



## Yettinahole project unscientific:KSPCB chief

Mangaluru, May 10, 2015, dhns:

You are here: [Home](#) » [District](#) » Yettinahole project unscientific:KSPCB chief

### **Karnataka Pollution Control Board Chairman Vaman Acharya has said proposed Yettinahole Project envisaged to meet drinking water needs of parched districts is unscientific. The project prepared by the government is not correct.**

Speaking at the western ghats awareness camp organised by Kumaradhara Parisara Samrakshana Samithi, Vrukshalaksha Andolana, IISc Energy Wetland Research Group and Netravathi Nadi Thiruvu Horata Samithi, at Urumbi, on Saturday, he said in the name of Yettinahole Project to supply water to parched districts of Kolar and Chikkaballapura, government is planning to divert river Netravathi. If water bodies in the parched districts are rejuvenated, water woes can be solved.

The water from river Cauvery which supplies water to Bengaluru gets wasted in the form of leakage.

Western Ghats Task Force former President Anantha Hegde Ashisara said the Centre is planning to amend acts related to forest and environment.

#### **Attempt to dilute laws**

This is an attempt to dilute the already existing laws. The convention urged the Centre to hold a public discussion on the recommendations made by the Subramanian committee, on forest acts.

The proposed mini hydel power project across Kumaradhara at Urumbi should be dropped.

The government should review the proposal on Yettinahole project and initiate measures to check illegal sand mining. Seventy five per cent subsidy should be given to those who utilise solar energy for households.

#### **No 24 TMC water**

“The Yettinahole project will not be able to supply 24 TMC water as proposed by Karnataka Neeravari Nigama, to parched districts of Karnataka. The availability of water at Yettinahole area is 9.55 TMC.

As a result, Yettinahole Project will be a failure if implemented, said environmental flow assessment in Yettinahole study conducted by scientist Dr T V Ramachandra, Vinay S and Bharath Aithal, released at the convention. The study was carried out in April.

#### **Ecologically sensitive**

According to Kasturirangan report on conservation of western ghats, area surrounding Yettinahole is ecologically sensitive area. The tributaries of Gundya river namely Yettinahole, Kempuhole, Kadumane Hole, Hongada Halla are known for biodiversity.

About 36 per cent of flora, 41 varieties of fishes, 14 fauna in western ghats are on verge of extinction, it said.

The report said proposed Yettinahole Project is in violation of Forest Act, Environment Act, Biodiversity Act and National Water Policy 2012. The project will result in destruction of forest and waste of money.

The expert team felt that instead of Yettinahole Project, authorities should give priority to rain water harvesting, rejuvenation of water bodies, recycling of water, rejuvenation of ground water, watershed programmes in plateau region to solve the problem of water crisis.

### **False details**

The report said Karnataka Neeravari Nigama has given false details on availability of 24.3 TMC water. Even annual rainfall estimate is wrong.

The Nigama plans to construct eight vented dams across eight small streams joining Yettinahole. Surprisingly, Nigama has taken into account availability of 24 TMC water by looking into rain gauge at Bantwal.

The rain gauge at Bantwal provides details on Netravathi river and not Yettinahole. The Nigama has estimated around 6,000 mm rainfall in Yettinahole catchment area.

However, according to IISc report, estimated rainfall is between 3,500 and 4,700 mm. IISc Energy Wetland Research Group has said Yettinahole is not feasible. It will aggravate water crisis in Dakshina Kannada.