

Patna water supply project starts

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PATNA: Residents of the state capital may now hope to have direct supply of pure drinking water to their homes.

While those living on the northern side of the main railway line (Delhi-Howrah route) will be lucky to get treated Ganga water, those residing on the southern side will get it directly through bore wells.

The state government in collaboration with the Centre has begun working on an ambitious project under Jawaharlal Nehru urban renewable mission (JNURM), involving a total cost of Rs 548 crore for supplying potable water in 72 wards of Patna. Minister for urban development, Prem Kumar on Monday said, while Rs 476 crore would be spent on construction, Rs 72 crore has been marked for maintenance in the coming ten years.

Once the project is functional, a population of over 16.83 lakh would get round the clock supply of pure drinking water. The supply will be based on the estimate of 135 litre per head, per day.

Kumar said, with a view to facilitate the project work, Patna

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has been separated into two parts. While the 47 wards situated to the north of Delhi-Howrah railway main line will get treated Ganga water for which a water treatment plant would soon be constructed in Digha, people of the other 25 wards on the southern side would get water through borings.

The overall construction work to be undertaken by the Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation will include for the purpose a water treatment plant, 25 bore wells and 72 water towers besides a wide network of water supply pipes, said minister.

Kumar said, it was the largest project of potable water supply in the country and will be based on the most advanced technology.