Commission to submit water policy soon

Bengaluru, dhns: Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy on Thursday said that his government would incorporate key recommendations of the Karnataka Knowledge Commission in the next budget.

Commission chairman K Kasturirangan, vice chair S V Ranganath and member secretary Mukund Rao met Kumaraswamy and briefed him about the ongoing work.

The Commission has so far submitted 16 policy and technical recommendations to the government, out of which 12 have been accepted.

Kasturirangan, in a powerpoint presentation, impressed upon the chief minister to introduce institutional reforms for water conservation.

Later, speaking to reporters, Kumaraswamy said that the delegation had held discussions about the kind of policies to be evolved, especially towards about reforms in water conservation, public health and education. The Commission also sought for effective implementation of Central government schemes, he said.

Addressing the media, Kasturirangan said that the Commission was drafting a comprehensive Karnataka Water Policy, which would soon be submitted to the government. “The chief minister has said that there is an urgency in introducing the water policy. We will try and formulate the policy at the earliest,” he added.

The space scientist said that the Commission had developed several programmes and ideas for the last few years with over 30 experts in various fields including agriculture, environment, medical sciences, research and development. The key focus areas had been education, health, IT-BT, arts and culture and skill development, he said, adding that Kumaraswamy had promised budgetary allocation for each of these sectors.

He also said that the Commission had requested Kumaraswamy to inaugurate Cauvery gallery in Mysuru and Madiwala lake biodiversity park in Bengaluru.

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