

Millennium Post- 27- September-2022

BREACHES THE WARNING MARK OF 204.5 METRES

Yamuna flowing above warning mark & likely to swell further

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The water level in the Yamuna here breached the warning mark of 204.5 metres on Monday following heavy rain in the upper catchment areas and is expected to rise further in the next two days, officials said. The Delhi flood control room said the water level at the Old Delhi Railway Bridge crossed the warning mark at 1 am on Monday and rose to 204.7 by 8 am.

The Central Water Commission (CWC) predicted that it may increase to 205 metres by 9 pm.

It reported a discharge rate of 2,95,212 cusecs at 6 am from the Hathnikund barrage in Haryana, which is the highest so far this monsoon season.

The flow rate dipped from 2,57,970 cusecs at 7 am to 2,30,660 cusecs at 11 am and



further to 2,13,900 cusecs by 1 pm.

One cusec is equivalent to 28.32 litres per second.

Normally, the flow rate at the Hathnikund barrage is 352 cusecs, but the discharge increases after heavy rainfall in the catchment areas.

The water discharged from the barrage normally takes two to three days to reach the national capital.

Authorities in Delhi have not issued a flood alert yet.

Announcements are being made to caution people living in low-lying areas near the river banks about a further increase in the water level, East Delhi District Magistrate Anil Banka said.

"The water level is predicted to touch the 206-metre mark by Wednesday. A flood alert will be issued when it crosses the

Highlights

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danger mark of 205.3 metres," he said.

Incessant rains have battered parts of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and north Uttar Pradesh over the last few days. Delhi also recorded a four-day long rain spell starting September 21.

The catchment of the Yamuna river system covers parts of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh,

Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi.

The low-lying areas near the river in Delhi are considered vulnerable to flooding. They are home to around 37,000 people.

The Yamuna had breached the danger mark of 205.33 metres on August 12, following which around 7,000 people were evacuated from the low-lying areas near the river banks.

The Pioneer- 27- September-2022

Polluting a river is a sin against it!



SANJIB POHIT ANUPMA MEHTA

Immersion of idols laced with harmful chemicals does an irreparable damage to a river, time to stop sinning against salvator

It is that time of the year again, when the devout prepare fancy and exotic idols of gods and goddesses, venerate them for a few days and then consign them to the waters of our rivers. The immersion ritual, as witnessed during the recently concluded Ganesh festival and also anticipated during the forthcoming Durga Puja celebrations, has been a regular annual feature of the festival season across the nation. This is because our rivers are perceived as divine, almost supernatural, entities that have the power of salvation and exculpation of human sins. But while immersing idols signifies a sort of religious atonement for the 'sinners', unfortunately, the rivers that function as the sites for this redemption become the ones 'sinned against'; for this paradoxical coalescence of divinity and desecration not only leads to surface pollution in the rivers but also damages their biodiversity and causes extensive and often irreversible contamination of the groundwater. Several of the idols immersed in the rivers are made from Plaster of Paris, which takes countless years to dissolve, and paint comprising heavy metals like mercury, cadmium, and lead.

River pollution is, in fact, a persistent area of concern across the country. Other research documents the high level of pollution and contamination in the Ganga river, which increases notably during the Hindu festive season. A study by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) examines the state of Ganga river water quality at selected stretches of the river in recent years. For ensuring a detailed analysis of the polluting constituents in the Ganga, the NCAER team moved beyond conventional laboratory examination of water samples and used in-situ mobile sensor platforms equipped with GPS capability to pinpoint the pollution sources and hotspots in the river, and capture water quality data at high geospatial resolution. Noting a significant deterioration in the river water quality due to pollu-



tants, the NCAER study points out that despite being among the top ten water-rich countries of the world, and home to both perennial and non-perennial rivers, India has become a water-stressed region.

Albeit, a large proportion of the pollution in rivers is the result of anthropogenic activities and the release of raw sewage, untreated industrial effluents, pesticides, and debris into the river. However, this does not diminish the polluting impact of visarjan or submergence into the river of idols made with non-biodegradable and toxic materials. So, wherein lies the solution? While seeking to purify ourselves through religious rituals, how can we ensure the purification of our rivers too?

For the last few years, the Central Pollution Control Board has been issuing advisories to prevent riverine pollution by prohibiting the immersion of idols, puja material, and religious offerings in rivers. Recently, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) too urged all urban local bodies in the city to set up temporary ponds in residential areas for the immersion of idols. The



A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE POLLUTION IN RIVERS IS THE RESULT OF ANTHROPOGENIC ACTIVITIES AND THE RELEASE OF RAW SEWAGE, UNTREATED INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS, PESTICIDES, AND DEBRIS INTO THE RIVER

DPCC's guidelines mandate the removal of worship materials like flowers and paper decorations, and of collection of biodegradable material used in the idols for recycling and composting, before the immersion.

However, while the advisory is clear on the 'do's' and 'don'ts' about idol immersion, it is silent regarding the enforcers who would ensure diligent implementation. What is the guarantee that the harmful chemicals released from the idols after immersion would not percolate underground through the multiple water bodies earmarked for the immersion? The larger, more serious implications of this could be contamination of the groundwater. Further, decentralisation of idol immersion away from the Yamuna necessitates the redoubling of efforts to monitor the ground pollution level.

It is thus imperative for the authorities to follow a somewhat centralised approach for monitoring the pollutant load arising due to immersion. Both the authorities in Delhi and the Namami Ganga Clean-up Campaign being undertaken to cleanse

the Ganga river can also draw lessons from the Kolkata Municipal Corporation which has been following the 'no pollution' principle during the Durga Puja rituals in Kolkata, wherein vats are placed alongside rivers for collection of decorative items removed from idols before their immersion. Thereafter, any residual debris in the rivers is extracted with the help of cranes to minimise the pollutant load in the river. This approach is certainly worth emulating.

The NCAER study also revealed that a large section of the people living in the Ganga river basin depends on the river for their daily needs and livelihood. Similarly, the Yamuna river is the aquatic lifeline for Delhi and its surrounding areas. Hence, even as the Yamuna, Ganga, and all our holy rivers ostensibly absolve us of our moral sins, the least we can do in return is to keep them free of physical and human waste.

(Sanjib Pohit is Professor and Anupma Mehta is Editor at the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). The views expressed are personal.)

Hindustan Times- 27- September-2022

{ IN GUJARAT }

Shah targets Cong for 'stalling' dam project

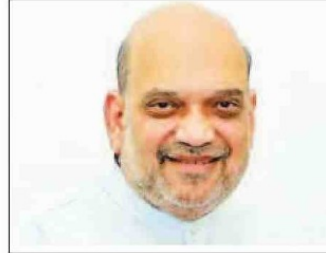
HT Correspondent

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AHMEDABAD: Union home minister Amit Shah on Monday said the Congress stalled work for Sardar Sarovar Dam project in Gujarat's Narmada district for years and added that it was only after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the reins of the state as its chief minister that the project got a fresh lease of life.

Shah, who is on a two-day visit to his home state from Monday, inaugurated a flyover and a primary health centre near Ahmedabad and participated in a host of programmes, including a farmers' conference in Ahmedabad's Bavla town.

"From 1964 onwards, the Congress had put the Narmada dam project on a backburner. It was only after Narendra bhai became the chief minister of Gujarat (in 2001) that the project got a new lease of life... and as a result, waters of Narmada have reached Ahmedabad today," Shah said



Amit Shah

during the farmers' conference.

The opposition Congress in the state, however, alleged the minister's claims were "lies".

"The Union minister is spreading lies. The foundation stone of Sardar Sarovar project was laid by India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and then successive PMs — including Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi — have taken the project forward," said Manish Doshi, Gujarat Congress spokesperson. "Till 1994, 80% of the work of the project was completed and various chief ministers of the Congress had a role to play in it."

Financial Express- 27- September-2022

Creating sustainable water out of air using renewable tech

Aims to serve industries and communities for their quality water needs

SUDHIR CHOWDHARY

CLEAN DRINKING WATER is getting scarce. Current water infrastructure is inadequate in the face of increasing droughts, unreliable supplies and climate change. Put simply, there is an urgent need for resilient solutions. In this regard, a Bengaluru-based deep-tech startup, Uravu Labs, has a solution; it is literally creating water out of air, thanks to its unique 100% renewable water technology.

Focused on building a renewable water infrastructure, this climate tech startup recently announced its seed round of funding. The lead investor in the round was Anicut Capital and it was co-led by Rocketship.vc and Speciale Invest. The company also received participation from investors like Vesta (France), Venture Catalysts (India), Verso Holdings (Luxembourg), Spectrum Impact (India),

Echo River Capital (US) and other angel investors from India, the US and the Middle East. The company plans to utilise the capital to scale its 100% renewable water technology.

Today, many sectors are in the midst of a renewable revolution – like solar PV and wind help us go renewable in the electricity sector. Water sector is surprisingly left out. Uravu is bridging this gap by bringing a revolution with 100% renewable water. But what is 100% renewable water?

Company officials explain their unique technology harnesses inexhaustible atmospheric moisture and uses only renewable energy to produce high-quality drinking water. Air contains water equivalent to six times of all the world's rivers combined and it replenishes naturally every 8-10 days. Also, the water renewable technology uses clean and unlimited energy of the Sun, and carbon neutral sources of waste heat and biomass are utilised. Plus, not a drop of water is wasted in the process, unlike technologies like Reverse Osmosis which waste more water than they purify. In short, the company's industrial-scale and

affordable solution has the ability to transform various markets – primarily the beverage industry, real estate and hospitality sectors, and will be commercialised by 2023.

Founded in 2019 by Pardeep Garg, Swapnil Shrivastav, Venkatesh R, and Govinda Balaji, Uravu Labs has signed beverage giants such as AB InBev and Radico Khaitan as customers and is reaching out to many more beverage and commercial customers in the Indian, South-east Asian, Middle East, and Japanese markets. The fresh funding will build the path for further expansion in these geographies.

The seed investment will enable Uravu to accelerate its ongoing work of minimising the stress on groundwater. The company co-founder and CEO Pradeep Garg said, "It will further enable us to mitigate resource depletion by converting abundantly available air into water using only renewable energy. With field pilots already out, the company is aiming to rapidly test and scale the solution with key customers."

Shrivastav added, "100% renewable water is the missing puzzle in the transformation towards a more sustainable world and Uravu is aiming to truly deliver real world environmental and social impact with its scalable solution in the mid-to-long term."

This new-age climate-tech startup has previously raised an undisclosed amount during a pre-seed funding round led by Speciale Invest in 2021.

Other investors included angel investors like Peter Yolles (Echo River Capital), Soren Schroder, Shigeru Sumimoto (Conselux Corporation), and Tomoki Kaneko (Kaneko Cord).



A fully solar-powered unit which harnesses atmospheric moisture to produce 5-7 litres of renewable water per day

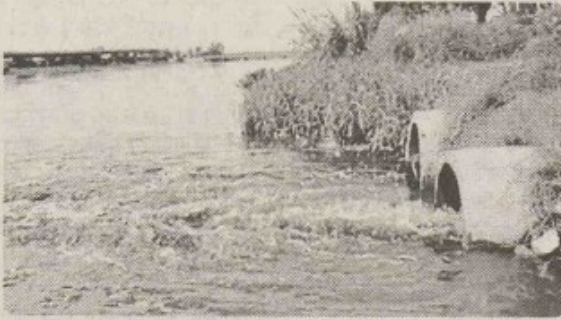
Rajasthan Patrika- 27- September-2022

सर्वे रिपोर्ट में खुलासा: राष्ट्रीय जल गुणवत्ता निरीक्षण कार्यक्रम के तहत नदियों का निरीक्षण देश की सबसे प्रदूषित नदियों की सूची में पहले स्थान पर हिंडन नदी

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
patrika.com

गाजियाबाद. इस जानकारी के बाद आप चौंक जाएंगे। देश में सबसे ज्यादा प्रदूषित नदियों की लिस्ट में सबसे ऊपर नाम गाजियाबाद की हिंडन नदी का है। एक सर्वे रिपोर्ट से इसका खुलासा हुआ है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, हिंडन नदी में अब जीवनदायनी नदी का रूप नहीं रह गया है। प्रदूषण के चलते ये मृतप्राय हो चुकी है।

हिंडन में अब जल जीवन जीने वाले जानवरों के लिए भी कोई गुंजाइश नहीं बची है। राष्ट्रीय जल गुणवत्ता निरीक्षण कार्यक्रम के तहत देशभर की नदियों का निरीक्षण किया



गया। हिंडन नदी में सहारनपुर, मेरठ, बागपत, गाजियाबाद, नोएडा में ई-लेवल का प्रदूषण पानी में मिला है, जो कि अत्यधिक प्रदूषित है।

हाईकोर्ट ने दिया था एसटीपी बनाने का आदेश: हाईकोर्ट ने इस

पर चिंता जताते हुए, वर्ष 2010 में नदी में गिर रहे गंदे व केमिकलयुक्त पानी को रोकने के लिए एसटीपी बनाने के आदेश निगम व जिला प्रशासन को दिया था। निगम की बोर्ड बैठक में कई बार मुद्दा उठाया गया

जलीय जीव के जीवित रहने की संभावना न के बराबर

सर्वे रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि, इसमें किसी जलीय जीव के जीवित रहने की संभावना न के बराबर है। जिले की सीमा में करहेड़ा, मोहन नगर, छिजारसी, नंदग्राम, अर्थला, श्मशान घाट के पास समेत दस स्थानों पर नाले हिंडन नदी में गिर रहे हैं। करहेड़ा के पास नदी में घुलित ऑक्सीजन की मात्रा 0.5 मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर व मोहननगर के पास 0.7 मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर पाई गई जबकि छिजारसी के पास पानी में ऑक्सीजन की मात्रा नगण्य पाई गई।

लेकिन न एसटीपी बना न हिंडन को बचाने के लिए ठोस कदम उठाए गए। तीन नालों को टैप करने की योजना निगम ने बनाई लेकिन कोई काम नहीं हुआ।

कई बार फैक्टरियों को दिया नोटिस : बताया गया कि, फैक्टरियों को नोटिस देकर केमिकल युक्त पानी नालों में नहीं छोड़ने का नोटिस दिया

गया लेकिन हिंडन में जहरीला पानी जाना बंद नहीं हुआ। अब सरकार की कोशिश है कि यहां पर रिवरफ्रंट बनाकर इसे पर्यटन के हिसाब से विकसित किया जाए ताकि लोगों का आना जाना यहां पर शुरू हो सके पर यह तभी संभव है जब जब हिंडन को कुछ हद तक साफ कर लिया जाएगा।

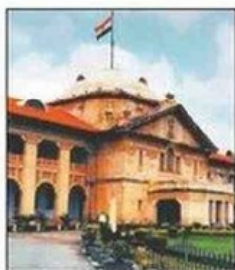
Amar Ujala- 27- September-2022

गंगा सफाई में धोखा, सिर्फ पैसा बांटने की मशीन बनकर रह गया मिशन : हाईकोर्ट इलाहाबाद कोर्ट ने कहा-जमीन पर नहीं दिख रहा कोई काम

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

प्रयागराज। इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट ने गंगा प्रदूषण के मामले में दाखिल जनहित याचिका पर सुनवाई करते हुए राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी यानी नेशनल मिशन फॉर क्लीन गंगा) पर गंभीर टिप्पणी की है। कोर्ट ने कहा कि मिशन का काम आंखों को धोखा देने वाला है। यह मिशन केवल पैसा बांटने की मशीन बनकर रह गया है। इसके द्वारा बांटे गए पैसे से सफाई हो रही है या नहीं, इसकी न तो निगरानी हो रही है न जमीनी स्तर पर काम दिख रहा है।

मुख्य न्यायमूर्ति राजेश बिंदल की अगुवाई वाली खंडपीठ ने सोमवार को सुनवाई के दौरान मिशन की ओर से बांटे गए बजट का ब्योरा जाना। पूछा कि गंगा सफाई के लिए खर्च किए गए करोड़ों रुपये के बजट से काम हुआ या नहीं तो कोर्ट को जवाब नहीं मिला। इसके पूर्व सुनवाई शुरू होते ही कोर्ट ने क्रमशः एनएमसीजी, केंद्रीय प्रदूषण



■ कानपुर, वाराणसी समेत अन्य शहरों में ढंग से काम नहीं कर रहे एसटीपी : कोर्ट ने दाखिल हलफनामों में यह पाया कि कानपुर, वाराणसी, प्रयागराज सहित अन्य शहरों के लगाए गए एसटीपी (सीवेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट) मानक के अनुसार काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। कानपुर में सारे नाले अनटैप्ड हैं, जबकि वाराणसी में दो नाले अनटैप्ड हैं। इससे नालों का पानी सीधे गंगा में गिर रहा है। केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड की भी यही रिपोर्ट थी।

प्रयागराज में करोड़ों खर्च फिर भी स्थिति में सुधार नहीं

कोर्ट को प्रयागराज नगर निगम की ओर से बताया गया कि नालों की सफाई के लिए प्रतिमाह 44 लाख रुपये खर्च हो रहे हैं। इस पर कोर्ट ने हैरानी जताई। कहा कि साल भर में करोड़ों खर्च हो रहे हैं फिर भी स्थिति वही है। यूपी प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने बताया कि उसको अब तक 332 शिकायतें मिली हैं। 48 में सजा हो चुकी है। बाकी के खिलाफ कार्रवाई प्रक्रिया में है। कोर्ट ने यूपी प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के हलफनामे में पाया कि उसके पिछले आदेश के बाद यूपी प्रदूषण बोर्ड ने कार्रवाई शुरू की है।

नियंत्रण बोर्ड, यूपी प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, जल निगम ग्रामीण एवं शहरी, नगर निगम प्रयागराज सहित कई विभागों की ओर से दाखिल किए हलफनामे को रिकॉर्ड पर लिया और उस पर जानकारी मांगी। लेकिन, कोर्ट

जवाब से संतुष्ट नहीं हुई। कोर्ट ने पूछा कि इतनी बड़ी परियोजना के लिए पर्यावरण इंजीनियर है या नहीं। इस पर जवाब दिया कि एनएमसीजी में काम कर रहे सारे अधिकारी पर्यावरण इंजीनियर ही हैं।