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Yettinahole project is meant to benefit bureaucrats, contra

- [Raviprasad Kamila](#)



T.V. Ramachandra: If implemented, this too will meet the same fate as the Telugu Ganga Project.— PH

T.V. Ramachandra, co-ordinator, Energy and Wetlands Research Group, Centre for Ecological Science, Bengaluru, said here on Friday that the Yettinahole diversion project is meant to benefit a “bunch of bu

Speaking on the project at a function organised by Citizens’ Council, he called the detailed project report by Nigam Ltd. (KNNL) as a “document for the pro-rich based on assumptions”.

Mr. Ramachandra, a scientist at the IISc and a fellow, National Institute of Hydrology, warned that if the project meets the same fate as the Telugu Ganga Project.

The Telugu Ganga project, also known as the Krishna Water Supply Project, was one of the major projects between 1977-2006. The objective of the project was to utilise water from the Krishna and the Pennar rivers to provide 1 tmcft) of water to Chennai and irrigate 2,32,702 hectares of drought-prone areas in Kurnool, Chittoor and uplands in Nellore district in undivided Andhra Pradesh.

Water was diverted from the Srisailem reservoir, Andhra Pradesh, to Poondi reservoir, Tamil Nadu, through a network of interlinked lined canals and reservoirs, namely Srisailem, Velugondu, Somasila, Kandaluru and Poondi.

The maximum quantity of water supply to Chennai in 2006 was 3.7 tmcft. The government records show

1996 was six tmcft in 2000-2001.

Nellore farmers can now grow only one crop compared to three crops per year earlier. The Krishna river in rainfall and lower catchment yield due to land cover changes, he said.

Mr. Ramachandra reiterated that the report, titled "Environmental Flow Assessment in Yettinahole, W was based on scientific studies and facts. Water yield in the Yettinahole catchment would be only 9.55 t

He said that the annual yield of water from rainfall in Kolar district would be 52 tmcft and in Chkkabal

Mr. Ramachandra suggested decentralised water harvesting through tanks, ponds, lakes, restoration of cover, re-charging groundwater as solutions to mitigate water scarcity in the parched districts.