

Hindustan Times- 05- September-2022

Monsoon set to be normal, but with patches of drought: IMD

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NEW DELHI: Total rainfall during the southwest monsoon is likely to be normal over India this year, according to the India Meteorological Department, although there is a meteorological drought over parts of Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and the northeastern states.

"We can say that there are drought-like conditions over several parts of the Indo-Gangetic plains based on rainfall, temperature and aridity data that are monitored through standard precipitation index and aridity anomaly," said Pulak Guhathakurta, head of the climate division in IMD Pune.

The weather department doesn't not declare drought, but monitors indices that help track it. An analysis by the bureau showed that between June 1 and August 31, there were dry conditions over the region between western Uttar Pradesh up to Gangetic West Bengal. Dry conditions have also been seen over parts of Delhi, Haryana and Punjab. Several districts in northeast India are also showing drought-like conditions.

In the week to August 31, severely arid conditions were recorded over entire northwest India, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Gangetic West Bengal.

So far, rainfall has been 105% of the long-period average since June 1, in line with the weather office's forecast on April 31. On Thursday, it predicted above normal monsoon in September at 109% of the



Output from the kharif cropping season is likely to be average. HT

average.

"So far, we have received 6% excess rain and this may go up further, so we will have a good monsoon this year," said M Mohapatra, director general of IMD. "It is not the first time that certain areas are experiencing very dry conditions, while there is excess or normal monsoon in other parts."

Output from the kharif cropping season, which accounts for nearly half of the country's annual food supply, is likely to be average, with the area sown countrywide lagging last year's levels by around 1.5%, HT reported on Sunday. The area under paddy grown in the Gangetic plains states affected by severe arid conditions this year was 5.6% lower than last year's.

"Extreme rainfall deficit over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and other parts of the Indo-Gangetic plain has caused agricultural droughts in the region. Soil moisture deficit and

agricultural drought has affected agricultural activities and the kharif crop," said Vimal Mishra, professor of civil Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar, who has developed the India drought monitor.

From June 1 to September 3, India saw 5% excess rainfall, with 28% excess over south peninsula; 17% excess over central India; 2% excess over northwest India; and 19% deficiency over east and northeast India, according to the IMD. Uttar Pradesh has 44% rain deficiency; Bihar has recorded 37% deficiency; Jharkhand 26% and Gangetic West Bengal 29% deficiency. In July, eastern and northeastern India had recorded 44.7% deficiency, while in August, they recorded 26.5% deficiency.

"Several regions during this monsoon witnessed surplus rainfall and floods. Both drought and floods affected different parts of the country," said Mishra. "Vari-

bility of rainfall extremes need to be incorporated in the declaration so that we can understand the impacts caused by the extremes."

Mishra's team along with researchers from UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research in Leipzig, Germany, published a research paper in IOP Science journal on August 24 that said the IMD ignores the role of spatial and temporal variability of rainfall while declaring whether the monsoon has been normal or not. "Dry and wet extremes within the same monsoon season can lead to a normal monsoon. Moreover, different parts of the country face drought and wet extremes, while the summer monsoon can be declared normal," it said.

In the past 121 years since 1901, 84 years were declared to be normal or above normal monsoon years. However, 13 years out of 84 were not normal based on the new framework suggested by the researchers due to dry and wet extremes occurring at different times and in different regions.

Some 1,000 people lost their lives due to extreme rainfall, floods and damage to agriculture in 2017, which was declared to be a normal monsoon year, the researchers found. Similarly, around 2,051 people died due to floods and heavy rain during the summer monsoon in 2005. Gujarat and Maharashtra were the worst affected. But the summer monsoon was declared normal, with a surplus rainfall of 9.6%, they found. Parts of the northeast also experienced moderate to severe drought in 2005.

Millennium Post- 05- September-2022

FLOOD DEVASTATION

States impervious to huge losses

Only 3 states & 1 UT enforced law for floodplain zoning

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Despite huge losses to life and property in floods, only three states and one Union Territory have enforced the law for floodplain zoning which aims to minimise the damage caused due to deluge.

Experts have called for its immediate implementation in the country in view of frequent floods occurring due to climate change.

Floodplain zoning measures aim at demarcating zones or areas likely to be affected by floods which hit with different magnitude, frequencies, and probability, and specify the types of permissible developments in these zones, so that whenever floods actually occur, the damage can be minimised.

The model bill for floodplain zoning provides for formation of a floodplain zoning authority by state governments, with a governing body under the chairmanship of the chief minister.

The authority is supposed to delineate floodplain zones and other measures for keeping flood plains encroachment free.

According to a senior official, only three states and one Union Territory till now have enacted the legislation. These



FILE PHOTO

Floodplain zoning measures aim at demarcating zones likely to be affected by floods, so that whenever floods actually occur, the damage can be minimised

are Manipur, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand, and the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir.

Even there, the delineation and demarcation of floodplains is yet to be done, the official said.

Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, and Odisha all major flood-prone states have not taken initiative to enact any legislation with regard to Flood Plain Zoning.

We have asked states to reduce any further construction on the floodplains and ensure there is no further encroachment, the official told.

Experts have warned of dire consequences if floodplain zoning is not done at the earliest in view of the rise in the number of floods due to climate change.

Last year, the Jal Shakti ministry told Parliament that about 2,000 people lost their lives due to cyclonic storms, heavy rains, and floods and landslides during 2021-22.

According to data shared by the ministry in response to a question in Rajya Sabha, the highest number of lives lost due to cyclonic storms, heavy rains and floods and landslides in 2021-22 were in Maharashtra at 489, followed by Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, each of which lost 162 lives.

Environmental activist and water expert Himanshu Thakkar said even though some states have enacted the legislation, no state in the country has implemented it.

The only state which did a little bit of work on it was Maharashtra, where they assigned red' and green' line on floodplains, which meant that no activity within red line, which was restricted behind the green line.

The Hindu- 05- September-2022

Hasina's visit to focus on water sharing

The Bangladesh PM is also expected to aim at energy cooperation and uninterrupted commerce

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's September 5-8 India visit is expected to focus on issues that can help her counter negative factors ahead of the election scheduled next year, *The Hindu* has learnt from sources working on the agenda of the visit. Apart from engaging Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a political dialogue, the visiting leader is likely to focus on water sharing, energy cooperation, uninterrupted commercial flow and greater connectivity.

"We are sensing that there will be an energy supply element in bilateral agreements between the two sides," said a diplomatic source without getting into the specifics. One of the hallmarks of Ms. Hasina's 13-year-old govern-



Cementing ties: Narendra Modi and Sheikh Hasina during the inauguration of various projects in Bangladesh in 2021. •PTI

ment has been the stability of energy and power generation in Bangladesh which has drastically reduced load shedding in major cities and industrial areas and ports.

However, since last month

Bangladesh has seen more than a 50% hike in energy which has contributed to increased price of essential supplies, creating a challenging situation for her government. A source also hinted

that even in the absence of an energy agreement, there is likely to be a "favourable response" from India if Bangladesh was to seek suggestions from the Indian side about how to address the current energy crisis.

Ahead of her visit, Ms. Hasina reached out to the political leadership praising the assistance that Bangladesh received from India during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Hasina's government has been consistent in expressing concern about disruption in the supplies of certain essential commodities for which Bangladesh depends on India.

Regional friendship

Ms. Hasina's stay is expected to include a visit to the famed Sufi shrine at Nizamuddin here as well as a trip

to Ajmer Sharif in Rajasthan.

The discussion between the two sides will provide India a window to assess the political might and legacy of Sheikh Hasina who first became Prime Minister in 1996 and dealt with Prime Ministers Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Inder Kumar Gujral and H.D. Deve Gowda. Her next stint at power began in 2009 and has continued uninterrupted till now.

The dominance of the Awami League in Bangladesh and allegations of human rights violation against her government have drawn negative attention from the western powers. However, the visit to India will provide Ms. Hasina an opportunity to showcase her regional friendship ahead of her expected trips to the western destinations later this year.

Jansatta- 05- September-2022

भारत और बांग्लादेश में जल बंटवारे सहित कई समझौते होने की संभावना

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 4 सितंबर।

बांग्लादेश की प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना सोमवार को भारत की चार दिवसीय यात्रा पर आएंगी। इस दौरान भारत और बांग्लादेश रक्षा, व्यापार और नदी जल बंटवारे के क्षेत्रों में सहयोग बढ़ाने के उपायों की घोषणा कर सकते हैं। हसीना और प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के बीच मंगलवार को होने वाली वार्ता के बाद दोनों पक्षों के बीच कुशियारा नदी के जल के अंतरिम बंटवारे सहित कई समझौतों पर

हस्ताक्षर होने की उम्मीद है। हसीना का गुरुवार को राजस्थान के अजमेर में सूफी संत मोइनुद्दीन चिश्ती की दरगाह पर जाने का भी कार्यक्रम है। हसीना के प्रतिनिधिमंडल में विदेश मंत्री एके अब्दुल मोमेन, वाणिज्य मंत्री टीपू मुंशी, रेल मंत्री मोहम्मद नूरुल इस्लाम सुजान और प्रधानमंत्री के आर्थिक मामलों के सलाहकार मशिउर एके एम रहमान शामिल होंगे। पांच सितंबर से आठ सितंबर तक चलने वाली यात्रा के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री हसीना, भारत की राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू और उपराष्ट्रपति जगदीप धनखड़ से भी भेंट करेंगी।

Haribhoomi- 05- September-2022

गंगा के जलस्तर में वृद्धि का असर सरयू पर



गोरखपुर। गंगा नदी के जलस्तर में उफान का असर सरयू नदी पर दिखने लगा है। राप्ती-रोहिन,गोर्गा का भी जलस्तर तेजी से बढ़ रहा है। सरयू बरहज में खतरे के निशान 66.50 आरएल मीटर पार कर 66.850 आरएल मीटर पर बहने लगी है। हालांकि तुर्तीपार में सरयू का पानी खतरे के निशान नीचे है।

Rajasthan Patrika- 05- September-2022

गुजरात में हाईअलर्ट बांधों की संख्या 100 पर पहुंची

खुशखबर: 67 बांध लबालब, सरदार सरोवर में 94 फीसदी से अधिक जलसंग्रह

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क
patrika.com

अहमदाबाद, गुजरात में हो चुकी 102 फीसदी मौसम की बारिश के परिणामस्वरूप बांधों में लगातार जल संग्रह बढ़ रहा है। राज्य के प्रमुख 206 बांधों में से रविवार तक 67 बांध लबालब हो चुके हैं, जबकि हाई अलर्ट बांधों की संख्या 100 पर पहुंच गई। गुजरात के सबसे बड़े नर्मदा बांध में क्षमता के मुकाबले 94 फीसदी से अधिक जल संग्रह हो गया है। यह बांध अब दो मीटर से भी कम खाली रह गया है।

फिलहाल 101 बांधों में क्षमता के मुकाबले 90 फीसदी से अधिस जल संग्रह हो चुका है। इनमें से महिसागर जिले के वणाकबोरी बांध को छोड़कर अन्य हाई अलर्ट मोड पर हैं। 101 में से 67 में क्षमता का 100 फीसदी जल संग्रह हो गया है। ये बांध संपूर्ण रूप से भर गए हैं।



दूसरी ओर प्रदेश के सबसे बड़े सरदार सरोवर (नर्मदा) बांध का जलस्तर रविवार तक 136.94 मीटर हो गया है। इस बांध की कुल ऊंचाई 138.68 मीटर है। 9461 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर (एमसीएम) क्षमता वाले इस बांध में फिलहाल 8940.20 एमसीएम पानी है। यह 94.21 फीसदी है।

भरे बांधों में आधे से

अधिक सौराष्ट्र के

राज्य में संपूर्ण रूप से भरे 67 बांधों

में से सौराष्ट्र रीजन के ही 37 हैं। सौराष्ट्र में कुल 141 बांधों में जल संग्रह की कुल क्षमता 2588.49 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर है। इसकी तुलना में अब तक 1935.79 एमसीएम पानी संग्रह हो चुका है। हालांकि यहां अन्य भागों की तुलना में जल संग्रह कम (74.78 फीसदी) है। दक्षिण गुजरात के कुल 13 बांधों में से आठ पूरी तरह से भर गए हैं।

यहां क्षमता के मुकाबले 81.24 फीसदी जल संग्रह हो चुका है। कच्छ रीजन के कुल 20 में से 12 बांध लबालब हो गए हैं।

सभी बांधों का जल संग्रह 86 फीसदी के करीब

प्रदेश के नर्मदा समेत 207 बांधों में जलसंग्रह की क्षमता 25265.84 एमसीएम है, इसकी तुलना में अब तक 21646.9 क्यूबिक मीटर जल संग्रह हो गया है, जो करीब 86 फीसदी है। राज्य के हाईअलर्ट 100 बांधों के अलावा 21 अलर्ट हैं। इनमें 80 फीसदी से अधिक और 90 फीसदी से कम संग्रह हुआ है। 14 बांधों में 70 से 80 फीसदी के बीच जल संग्रह होने पर सामान्य चेतावनी पर रखा गया है। 71 बांधों में 70 फीसदी से कम संग्रह है।