

## **Krishna, Godavari in rejuvenation list**

November 07, 2019

### **Rivers to be rejuvenated through forestry interventions**

A stakeholders' consultation meeting was held on Wednesday for preparation of detailed project report (DPR) for rejuvenation of Godavari and Krishna rivers through forestry interventions.

Organised jointly by the Institute of Forest Biodiversity (IFB) and Institute of Wood Science & Technology (IWST) in collaboration with the Telangana State Forest department, the meeting discussed various interventions required for rejuvenation of the rivers.

Krishna and Godavari are among the 13 rivers identified throughout the country for rejuvenation through forestry initiatives, in line with instructions from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, has been entrusted with the task of preparing DPRs for rejuvenation of the 13 major rivers under nine river basins.

Speaking during the inaugural session, Director, IWST, Madan Prasad, explained about 'Namam Ganga' project, and said different landscapes needed different interventions.

Deforestation affected the rivers in their natural landscape, while extensive agriculture polluted them in rural landscapes, and sewage in urban landscape.

A multi-stakeholder consultative approach is being followed to prepare the DPRs for river rejuvenation goals, Mr. Prasad said, and explained about the interventions to be taken based on the river-scape, and GIS based multi-criteria analysis to identify and prioritise areas for forestry interventions.

Special Chief Secretary, Environment, Forests Science and Technology, Rajeshwar Tiwari stressed the need for water quality improvement. He said the DPR should recommend

sustainable interventions rather than temporary measures, and it should involve all stakeholders.

PCCF and Head of Forest Force R.Sobha said unending forests, and perpetual flow of clean water should be the ideals which the DPR should strive to achieve.

During the technical sessions, nodal officers for both rivers made technical presentations about the approaches for DPR preparation. Forestry interventions will be devised for all the three landscapes, and treatment models will encompass protection, habitat management, afforestation, catchment treatment, soil and moisture conservation works, ecological restoration of vital riparian forest buffer, bio-remediation, and regulated eco-tourism, among others.

A multi-criterion analysis based on GIS will be used for identification of suitable zones for various forestry interventions.

The project development phase will last one year hence, to be followed by a five-year implementation phase, they said.

Director, IFB, Jayaprasad, and Director General of EPTRI Kalyan Chakravarthi too attended the meeting.

Source:-<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/krishna-godavari-in-rejuvenation-list/article29903696.ece>