## State

Despite PM's appeal, Gujarat continues to boil. P8

Hebbanalli

Hongadahole

Yettinahole

Shiradi Ghat

Mangaluru-

Bengaluru

Highway

Kerihole



WEIR

Hiridanahalli

#### People keptin the dark on project: MP

MANGALURU: MP Nalin Kumar Kateel has urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to provide proper information on the Yettinahole project.

He was addressing mediapersons here on Wednesday. Kateel contended that the people and the elected representatives of the region had been kept in the dark before implementing the project.

The MP said that the government had created ambiguity on the project, stating that Yettinahole was not the Netravathi diversion project. The State government should not impose any projects on the people, the MP said. Kateel said that it was not a practical idea to provide water to the plain regions, despite having water scarcity in Dakshina Kannada district. There is no water in Yettinahole at all, he said.

Noting that the work had already begun, he sought to know why the respective MLAs were keeping silent over the issue. The pros and cons of the project must be discussed in public, the MP said. One should not bring politics into the matter and discussions must go beyond party barriers, Kateel said. **DH News Service** 

**State to resume** ironoreauction in October

# Discontent brews as Yettinahole work progresses

### People fear water diversion from Kumaradhara, Netravathi rivers **Ronald Anil Fernandes**

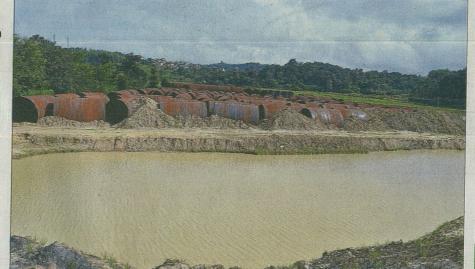
SAKLESHPUR (HASSAN DIS-TRICT): The North Karnataka region is in the grip of an intense agitation over the Kalasa-Banduri project. But another controversy seems to be brewing related to the Yettinahole project.

In this, water flows through huge pipes measuring 10 to 12 feet in diameter across River Hemavathi, the lifeline of Sakleshpur.

As per the existing plan, the Rs 13,000-crore project comprises construction of eight weirs between Hongadahole and Doddanaagara, the biggest weir, from where water will be pumped to a height. From there, it will flow using gravitational force to Tumakuru, Kolar, Chikkaballapur districts and parts of Bengaluru district.

While seven weirs are on one side of River Hemavathi, Doddanaagara is on the other side. Hence, to reach Doddanaagara (8th weir) from Hebbasale (7th weir), either the huge pipes measuring 10 to 12 feet in diameter should be laid beneath the river or above it.

laid across River Hemavathi, each measuring 10x10 feet, Bengaluru district, after crosswhile the water in ing River Hemavathi (which feet in depth. There is no men-flows to Tamil Nadu).



tion about the same in the detailed project report too.

As per the plan, the water which was supposed to flow towards Kempuhole and from there, to River Kumaradhara and finally to River Netravathi before joining Arabian Sea would be blocked and diverted Four huge pipes would be to Tumakuru, Kolar, Chikkaballapur districts and parts of Only 9 tmc ft available

If the water collected through weirs (which was supposed to flow through River Netravathi) joins River Hemakeep quiet?, asks Shivanna, a villager from Hebbasale, for the project. through whose land huge pipelines pass.

A view of the trench dug up to lay pipes (seen by the side) at Sattigala near Sakleshpur.

Hassan district. Rainwater has filled the trench. DH PHOTOS

Though the authorities cona recent study by a team of ex- activist.

perts from the Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES) of the Indian Institute Science (IISc), Bengaluru, led by Prof TV Ravathi, will the affected people machandra has found out that

officials have surveyed River for the water deficiency.

"What is the guarantee that cerned continue to claim that water from River Hemavathi ited the project site, a comrivers/rivulets is less than two joins River Cauvery and then 24 tmc ft of water is available, too is not diverted?," asked an

#### No work started: Minister

Haravanahalli

Dodda

Naagara.

Hemavathi

river

THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO PERSON NAMED IN COL

Dekhala

Recently, Minister for Forest, ing over 100 feet in height) is Environment and Ecology B Ramanath Rai, in an interactive session organised by the only 9 tmc of water is available Kanara Chamber of Commerce and Industries, claimed If sources are to be believed, that no work has commenced pertaining to Yettinahole proj-Kumaradhara too to make up ect in the Western Ghats region.

> But, when mediapersons vispletely different picture emerged.

While a huge weir (measurcoming up at Yettinahalla (5th weir), huge pipes measuring 10x10 feet have already been laid at Hebbasale and Kadamane Estate.

Mangaluru-Bengaluru Railway track

Sakleshpur town

The work on the project is being undertaken on a warfooting, but the public have been kept in the dark, said Dinesh Holla, the convener of Sahyadri Samrakshana Sanchava.

**DH News Service** 

SHIVANNA, A VIL-LAGER FROM HEB-**BASALE:** If the water collected through weirs (which was supposed to flow through River Netravathi) joins River Hemavathi, will the affected people

keep quiet?