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# Workshop to finalise status paper on women and water

DH News Service

BANGALORE, Nov 25

A two-day national workshop on "Women and water network" commenced here today with an agenda to address the gender aspects of water problems in India and also evolve a strategy paper for presentation at the Kyoto Forum in 2003.

The workshop organised by the Gender Studies Unit of the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) here along with Women in Water Network South India is also likely to come out with an action plan for establishing zonal networks in Western and Eastern India besides finalising the country status paper on "women and water."

It will also take stock of the current situation of the extent of women's access and control over water resources. It aimed to establish greater visibility of women with their priorities, perspectives and concerns.

In his inaugural address, Water Resources Minister H K Patil explained the importance given to women in water users societies formed in various irrigation project areas and wanted the workshop to draw up unique training needs of women water users.

He said as many as 1,813 water users societies have been registered and another 985 were being organised.



**Minister for Water Resources H K Patil with Director of NIAS Prof Roddam Narasimha at the national workshop on "Women and water network" in Bangalore on Monday.**

Mr Patil said irrigation agriculture could provide fulltime employment to women and the workshop need to address the issue at length.

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