BASIN RECHARGE PROJECT: MAHA, MP SIGN MoU

BHOPAL: Madhya Pradesh chief minister Mohan Yadav and his Maharashtra counterpart Devendra Fadnavis signed an MoU on Saturday to jointly roll out the Tapti basin mega recharge project. Yadav said the Tapti project is the "world's largest recharge scheme".

"The project will benefit both

states. It is necessary for Maharashtra, particularly for places having salty drinking water issues....It will change the composition of the `salty water belt' of Akola, Buldhana and Amravati (in eastern Maharashtra)," Fadnavis said.

In Madhya Pradesh, the

project will benefit Nepanagar, Khaknar and Khalwa across Burhanpur and Khandwa districts. The project will provide a permanent irrigation facility in 1.23 lakh hectares of land area in Madhya Pradesh and 2.34 lakh hectares of area in Maharashtra, officials familiar with the matter said. The total water usage of the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project will be 31.13 thousand

million cubic (TMC) feet.