

WB project for 24/7 water supply to 3 cities

By BASAVARAJ IYAL

Bangalore, Aug 20: The only thing that is regular about water supply in Hubli-Dharwad is the interruption. While the situation in Belgaum is relatively better with supply once in two days, Gulbarga is the worst case.

This may soon become history as the government has launched a project with World Bank funding to mitigate the situation in

these cities.

The Rs 235.10-cr project is being implemented by Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation (KUIDFC) and involves comprehensive re-design of the water supply system to ensure regular supply.

A tall order given the scarcity of water resources in this region. But KUIDFC experts are confident of achieving it. KUIDFC Assistant General Manager

Raghavendra Purohit told this paper that the 24X7 water supply can be achieved by plugging the leakages in transmission.

"The pipeline from Navilu Theertha reservoir to Hubli-Dharwad has many breaches. So is the case of Hidkal Reservoir scheme in Belgaum and Bennithora scheme in Gulbarga. The project aims to repair the mains and plug the leakages, thus increasing availability of water,"

he said.

The existing concrete pipes will be replaced with steel pipes and select zones in each city will have new distribution network.

These select zones will have continuous water supply and the users will not be charged extra, Purohit said.

A separate rising main will be taken from Amminbhavi to Nripathunga betta in Hubli. Old Dharwad and Vishweshar Nagar

City	Cost of Bulk works	Cost of distribution works
Belgaum	Rs 27.15 cr	Rs 15.35 cr
Gulbarga	Rs 42.25 cr	Rs 13.85 cr
Hubli-Dharwad	Rs 34.30 cr	Rs 16.70 cr

areas in Hubli will be provided uninterrupted water supply while wards 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 44, 45, 46 and 48 in Belgaum and Jagat and Ganj areas in Gulbarga will have 24X7 supply.

A French company,

Compagnie Generale des Eaux, has been selected for the project.

It will also be responsible for the maintenance for two years after commissioning, Purohit added.

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