

Indian Express 25-April-2021

Yamuna level down, water supply to be hit from today evening

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

WATER SUPPLY will be affected Sunday evening onwards in parts of Central, South and North Delhi due to a reduction in water level of the Yamuna river, the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) said Saturday.

In a statement, the DJB blamed Haryana for reducing the amount of water released in the river and said supply in Delhi will remain affected till the situation improves. "Due to depletion of pond level at Wazirabad pond to 668 ft against the normal level of 674.5 ft, and reduction in release of raw water by Haryana in river Yamuna, water production has been curtailed from water treatment plants at Wazirabad and Chandrawal," it read.

"Water supply shall be affected in the evening of April 25 (till) the evening of April 26 and so on till the pond level improves to normal," the statement added.

A DJB official said water level in the river has continued to remain low for past few weeks and that the Board has raised the issue being faced with Haryana in the Supreme Court. The official added that the Board will try to maintain a normal supply in the morning hours but it would be affected in the evening.

Areas where water supply is likely to be affected include places around Civil Lines, Kamla Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Karol Bagh, Paharganj, Rajinder Nagar, Patel Nagar, Kalkaji, Govindpuri, Tughlakabad, Sangam Vihar Delhi Gate, Burari and areas within the New Delhi Municipal Council.

Telangana Today 25-April-2021

Five-day thunderstorm warning for TS

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The India Meteorological Department, Hyderabad has issued a thunderstorm warning for several districts of Telangana. The officials warn that moderate to heavy rains will be witnessed in various parts of the State between April 24 and 28.

Hyderabad has been witnessing rains in the evenings for the past few days. According to the latest developments, experts forecast thunderstorm accompanied by lightning, gusty winds between 30 and 40 kmph, and hailstorms as



According to the weatherman, some areas in the city will witness light to moderate rains.

very likely to occur at isolated places across Telangana. Hyderabad will also witness light to moderate

rains in various parts of the city. IMD said that rain or thunderstorm would occur at night for the next three-

four days. Districts including Hyderabad, Rangareddy Medchal-Malkajgiri, Adilabad, Kumram Bheem-Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Jagtial, Pedapalli, Karimnagar, Rajanna-Sircilla, Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Sangareddy, Medak, Vikarabad, Narayanpet, Mahabubnagar, Jogulamba-Gadwal, Wanaparthy will receive light to moderate rains for the next four days.

The highest maximum temperature of 41.6 degrees Celsius was recorded from Medak by the IMD on Saturday, accompanied with a prediction of 5 mm seasonal rainfall.

Telangana Today 25-April-2021

IIT-M project to monitor groundwater quality

Chennai: The International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW) at IIT Madras will jointly work with the State government to map quality of groundwater in Chennai, said a statement from the institute. The project, which aims to save millions of litres of water, will also have postgraduate students from Stella Maris College helping with the works as a pilot project. ENS

The Hindu 25-April-2021

Groundwater depletion may reduce winter cropping intensity by 20% in India

Policy-supported intensive agriculture led to unsustainable groundwater use, water scarcity

ASWATHI PACHA

India is the second-largest producer of wheat in the world, with over 30 million hectares in the country dedicated to producing this crop. But with severe groundwater depletion, the cropping intensity or the amount of land planted in the winter season may decrease by up to 20% by 2025, notes a new paper. Some of the important winter crops are wheat, barley, mustard and peas.

The international team studied India's three main irrigation types on winter cropped areas: dug wells, tube wells, canals, and also analysed the groundwater data from the Central Ground Water Board. They found that 13% of the villages in which farmers plant a winter crop are located in critically water-depleted regions. The team writes that

these villages may lose 68% of their cropped area in future if access to all groundwater irrigation is lost. The results suggest that these losses will largely occur in northwest and central India.

Alternative sources

The team then looked at canals to understand if they can be promoted as an alternative irrigation source and as an adaptation strategy to falling groundwater tables. But the results showed that "switching to canal irrigation has limited adaptation potential at the national scale. We find that even if all regions that are currently using depleted groundwater for irrigation will switch to using canal irrigation, cropping intensity may decline by 7% nationally," notes the paper published in *Science Advances*.

When asked what new or additional adaptation strate-



Scarcity: A good 13% of villages with winter crops are in critically water-depleted regions. • GETTY IMAGES

gies can be implemented, corresponding author Meha Jain explains: "We can conjecture based on other literature and say that adoption of water-saving technologies like a sprinkler, drip irrigation and maybe switching to less water-intensive crops may help use the limited groundwater resources more effectively." She is from the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan.

Her team is now trying to

understand how groundwater depletion has already reduced yields and cropped areas in India over the last 20 years, and also how climate change may affect the future availability of groundwater resources.

Unsuited soils

Balwinder Singh from the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, New Delhi, explains more about the problems wheat farmers face in our country. "There are several first-generation (productivity) and second-generation (sustainability) problems. In the green revolution era, policy-supported environment led to a large increase in rice cultivation in northwestern India mainly in Punjab and Haryana which are ecologically less suitable for rice cultivation due to predominantly light soils."

He explains that this poli-

cy-supported intensive agriculture led to unsustainable groundwater use for irrigation and in turn groundwater scarcity. There was also post-harvest residue burning to make way for the timely sowing of wheat. He is one of the authors of the paper.

Poor infrastructure

He adds that there are enough groundwater resources supported with higher monsoon rainfall in eastern Indian states like Bihar. But due to lack of enough irrigation infrastructure, farmers are not able to make use of natural resources there.

"So we need better policies in eastern India to expand the irrigation and thus increase agriculture productivity. This will also release some pressure from northwestern Indian states," he concludes.

Jansatta 25-April-2021

दो दिन जल आपूर्ति रहेगी प्रभावित

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
नई दिल्ली, 24 अप्रैल।

दिल्ली की यमुना नदी में देर रात जल स्तर में गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। दिल्ली में एक बार फिर से जल संकट गहराए सकता है। इस गिरावट की वजह से वजीराबाद व चंद्रावल संयंत्र की आपूर्ति प्रभावित हो गई है। इससे दिल्ली के वीवीआइपी क्षेत्रों समेत एक तिहाई दिल्ली में पानी का संकट रहेगा।

बोर्ड के मुताबिक यमुना नदी बैराज पर नदी का स्तर 674.5 फुट होना चाहिए, जबकि यह इस समय केवल 668 फुट चल रहा है। हरियाणा से मिल रहे कच्चे पानी की आपूर्ति में कमी आने से जल स्तर में



25 व 26 अप्रैल की शाम तक पानी की आपूर्ति प्रभावित रहेगी। यमुना नदी का जल स्तर सुधरने तक यह असर बना रहेगा।

यह गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। इस वजह से 25 व 26 अप्रैल की शाम तक पानी की आपूर्ति प्रभावित रहेगी। यमुना नदी का जल स्तर सुधरने तक यह असर बना रहेगा। जल बोर्ड ने आम जनता को आवश्यकतानुसार पानी भरकर रखने की सलाह दी है। पानी की किल्लत होने पर केंद्रीय कक्ष 1916 पर संपर्क भी किया जा सकता है।