

Deccan Chronicle 17-May-2021

Cyclone rips into many states

4 killed in Karnataka, 2 in Goa; landfall expected in Gujarat tomorrow

Bengaluru/Panaji/Ahmedabad, May 16: Gale-force winds, heavy rainfall and high tidal waves swept the coastal belt of Kerala, Karnataka and Goa as Cyclone Tauktae hurtled northwards towards Gujarat on Sunday, leaving four people dead in Karnataka and two dead in Goa, damaging hundreds of houses, uprooting electricity poles and trees and forcing evacuation.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Tauktae which has taken the form of a "very severe cyclonic storm" is likely to intensify further during the next 24 hours and reach the Gujarat coast on Monday evening.

An estimated 1.5 lakh people are being shifted from low-lying coastal areas in Gujarat while 64 teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) have been deployed in the state.

Maharashtra too was bracing for impact as the Met department predicted heavy to very heavy rains at isolated places in north Konkan, Mumbai, Thane and Palghar and extremely heavy rainfall in Raigad on Monday.

Four deaths have been reported from Karnataka's



High sea waves due to Cyclone Tauktae hit the Bhagavathi Prem, a sunken dredger, at the Surathkal Beach near Mangaluru in Karnataka on Sunday.

— PTI

Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga districts in cyclone-related incidents.

Two persons died in Goa on Sunday in separate incidents caused due to gusty winds triggered by cyclone Tauktae, which

also damaged hundreds of houses and blocked some highways in parts of the state as trees fell at several points, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said.

The major impact of the cyclonic winds was felt in Bardez taluka in North

Goa district and Mormugao in South Goa, he said.

Gusty winds and heavy rains lashed several parts of the state on Sunday due to the cyclonic storm, uprooting electricity poles and affecting power supply

in many parts of the coastal state, officials said.

The water level in many dams across Kerala showed a rising trend on Sunday.

■ Page 2: IMD orange alert in 3 Kerala districts

Deccan Chronicle 17-May-2021



With the city witnessing rains for the past few days, thick clouds form in sky over the Unani Hospital in Hyderabad on Sunday.

— DEEPAK DESHPANDE

Monsoon rains likely to hit state by June 10

Monsoon expected to be normal this year, says Skymet

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, MAY 16

Propelled by the influence of Cyclone Tauktae, currently making its way over the Arabian Sea to the Gujarat coast, the southwest monsoon, is expected to ride slightly faster and is expected to arrive in the state in the second week of June.

Typically, the monsoon reaches the Indian mainland around June 1. This year, the Indian meteorological department (IMD) expects the landfall on the Kerala coast, a day earlier, on May 31.

While officials say that it is too early to predict when the monsoon will reach Telangana and

● **SKYMET SAID** the monsoon would be 'healthy normal' to the tune of 103 per cent (with an error margin of +/- five per cent) of the long period average (LPA) of 880.6mm for the four-month period from June to September.

cover the entire state, given the past data, it could be around June 10, which is normal. This, however, could be different by a few days, either early or late, depending on when the monsoon would make landfall, the officials said.

According to the private weather forecaster Skymet, the cyclone in the Arabian Sea will be

consequential for the advance of the monsoon stream over Indian waters. However, tropical storm Tauktae will vacate the Indian region by May 22, following which the westerly winds – blowing from west to east – and cross-equatorial flow will strengthen over the Arabian Sea.

Skymet said the monsoon would be 'healthy normal' to the tune of 103 per cent (with an error margin of +/- five per cent) of the long period average (LPA) of 880.6mm for the four-month period from June to September. This would make it the third consecutive year of normal or above-normal monsoon.

Now, it has released its monsoon onset date for 2021.

Skymet expects the onset to be around the normal date. Based on the data from 1961-2019, the normal date of onset over Indian mainland is June 1 with a standard deviation of one week. This also will be assisted by the MJO (Madden Julian Oscillation) entering the Indian Ocean with moderate amplitude. Pre-monsoon showers will be intense and hefty over Kerala. Skymet predicts that this year the onset of southwest monsoon over Kerala is likely to be on May 30 with a model error of plus or minus two days.

Telangana Today 17-May-2021

6 dead as Tauktae intensifies

BENGALURU/PANAJI/AHMEDABAD

Gale-force winds, heavy rainfall and high tidal waves swept the coastal belt of Kerala, Karnataka and Goa as Cyclone Tauktae hurtled northwards towards Gujarat on Sunday, leaving six people dead, damaging hundreds of houses, uprooting electricity poles and trees and forcing evacuation in low-lying areas.

According to the IMD, Tauktae which has taken the form of a “very severe cyclonic storm” is likely to intensify further during the next 24 hours and reach the Gujarat coast on Monday. Strong winds with speed

reaching up to 90 km/per were lashing the western coastal region. According to the Cyclone Warning Division of the IMD, by May 18 the wind speed is expected to increase to 150-160 km per hour, gusting up to 175 km per hour.

An estimated 1.5 lakh people are being shifted from low-lying coastal areas in Gujarat while 54 teams of the NDRF and SDRF have been deployed in the State. Maharashtra too was bracing for the storm as the Met predicted heavy to very heavy rains at isolated places in Mumbai, Thane and Palghar.

(SEE PAGES 2,7)

Telangana Today 17-May-2021

Rain hits several areas in city



Rains lashed several localities in the city due to the effect of cyclone Tauktae, on Sunday. — Photo: N Rajesh

CITY BUREAU Hyderabad

Several parts of the city and the outskirts received spells of rains towards afternoon on Sunday that brought down the day temperature and offered respite from the hot summer conditions.

The day that began with typical summer conditions

had the weather changing around the afternoon and spells of rain greeting different parts of the city. Several of the city outskirts too recorded rains.

According to the data recorded by Telangana State Development Planning Society, HMT Hills in Kukatpally recorded 59.3 mm rainfall followed by

Shaikpet where 56.8 mm rainfall was recorded. The other areas that recorded the rain today included Balaji Nagar in Kukatpally (56 mm), Kakatiya Hills, Madhapur (50.3 mm) and CBCID Colony, KPHB (47 mm). Other parts of the city including Asifnagar, Golconda, Serilingampally, Khairatabad and Kapra too

received rainfall. For Monday, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)-Hyderabad has made a forecast of rain or thundershowers occurring in the city towards evening or night. The maximum and minimum temperatures in city on Monday are expected to be around 34 degree Celsius and 24 degree Celsius, respectively.

The Mint 17-May-2021

Union govt orders states to prevent dumping of corpses in water bodies

Neetu Chandra Sharma
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NEW DELHI

The Centre has directed states to take steps to prevent the dumping of dead bodies in the river Ganga and focus on their safe disposal and dignified cremation.

The Central Water Commission (CWC), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and state pollution control boards have also been roped in after the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) wrote to district magistrates and chief secretaries of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to halt the dumping of

dead bodies—either partially burnt or decomposed corpses.

The National Jal Jeevan Mission has also issued an advisory for the monitoring and surveillance of water quality.

This follows several dead bodies that were found floating on the Ganga and its tributaries in the past few weeks following the devastating second wave of covid-19.

Pankaj Kumar, secretary, ministry of Jal Shakti, on Saturday reviewed the status and steps taken by authorities in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar with officials of the two states.

“Instructions already given and wanted expeditious action



States have been asked to give financial aid for cremation. REUTERS

and also underscored the need to give equal attention to such incidents in urban as well as rural areas along Ganga and

other rivers. Stopping of dumping of dead bodies as well as their safe disposal and protection of water quality has

to be attended to on war footing,” said Kumar. He said feedback and action plans would be given to the states after ascertaining the steps taken.

Earlier last week, the NMCG took a serious note of the dumping of dead bodies in the Ganga and alerted district administrations and state governments. A direction and advisory was issued on 11 May by the director general, NMCG, to district magistrates, who are also the chairpersons of the District Ganga Committees, followed by a letter on 12 May to the chief secretaries to work towards prevention of dumping of dead bodies in the

river and improve enforcement of government guidelines on cremation of covid-19 infected people. The letter also advised the states to support cremation, provide financial assistance as well as regulate the rates of the cremation/burial process and materials.

“The situation is being followed up with several districts like Unnao, Kanpur rural, Ghazipur, Balia and Buxar, Saran in Bihar. However, some cases are also reported from other districts as well. The state missions should follow up action taken with all districts,” said Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, DG, NMCG.

“There is a need to strengthen enforcement, maintain vigil and take proactive action to facilitate and support the families for cremation of dead bodies and asked state missions to specifically report on this. If needed, project directors can assess and also give support to District Ganga Committees for this out of NMCG funds available with them while keeping NMCG informed,” Mishra said.

State pollution control boards have been directed to improve and make more frequent water quality monitoring in consultations with the health department.

Asian Age 17-May-2021

Water level rises in many dams as rains lash Kerala

Kochi, May 16: The water level in many dams across Kerala showed a rising trend on Sunday even as cyclone Tauktae moved away from the state's coast after wreaking havoc.

India Meteorological Department has issued orange alerts — a warning indicating heavy to very heavy rain — on Sunday in three districts.

The catchment areas of many dams in the central Kerala districts have reported heavy rains, prompting the authorities to sound alert warn-

ings before upping their shutters.

The Thrissur district administration said spillway shutters of the Peringalkuthu dam will be opened if the water level crosses the permitted limit of 419.41 metres.

In a statement, the administration has urged the people living on the banks of Chalakudy river to be cautious. Shutters of Malankara dam in Idukki district will be opened on Sunday, as the water level has increased, the authorities said. — *PTI*

Millennium Post 17-May-2021

Prevent dumping of bodies in Ganga'

Focus on their safe disposal and a dignified cremation: Centre to UP, Bihar

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The Centre directed Uttar Pradesh and Bihar on Sunday to prevent dumping of dead bodies in the Ganga and its tributaries, and focus on their safe disposal and a dignified cremation after corpses were seen floating in these rivers following a spurt in the number of coronavirus cases.

At a review meeting conducted on May 15-16, the Centre said dumping of dead bodies and partially burnt or decomposed corpses in the Ganga and its tributaries has recently been reported, which is "most undesirable and alarming".

"Namami Gange directs states to prevent dumping of dead bodies in the Ganga and focus on their safe disposal and providing support for ensuring dignified cremation," the Jal Shakti Ministry said.

The state pollution control boards were directed to monitor the water quality more frequently in consultations with the health departments.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was assigned the task of overall monitoring, providing guidance to the state pollution control boards and taking up advanced analysis in the matter.

Support for cremation needs to be given top priority. Effective implementation of the government orders needs to be ensured. No loss of time should take place in implementation, the ministry said.

An advisory was issued by Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga, to the district magistrates, who are also the chairpersons of the district Ganga committees, on May 11.



More than 300 bodies found buried near Ganga in Shivrajpur, Kanpur on Friday
PIC/PTI

This was followed up by a letter the next day to the chief secretaries to prevent the dumping of dead bodies in the river and ensure enforcement of the government guidelines on the cremation of COVID-19 victims.

The letter also advised the states to provide financial assistance as well as regulate the rates for the cremation or burial process.

On May 15, the steps taken in this regard in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were reviewed at a meeting chaired Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and further action points were decided.

Highlighting the instructions already given, Kumar had called for expeditious action and underscored the need to give equal attention to such incidents in urban and rural areas along the Ganga and other rivers.

"Stopping of dumping of dead bodies as well as their safe disposal and protection of water quality have to be ensured on a war footing. After knowing the prog-

ress from the states, the CWC (Central Water Commission), the CPCB and the state pollution control boards would also be giving their feedback and action plans," he had said.

Mishra stated that the situation is being monitored and follow-up action is being taken in several districts such as Unnao, Kanpur rural, Ghazipur and Balia in Uttar Pradesh and Buxar and Saran in Bihar.

However, some cases have also been reported from other districts. He asked the state missions to keep an eye on the situation.

Mishra emphasised the need to strengthen enforcement, maintain vigil and take proactive action to facilitate and support the families for the cremation of the bodies and asked the state missions to specifically report on this.

"If needed, the project directors can assess and also give support to the district Ganga committees for this out of the NMCG funds available with them, while keeping the NMCG informed," he said.

The Pioneer 17-May-2021

States, UTs asked to use IoT tools ensure water supply to villages

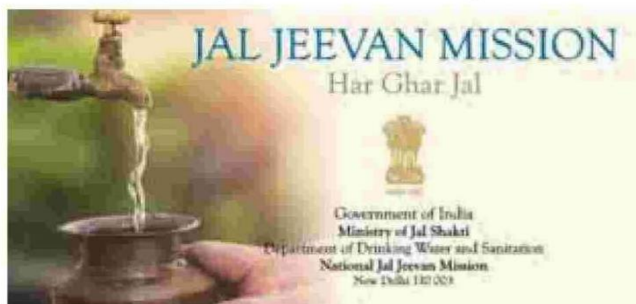
IANS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) has asked all States and Union Territories (UTs) to roll out sensor-based IoT solutions to measure and monitor water supply in rural areas, so as to ensure water service delivery in rural homes by addressing various issues that cause disruption on a regular basis.

In a statement, the Jal Shakti Ministry said: "India has one of the most vibrant Internet of Things (IoT) eco-systems in the world, with various supporting enablers making it conducive for companies seeking to serve the global demand beyond national boundaries. The Government of India has introduced a number of initiatives to leverage the benefits of these disruptive IoT technologies in multiple sectors."

To utilise this expertise, the NJJM, and the Ministry had set up a Technical Expert Committee to prepare a road map for measurement and monitoring of water service delivery systems in the rural areas. The committee has eminent members from academia, administration, technology and specialists from the water supply sector.

The committee met 11 times and despite the Covid pandemic, finalised the report,



which has shared to the states/UTs and provides a framework to design, develop and establish a coherent system that is able to exchange the data at local and central level.

The broad framework will help the States/UTs in firming up the desired standards to meet the requirement of change from mere infrastructure to ensuring water service delivery. The NJJM, in partnership with state governments and sector partners, has started facilitating sensor-based water supply systems on pilot basis in several villages.

The data from 11 pilot locations about the daily water supply, its quantity and regularity are shown on the Jal Jeevan Mission dashboard.

"Many States like Bihar, Punjab, Haryana have come forward for the implementation. Sikkim, Manipur, Goa have completed basic survey works. Gujarat has begun navigating the sensor-based rural

water supply systems in 1,000 villages. A technology grand challenge launched by NJJM in partnership with MEITY, Government of India, is going to be showcases in 100 villages in states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Manipur," the Ministry said.

The data collected from the field locations will be transmitted to the state and Central server and can be used to monitor the functionality (quantity, quality and regularity of water supply) at the state and Central level. This will ensure to minimise service delivery outage and water loss and monitor the quantity and quality on a long-term basis.

The additional advantage of this data would be to analyse the demand pattern of the user groups over time and use this information for demand management at the aggregate level.

Rashtriya Sahara 17-May-2021



नदी में शव

सुशील देव

नदियों में अनगिनत लाशें बह रही हैं। सड़ी-गली, अधजली। कौन बहा रहा है, यह पड़ताल का विषय है। मगर क्यों बहाये जा रहे हैं, इसका सीधा जवाब हो सकता है- कोरोना। कोरोना के कहर ने तेजी से गांवों को अपना शिकार बनाना शुरू कर दिया है। कोविड-19 महामारी संक्रमण की आंच में तप रहे नदियों के किनारे बसे गांवों की हालत बदतर है। उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार के बाद अब मध्य प्रदेश की नदियों में भी लाशें मिलने से सनसनी फैल रही है। नदियों में लगातार बहती लाशों के कारण आसपास के इलाकों में संक्रमण फैलने की आशंका बढ़ गई है। खासकर, वे ज्यादा प्रभावित हो रहे हैं, जिनका जीवन इन्हीं नदियों पर निर्भर है। पन्ना जिले से बहने वाली केन की सहायक नदी रंज में आधे दर्जन से अधिक लाशें उतराती हुई मिली हैं।

इससे पहले बिहार के बक्सर, पटना और उत्तर प्रदेश के बलिया एवं गाजीपुर जिले में गंगा नदी में उतराती 100 से अधिक लाशें मिली थीं। गाजीपुर में तो नदी के किनारे रेत में सैकड़ों लाशें दाह संस्कार के अभाव में मात्र दो-तीन फीट गड्ढे में दफना दिए गए हैं, जहां कुत्ते उन लाशों को नोचकर खा रहे हैं। इस तरह की घटनाओं की लगातार खबरें आ रही हैं जो बेहद चिंताजनक है और निःसंदेह मानव जीवन के लिए यह बेहद खतरनाक और भयावह संकेत दे रहे हैं। नदियों के किनारे बसने वाले ज्यादातर लोग न केवल उसके पानी से खेतों की सिंचाई का काम करते हैं बल्कि पीने, नहाने, खाना बनाने, कपड़ा धोने जैसे कई घरेलू उपयोग के

गंभीर पर्यावरणीय संकट

साथ माल-मवेशियों को भी नहलाने का अक्सर काम किया करते हैं। ऐसे में नदी का संक्रमित जल उनके जीवन को बर्बाद कर सकता है। अक्सर यह कहा जाता है कि बहती नदी का जल गंदा नहीं होता, यह सत्य है। मगर नदी के किनारे शौच न करें, नदी में गंदे नाली का पानी न बहाएं, कल-कारखानों का कचरा न बहाएं-इस प्रकार के रोक क्यो लगाए जाते हैं? इसीलिए न कि, इन वजहों से नदियों का पानी संक्रमित हो जाता है, जिससे हैजा, मलेरिया, टाइफाइड



जैसी भयंकर बीमारियां उत्पन्न होने का खतरा रहता है। केंद्र और राज्य सरकार नदियों के प्रदूषण के खिलाफ अपने-अपने तरीके से प्रमुख नदियों की सफाई व स्वच्छता के लिए करोड़ों-अरबों रुपये खर्च कर रही है। मगर यह जानते हुए भी हम जीवनदायिनी नदियों को जीवनहारिणी बनाने पर तुले हुए हैं। उसकी स्वच्छता और अवरलता को नष्ट करके प्राकृतिक संतुलन बिगाड़ रहे हैं। ऐसा करके हम अपने पैरों में खुद कुल्हाड़ी मार रहे हैं, अर्थात विनाश काले विपरीत बुद्धि। विशेषज्ञों की माने तो कोरोना पॉजिटिव लाशों को नदियों में बहाने के गंभीर परिणाम हो सकते हैं। जानकारी के मुताबिक कोरोना वायरस मृत शरीर में डेढ़ से दो दिन तक जिंदा रह सकता है। अगर लाशों को पशु-पक्षियों ने खा

लिया तो उनसे हुई प्रतिक्रिया का मानव जीवन पर खतरनाक असर पड़ सकता है। गंगा-यमुना नदियों में इन दिनों इसी तरह की शिकायतें लगातार मिल रही हैं। शोध में तो यह बात भी सामने आई है कि मृत शरीर में यह वायरस और लंबे समय तक जिंदा रह सकता है। हालांकि इसकी पुष्टि अभी नहीं हुई है मगर इस बारे में शोध जारी है। इस बात से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता कि इन नदियों में कविड-19 प्रभावित लाशों के मिलने से गंभीर परिणाम भुगतने पड़ सकते हैं। खासकर, उन्हें जो नदियों के पानी का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। हरिद्वार में तो 15 दिनों तक गंगा में डुबकी लगाने पर रोक लगा दी गई है। खबर है कि गंगा के पानी में संक्रमण फैल चुका है जो वायरस की शक्ति में नदी के किनारे बसे इलाकों को अपनी चपेट में ले सकता है।

नदी के किनारे बसे ऐसे कई गांवों में इलाज की उचित व्यवस्था नहीं है। वहां की स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं चरमराई हुई हैं। प्रशासन या सरकार गांव की अनदेखी कर रही है। अब, जब लोग लाशों को नदियों में बेधड़क प्रवाहित करने लगे हैं, तब इसकी गंभीरता को देखते हुए सरकार को तुरंत एक्शन में आ जाना चाहिए। ध्यान रहे कि अब यह महज चंद गांव की समस्या नहीं है, बल्कि भीषण पर्यावरणीय खतरे का संकेत दे रहा है। इसलिए हम सभी को नदियों को प्रदूषित होने से बचना चाहिए। हो सकता है कि प्रवासी मजदूरों के घर वापसी की वजह से यहाँ मौत के आंकड़े बढ़ रहे हैं, लेकिन बेहद डरावनी बात यह भी है कि दाह संस्कार के लिए अब लकड़ियां कम पड़ने लगी हैं। शायद इसीलिए लाशें नदियों में बहाई जा रही हैं। आज जरूरत है, देश के तमाम नदी क्षेत्र में बसे लोगों के लिए अधिकाधिक सुविधाएं मुहैया कराना, स्वास्थ्य केंद्र खोलना, जांच बढ़ाना, दवा एवं वैक्सीनेशन की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना, आइसोलेशन सेंटर बनाना आदि। वरना, इसका खमियाजा हम सबको भुगतने के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए।

Rashtriya Sahara 17-May-2021

गंगा में शवों से नमामि गंगे मिशन को झटका

■ संजय टुटेजा

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वैश्विक महामारी कोरोना से केन्द्र सरकार के नमामि गंगे मिशन को गहरा झटका लगा है। जिस तरह से लगातार गंगा में बड़ी संख्या में शव मिल रहे हैं, उससे केन्द्र सरकार चिंतित है और उसने गंगा की स्वच्छता, गंगा जल की गुणवत्ता पर पड़ रहे विपरीत प्रभाव को लेकर अपनी चिंता से बिहार व उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को भी अवगत करा दिया है। गंगा को स्वच्छ व निर्मल बनाए रखने के लिए गंगा के तटवर्ती शहरों में अब जाल लगाकर बहते शवों को निकाला जाएगा और उनका अंतिम संस्कार किया जाएगा। शवों को प्रवाहित करने से रोकने के लिए पंचायत स्तर पर अंतिम संस्कार के लिए आर्थिक सहायता भी प्रदान की जाएगी

कोरोना की दूसरी लहर से पैदा हुए संकट में एक ओर जहां उपचार को लेकर त्राहि त्राहि मची है तो वहीं दूसरी ओर ऐतिहासिक व पवित्र नदी गंगा में बड़ी संख्या में शव मिलने से गंगा के तटवर्ती शहरों में भय का माहौल बन रहा है। यह माना जा रहा है कि कोरोना के कारण बढ़ती मौतों के चलते लोगों के सामने शवों के अंतिम संस्कार का भी संकट खड़ा हो गया है और वह शवों को देश



गंगा में बड़ी संख्या में शव मिलने पर केन्द्र सरकार गंभीर

उत्तर प्रदेश व बिहार में जाल लगाकर की जाएगी शवों की खोज

शवों को निकालकर किया जाएगा विधिवत अंतिम संस्कार

गंगा जल की गुणवत्ता पर पड़ रहा है विपरीत प्रभाव

की पवित्र नदी गंगा में प्रवाहित कर जलसमाधि प्रदान कर रहे हैं। गंगा में शव मिलने से देश में पिछले लगभग छह वर्ष से

चलाए जा रहे नमामि गंगे मिशन को भी करारा झटका लगा है।

शव मिलने से केन्द्र सरकार चिंतित है और सरकार ने इस तरह की घटनाओं को गंभीरता से लिया है। केन्द्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के सचिव पंकज कुमार ने स्वयं बिहार व उत्तर प्रदेश के अधिकारियों से बैठक कर मौजूदा स्थिति पर चर्चा की। दोनों राज्य सरकारों को जहां सख्त कदम उठाने व सतर्क रहने

को कहा गया है, वहीं तटवर्ती जिलों के जिलाधिकारियों को भी गंगा में प्रवाहित किए जा रहे शवों को निकलवा कर उचित तरीके से अंतिम संस्कार कराने को कहा गया है। इससे पूर्व मंत्रालय एक पत्र भी संबंधित राज्यों को भेज चुका है। राज्यों से गंगा जल की गुणवत्ता के संरक्षण पर युद्ध स्तर पर ध्यान देने तथा गंगा तथा गंगा की सहायक नदियों में शवों को प्रवाहित करने की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए शहरी क्षेत्रों के साथ साथ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी विशेष ध्यान देने को कहा है।

राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन के महानिदेशक राजीव रंजन मिश्रा ने कहा कि बिहार के उन्नाव, कानपुर ग्रामीण, गाजीपुर, बलिया और बक्सर, सारण जैसे कई जिलों में स्थिति पर नजर रखी जा रही है।

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नदियों में शव फेंकने से रोकें बिहार-यूपी : केंद्र

■ एनबीटी, नई दिल्ली/प्रयागराज

केंद्र ने रविवार को यूपी और बिहार को निर्देश दिया कि शवों को गंगा और दूसरी नदियों में फेंकने पर रोक लगाई जाए। शवों के अंतिम संस्कार पर जोर दिया जाए। यह निर्देश ऐसे समय दिया गया है जब कोरोना की दूसरी लहर में कई शव नदियों में उतराते मिल रहे हैं। इस बीच प्रयागराज में भी गंगा नदी के किनारे शवों को रेत में दफनाने की तस्वीर सामने आई है। यहां एक किलोमीटर के दायरे में ही सैकड़ों शवों को दफनाया गया है। श्रृंगवेरपुर धाम में प्रयागराज के अलावा कई जिलों के शवों का अंतिम संस्कार किया जाता है। कोरोना की दूसरी लहर से पहले रोज 50 से 60 शवों का दाह संस्कार किया जाता था। अप्रैल में मौतों के आंकड़े बढ़े, तो हर दिन सैकड़ों शवों के आने का सिलसिला शुरू हो गया।



अंतिम संस्कार का खर्च तीन गुना बढ़ा

बताया जा रहा है कि अंतिम संस्कार पर खर्च भी बढ़कर लगभग तीन गुना 1500 रुपये हो गया है। इसके अलावा लकड़ी ठेकेदारों ने भी लोगों से दाह संस्कार के लिए ज्यादा पैसे वसूलने शुरू कर दिए। इसके बाद से लोगों ने दाह संस्कार की जगह शवों को दफनाना शुरू कर दिया।