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KUIDFC yet to lay 120 km of drainage lines

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The work will be completed by March 2010: Superintending Engineer

Water supply line with 18 MGD capacity from Thumbe vented dam to Padil commissioned

Cost of work under KUDCEMP has increased from Rs. 306 crore to Rs. 350 crore

MANGALORE: The Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation (KUIDFC) is yet to lay 120 km of underground drainage pipelines in the jurisdiction of the Mangalore City Corporation, according to Superintending Engineer, KUIDFC, M.K. Maninarayana.

The pipelines are being laid under the Karnataka Urban Development and Coastal Environment Management Project (KUDCEMP) under a loan given to the MCC by the Asian Development Bank.

Mr. Maninarayana was answering questions by councillors at a special meeting here on Wednesday. He said that the KUIDFC had to lay 380 km of UGD pipelines. It had laid 260 km of pipelines since 2003.

He said that 22 pumping stations were being set up to pump sewage from the UGD system to four new sewage treatment plants (STPs) being set up under the project. Of the four STPs, two plants, one at Panchhanady and the other at Kavoor, had been completed. The plants at Jeppinamogaru and Surathkal were under construction.

Mr. Maninarayana said that laying of the pipelines had been delayed due to issues related to land acquisition. The remaining work would be completed by March 2010, he said.

He said that laying UGD pipelines and constructing facilities would cost Rs. 207 crore. So far, Rs. 135 crore had been spent on the work.

Mr. Maninarayana said that the corporation would require 26 people to maintain its STPs and 22 pumping stations. It may have to spend Rs. 2 lakh on their salaries each month.

Giving details about water supply works, Syed Illias Pasha, Superintendent Engineer, KUIDFC, said that it had commissioned a water supply line with 18 MGD (million gallons a day) capacity from Thumbaveedu dam to Padil in the city. In addition, it had laid 800 km of water supply distribution lines in the jurisdiction of the corporation.

Now engineers were engaged in linking these pipelines with the main supply lines in the city. He said it would take four months to complete the work.

Mr. Pasha said that the entire water supply work would cost Rs. 106 crore.

J.R. Lobo, Deputy Project Director, KUDCEMP, said that of the water being pumped in the new 18 MGD capacity pipeline 3 MGD water would be supplied to Ullal town and the remaining will

be distributed within the city.

Mr. Lobo said that the cost of the works under the KUDCEMP had increased from Rs. 306 crore to Rs. 350 crore. All works under KUDCEMP in the MCC's jurisdiction would be completed by March next year, he said.