

Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) Signs \$75 Million Loan to Improve Urban Services in 4 Karnataka Towns

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank signed a \$75 million loan to provide 24 x7 water supply in Karnataka's four coastal towns of Kundapura, Mangalore Puttur and Udupi and improve sanitation infrastructure for Mangalore town. The signatories to the tranche 2 loan agreement of Karnataka Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program were Hon'ble Mr. Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary (Fund Bank and ADB), Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, who signed for the Government of India, and Hon'ble Mr. Sabyasachi Mitra, Deputy Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission, who signed for ADB.

The Program, approved by ADB Board in 2014, aims to improve urban water resource management in selected river basins in Karnataka through modernization and expansion of urban water supply and sanitation infrastructure and strengthening institutions to improve water use efficiency, water resource planning, monitoring and service delivery. The \$75 million tranche 1 loan is helping strengthen urban water supply and sanitation services in three other towns of the State - Byadagi, Davangere, and Harihar.

The investment program is supporting four coastal towns in Karnataka to provide continuous piped water supply to people, and promote efficient and sustainable use of water. It will also adopt information technology based smart water management system and undertake community awareness programs on water conservation and demand management. The Program is helping the urban local bodies to become efficient and responsive urban water utility service provider apart from providing continuous piped water supply and improved sanitation services to nearly one million people.

The project finances will be used to augment water treatment production capacity by about 16 MLD, lay about 90 kilometers of new water transmission lines and feeder mains, construct 29 overhead tanks and four ground-level service reservoirs and establish town level supervisory control and data acquisition system to strengthen the centralized supervision and control of water flow and water pressure. Further, 1,300 km long distribution network and provision of about 140,000 household connections with new meters will also be facilitated. In Mangalore, about 11 km of pumping mains will be installed to rehabilitate the sewerage system.

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Warm regards,

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