenges due to climate change, including water scarcity and rising temperatures.

FLOWER POWER... The project has faced opposition from local farmers and environmentalists, who are demanding compensation and better water management.

Karnataka to take up Almatti dam dispute with PM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday said he will seek time with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil to discuss the issue of the Almatti reservoir across the Krishna river in view of the objection raised by the Maharashtra government over raising the dam's height.

Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnis had on May 9 written to Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah expressing concern that raising the height of the dam could lead to flooding in Maharashtra's Sangli and Kolhapur districts.

"After Chief Minister Siddaramaiah responds to Devendra Fadnis's letter, I will seek time from the Prime Minister and the Jal Shakti Minister," said Mr. Shivakumar. He added that the Karnataka CM will likely reply to the objection raised by his Maharashtra counterpart within the next two days.

"I have already shared my inputs with the Chief Minister [Mr. Siddaramaiah]. We will share the Chief Minister's letter with all the MPs [from the State]



Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka D.K. Shivakumar

so that they raise the issue in Parliament. It is important that all of us safeguard the State's interests together," said Mr. Shivakumar.

In response to the concerns of flooding raised by Mr. Fadnis, the Deputy CM said, "Managing floods within a State is the responsibility of the respective State governments."

'Fadnis letter a shock'

A day earlier, Mr. Shivakumar said, "As per the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal's order, Karnataka can increase the height of the Almatti dam to 524 metres. This letter [by Mr. Fadnis] has come as a shock to us. Maharashtra had never raised objection to this project till now. Maharashtra had even submitted an affidavit to the tribunal seeking increase in the Almatti dam height."

India launches pre-feasibility study to divert Chenab water

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @NewDelhi

INDIA has launched a pre-feasibility study for the construction of the Chenab-Ravi-Beas-Sutlej link canal project aimed at diverting water from the Chenab currently flowing into Pakistan under the currently inactive Indus Waters Treaty (IWT).

The project proposes to channel 15-20 million acre-feet (MAF) of water from the Chenab to Indian states of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan, as part of a broader effort to strengthen domestic water infrastructure and assert greater control over Indus basin resources. The move follows the effective suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty under which India was permitted to use 20% of the basin's water.

Additionally, a team has begun assessing the existing canal structures across Jammu, Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. An officer involved in planning the study at the Ministry of Jal Shakti stated, "We need to evaluate if the water diverted from the Chenab through these canals is being delivered in proper condition and determine investment required for restructuring the canal system."

In addition to the Chenab-Ravi-Beas-Sutlej link canal project, India is fast-tracking several new storage and run-of-river projects to support these initiatives. Under the IWT, India was allowed to use up to 20% of the water for non-consumptive purposes, and plans to demand permission to use up to 40% of the water in case of renegotiations, an officer said.

India ignores Pak calls on IWT, bolsters canal infra

Launches study for Chenab-Ravi-Beas-Sutlej link to divert water

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @NewDelhi

DESPITE Pakistan's appeals for rethink on the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) 1960, India has chosen to remain silent. Instead, India is proactively bolstering its water storage and canal infrastructure, strategically positioning itself to divert the flow of water from Pakistan's rivers ahead of any negotiations.

Officials of the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of External Affairs have acknowledged that India has received four letters from Pakistan since the IWT was put on hold.

The letters, sent by Pakistan's water resources secretary Syed Ali Murtaza, articulate the neighbouring country's desire for revival of the treaty and restoration of the cooperative framework that governs the flow of water resources.

India put the IWT, brokered by the World Bank, on hold a day after 26 people, including one from Nepal, were killed in the April 22 Pahalgam attack.

Pakistan is currently facing a severe water crisis affecting its Kharif crops amid extreme summer heat and India's regulation of Indus water. Reports indicate that Pakistan also approached the World Bank for intervention, but the organisation declined to intervene.



'Indus Waters Treaty will remain suspended'

Invoking its national security powers, India has stated that the treaty will stay suspended until Islamabad "credibly and permanently" stops supporting cross-border terrorism. This was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security, the highest body on strategic matters.

Instead of responding to the treaty, the Indian government has chosen to enhance its water infrastructure to facilitate water diversion from the Indus basin before engaging in any future negotiations regarding revival of the treaty.

After putting a set of water storage and run-of-river projects on fast track to hold more water, India has launched a pre-feasibility study for the Chenab-Ravi-Beas-Sutlej link canal project. The link canal will feed water to canals in Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan, and further link to the proposed Sharda canal.

"India plans to divert over 15-20 million acre-feet of water to meet its agricultural and industrial needs," said a senior

Jal Shakti ministry officer.

When asked why India cannot divert water from the Indus river, he cited reasons such as its geographical constraints.

"Diverting water from the Indus river requires complex and heavy tunnelling across Zaskar and Pir Panjal ranges, which is not economically feasible. But if required, we will do it also as we can implement advanced engineering," the officer said.

Invoking its national security powers, India has stated that the treaty will stay suspended until Islamabad "credibly and permanently" stops supporting cross-border terrorism. This was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security. This is the first time New Delhi has put the IWT in abeyance.

Pak wrote to India to restore Indus treaty

Zia Haq

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Pakistani authorities have written to their Indian counterparts several times since April to reconsider the decision to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, people familiar with the matter said on Friday.

India's decision to keep the six-decade-old Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance until Pakistan "credibly and irrevocably abjures its support for cross-border terrorism" was part of punitive measures unveiled by New Delhi a day after the April 22 Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians.

Pakistan's water resources secretary Syed Ali Murtaza has sent a total of four letters to India's Jal Shakti ministry since then, urging a review of the decision to suspend the treaty. It wasn't immediately clear when the letters were sent, but a person aware of the matter said that three of the letters were written after Operation Sindoor.

The Pakistani side has continued to claim that the treaty cannot be unilaterally suspended by India and that the suspension violates the pact's provisions, according to people familiar with the communications who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The letters were a response to a formal notification on April 24 from India's water resources secretary Debashree Mukherjee to

PAKISTAN SENT FOUR LETTERS TO INDIA'S JAL SHAKTI MINISTRY SINCE THE TREATY WAS KEPT IN ABEYANCE. INDIA HAS YET TO RESPOND TO THEM

her Pakistani counterpart about the decision to keep the treaty in abeyance. "The obligation to honour a treaty in good faith is fundamental to a treaty. However, what we have seen instead is sustained cross-border terrorism by Pakistan targeting the Indian Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir," Mukherjee had written.

There has been no Indian response to Pakistan's letters so far, with people familiar with the matter saying India "remains firm on its decision." External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal reiterated on April 29 that the country would not engage in talks with Pakistan until the neighbour "credibly and irrevocably abjures cross-border terrorism."

The Indian side has stopped sharing all data related to the flows of the western rivers - Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab - that were allocated to Pakistan under the 1960 treaty.

The water sharing arrangement under the treaty stands at 80:20 in favour of Pakistan, making the South Asian nation heav-

ily dependent on the Indus waters system for its economy and agriculture.

Former Union water resources secretary Shashi Shekhar said Pakistan is "desperate" because about a quarter of its gross domestic product depends on the Indus waters. "The consequences of the treaty's abeyance would be fairly serious I would assume because it can stoke civil unrest too," Shekhar said.

Shekhar revealed that he had recommended suspending or pulling out of the treaty in 2016 as the top water resources bureaucrat. "But Prime Minister Narendra Modi said water resources should be for benefit of all, but he had warned then that water and flood can't flow together. And when the Pahalgam attacks took place, the room for talks or tolerance ceased," he said.

Pakistan's leaders have responded with strong rhetoric, saying any reduction of water flows allowed under the Indus Waters Treaty will be seen as an "act of war."

The Indus Waters Treaty has survived four wars between India and Pakistan since its signing in 1960, making this the first time the pact has been suspended. Even before the Pahalgam attacks, India had been asking for the treaty to be mutually reworked, citing natural changes in the Indus river basin that had diminished India's share amid a burgeoning population.

PAK URGES INDIA TO RESTORE INDUS WATERS TREATY IN MULTIPLE LETTERS

Zia Haq

letters@hindustantimes.com

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Renuka dam gets final green nod, to be ready by 2030

AMBIKA SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, JUNE 9

The Centre has granted the much-awaited forest clearance to the Rs 6,947-crore Renuka multi-purpose dam, paving the way for its construction decades after it was conceived to address the water woes of the National Capital Region. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the project, which will come up on the Giri river at Dadahu in Sirmour district of Himachal Pradesh, in December 2021.

Confirming the stage-II final approval granted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on June 4, Vasanth Kiran Babu, Conservator of Forests, Nahan, said: "The clearance will facilitate the diversion of 909 hectares of forest land for the construction of the dam."

While land acquisition has been completed, the dam authorities are in the process of finalising the technical details. The initial phase involves constructing three **CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

Centre verifies preparedness for Jal Jeevan works in A.P.

The Hindu Bureau
BHIMAVARAM

A central team led by senior official Chinmay Pundalikar Gotmare inspected the preparedness to complete ₹1,400 crore worth projects sanctioned under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in West Godavari district.

The team which visited the region on Monday inspected the water quality and other parameters at the source point. West Godavari Collector Chadalavada Nagarani said that the team inspected water grid at Dowleswaram barrage from where water is being sourced for drinking purpose to some parts of the West Godavari district.

Storage in key reservoirs rises for 2nd week in a row

Our Bureau
Chennai

The water storage in India's 161 major reservoirs increased for the second consecutive week, with the level increasing to 31.13 per cent of the capacity, data from the Central Water Commission (CWC) showed.

CWC's weekly data on the level storage of the 161 major reservoirs in the country showed that the level increased this week to 56.802 billion cubic metres (BCM) against the 182.444 BCM capacity.

Last week, the storage, which turned positive after 28 weeks, was 30.33 per cent of the capacity.

The storage is 38 per cent points higher than last year and 29 per cent more than normal (last 10 years).

MORE INFLOWS
More dams filled up last week, with reservoirs having storage below 40 per cent declining to 101 from 104.

Overall, the level in 77 per cent of the storages is below 50 per cent. While the storage increased in the southern and eastern regions, it dropped in the central, northern and western regions.

In the 11 reservoirs of the northern region, the level was 29.07 per cent of the 19,836 BCM capacity at 5,766 BCM. The storage in Punjab slipped to 42.15 per

Storage position this week*

Percentage	Last week	This week
100%	1	1
91%-99%	2	1
81%-90%	2	4
71%-80%	5	11
61%-70%	9	9
51%-60%	14	11
41%-50%	24	23
40% and below	104	101

*Source: Central Water Commission
*Against capacity also. % reservoir

cent, in Himachal Pradesh to 17.23 per cent, and in Rajasthan to 52.38 per cent.

The level in the 27 reservoirs of the eastern region increased to 5.678 BCM of the 21,724 capacity. The

storage in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram was above 50 per cent, while it was lower in other States in the region.

The 50 reservoirs in the western region saw storage drop a tad to 31.31 per cent or 11,698 BCM of the 37,357 BCM capacity. The level in Maharashtra improved to 28.88 per cent, and in Goa to 49.78 per cent, but dropped in Gujarat to 33.67 per cent.

LIKELY TO STAY PUT
In the central zone, the level in the 28 reservoirs dipped to 30.86 per cent of the 48,588 BCM capacity at 14,992 BCM. The storage in Madhya Pradesh was down to 35.51 per cent, in Chhattisgarh to 24.33 and in Uttarakhand to

13.5 per cent. In Uttar Pradesh, it was unchanged at 27.48 per cent.

The level in 45 reservoirs of the southern region increased to 33.98 per cent of the 54,393 BCM capacity at 18,668 BCM.

Tamil Nadu continued to have the best storage this week too, with its reservoirs filled to 77.38 per cent. In Kerala, the level was up at 40.24 per cent and in Karnataka at 31.64 per cent. In Andhra Pradesh, the level was 24.5 per cent, and in Telangana, it improved to 31.83 per cent.

The situation will likely remain the same for another week as the South-West monsoon has paused, having arrived early on May 21.

जल संरक्षण कार्यो की समीक्षा करेगी केन्द्रीय टीम, सोमवार से शुरु हुआ तीन दिवसीय दौरा

फरीदाबाद (शिव कुमार)। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय द्वारा चलाए जा रहे जल शक्ति अभियान 2025 के चार दिन के जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत आज जल संचालन के सभागार में जल संरक्षण कार्यो की समीक्षा बैठक आयोजित की गयी। उपमुख्य निरिक्षण निरीक्षक के माध्यम से भारत सरकार के खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के निदेशक फंकाज कुमार के नेतृत्व में आई जल शक्ति अभियान के अंतर्गत किए जा रहे कार्यो की जानकारी दी। बैठक के बाद टीम ने गांव जमान और शाहपुर बूंद में ग्रामीणों से रुबक ड्रेजर सीधे फेडबैक लिया। टीम ने गांवों का दौरा कर वहां के स्थानीय ग्रामीणों से जिला प्रशासन द्वारा जल संरक्षण के लक्ष्य किए गए विभिन्न कार्यो की विस्तारपूर्वक जानकारी प्राप्त की। इस दौरान ग्रामीणों ने भू-जल संरक्षण, छत बर्बाद जल संचयन संरचनाओं, खाद एवं तलाब निर्माण जैसे प्रयासों के बारे में



टीम को अवगत कराया। टीम ने इन संरचनाओं का मौके पर जाकर निरीक्षण भी किया और उनका वर्तमान स्थिति का मूल्यांकन किया। निरीक्षण के दौरान टीम ने ग्रामीणों से सीधे संबद्ध कर उनके सामने आ रहे जल संकट संबंधी समस्याओं को भी सुना और उनकी आवश्यकताओं को समझने का प्रयास किया एरसीटीए फरीदाबाद अमित कुमार टीम के साथ मीटिंग रहे 7 सभी अधिकारियों ने ग्रामीणों से सीधे की कि वे इस जल संकट संबंधी सहायता निभाए। टीम ने यह भी बताया कि समूहिक प्रयासों से ही भू-जल स्तर में सुधार लाया जा सकता है और आने वाली पीढ़ियों को जल संकट से बचाया जा सकता है। जिला ने वर्ष 2024 में हासिल किए शत प्रतिशत लक्ष्य, वर्ष 2025 को कार्य प्रगति जारी-धारी एरसीटीए बहादुराद मयंक भारद्वाज जिले में जल संरक्षण कार्यो की निरिक्षणपूर्वक जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया ने वर्ष 2024 में अपने सभी लक्ष्यो की सफलतापूर्वक पूरा किया है। और वर्ष 2025 में जल शक्ति अभियान के अंतर्गत जिला प्रशासन द्वारा जल संरक्षण और वहां जल संचयन के क्षेत्र में लगभग 90 नए कार्य किए गए हैं, जिनमें 3 नए तलाब, 12 खाबरी, 30 नए छत बर्बाद जल संचयन संरचनाएं तथा 45 अन्य जल संरक्षण संरचनाएं शामिल है।

Ghose report 1st, action later: Cabinet

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JUNE 5

The state Cabinet meeting held on Thursday at Secretariat witnessed an intense and extended discussion on the reports submitted by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and the Telangana Vigilance Commission concerning the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, official sources said. The meeting, chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, lasted for nearly five and a half hours.

According to sources, irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the findings of both NDSA and Vigilance Commission reports. The reports strongly indicted the previous BRS government for the structural failures of Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages, the criti-

THE JUSTICE Ghose Commission is expected to submit its report by the end of the month.

cal components of the Kaleshwaram project. He highlighted the NDSA's 378-page report about serious flaws in the project's planning and execution, including the redesigning of the original plan, relocation of the project site from Tummidihatti to Kaleshwaram, and faulty structural designs in key barrages. The report criticised the absence of a proper Operation and Maintenance (O&M) manual, which adversely affected the hydro-mechanical systems of the barrages and contributed to their eventual failure.

The NDSA also pointed out construction of the three barrages had commenced before the Detailed

Project Report (DPR) had been fully appraised by the Central Water Commission and other Central agencies. The Irrigation Department under the previous regime, had reportedly made several significant deviations from the approved parameters, he said.

The Vigilance Commission's report went a step further, recommending criminal proceedings against 17 irrigation officials for negligence in the construction of the Medigadda barrage. The report also named engineering firm L&T, which was involved in the construction, and called for criminal action against it.

In total, the report proposed penalties on 33 engineers, including former engineers-in-chief, chief engineers, and superintending engineers. It further advised action against seven retired engineers.

However, the Cabinet decided not to take immediate action. Instead, it resolved to await the final report of the Justice Ghose Commission, which is currently probing the alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram project. The commission has already issued notices to former chief minister K. Chandrababu Naidu, former irrigation minister T. Harish Rao, and former finance minister E. T. Rajendar to appear before it.

While Rajendar is scheduled to appear on Friday, Harish Rao is to appear on June 9, and KCR on June 11. The Justice Ghose Commission is expected to submit its report by the end of the month. In this context, the cabinet felt that it would be prudent to defer any decision on punitive actions until the Commission's findings are officially submitted.

Visit aspirational dists, spend at least 24 hrs: PM to ministers

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 4

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Wednesday asked all ministers to visit aspirational districts and blocks and spend at least 24 hours there, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

This was conveyed during the meeting of the Union Council of Ministers, the first after Operation Sindoore, under the PM's chairmanship and went on for over three-and-a-half hours.

Without mentioning Operation Sindoore, the PM in his closing remarks is learnt to have told the ministers that the world has seen India's defence might. The nature of war has changed and all can happen in just 20 minutes, he is learnt to have told the ministers.

During the meeting, Cabinet Secretary TV Sumantham made a presentation on '11 years of transformational governance', detailing the NDA government's achievements. Secretaries of the central government were present.

It is learnt that Modi asked the ministers and secretaries to not compare the last 10 years of achievements with the previous 10 years and focus on the targets



PM Narendra Modi chairs a Union Council of Ministers meet in New Delhi, Wednesday. @narendramodi

जल संचय करने वाले जिलों में देश में खंडवा बना नंबर वन

खंडवा ने बढ़ाया मध्य प्रदेश का मान

हरिभूमि न्यूज ॥ गोंयाल

केन्द्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने मध्य प्रदेश और जिलों की रैंकिंग जारी की है। इसमें राज्यो की श्रेणी में देश में मध्यप्रदेश चौथे नंबर पर आ गया है। मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. मोहन यादव ने इस उपलब्धि पर बधाई दी है। जबकि केंद्र सरकार के जल शक्ति मंत्रालय से चलता आ रहे जल संचय, जनभागीदारी अभियान में खंडवा जिले ने कीर्तिमान रचकर देशभर में मध्य का मान बढ़ाया है।

खंडवा जिले ने जल संचय करने वाले जिलों में देश में प्रथम स्थान हासिल किया है। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के जल संरक्षण अभियान में मध्य सरकार मिशन मोड में काम कर रही है। प्रदेश में बाकिश के पानी का संचयन करने तथा पुराने जल स्रोतों को नया जीवन देने के लिए जल गंगा संवर्धन अभियान चलाया जा रहा है। मध्य में बाकिश के पानी को रोकने खेत तालाब, कूप रिचार्ज पिट, अमृत सरोवर सहित अन्य कार्य किए जा रहे हैं।

बारिश के पानी का संचयन तथा पुराने जल स्रोतों को नया जीवन देने के लिए चल रहा जल गंगा संवर्धन अभियान

देश में मध्य चौथे नंबर पर आने पर मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. यादव ने दां बाधाई



बारिश के पानी को बचाने किए गए यह कार्य

जल गंगा संवर्धन अभियान के राज्य स्तरीय नोडल अधिकारी एवं नरेंद्रना आभुवत अतिप्रसाद ने बताया कि खंडवा जिले में अभियान के तहत नरेंद्रना, 15वां दिन, 5वां दिन, लीकजआर एवं जलसंयोजन से एक लाख 29 हजार 46 से अधिक संरचनाओं का निरीक्षण एवं पंजीकरण किया गया है। इसमें 12,750 कूप रिचार्ज पिट, 1,500 रिचार्ज सोल्ट, 23,570 नवलेट, 5,780 बोल्डर चेकडैम, 1,256 बोल्डर चैन, 3,960 बोल्डरबैक, 3,269 लाला ट्रेच, 6,528 हैंडपंप रिचार्ज, 39,000 रफटॉपर हार्बोरिंजन, 58 चेकडैम/स्टॉपीडैम/तालाब, 4,800 पोस्कर तालाब, 1,500 खेत तालाब, 750 नूखे बोर रिचार्ज, 2,462 जूनीट्रिडजर कार्य एवं 6,567 अन्य जल संरक्षण के जैसे जल संरचनाओं का पुनरुद्धार आदि शामिल है।

भौतिक सत्यापन के बाद होगी पुरस्कार की घोषणा

केन्द्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने जारी रैंकिंग के बाद भारत सरकार की ओर से जिले में हुए कार्यो का भौतिक सत्यापन किया जाएगा। इसके बाद ही केंद्र सरकार की ओर से पुरस्कार की घोषणा की जाएगी। जल संचय, जनभागीदारी अभियान के तहत एक अप्रैल 2024 से 31 मई 2025 के बीच जो निरिक्षण किया गया है, उसके आधार पर जल संचय जिला देव में पहले नंबर पर है।

इस अभियान में पूरे प्रदेश के सभी जिलों में बेहतर से बेहतर कार्य होगा- सीएम मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. यादव ने जल संचय, जनभागीदारी अभियान में खंडवा जिले को देश में प्रथम स्थान मिलने पर प्रशंसा व्यक्त की है।

उन्होंने खंडवा के जल संचय, जनभागीदारी अभियान में पूरे प्रदेश के सभी जिलों में बेहतर से बेहतर कार्य होगा।

NHPC to fast-track site selection for Siang hydro project

AGGAW WALIA
New Delhi, June 9

THREE YEARS AFTER the ministry of Jal Shakti ordered a pre-feasibility report, a decision on the final site for the proposed 11.2 gigawatt (GW) Siang Upper Multipurpose Project is learnt to be "held up due to local issues".

State-owned hydropower developer NHPC is working with stakeholders to "expedite" progress, said sources.

Proposed as India's strategic counter to China's upcoming

60 GW hydrostation less than 50 km upstream from the border, the project on the Siang river in Arunachal Pradesh is facing opposition from villagers who are likely to be displaced.

"NHPC has identified a few potential sites, based on desk studies and site reconnaissance. However, vital investigation required for firming up the final site for taking up detailed investigation is held up due to local issues. NHPC is continuously liaising with the stakeholders in this matter," an NHPC official said.

THE X SNIPPETS

C R Paatil @CRPaatil

Translated by Grok Show original

Today, at the National Media Centre in New Delhi, I had the opportunity to address a press conference based on the unprecedented work and historic achievements accomplished by the Government of India under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi Ji over the past 11 years.

Interacting with journalist friends and sharing the nation's development journey was an extremely pleasant experience.

- In the last eleven years, under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi Ji, the economic progress achieved is unparalleled. The Modi government has worked for all sectors—women, youth, and farmers. Schemes were made for farmers, enabling money to be directly deposited into their accounts. Women were provided gas connections, youth were supported for startups, a new education policy was introduced, and the industrial sector saw growth. Earlier, farmers had to stand in queues for rations, but that is no longer the case. India is now in safe hands.
- During the Congress era, 57 major attacks took place, but Pakistan's name was never even mentioned. Now, attacks are met with a response. We have given a befitting reply to the Pulwama attack.
- A target was set to remove water hyacinth from the Yamuna in 45 days. The goal is to make the water fit for bathing in the next one and a half years.
- Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, a plan was made to provide tap water to every household. This will save women 5.5 crore hours daily. Additionally, 25 lakh women in villages have been trained to check water quality! Under the water conservation public participation initiative, by 31 May 2025, in less than a year, more than 27 lakh rainwater recharge structures have been built.

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3 127 250

C R Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 17

आज पुणे के खड़कवासला स्थित केंद्रीय जल और विद्युत अनुसंधान संस्थान की मुलाकात से प्रसन्नता हुई। CWPRS जैसी संस्थाएं जल क्षेत्र में वैज्ञानिक सोच और नवाचार का आधार हैं। यहां का तकनीकी कौशल, समर्पित वैज्ञानिकों की टीम और अनुसंधान का दायरा अत्यंत सराहनीय है। यह देखकर संतोष और गर्व

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10 200 490 7.6K

C R Paatil @CRPaatil

Translated by Grok Show original

On the occasion of International Yoga Day today, I experienced profound inner peace and collective energy by practicing yoga with the citizens of Vadodara at the Vadodara Sports Complex.

Under the visionary leadership of our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, "Yoga" has become a global movement, showcasing India's rich culture on the world stage.

Yoga is a vibrant embodiment of our country's spiritual consciousness, balancing the mind, body, and soul.

Heartfelt greetings to everyone on International Yoga Day!

On the occasion of International Yoga Day today, I experienced unparalleled inner peace and collective energy by practicing yoga with the citizens of Vadodara at the Vadodara Sports Complex.

Under the visionary leadership of our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, "Yoga" has become a global movement, and India's rich culture has gained new recognition on the world stage.

Yoga is a vibrant embodiment of our country's spiritual consciousness, balancing the mind, body, and soul.

Heartfelt greetings to all countrymen on International Yoga Day!

#InternationalYogaDay
#YogaForHumanity
#ModiForYoga

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7:05 AM - Jun 21, 2025 - 3,300 Views

26 159 348

C R Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 5

आज उत्तर प्रदेश के नरौरा में नमामि गंगे एवं WII द्वारा संचालित 'कछुआ बचाव एवं पुनर्वास केंद्र' के अवलोकन का अवसर मिला।

यह केंद्र गंगा नदी की पारिस्थितिकी और जैवविविधता की रक्षा हेतु भारत सरकार के संकल्प का एक सजीव प्रमाण है।
गंगा में पाई जाने वाली 14 प्रजातियों में से 6

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6 136 276 2.7K

THE X SNIPPETS

CR Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 19

Translated by Grok [Show original](#)

Under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the campaign for water conservation through public participation, "Jal Sanchay Abhiyan", has become a people's movement across the country. Today, the inauguration of water conservation works in Vangam village, located in Gandevi taluka of Navsari district, brought a sense of renewed energy.

Here, an old and dilapidated well has been renovated and recharged, making it usable again.

Additionally, a 100x100 feet pit and four borewells with a depth of 40 feet have been constructed to recharge groundwater with rainwater, enabling the storage of approximately 1 crore liters of water with just 5 inches of rainfall.

Heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to everyone associated with this initiative.

[#JalShaktiAbhiyan](#)

Rate this translation:

Last edited 3:46 PM · Jun 8, 2025 · 2,638 Views

5 122 241

CR Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 19

आज नई दिल्ली में तेलंगाना के मुख्यमंत्री श्री ए. रेवन्त रेड्डी जी से शिष्टाचार भेंट कर राज्य के जल संसाधनों के प्रबंधन एवं विकास से जुड़े विविध पहलुओं पर सहयोगात्मक चर्चा हुई।

इस बैठक में तेलंगाना सरकार के मंत्रीगण एवं वरिष्ठ अधिकारी, साथ ही जल शक्ति मंत्रालय की टीम भी उपस्थित

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8 181 412 3.6K

CR Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 19

आज इंडियन चेम्बर ऑफ कॉमर्स की नेशनल एक्सपर्ट कमेटी ऑन वॉटर के सदस्यों के साथ बैठक हुई।

बैठक में जल क्षेत्र से जुड़ी चुनौतियों और संभावनाओं पर उद्योग जगत के प्रतिनिधियों ने अपने सुझाव साझा किए। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों और इंडस्ट्री प्रतिनिधियों के बीच सार्थक संवाद

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13 172 319 4K

CR Paatil @CRPaatil · Jun 27

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्रभाई मोदी सर के 'जन्मभूमि से कर्मभूमि' अभियान के अंतर्गत, हरियाणा के बहल में स्वर्गीय शिवकुमार चौधरी जी की पुण्य स्मृति में प्रमोद चौधरी जी द्वारा 'रीन हार्वेस्टिंग प्रोग्राम' का भूमि पूजन सम्पन्न हुआ।

मैं स्व. शिवकुमार चौधरी जी को सादर वंदन करता हूँ और प्रमोदजी को हार्दिक अभिनंदन देता हूँ, जिन्होंने स्मृति को सेवा से जोड़ते हुए जल संरक्षण जैसे समय की मांग और आने वाली पीढ़ियों के हित में एक सार्थक कदम उठाया।

[#Jalshakti](#)

4 107 170 2K

जल की परिभाषा

कहीं नदियां कहीं झरने, कहीं झील और फव्वारा,
यह है जीवन की शैली, यह है जीवन की धारा।

यह जल ही तो है जिसने जीवन संवारा,
इसके बगैर न हरगिज़ कोई भी गुज़ारा।

है प्रमुख कितना पानी, यह है लंबी कहानी,
जिसने समझी कहानी, सुनो उनकी जुबानी।

कि अब बर्बाद न होगा, एक कतरा भी जल का,
यह सिर्फ आज का ज़िक्र नहीं, यही मुद्दा है कल का।

अपने हिस्से का पानी बचाकर तो देखो,
ये जिम्मेदारी ज़रा सी निभा कर तो देखो।

फिर देखना कितना अद्भुत होगा नज़ारा,
कहीं नदियां कहीं झरने, कहीं झील और फव्वारा,
यह है जीवन की शैली, यह है जीवन की धारा।

-अमित भारती





सत्यमेव जयते

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
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