

# Revival work begins on Jaipur's historic Ramgarh lake, dam

**The Hindu Bureau**

JAIPUR

Work has started for the revival of the historic Ramgarh lake near Jaipur, which was once a water supply lifeline for Rajasthan's capital city. Water Resources Minister Suresh Singh Rawat laid the foundation stone for repair and beautification works at the dam on April 11.

The water body, situated 32 km from the city, has been dry since 2000 as numerous encroachments and obstructions in the catchment area have halted the free flow of water to the Ramgarh dam.

The water in the revived lake will be brought from the Parvati-Kali Sindh-Chambal link project, Mr. Rawat said, adding that it will majorly be used for drinking purposes.

The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project has been integrated with the Parvati-Kali Sindh-Chambal link project and included in the National Perspective Plan by the special committee constituted for river linking. The memorandum of agreement for the link project's implementation was signed between the Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh governments on December 17, 2024.

Works worth ₹2.53 crore are proposed to be implemented at Ramgarh lake and dam during the next 12 months. Repairs of the damaged road on the embankment and the control room building and stairs, as well as the construction



The lake had dried up due to encroachments in its catchment area. FILE PHOTO

of a parapet wall and stone pitching at the slope is included in the proposed plan of revival.

Agitations for protection of the dam's catchment area have been taken up several times in the past, with the villagers and farmers of the region staging sit-ins with the demand for an immediate removal of encroachments.

The State government had earlier identified and removed the obstructions and encroachments on 323.30 hectares of land near the dam.

The anicuts and check dams of more than 2-metre height were demolished and their height was limited to two metres, as per the Rajasthan High Court's direction.

**Asian Games significance**  
Erstwhile Jaipur ruler Sawai Ram Singh II had built the lake in 1876 to provide relief to the inhabitants of the region. The rowing events of the 1982 Asian Games were held on the Ramgarh lake.