

The Times of India- 11- October-2022

# Not the competent authority to give nod for drawing groundwater in Delhi: CGWB

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is not the competent authority to grant permission to draw groundwater in Delhi and a tubewell or borewell registered with it is not equivalent to an NOC to draw water for any purpose. This was stated by CGWB in a report to National Green Tribunal (NGT).

The report was filed following NGT's directions after a hospital in D-Block, Janakpuri approached the tribunal seeking permission to extract groundwater. The hospital's tubewell was sealed by Delhi Jal Board (DJB). The hospital, claiming it had dug and registered the tubewell in 1997 with CGWB, approached NGT pointing out that being an essential service, it required 450 litres of water per patient per day.

The hospital claimed that after the tubewell was sealed and it became dependent on DJB without any alternative

## CGWB REPORT SAYS

**No one can extract groundwater in Delhi for domestic, commercial, agricultural or industrial use without the permission of the competent authority**

plan, it was causing difficulties during summers when there were frequent shortages of water supply.

NGT, in an order dated September 1, directed CGWB, Delhi Pollution Control Committee and DJB to look into the matter. It also sought details of the groundwater in the area. CGWB stated that the depth of groundwater in Mayapuri, which was 1.24km from the hospital, varied from 39.26 metres to 35.38 metres below ground level. It added that water was fresh at a shallow depth and brackish to saline at deeper levels.

CGWB stated, "At a few places, the concentration of fluoride and nitrate is beyond the permissible limit, rendering groundwater unfit for drinking purposes without treatment."

"It is to clarify that registration of a tubewell is not a valid NOC required for withdrawal of groundwater. No one can extract groundwater in Delhi for domestic, commercial, agricultural or industrial use without the permission of the competent authority. DJB, NDMC and district magistrates are authorised officers for regulation of groundwater development and management in the revenue areas under their jurisdiction," said the report, mentioning a Delhi government notification.

Recommending the hospital to obtain a NOC from DJB, the report stated, "CGWB is not regulating groundwater extraction in Delhi and DJB/district administration is responsible for taking action against illegal extraction of groundwater."

Millennium Post- 11- October-2022

## 6 LAKH PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FLOODS

# Uttar Pradesh: 10 more killed in rain-related incidents

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**LUCKNOW:** Ten more people were killed in rain-related incidents in Uttar Pradesh where more than 650 villages in 16 districts were affected by floods following heavy rainfall, officials said on Monday.

According to a report by the relief commissioner's office, the lives of around 5.8 lakh people have been impacted due to the floods.

According to officials, nine people were killed after heavy rains lashed several parts of Uttar Pradesh on Sunday.

In Jhansi, six people and as many others were injured in lightning strikes on Monday afternoon, officials said on Monday. Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mauranipur, Mrityunjay Mishra said Kranti (28), her daughter Nikita (15) and Pinki (25), all from the district's Itail village, died in lightning strike.

Kunjan (25) of Bhadarwara village and Basari village-resident Charan Singh (36) were killed in lightning strikes, the SDM said, adding that five others were injured and admitted to the hospital.

Govind Singh (49), a resident of Lakhanpura Raksa, was also killed in lightning strike while working in his agriculture field, SDM (Sadar) Jhansi,



Flooded roads along the Tilak Nagar Sisamau drain following heavy downpour, in Kanpur on Monday

PTI

Shashi Bhushan said, adding that another person was also injured in the incident.

In Balrampur, two people died after being swept away in flood waters, even as rescue operations are on find two others, officials said. The body of Sumrita (55), hailing from Madarhava village, was taken out from a flooded pond while the body of Alam (16), who was swept away was recovered on Monday, police said.

The flood waters submerged the Gonda-Barhni-Gorakhpur railway bridge in Balrampur affecting the movement of trains.

According to Balrampur station superintendent PR Somvanshi, the movement of

over two dozen trains were affected after the flood waters submerged the railway bridge.

Movement of trains has been stopped there till further orders, he said.

Amethi's Jamo police station SHO Akhilesh Gupta said the wall of a house belonging to a man named Ram Sanjeevan's (37) collapsed on Sunday night, leading to his death.

The deceased was staying alone in his house, he added.

In Pratapgarh district, a man named Dilip Singh (30) of Rehua Lalganj village died while his cousin was seriously injured after the wall of their house collapsed, Udaipur police station Station House Officer Ranvijay Singh said.



# Why late rainfall may lead to more intense farm fires

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**CHANDIGARH/KARNAL:** An unexpected drop in temperatures caused by unseasonal rainfall may have reduced pollution levels in the national capital and the northern plains, but it will further delay maturing of paddy, leaving a shorter window for farmers in Punjab and Haryana to sow the next crop, forcing cultivators to resort to burning stubble, and leading to a more intense pollution spike in the region.

The Punjab government has deputed 50,000 volunteers and employees from the departments of revenue, agriculture, and rural development to reach out to each farming household in the state, and ask them not to burn stubble. Though Haryana has witnessed a considerable fall in incidents of farm fires so far this year, officials monitoring the situation are of the view that delayed harvesting and the latest spell of rain could result in more stubble burning in a tighter time frame.

"This means a shorter window for sowing in the rabi season. We fear that to ready their farms for wheat cultivation, a greater number of farmers will opt for the easiest method of dealing with paddy stubble, which is to just burn it," said an officer in Punjab's agriculture department, who is monitoring the weather conditions and paddy harvest. Burning stubble is the cheapest and quickest way to clear the fields, but this practice leads to a massive spike in pollution as winds carry smoke to the National Capital Region, plunging it into a public health emergency every winter.

This kharif season, paddy was sown over three million hectares in Punjab, and data from the state agriculture department says the crop has been harvested on 600,000 to 700,000 hectares while the rest is still in the maturing stage. The state meteorology department has forecast that overcast skies and light rain in several parts will continue for a few more days. "We have developed a mobile application on which information related to availability of each machine for management of paddy stubble would be displayed and farmers can hire the machine," said Punjab agriculture minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal.

An agriculture department officer said moisture content in the crop is as high as 22-25% in the affected areas, which needs to go down for farmers to get the right price at the time of procurement. Reports from paddy sowing districts of Haryana said nearly 40% of the crop is yet to be harvested.

"We are facing problems as

nearly 50% of the procured paddy is still in the mandis and farmers are unable to bring their produce," said Ajaib Singh, a commission agent at Karnal's Indri grain market. Singh said most of the paddy was lying in the open and that has increased fear of crop damage.

Unseasonal rainfall has not only affected harvesting in Haryana's paddy and bajra belt, but has also affected procurement and lifting operations, causing a glut-like situation in the mandis.

According to farmers, the rain and delayed harvest have already affected the sowing of crops for the next cycle. They said most of the farmers who had grown early maturing paddy varieties to reap three rounds of harvest in a year could not clear their fields on time for the next crop as the state witnessed around 460mm rain in a week last month.

"So far we have managed to take the farmers along and there were only 81 incidents of farm fires reported in the state till October 9, but now we fear that a delayed harvest will leave a shorter window for sowing of next crop, causing more farm fires," said a state agriculture department officer, requesting anonymity. "We are unable to sow potato even though my five acres under Pusa 1509 (a Basmati variety) were cleared on September 15. Now we have to sow wheat as the weather is not favourable for potato sowing," said Rajkumar, a farmer from Kurukshetra.

Another farmer Amarjit Singh from Kurukshetra said, "My six acres under potato got damaged due to heavy rain last month. I have dropped plans to grow mustard on the remaining 10 acres under paddy because of the delayed harvest and bad weather."

"We are motivating farmers to make the best use of the machinery given to them for in-situ management of paddy straw," a Punjab official said, adding that this season 32,100 machines for stubble management would be given to farmers, of which at least 10,000 had been dispatched to end-users.

Already 76,000 machines have been given to farmers over the last four years (from 2018 to 2021). Last kharif season, 71,246 cases of stubble burning were recorded in Punjab. In the current paddy harvest season, 711 cases have been reported. "We are helping farmers make optimum use of the machines for in-situ management of paddy stubble," agriculture minister Dhaliwal said. To set an example, Dhaliwal drove a tractor on Sunday to collect paddy straw with a baler — Delhi residents would hope that his agrarian audience pays heed so that the Capital's annual air emergency is milder this time.



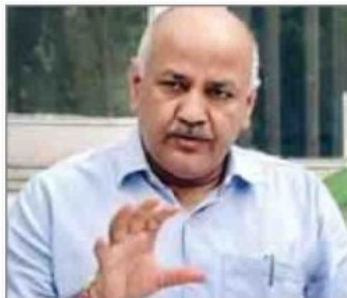
**AIR WE  
BREATHE**

Punjab Kesri- 11- October-2022

यमुना को साफ करने के लिए बनेंगे 55 एमजीडी के सीवेज पंपिंग स्टेशन

## ‘2025 तक यमुना को पूरी तरह साफ करना केजरीवाल सरकार का लक्ष्य’

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल के नेतृत्व में दिल्ली सरकार 2025 तक यमुना की सफाई पूरी करने, हर घर को 24 घंटे नल से साफ पानी देने और सभी अनाधिकृत कॉलोनियों के घरों को सीवर लाइन से जोड़ने के लिए युद्धस्तर पर काम कर रही है। इसी कड़ी में सोमवार को दिल्ली के उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया ने डीजेबी की 163वीं बोर्ड बैठक में कई अहम बड़े फैसले लिए। साल 2025 तक यमुना को साफ करने के लिए अपशिष्ट जल सेवाओं को बेहतर बनाने और 24 घंटे दिल्ली की जनता को साफ पानी मुहैया कराने के लिए उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया ने 869 करोड़ रुपये की परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी। इसके तहत नजफगढ़ व केशोपुर में मौजूदा एसटीपी को अपग्रेड किया जाएगा। वहीं बादली क्षेत्र में बनेगा 17 एमजीडी वेस्ट वाटर ट्रीटमेंट पंपिंग स्टेशन बनाया जाएगा। छतरपुर विधानसभा क्षेत्र में 46 किमी लंबी सीवेज लाइन बिछाई जाएगी।



इन परियोजनाओं से यमुना में गंदा पानी गिरने से रोका जा सकेगा। सीएम अरविंद केजरीवाल ने ट्वीट कर बताया कि यमुना को प्रदूषण मुक्त बनाने के लिए एक बेहद महत्वपूर्ण प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी गई है। इसके तहत केशोपुर व नजफगढ़ में गिरने वाले 85 एमजीडी सीवर को रोजाना साफ कर नजफगढ़ नाले में डाला जाएगा। इससे यमुना के पानी का प्रदूषण 30% तक घटेगा और यह कदम यमुना साफ करने में बहुत मददगार साबित होगा साथ ही बादली, निगम बोध व मोरी गेट नालों पर कुल 55

### 40 जूनियर इंजीनियर्स की जलबोर्ड में होगी भर्ती...

दिल्ली जल बोर्ड में 40 जूनियर इंजीनियर्स की भर्ती की जाएगी। इन पदों के लिए दिल्ली स्टॉफ सेलक्शन बोर्ड से सलेक्ट करके जूनियर इंजीनियर्स की तैनाती होगी। इससे रोजगार के साथ साथ दिल्ली जल बोर्ड द्वारा किए जा रहे विभिन्न कार्यों में ओर तेजी आएगी। साथ ही लोगों की समस्याओं का समाधान भी हो जल्द से जल्द करने में मदद मिलेगी।

एमजीडी के सीवेज पंपिंग स्टेशन बनाए जाएंगे। इससे इन नालों का गंदा पानी यमुना में नहीं जाएगा।

सिसोदिया ने बताया कि दिल्ली के बादली एसी-5 में विजय चौक के पास गुरु नानक देव कॉलोनी में 28 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से 17 एमजीडी वेस्ट वाटर ट्रीटमेंट पंपिंग स्टेशन (डब्ल्यूडब्ल्यूपीएस) का निर्माण किया जा रहा है।