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'Task Force to submit report on river pollution'

Kollur, Jan 11, DHNS

'Sowparnika Nadi Moola Samrakshana Abhiyan' started at Anejari

The Western Ghats Task Force will submit a preliminary report to the state government by the end of February and seek financial support in the coming budget to introduce measures to save rivers from getting polluted as part of its campaign to save river sources in the Western Ghats, said Western Ghats Task Force President Ananth Hedge Ashisara.

Speaking with the mediapersons on the sidelines of inaugural ceremony of 'Sowparnika Nadi Moola Samrakshana Abhiyan' (Sowparnika river source protection campaign) at Anejari Wildlife Sanctuary jointly organised by Western Ghats Task Force, Kundapura Forest Department and Kundapura Forest Division here on Tuesday, he said attempts will be made to find solutions through proper programmes to redress the grievances of tribals living in the Western Ghat region.

"A two-day talk was held last month with experts at Jogha of Uttara Kannada district regarding Medicinal Plant Conservation (MPC). As many as 13 medicinal plant conservation spots has been identified across the state and 10 more will be identified shortly," he said and added that the conference of environmental organisations will be organised in Sagar to discuss on the medicinal plant conservation next month.

The Government has stopped issuing notices for mini hydel projects in the state. Mini hydel project at Dandelai has been stopped. PIL has been filed against Gundya, Hassan mini hydel project.

A policy will be chalked out to curtail sand mining activities, he added. He said the Task Force has identified nine districts in the state coming under Western Ghat region with the urgent need for saving the sources of rivers from all sorts of pollution.

The Task Force was organising second such campaign to save river Sowparnika.