

# DPR for rejuvenating river Cauvery

■ Kabani and Bhavani rivers to benefit from the project

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
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The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore (IFGTB) is preparing a Detailed Project Report for the rejuvenation of river Cauvery through forestry interventions. The DPR will suggest forestry or agro-forestry models suitable for various sites along the 805-km-long stretch of the river flowing through Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Puducherry and Kerala.

Kabani and Bhavani rivers, major tributaries of River Cauvery flowing through Kerala, will benefit from the rejuvenation project.

The stretches will be classified into high, medium and low priority after field verification and GIS

intervention. Controlling soil erosion, siltation, improving infiltration, reducing sedimentation and ensuring clean water in the river in a sustainable manner are some of the objectives of forestry interventions.

The interventions will be made in the riverscape which is the buffer on either side of the river or its tributaries. If the buffer area is agriculture land, farmers will be encouraged to plant suitable trees. If the area has natural vegetation, augmenting measures will be adopted to improve the forest health for rejuvenating the river.

The project will be implemented by forest departments with people's participation. A consultative meeting was convened at the State Forest



Training Institute at Walayar with the officials of Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department to enable them in collecting the required field data from the riverscape of Bhavani and Kabani. Rajesh Raveendran, Chief Conservator of Forests, K.K. Sunil Kumar, DFO, Mannarkad, Dr. N.

Krishna Kumar former Head of Forest Force, Tamil Nadu participated. Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Senior Principal Scientist, IFGTB talked on the project.

Along with Cauvery, DPR for 12 other major rivers are also being prepared by various institutes.