

The Hindu- 12- September-2023

In poll season, Cong. may go big on national status for canal project in Rajasthan

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

The ruling Congress in Rajasthan is set to turn the national status for the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) into a big issue ahead of the State Assembly election in view of its significance for 13 districts, which will benefit from the proposed project. The party will take out a *yatra* (march) this month to press for the demand for the national project status.

Five-day yatra

Pradesh Congress Committee president Govind Singh Dotasra said after a meeting of the Congress' campaign committee here on Monday that the five-day *yatra*, to be started after September 24, would traverse the 13 districts which were expected to get water for drinking and irrigation from the ERCP.

The Congress has repeatedly accused the Narendra Modi government of going back on its pro-



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot

mise to grant national project status to the ₹37,200-crore ERCP, which is to be implemented with the interlinking of Parvati, Kali Sindh and Chambal rivers. Since the Centre has not accepted the demand, the State government has started the work on it with its own resources.

In the first phase, the Navnera-Bisalpur-Isarda link, Mahalpur barrage and Ramgarh barrage are being constructed at a cost of ₹9,600 crore. The districts which will benefit from the project are Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Tonk, Jaipur, Karauli, Al-

war, Bharatpur, Dausa and Dholpur, where a population of 3.5 crore resides.

Mr. Dotasra said the ERCP was launched during the previous BJP regime by the then Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje. "The project has not been approved for the national status despite Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat hailing from Rajasthan," he said.

Congress office-bearers, accompanied by the members of the local community groups, will travel to the remote villages and hamlets in 13 districts during the *yatra* and generate public opinion against the Opposition BJP. The *yatra* will highlight the ERCP's significance for resolving the water scarcity issue.

The campaign committee's meeting was presided over by its chairman and Disaster Management and Relief Minister Govind Ram Meghwal. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and other party leaders attended the meeting.

The Hindu- 12- September-2023

Tamil Nadu likely to demand 9 tmc ft from Karnataka at Cauvery panel meeting

15-day spell of water release, as fixed by Cauvery Water Management Authority, is set to end today; Cauvery Water Regulation Committee had earlier recommended that 5,000 cusecs be released

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

With the 15-day spell of water release, as fixed by the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), coming to an end on Tuesday, and the storage of the Mettur dam continuing to dwindle, Tamil Nadu is set to demand, at a meeting of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC), that Karnataka wipe out a shortfall of about nine thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft).

The Committee's meeting is scheduled to be held in hybrid mode on Tuesday. When the CWRC last met on August 28, it recommended that 5,000 cusecs be released for 15 days, and this was accepted by the CWMA, which met the following day.

Last week, Karnataka submitted before the Supreme Court that it might not be feasible to release water from its reservoirs after September 12, citing a "severe drought situation" in the Cauvery and Krishna basins.

Distress-sharing formula

The quantity of the shortfall has been worked out by Tamil Nadu as per a distress-sharing formula, and



Last week, Karnataka submitted before the SC that it might not be feasible to release water from its reservoirs after September 12, citing a "severe drought situation" in the Cauvery and Krishna basins.

this pertains to the period from June 1 to August 27, the date before the last meeting of the CWRC. Taking into account 30-year data on deficit in inflows into four Karnataka reservoirs, Tamil Nadu had, in a rejoinder filed before the Supreme Court last month to an affidavit of the upper

riparian State, referred to the cumulative realisation of 30.254 tmc ft, as recorded at Biligundulu on the inter-State border. It contended that as per the formula, the State should have received 40.226 tmc ft. This meant there was a shortfall of 9.972 tmc ft.

Meanwhile, the storage

in the Mettur dam was 15.327 tmc ft while the water level stood at 45.9 ft. The discharge was 6,502 cubic feet per second while the inflow was 2,266 cusecs. If the present trend continues, it is only a matter of time before the release of water from the dam is stopped.

Millennium Post- 12- September-2023

19 killed in 24 hrs as rains lash UP, schools shut in some dists

Roof collapses, cases of drowning and deaths due to lightning were reported in parts of the state

MPST BUREAU

LUCKNOW: Nineteen people were killed in the past 24 hours as rain lashed Uttar Pradesh, disrupting normal life, particularly in the state's central region and forcing schools in some places to shut for a day, authorities said Monday evening.

Roof collapses, cases of drowning and deaths due to lightning were reported in parts of the state. Some localities in the capital Lucknow faced waterlogging. In Barabanki, rail tracks were flooded.

Four deaths were reported from Hardoi, three from Barabanki, two each from Pratapgarh and Kannauj, and one each from Amethi, Deoria, Jalaun, Kanpur, Unnao, Sambhal, Rampur and Muzaffarnagar districts, it said.

In Kannauj, two brothers -- Kallu (13) and Avnish (17) -- died after the thatched roof of their house in Lalkiyapur village in Tirwa area collapsed



on Sunday following overnight rains, Naib Tehsildar (revenue official) Ratnesh Kumar said.

In Muzaffarnagar district, Deepika (28) died after the roof of her house in Rahmatpur village in the Bhopa area collapsed last night, while her mother-in-law sustained serious injuries, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Subodh Kumar said on Monday.

In Deoria, Divya Chauhan (9) drowned while taking a bath

in a swollen rivulet in the district, police said on Monday.

In 22 districts of the state, there have been over 40 mm rain in the last 24 hours including Moradabad, Sambhal, Kannauj, Rampur, Hathras, Barabanki, Kasganj, Bijnor, Amroha, Bahraich, Lucknow, Badaun, Mainpuri, Hardoi, Firozabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Kanpur, Sitapur, Farrukhabad, Lakhimpur Kheri and Fatehpur.

Alleging corruption in the budget meant for smart cities', Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said waterlogging in Lucknow has exposed the blank promises of the BJP government.

"The BJP has betrayed the people of the state in the name of smart cities. There was corruption and loot in the budget for the scheme due to which the situation is palpable," he said.

"The state capital Lucknow and other cities are facing waterlogging and many colonies are submerged in water and drains are overflowing," Yadav said in a statement issued here.

According to the MET department forecast, heavy rains are likely in the eastern region till September 14 while light rains will continue till September 17, the official of the relief commissioner office said.

The western region of the state is also likely to get rains and showers till September 17,

though there is an alert for lightning over the state till September 15.

In Barabanki, the movement of trains was hit as water came on the railway tracks. A passenger train was halted at the outer for some time but later the trains were allowed to pass at a very slow pace, a railway official said.

Schools in the state capital remain closed on the order of the authorities.

In Lucknow, District Magistrate Surya Pal Gangwar ordered the closure of schools and issued an advisory for the people not to venture out unnecessarily in view of the possibility of severe lightning.

All the district-level officers in Lucknow are in the field and taking stock of the problems caused due to rain. The problem emanating from water logging is being looked into on an urgent basis in different parts of the state capital, the DM said.

Millennium Post- 12- September-2023

Pulses sowing declines by 8.58% so far in this kharif season due to monsoon deficit

NEW DELHI: Area sown to pulses remained lower by 8.58 per cent at 119.91 lakh hectares till last week of the ongoing kharif season due to 11 per cent monsoon rain deficit in the country, according to the agriculture ministry data.

Sowing of kharif crops begins with the onset of the southwestern summer monsoons that occur from June through September. Paddy is the main kharif crop, besides pulses, oilseeds, cotton and sugarcane.

As per the data released by the agriculture ministry, total area sown to paddy remained higher at 403.41 lakh hectares till September 8 of the ongoing kharif season, as against 392.81 lakh hectares in the year-ago period.

However in case of pulses, the sowing was lagging and coverage was lower at 119.91 lakh

As per the data released by the agriculture ministry, total area sown to paddy remained higher at 403.41 lakh hectares till September 8

hectares as against 131.17 lakh hectares in the said period a year ago.

Pulses acreage was down maximum in Madhya Pradesh, followed by Karnataka, and Maharashtra. In Madhya Pradesh, the pulses acreage remained less at 19.72 lakh hectares till September 8 of the ongoing kharif season as against 23.44 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. Pulses cov-

erage remained lower in Karnataka too at 16.70 lakh hectares as against 20.07 lakh hectares, while that in Maharashtra at 16.15 lakh hectares as against 18.89 lakh hectares in the said period.

But the pulses coverage in Rajasthan remained higher at 35.30 lakh hectares so far this kharif season as against 33.99 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. This could compensate slightly the lag in other major producing states.

As per the data, area under tur was down at 42.92 lakh hectares till September 8 of this kharif season as against 45.61 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. Urad coverage was also lower at 31.89 lakh hectares as against 37.08 lakh hectares, while moonbean was sown in less area at 31.11 lakh hectares as against 33.67 lakh hectares

in the year-ago period.

Kulthi was sown in 31,000 hectares, while other pulses in 13.68 lakh hectares till September 8. The pulses coverage remained lower due to lack of rains at the time of sowing.

As per the MeT Department, there was 11 per cent deficit in monsoon rains in the country between June 1 and September 6. There was 12 per cent deficit in monsoon in central India and 11 per cent deficit in rainfall in south peninsula during the said period.

According to the ministry data, coarse cereals was sown in 182.21 lakh hectares so far, marginally higher than 181.24 lakh hectares in the year-ago period.

Oilseeds were sown in 191.49 lakh hectares so far, marginally lower than 193.30 lakh hectares in the year-ago period.

PTI

The Tribune- 12- September-2023

Govt turns to Centre for design, funds for Renuka dam project

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, SEPTEMBER 11

The work on the construction of Renuka Dam project is likely to begin shortly. The state government, in a meeting with Secretary Water Resources, has sought the final design of the project and release of funds from the Centre to kick-start work on the ground. "Central Water Commission (CWC) will finalise the design for the project. However, before finalising the design, the CWC wants some investigations done at the dam site," said Rajeev Sharma, Secretary, Power.

Sharma said the CWC had asked the Geological Survey of India to get the permeability test done at the site. "The CWC has sought the reports of this test within two months. Once it gets the report, it will finalise the design and send it to us. We will then float the tender for the work," said Sharma.

The Secretary Power further said that the state government had urged the Centre that the money already spent by the state be accounted for while releasing the funds. "The funding for the project would be on 90:10 basis with the Centre bearing the 90



Sirmour area where Renukaji dam is slated to be constructed.

WILL GENERATE 40 MW POWER

- Renuka dam project is water storage project on Giri River in Sirmour district of the state
- The beneficiary states of the project are Delhi, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Himachal. The project will generate 40 MW power during peak flow
- As per the agreement, 90 per cent of the cost of irrigation or drinking water component will be provided by the Central government, while the remaining 10 per cent will be borne by the beneficiary states
- The land acquisition process for the project is almost complete, and the process for Stage 2 environmental clearance is being expedited by the authorities

per cent cost and the beneficiary states the remaining 10 per cent. We have urged the Centre to factor in the money already spent by the state under relief and rehabilitation," said Sharma.

He further said that the ground work for the project

is almost complete. "Land acquisition is almost done, and the process for Stage 2 environment clearance is being expedited," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone of the project in December, 2021.

Deccan Chronicle- 12- September-2023

TN causing 'unnecessary nuisance' over Cauvery, says Karnataka CM

Mysuru (K'taka), Sept 11: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday hit out at the BJP-led government at the Centre, alleging delay in giving approval to the construction of the Mekedatu balancing reservoir over river Cauvery, and accused neighbouring Tamil Nadu of causing "unnecessary nuisance" on the issue.

Karnataka has been pressing for the implementation of the Mekedatu project, saying it is the only solution for the Cauvery water dispute between the two states during times of rainfall distress.

"The BJP government at the Centre has not given permission for the Mekedatu project. Tamil Nadu has no reasons to oppose the project. It is in our territory, 177.25 TMC water has been allocated to Tamil Nadu and we have to release that much water to them in the normal years. And during distress time, the distress formula should be followed," Siddaramaiah said.

Speaking to reporters here, he accused Tamil Nadu of unnecessarily creating nuisance regarding the Mekedatu project, and said that despite Karnataka submitting a DPR (Detailed Project Report), permission is not being given.

"They (Centre) have to tell the Cauvery Water Management Authority

(to grant permissions), as it comes under the Government of India, but they are not doing it," he said, adding that BJP state leaders at the all party meeting said they would not do politics on the issue but they "come here and do politics".

The chief minister was responding to a question on BJP's criticism of his government for releasing Cauvery river water to Tamil Nadu, despite the river basin region in the state facing the threat of water scarcity due to deficit rainfall.

Pointing out that Karnataka was not releasing water to Tamil Nadu with joy but because of the CWMA order, Siddaramaiah said the government is duty-bound to protect the interest of the state's farmers, and drinking water needs of Mysuru, Bengaluru, and several other districts.

"In water policy, drinking water is the first priority and we have to protect the crops. Because the Authority asked water to be released, we have released water. They (TN) have approached the Supreme Court, but it has not issued any orders," he said, pointing that the case is coming up before the apex court on September 21, where the state will place the factual position.

On September 12, the state will put forward its position before the

CWMA as well, he said.

The government would not do politics at any cost, and would not compromise the interest of the state and its farmers, he added.

Tamil Nadu approached the Supreme Court earlier recently with a plea to direct Karnataka to release 24,000 cusecs of Cauvery water daily for standing crops.

Citing scarcity due to deficit monsoon rains, Karnataka has been maintaining that it will be able to release water to Tamil Nadu only after taking into account its needs like drinking water and standing crops, in the Cauvery basin areas.

Noting that till August-end 86 TMC water had to be released to Tamil Nadu, the CM said, "We have not released even half of it," as he hit out at the BJP for its criticism over releasing water.

"BJP has 25 MPs; when have they staged agitation in the parliament for the state?" he questioned, adding that his letter to the Centre requesting an appointment to lead an all-party delegation, has not got any response from the Prime Minister yet.

"Let state BJP leaders get the appointment, let them speak to the PM. They won't get us an appointment, neither will they go and speak to him," he charged.

—PTI

Telangana Today- 12- September-2023

PRLIS' redesign a master stroke

Helps improve Telangana's water availability; State can now lift 2.4 TMC per day from earlier proposed 0.5 TMC

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

In a transformative move, the redesign of the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) has improved Telangana's water availability by leaps and bounds.

The redesigning of the scheme now enables the State to lift around 2.4 TMC of water per day from the Krishna river, a significant leap from the previous proposal of 0.5 TMC per day in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. The water storage capacity in the Krishna basin has surged from less than 7 TMC to an impressive 67.97 TMC.

For several decades, Telangana primarily relied on the Krishna and Godavari river basins for water supply, leaving it vulnerable to drought during lean rainfall periods. The rulers of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh neglected the recommendations of the National Water Resources Development Commission, both the Bachawat and Brijesh Kumar Tribunals said in their reports, suggesting for the construc-



Telangana, which once relied on 8 TMC of water storage capacity in the Krishna basin, is now poised to reach 75.94 TMC.

tion of reservoirs and tanks in Telangana.

As a result, major and medium projects in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh had a total storage capacity of 1,232 TMC, with Telangana's

share at a mere 302 TMC. With changes in designs and locations for projects such as Jurala, Telangana continued to suffer due to inadequate water storage and supply. For instance, the Jurala

project's maximum storage capacity is 11.94 TMC, against its allocated 17.84 TMC. This prevented the State from utilising the allocated water optimally, leaving 70,000 acres without

sufficient irrigation facility.

Chief Minister K Chandrababtu Naidu recognised the importance of water storage for Telangana's agricultural prosperity. The Kaleshwaram project, with a

TS projects in Krishna basin

Project	Pump capacity	Lifting capacity
Jurala	NA	4,055 cusecs (gravity)
Nettempadu	17 MW (4)	3,000 cusecs
Rajiv Bheema	12 MW (3)	1,950 cusecs
Koil Sagar	7.5 MW (2)	630 cusecs
Kalwakurthy	30 MW (5)	3,200 cusecs

12,835

CUSECS
(1 TMC) per day
Total lifting capacity
of above 5 projects

24,000

CUSECS
(2 TMC) per day
Total lifting capacity
of PRLIS with 9 pumps
of 145 MW each

Total storage capacity of PRLIS 67.97 TMC

Anjanagiri at Narlapur	8.51 TMC
Veeranjaneya at Yedula	6.55 TMC
Venkatadri at Vattem	16.74 TMC
Kurumurthy Raya at Karivena	17.34 TMC
Uddadapur	16.03 TMC
KP Lakshmidivally reservoir	2.8 TMC

total storage capacity of 147 TMC to serve Telangana's diverse water needs. The PRLIS was thus redesigned, further enhancing the capacity to a staggering 67.97 TMCs from less than 7 TMC. Further, the restoration of checkdams and tanks has bolstered water storage potential, ensuring more reliable access to water resources.

Thus, Telangana, which once relied on just 8 TMC of water storage capacity in the Krishna basin, is now poised to reach 75.94 TMC, due to initiatives such as the Palamuru Rangareddy LIS. The reengineering of the project with modern infrastructure now enables the State to lift around 2 TMC per day, using the nine mammoth motor pumps of 145 MW each.

Dainik Jagran- 12- September-2023

बांधों की सुरक्षा के लिए सम्मेलन में जुटेंगे दुनिया के प्रमुख विशेषज्ञ

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: देश में बांधों की सुरक्षा को नई दृष्टि देने और उनके रखरखाव के आधुनिक तौर-तरीके अपनाने के लिए एक अहम सम्मेलन 14 और 15 सितंबर को जयपुर में होगा। इसमें दुनिया के प्रमुख बांध विशेषज्ञ शामिल होंगे। यह सम्मेलन इस लिहाज से खासा महत्वपूर्ण है, क्योंकि देश के लगभग 25 प्रतिशत बांध सौ वर्ष पुराने हैं और उनकी सुरक्षा व रखरखाव को लेकर सवाल उठते रहे हैं।

2021 में बांध सुरक्षा को लेकर नया कानून बनने के बाद से यह पहला बड़ा वैश्विक सम्मेलन है, जो बांध विशेषज्ञों के साथ ही निजी क्षेत्र को भी नई चुनौतियों को समझने में मदद देगा। जलशक्ति मंत्रालय के जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा पुनरुद्धार विभाग के सचिव पंकज कुमार के अनुसार इस अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में लगभग 15 देशों के बांध विशेषज्ञ भाग लेंगे। इसे राजस्थान जल आयोग, केंद्रीय जल आयोग, राष्ट्रीय बांध सुरक्षा प्राधिकरण, एमएनआइटी जयपुर, विश्व बैंक और एशियन इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर इनवेस्ट बैंक के सहयोग से आयोजित किया जाएगा। उपराष्ट्रपति जगदीप धनखड़ इसके मुख्य अतिथि होंगे।

पंकज कुमार ने कहा कि भारत

- 14 व 15 को जयपुर में होगा बांध सुरक्षा पर अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन
- देश के 25 प्रतिशत बांध सौ साल पुराने, उनका रखरखाव है बड़ा मुद्दा

बांधों की संख्या के लिहाज से अमेरिका और चीन के बाद तीसरे नंबर पर है। देश में लगभग छह हजार बांध हैं, जिनमें 75 प्रतिशत 25 साल पुराने हैं। 234 बांध तो सौ साल पुराने हैं।

इस लिहाज से उनकी सुरक्षा सबसे अहम है। 2021 में बांध सुरक्षा को लेकर जो नया कानून बना है, उसमें साल में दो बार इन बांधों के निरीक्षण की अनिवार्यता सुनिश्चित की गई है। बांधों की निगरानी और उनके रखरखाव के लिए कई देश एक-दूसरे का खासकर तकनीक के लिहाज से सहयोग कर रहे हैं। दुनिया भारत में बांध सुरक्षा के लिए बने इस कानून को एक बेंचमार्क के रूप में देख रही है।

जैसे-जैसे बांधों की संख्या बढ़ रही है, उनके प्रबंधन के लिहाज से चुनौतियां भी बढ़ रही हैं। पंकज कुमार ने उम्मीद जताई कि इस सम्मेलन से बांध सुरक्षा को लेकर राष्ट्रीय नीतियों को तय करने में मदद मिलेगी।

Jansatta- 12- September-2023



शोध

भारत में 2080 तक भूजल में तीन गुना कमी का खतरा

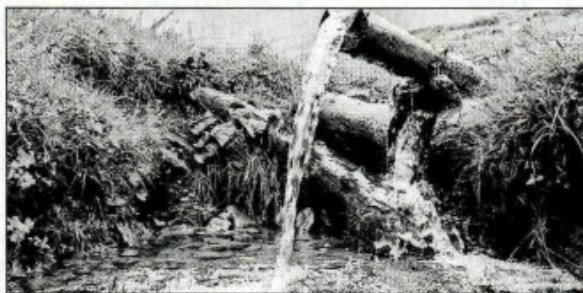
जनसत्ता संवाद

दुनिया भर में बढ़ता तापमान अपने साथ अनगिनत समस्याएं भी साथ ला रहा है, जिनकी जड़ से भारत भी बाहर नहीं है। ऐसी ही एक समस्या देश में गहराता जल संकट है जो जलवायु में आते बदलावों के साथ और गंभीर रूप ले रहा है। इस बारे में अंतरराष्ट्रीय शोधकर्ताओं द्वारा किए गए अध्ययन से पता चला है कि बढ़ते तापमान और गर्म जलवायु के चलते भारत आने वाले दशकों में अपने भूजल का कहीं ज्यादा तेजी से दोहन कर सकता है। अनुमान है कि इसके चलते 2040 से 2080 के बीच भूजल में आती गिरावट की दर तीन गुणा बढ़ सकती है। इस शोध के नतीजे एक सितंबर 2023 को अंतरराष्ट्रीय जर्नल साइंस एडवांसेज में प्रकाशित हुए हैं।

भारत दुनिया के अन्य देशों की तुलना में पहले ही कहीं ज्यादा तेजी से अपने भूजल का दोहन कर रहा है। आंकड़ों से पता चला है कि भारत में हर साल 230 क्यूबिक किलोमीटर भूजल का उपयोग किया जा रहा है, जोकि भूजल के वैश्विक उपयोग का लगभग एक चौथाई हिस्सा है। देश में इसकी सबसे ज्यादा खपत कृषि के लिए की जा रही है। देश में गेहूँ, चावल और मक्का जैसी प्रमुख फसलों की सिंचाई के लिए भारत बड़े पैमाने पर भूजल पर निर्भर है। लेकिन जैसे-जैसे तापमान में वृद्धि हो रही है, खेत तेजी से सूख रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही मिट्टी में नमी को सोखने की क्षमता भी घट रही है, जिसकी वजह से भारत में भूजल स्रोतों को रीचार्ज होने के लिए पर्याप्त जल नहीं मिल रहा है। नतीजन साल दर साल देश में भूजल का स्तर तेजी से नीचे गिरता जा रहा है।

अनुमान है कि बढ़ते तापमान के साथ जल उपलब्धता में आने वाली इस गिरावट के चलते एक तिहाई लोगों की जीविका पर खतरा मंडराने लगेगा। इसके न केवल भारत में बल्कि वैश्विक परिणाम भी सामने आएंगे। साथ ही इससे देश में खाद्य सुरक्षा के लिए भी खतरा पैदा हो जाएगा। इस बारे में अध्ययन से जुड़ी वरिष्ठ लेखक और यूनिवर्सिटी आफ मिशिगन के स्कूल फार

संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा जारी नई 'वर्ल्ड वाटर डेवलपमेंट रिपोर्ट 2023' में जारी आंकड़ों से पता चला है कि 2050 तक शहरों में पानी की मांग 80 फीसद तक बढ़ जाएगी। वहीं यदि मौजूदा आंकड़ों पर गौर करें तो दुनिया भर में शहरों में रहने वाले करीब 100 करोड़ लोग जल संकट से जूझ रहे हैं। रपट के मुताबिक, इससे भारत सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित होगा, जहां पानी को लेकर होने वाली खींचतानी कहीं ज्यादा गंभीर रूप ले लेगी।



एनवायरनमेंट एंड सस्टेनेबिलिटी में सहायक प्रोफेसर मेहा जैन का कहना है कि भारत में किसान बढ़ते तापमान से निपटने के लिए अधिक सिंचाई का उपयोग कर रहे हैं। यह एक ऐसी रणनीति जिस पर भूजल में आती गिरावट के पिछले अनुमानों के बारे में विचार नहीं किया गया है। उनके मुताबिक यह चिंताजनक है क्योंकि भारत दुनिया में सबसे ज्यादा भूजल का उपयोग करने वाला देश है जो क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक खाद्य उत्पादन दोनों में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।

अध्ययन में इस बात पर गौर किया गया है कि देश में बढ़ते तापमान के चलते फसलों पर पड़ने वाले दबाव से निपटने के लिए पानी की मांग बढ़ सकती है। इसकी वजह से किसानों को फसलों की सिंचाई में वृद्धि कर सकती है। शोध के अनुसार बढ़ते तापमान और सर्दियों में बारिश में आती गिरावट के चलते भूजल में गिरावट आ रही है, जिसकी भरपाई मानसून में होने वाली अतिरिक्त बारिश भी नहीं कर पा रही।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय जर्नल नेचर में प्रकाशित एक अन्य

अध्ययन से पता चला है कि 2050 तक दुनिया के 79 फीसद तक भूजल स्रोत खत्म हो जाएंगे। वैज्ञानिकों का अनुमान है कि उत्तर भारत जोकि देश में गेहूँ और चावल का प्रमुख उत्पादक क्षेत्र है, वहां 5,400 करोड़ घन मीटर प्रति वर्ष की दर से भूजल घट रहा है।

नीति आयोग ने भी अपनी एक रपट में देश में लगातार घटते भूजल के स्तर को लेकर चिंता जताई थी। इस रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भूजल में आ रही यह गिरावट 2030 तक गंभीर खतरे का रूप ले लेगी। इतना ही नहीं 2020 तक दिल्ली, बंगलुरु, चेन्नई और हैदराबाद सहित 21 शहरों में भूजल करीब-करीब खत्म होने की कगार पर पहुंच जाएगा। एक अन्य अध्ययन से पता चला है कि पश्चिम बंगाल के दक्षिण 24 परगना जिले में भूजल का स्तर औसत से 27.8 फीसद तक घट गया है। वहीं कोलकाता में भी भूजल में 18.6 फीसद की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। इतना ही नहीं अनुमान है कि 2025 तक कोलकाता के जल स्तर में 44 फीसद की गिरावट आ सकती है।