

## KALASA –BANDURI NALA PROJECT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF YAMANUR VILLAGERS OF NAVALAGUND TALUK OF DHARWAD DISTRICT, KARNATAKA, INDIA

**Saviramath V.B.\*. Sukumar A. Kokatnur\*\*.**

*\*Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Karnatak Science College, Dharwad*

*\*\*Research Scholar, Dept. of Studies in Geography, Karnatak University Dharwad.*

### **Abstract**

*Water is most unevenly distributed natural resources on the earth surface. Many a time's disputes arise between states and counties when they became unable to manage these resources properly. None of the rivers follow political boundaries and many of them have their courses in two or three states. All states which share the water of a river want to utilise maximum extent. This is the main reason for conflict for water between states. Erratic nature of rainfall and frequent drought on the hand and increasing population, rapid urbanisation on the other hand enhancing the severity of problem. Karnataka state is fighting for its share in water of river which has their courses in adjacent states. Kalasa-Banduri water dispute one among such conflict. This project was undertaken by the government of Karnataka to improve drinking water supply to districts of Belagavi, Dharwad, Gadag. Goa state is opposing Karnataka's plan to divert 7 TMC water from Mahadayi River to the Malaprabha river basin. As the interim verdict of Magadayi water tribunal (2015) was against the interests of Karnataka various organisations have called for protest. As political leaders interfered for their selfish interest, people of Yamanur village were harassed by police through they have not committed any kind of crime. Thus, the present study makes an effort to analyse the causes and effects of the horrific incident and view Kalasa-Banduri project from the perspective of Yamanur villagers.*

**Keywords:** *Kalasa-Banduri, Dispute, Interim verdict, Protest, Harassed*

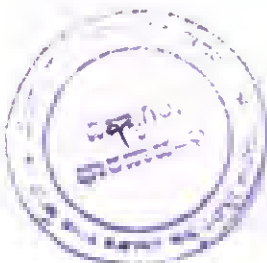
### **Introduction**

As water is used for multi-purposes viz. drinking, cleanliness agriculture and industries, its shortage or absence can lead to disputes. Its unequal distribution among states can disturb the federal relations. Government of India formed rules on June 30, 1959 to settle interstate water disputes. According to the Interstate Water Dispute Act, 1968 the Central Government has been given the responsibility of regulation and development of interstate river valleys. "Many of these interstate water disputes have been settled on the basis of equitable apportionment which is the universally accepted principle" (Sukhwai, 1987). But still there are some disputes whose final solution, acceptable to all parties, has not yet been worked out. A river doesn't follow political limits. Most of the Indian rivers have their courses in two or more states. Thus, the states which have a common river want to utilize the water to the fullest extent. Therefore, conflict for the water arises between the states. In addition to this, increasing variability of rainfall and frequent draughts is common problem to all states which further increasing the severity of the issue. Increasing population and rapid urbanisation is also contributing to the intensity of the problem. Above all politicians are mishandling the disputes for their political benefits.

### **Kalasa-Banduri Water Dispute**

It was in the year 1978, Karnataka state thought of utilizing the Mahadyi river water which is draining to the Arabian Sea. R. Gundurao who was chief minister then formed a committee under the leadership of S.R. Bommai for preparing a report regarding this. The committee

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*S. Shantikumar*  
**PRINCIPAL**

**J.S.S. Banashankari Arts, Commerce &  
Shantikumar Gubbi Science College,  
DHARWAD-560 004.**