

OPGC to Take up Canal Lining with Fly Ash Bricks in State

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Bhubaneswar: As increasing production of fly ash, blast furnace slag and coal washery rejects has been posing a threat to the environment, the State run Odisha Power Generation Corporation (OPGC) has come forward to take up canal lining with fly ash bricks.

Chairman of the Corporation and Energy Secretary Pradeep Jena offered to take up this work on an experimental basis with OPGC's corporate social responsibility fund. In the first phase, 10 km of canal lining in Sasan canal of Hirakud canal division will be taken up by the Corporation. This was

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decided at a high-level meeting presided by Chief Secretary BK Patnaik here on Saturday.

According to reports, around 25 MT of fly ash and slag is generated annually in the State. Government departments, thermal power stations and other agencies have scaled up its utilisation from 28 per cent during 2005-06 to 50 per cent in 2012-13.

The Chief Secretary asked different departments to maximise the use of fly ash

in construction of Government buildings, drainage and canal lining, reclamation of low laying areas, filling of mining voids, raising the dyke heights of embankments, laying the base of different roads and manufacture of cement.

Meanwhile, Works Department has completed technical study regarding use of fly ash in construction of buildings and roads. It was decided that a notification will be issued soon for use of fly ash in 50 per cent of Gov-

ernment buildings and this will be enhanced to 100 per cent from September. The decision will be strictly implemented in case of buildings being constructed within 100 km radius of thermal power stations.

The Works Department has been asked to standardise the financial and technical details regarding use of fly ash bricks and include those in the contract documents. The department has been directed to complete the process by July. Development Commissioner JK Mohapatra advised the Public Works Department to make an indicative assessment of the annual requirement of bricks.