

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT
& GANGA REJUVENATION
Part- I(Unclassified)**

Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for October, 2019

Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month.

The principal activities and important decisions taken in the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation during the month of October, 2019 are as under:-

A. Storage Position of Important Reservoirs-

Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring storage position of **120** reservoirs spread all over the country. **Overall storage position in 120 reservoirs as on 31.10.2019 was 153.299 BCM, which is 133% of the live storage of corresponding period of last year and 129% of storage of average of last ten years.**

B. National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) –

The following are the achievements of Namami Gange in October, 2019 –

- Project of Renovation of Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar at a cost of Rs. 34 crores has been approved in the third meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clean Ganga Fund held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister on 03-10-2019. The Board of Trustees also approved in principle setting up of a charity fund in the United Kingdom for mobilizing funds for rejuvenation of Ganga & its tributaries and exploring of setting up similar charities in other countries.
- Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti), launched a Rafting Expedition of over 2500 KM- '**Ganga Aamantran Abhiyaan**' (Ganga Calling)-a unique social awareness initiative of NMCG to spread the message of water conservation and river rejuvenation on a massive scale on 7th October 2019, New Delhi.
 - The expedition commenced from Devprayag, where Bhagirathi and Alaknanda meet to form river Ganga. Hon'ble Minister(Jal Shakti) not only flagged the expedition from Devprayag on 10th October but also joined the first stretch of the expedition from Devprayag to Rishikesh. The expedition will continue for 34 days, traversing through all five Ganga States from Devprayag to Ganga Sagar. It would culminate on 12th November 2019 at Bakkhali Beach Frazerganj, West Bengal.
 - A team of seasoned achievers from the armed forces accompanied by scientists are undertaking this expedition. It is led by acclaimed

international open-water swimmer Wing Commander Paramvir Singh from Indian Air Force accompanied by a nine-member team of swimmers and rafters from the three Services of the Indian Armed Forces- including members from National Disaster Response Force, Wildlife Institute of India and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research- Indian Toxicological Research Institute (CSIR-IITR). Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR), DG, NMCG & Senior NMCG officers also took part in the expedition over stretches.

- The expedition has attracted warm response from people, and besides district and State Authorities Ministers, MP, MLAs and Mayors participated in the reception programmes organized to honour the expedition team. Among Ministers Hon'ble MoS for Rural Development Smt. Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, Hon'ble MoS for Home Affairs Sh. Nityanand Rai and State Minister Sh. Dhan Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education of Utrakhand, Sh. Madan Kaushik, Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development, Utrakhand, Sh. Rama Shankar Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Energy and Additional Source of Energy, Uttar Pradesh graced the events and supported the team.
 - A one-day workshop was organized by NMCG in collaboration with Wildlife Institute of India and World Wildlife Fund-India on 5th Oct 2019 for developing a charter that aims for enhancing the population of Ganges River Dolphin by 2030. The workshop, with more than 100 attendees, included participants from all SMCGs, Forest Departments, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (MoEF& CC), NGOs, Ganga 'Mitras' & 'Praharis' (volunteers), media and technical experts from Patna University, Vikramshila, WII, IITs and others.
 - A two-day international workshop on e-flow assessments and implementation for India was organized on 21st and 22nd October 2019 by GIZ India at New Delhi. The workshop aimed to bring Indian, European & International experiences together. A rich variety of cutting-edge topics, issues & expert speakers from various backgrounds helped to highlight challenges & solutions regarding e-flows assessments & implementations.
 - 3 projects including 1 sewerage infrastructure project (Tertiary treatment of existing 27 MLD STP at Jagjeetpur & Upgradation of existing 18 MLD STP at Sarai, Haridwar, Uttarakhand at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 32.65 crore) and 2 ghat projects (Sarakghat and Rani Shivalaghat, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh) were completed in the month of October 2019.
- C. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 05th October, 2019 between Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of the Republic of India and Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on withdrawal of 1.82 cusec of water from Feni River of India for drinking water supply scheme for

Sabroom town of Tripura, India. A note for the ex-Post facto approval of the above signed MoU has been sent to Cabinet on 23.10.2019.

D. Informal talks on issues related to India-Nepal Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project was held between team of Officials led by Secretary (WR, RD & GR) and team of Officials from Govt. of Nepal led by Adviser to PM, Nepal on 20.10.2019 at Kathmandu.

E. To mark the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Shramdaan was carried out on various ghats in Delhi – Ram Ghat, Chhath Ghat, Nizamuddin Ghat and Kalindi Kunj Ghat on 2nd October 2019. The employees of the Department and its organisations namely, CWC, CGWB, WAPCOS, NMCG etc., NGOs, RWAs and other organizations participated in the shramdaan.

F. Important Meetings/Conferences held during the month of October, 2019 at the level of Hon'ble Minister/MoS-

- i) Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti visited Budapest, Hungary to attend Budapest Water Summit 2019 during 15-17 October 2019.
- ii) Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti visited Central Ground Water Board, Jaipur on 24.10.2019 and discussed various issues regarding Ground water in Rajasthan.

G. Important Meetings/Conferences attended by Secretary (WR,RD&GR) during the month of October, 2019 –

- i) Meeting taken by Pr. Advisor to PM on "Atal Bhujal Yojna" on 01.10.2019.
- ii) Meeting of the Sub-Group of Governors to present a report on "Jal Shakti" on 04.10.2019.
- iii) Joint meeting of the Supervisory Committee and Implementation Committee on River Ganga-NGT on 11.10.2019.
- iv) 11th meeting of the Investment Clearance Committee of DoWR, RD & GR was held under the chairmanship of Secretary(WR,RD&GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti on 11.10.2019 at New Delhi. The Committee recommended investment clearance for two projects namely, Jigaon Irrigation Project, Maharashtra (Estimated Cost Rs. 7764.39 Crore) and Purna Barrage – 2 (Ner Dhamana) Medium Irrigation Project, Maharashtra (Estimated Cost Rs. 883.43 Crore).
- v) One day workshop on management of Flood:- Reservoir Management and other preventable measures- in collaboration with NDMA held on 18.10.2019.
- vi) Appearance before Committee of Petitions (Rajya Sabha) regarding development of capacity to make real time forecasting of floods on 22.10.2019.

- vii) Meeting taken by Pr. Advisor to PM on 22.10.2019 regarding the progress made in setting up of the North Eastern Water Management Authority (NEWMA).
- viii) Attended oral evidence on Demands for Grants of this Department before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on 23.10.2019.
- H.** An amount of Rs. 39.27crore under the Special Package for completion of Irrigation projects to address water distress in Vidarbha and Marathwada Districts and other chronically drought prone areas of the rest of Maharashtra has been sanctioned/released in the month of October, 2019 for the various ongoing Surface Minor Irrigation/medium irrigation projects of the State of Maharashtra.
- I.** PMKSY (Har Khet Ko Pani) SMI & RRR:- Central Assistance (CA) of Rs. 39.06crore has been released to various Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) schemes under Har Khet ko Pani (HKKP) component of PMKSY during the Month of October, 2019 for the State of Tamil Nadu & Manipur.
- J.** Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has explored five high discharge exploratory wells in the States of Karnataka, Odisha and Jharkhandwhile undertaking Ground Water Exploration under the National Aquifer Management Programme with water discharge varying from 218lpm to 540lpm.
- K.** The incumbency details of the posts in this Department and its organizations under the purview of the ACC have been updated on AVMS.



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