

Telangana Today- 13- September-2021

Water row: Emergency meeting today

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Chairpersons of the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) will attend an emergency meeting to be convened by the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) on Monday in New Delhi to discuss pending water issues pertaining to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in Krishna River basin.

KRMB and GRMB Chairpersons - MP Singh and J

Chandrashekhar Iyer respectively - will attend the meeting. They will also discuss the modalities to be adopted for implementing the gazette notification issued by the Central government, giving complete control of scores of projects in Telangana to KRMB and GRMB.

The notification will come into effect on October 14. The State government already shot off letters to the KRMB highlighting the violations committed by AP concerning the utilisation of

Krishna water. In a recent letter to the KRMB, State requested it to immediately stop water diversion through Pothireddypadu Head Regulator since it violated Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I (KWDT-I) Award.

It also urged the board to take deterrent action against the AP for diverting the water. State also urged the board to implement the provisions of KWDT-I without any further delay from the current water year and that there was absolutely no

need to seek any opinion from others. In response to the letter written by Engineer-in-Chief, Telangana Irrigation and Command Area Development C Muralidhar, the KRMB asked the AP government to furnish views and submit Detailed Project Reports of the proposed irrigation schemes and projects immediately to it. The State also requested the MoJS to verify whether the unapproved Veligonda project is eligible for funding under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.

Telangana Today- 13- September-2021

Inflows into reservoirs dip

CITY BUREAU**Hyderabad**

With rains receding in the city and surroundings, inflows into the twin reservoirs from upstream areas have dropped. Following this, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board closed one gate of Himayat Sagar and three gates of Osman Sagar. Presently, one gate at each reservoir has been kept open.

On August 31, two gates of Himayat Sagar were opened while four of Osman Sagar were lifted on September 4. The gates were lifted to release floodwater into Musi and to keep water

Two gates at Himayat Sagar and four at Osman Sagar were lifted to release floodwater into the Musi

level under control. The level at Himayat Sagar on Saturday stood at 1,762.15 feet against the FTL of 1,763.50 feet. The reservoir capacity is 2.97 TMC and the level was 2.63 TMC. Meanwhile, at Osman Sagar the levels were 1,788.75 feet against the FTL of 1,790.00 feet. The reservoir capacity is 3.90 TMC and the water level is 3.61 TMC.

The Hindu- 13- September-2021

NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

The draft NCR Regional Plan-2041 prepared by the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) has fixed 2026 as the new deadline to ensure 'zero discharge of untreated sewage and industrial discharge into the Yamuna'.

The story of cleaning up the Yamuna has so far been that of missed deadlines. The first Yamuna Action Plan (YAP), for which a loan agreement was signed in 1992, was for "improvement of water quality conservation in the river, and hygiene environment in the cities in the river basin".

After the first and second plans, YAP-III is presently under way, but the Yamuna is not even fit for bathing in the Delhi stretch, except for Palla – the point where the river enters Delhi – according to city government data.

On January 19, 2020, in the run up to the Assembly election, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced a 10-point guarantee card and said: "The Yamuna will be cleaned and made pollution-free. We promise that after five years, anyone will be able to take a dip in the Yamuna without fear of diseases due to dirty water."

But currently, levels of fecal coliform (microbes from human and animal excreta) is beyond the desirable levels in all points except for Palla. At some points, the concentration is 760 times the desirable level.

On March 9, during his budget speech, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said: "The Yamuna can now be cleaned completely within the next three years."

Officials say the Yamuna can be cleaned, but experts say it cannot be done with "business as usual" attitude. "We can clean the Yamuna and I will say that with a very big 'but'. The way things are right now, it is not going to happen, but it can be done if the government really wants to do it," said Manoj Misra, convenor of the Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan, a civil society initiative for the river's rejuvenation.

Cleaning the Yamuna A story of missed deadlines

Though only around 22 km of the 1,400-km river flows between Wazirabad and Okhla in Delhi, the national capital accounts for 76% of the pollution load on the river. Numerous projects have been launched to clean the river but they have so far yielded little to no results

The Yamuna originates in the Yamunotri glacier in the Himalayas and travels through Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi before its confluence with the Ganga.

Though only 2% of the 1,400-km river flows between Wazirabad and Okhla in Delhi, the city accounts for 76% of the pollution load on the river, as per one of the reports of a monitoring committee formed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

The Supreme Court and the NGT have also pulled up various authorities responsible for cleaning the river for their laxity.

According to the experts and the committee, two of the major causes of pollution are less water in the river in Delhi and 22 drains dumping sewage and industrial effluents into it.

To solve the first issue, the water flow has to be increased. The second one can be addressed by treating the sewage and effluents



generated in the city.

Missed deadlines

In 1994, the Supreme Court took cognisance of a newspaper article "Quiet Flows Maily (dirty) Yamuna" and summoned the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to explain the issue.

Later, various stakeholders, including the Delhi government, the Delhi Jal Board (DJB), the Delhi municipal corporations, and the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana governments became part of the case.

In a judgment on January 13, 2015, on a case filed by Mr. Misra,

the NGT formed the 'Maily se nirmal (from dirty to clean) Yamuna Revitalisation Plan, 2017', which was set to be completed by March 31, 2017. But that did not happen and the NGT, in July 2018, formed a monitoring panel headed by two retired bureaucrats to primarily implement the

From top: The Yamuna enters Delhi at Palla and is the least polluted at this point; a drain flows into the river; the Yamuna at Kalindi Kunj, the white froth is caused due to industrial effluents discharged through drains in Delhi. ■ R.V. MOORTHY, SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

2015 judgment. The NGT dissolved the committee in January 2021 and directed Chief Secretaries of various States monitor the progress.

Sewage problem

In Delhi, it is the duty of the DJB to treat the city's sewage.

Though the city generates 720 million gallons per day (MGD) of sewage, the Sewage Treatment Plants have a capacity of 597.26 MGD. Of the total capacity, 514.2 MGD is utilised (86%), leaving about 123 MGD of untreated sewage into the river, according to the DJB.

Multiple deadlines have been missed by the DJB too, though there is progress.

The DJB had told the NGT's monitoring panel that it will increase the utilisation of the existing STPs to 99% by June 2019, but more than two years after the deadline, it stands at 86%.

Similarly, the Interceptor Sewer Project (ISP), which has been in the plans since 2006, has been delayed multiple times.

"Entire flow (of sewage in drains) shall be trapped and treated by March 2023 after construction/rehabilitation of Coronation Pillar, Rithala and Kondli STP under YAP-III," reads a July report of the Delhi government, which states that the project is "completed".

Similarly, there are around 1,700 unauthorised colonies in Delhi with a total population of around 40 lakh. Currently, only 561 of these colonies have sewer lines; in the other localities, sewage is dumped directly into the Yamuna via drains. In 595 colonies, work is in progress on laying sewage pipes.

Mr. Misra, however, said un-

treated effluents from industries are more toxic. "The government counts only the industries in the industrial area when they say all of them have Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs), but there are hundreds of illegal industries in residential areas and all across Delhi, whose waste ends up in the Yamuna," he said.

More water

If there is more water in the river, it can dilute the pollutants. To assess the minimum required environmental flow of the Yamuna for the stretch between Hathnikund in Haryana to Okhla in Delhi, a study was assigned by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) to the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee, in December 2018.

As per the final draft report of the NIH, a flow of 23 cusecs is needed in the lean season, but increasing the flow is not that easy due to existing interstate water treaties.

"Ministry of Jal Shakti has observed that the water-sharing agreement of 1994 between Uttarakhand, H.P., U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi is due for revision in 2025 unless any of the States so demand, implying that no revision of water sharing will be possible to achieve the environmental flow in the Yamuna," the July report reads.

"Zero untreated discharge into Yamuna is a tall order, considering that the DJB is notorious for giving deadlines and then extending it. But it can be done. For instance, to increase the flow of water, all States have to come together and think about the river and not them, but it needs political will," Mr. Misra said.

The Hindu- 13- September-2021

Assam groups plan protest against dam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

More than 20 organisations have announced a joint movement against a mega hydropower project being built by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) on the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border.

Work on the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project at Gerukamukh was started in 2006 but halted in 2011 following protests amid fears of ecological damage and loss of livelihoods. Construction had resumed more than a year ago during the COVID-19 lockdown.

"We have decided on a string of protests, including blockade of the project site, against the NHPC from September 20. So far, 22 organisations have expressed support," Asom Jatiyabadi Yuba Chhatra Parishad (AJYCP) leader Palash Changmai said.

The AJYCP on Saturday organised a public meeting where geological and hydrological experts underlined the threat to areas downstream of the NHPC project. Leaders of the 22 organisations attended the meeting.

According to the AJYCP, work on the project was resumed without consulting 965 villages across four districts downstream of the project, as had been agreed upon in 2014.

Business Standard 13-September-2021

Farmers are now predominantly labourers, shows national survey

Farmer households earned more from wages than from cultivation in 2019 as latter stagnated

ABHISHEK WAGHMARE
Pune, 12 September

An average farming household in India earned ₹10,218 per month in 2018-19, up from ₹6,426 a month in 2012-13. This is a nominal income growth rate of about 60 per cent over six years.

However, after adjusting for inflation using the rural consumer price index, farmers' incomes have grown only 21 per cent in real terms in the period, according to a *Business Standard* analysis. India's real gross domestic product (the real size of the economy) grew 52 per cent in the same period.

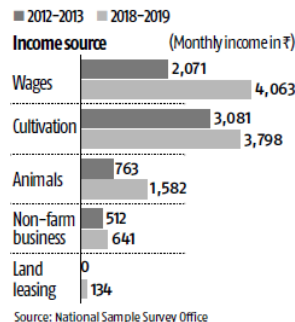
But more importantly, growth in income has been such that it has probably made the average Indian farmer more of a labourer.

He now earns more from wages than from cultivation, and this has happened for the first time ever.

In 2012-13, an average Indian farmer earned ₹3,081 per month from cultivation. This has grown to just ₹3,798 in 2018-19. Income from wages, on the other hand, has doubled from ₹2,071 to ₹4,063 in six years.



FARM WAGES DOUBLE



It must be noted that this is net income, or the net earnings after removing the pay-out expenses done on that activity. This data represents the state of farm households before the pandemic came.

Having said that, farming has taken the backseat in rural India at aggregate level. While the number of farming households increased from 90 million to 93 million in six years, the number of families not

engaged in agriculture rose from 66 million to nearly 80 million in the same period (2013-19).

An average farm household in India had debts of ₹74,121 in 2018-19, compared to ₹47,000 in 2012-13

The findings for the period July 2018-June 2019 were presented in the report "Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households and Land and Holdings of Households in Rural India", by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The income and expenditure of farmer households captured in this

report by the National Sample Survey Office is one of the most credible pieces of nationwide official government data on farmers' incomes in India.

The latest report also estimates imputed expenses of farm households, apart from pay-out expenses, which the previous reports of the series had not done. Adjusting for the imputed expenses, net income from cultivation further drops to ₹3,058 per month in 2018-19.

An average farm household in India had debts of ₹74,121 in 2018-19, compared

to ₹47,000 in 2012-13. Thus, as income grew 60 per cent over six years, average debt, too, rose, by 57 per cent.

Indebtedness, or the share of farming households indebted, has remained steady. While it was 51.9 per cent in 2012-13, the proportion marginally reduced to 50.2 per cent in 2018-19.

Apart from income and debt, physical characteristics of Indian farming have also changed, and in some cases, the long-term trend has continued. The disintegration of land parcels has continued unabated for two decades, the report shows. But more worryingly, landlessness has increased.

Average land held by a land-owning farmer household has shrunk from 0.806 hectare in 2003 to 0.558 hectare in 2019. While the share of landless families among farming households had declined from 10 per cent in 2003 to 7.4 per cent in 2013, it has increased again over the period from 2013 to 2019, to 8.2 per cent.

The report defines a household as an agricultural household if it earns more than ₹4,000 per year from agricultural activities.

The Pioneer 13-September-2021

Srisailem project displaced still wait for rehabilitation

PNS ■ NAGARKURNOOL

Srisailem project displaced persons allege injustice to them for the past 36 years and claim that as promised by the then state government, a job for each displaced person's family and rehabilitation package is yet to reach them. In fact, the then government issued GO No.98 on the package to rehabilitate the displaced persons.

The multi-purpose project has displaced people from 60 villages, including Yerragattu Bollaram, Chinnam Bavi and Molachintalapalli.

The people of these villages used to cultivate lands inherited by them from ancestors.

The multi-purpose project has been executed successfully and irrigating the ayacut lands, but the anticipated rehabilitation package was never in sight.

At the beginning, a token compensation was paid to the displaced persons. Beyond which, no comprehensive package was given, the displaced persons allege.

No official from the state



government visited their villages, they lamented.

Their hopes of getting justice in the Telangana state have dashed against the wall, they said. On account of the lackadaisical attitude of the government, red tapism and bureaucracy, lack of coordination between various government departments led to confusion among the displaced persons. Many displaced persons expecting a government job for each house and rehabilitation package breathed their last. Many of the displaced persons are on the verge of death hoping to receive the benefits one day or the other.

The then government in undivided AP rehabilitated 66 families at Yerragattu near Molachintalapalli in the government land listed under survey number 399. The officials weaned the farmers practising Podu on the outskirts of the village stating that the land belonged to the forest department.

In fact, over 69 villages rendered displaced by the project. In all, 26 villages were submerged in Kollapur mandal, 25 in Alampur mandal, 8 in Gadwal mandal and 10 in Wanaparty mandal by the project waters.

There were 13 mini lift irri-

gation schemes on the back waters of Krishna river, but at least one scheme did not benefit the displaced persons. The Kalwakurti Lift Irrigation Scheme facilitates lift irrigating 40 tmc of Krishna water, but the then Congress government did not bother to show initiative to store at least five tmc of water.

The then Congress government sanctioned 'Indiramma houses' for the displaced, but, the forest authorities did not allow the displaced to construct the houses. Barring a single overhead water tank, there were no signs of any development in the displaced persons rehabilitation colony. There were no pucca roads, houses or permanent buildings. While a handful of five managed to build homes, the rest of them are living in thatched houses.

In 1997, funds have been sanctioned for construction of a school building. But the forest officials objected to construction of the building. Consequently, school is being run in a thatched house.

New Indian Express- 13- September-2021

THE CULTURE OF WATER IN INDIA

ANURADHA GOYAL

Author and founder
of IndiTales

Puri becomes the first city in India to provide quality drinking water in taps' was the headline in most media outlets recently. Everyone congratulated the Odisha government and rightly so. Puri is one of the most visited destinations in the country. The visiting population ends up using packaged water both due to availability as well as safety reasons—perceived or real. It almost seems like a dream to drink straight from the tap, at least in most urban areas.

The news took me back to my student days in the 1980s and till the mid-1990s, when we used to travel across the country in trains. We ate what was sold at the stations. We filled our water bottles or clay *Surahis* at railway stations, without ever worrying about the quality of water. Bottled water was not yet ubiquitous, nor was the pollution it created glaring at us everywhere. Do we realise that just about 25-30 years ago, we trusted the tap water across the country? We had no second thoughts

or doubts while drinking from taps at most places. Tap water not being safe was an exception rather than the other way round. What happened in these two-three decades that we cannot consume tap water without passing it through multiple filtering and purifying machines? It has become one of the biggest selling commodities.

Flip the news and you see that what was freely available till sometime ago has been reduced to just one city and that too after considerable effort. Is it a problem we have created by polluting the sources of water? Or, it is a problem that is profitable to have as it feeds many industries like packaged water, water purifiers, water tankers, to name a few.

How is it that our regions with maximum rainfalls fall short of drinking water in summers? The same goes for our coastal regions with so many rivers flowing close to them. There cannot be deficiency of water with so many rivers and ample

rains. It has to be our inability to store and manage the water we so generously receive. Why are we still not studying places like Mandu that had one of the best local water management systems? Imagine a densely populated city on top of a hill with no natural source of water, storing the rainwater in a way that they could even afford swimming pools. Why are we not restoring our thousands of stepwells and temple tanks to store water as well as recharge groundwater? There are some sporadic efforts in some places, but they are mostly individual efforts, appreciable but not enough.

How is it that our homes in urban areas are relying on those operating water tankers, who magically have access to



What was freely available till sometime ago—tap water safe to drink—is now present in just one city, Puri, and that too after considerable effort. Is it a problem we have created by polluting the sources of water? Or is it a problem that is profitable to have as it feeds many industries? ... Have we forgotten our sacred bond with water as one of the five primordial elements in our universe?

water they can sell, while our agencies cannot supply the same despite all the resources in their control? Have we thought about the ecological cost of transporting water in tankers? How does a corporate organisation manage to distribute packaged water to remotest corners of the country through a small but focussed network? They are essentially selling our water to us after the basic purification process, by creating a demand that should not exist in the first place if things worked the way they should.

I am reminded of different *Pi-
aus* or water pots that still pop up in the hinterlands of north India during summers. Making water available to the thirsty is considered the best way to collect good karma. It is not uncommon to see people personally offering water. In Punjab, it goes further in the form of *Chhabeeel*, where *sharbat* or juices are offered to travellers who are out in the sun. Similar traditions are followed across the country. To me, this is the most beautiful part of Indian culture. Our great grandmothers may have been shocked at the fact that we sell water in plastic bottles, at prices comparable to milk in upmarket areas.

Have we forgotten our sa-

cred bond with water, as a nurturer and as one of the five primordial elements in our universe? We wash off worshipping our waterbodies as superstition or obsolete practices. Little do we realise that they help us create a bond and respect for the water that is at the core of our existence. Most of us would struggle to name the source from where our drinking water comes.

In other news, Indore, Hyderabad, Surat, Visakhapatnam and a few more places got certified as Water Plus cities. My natural instinct was to believe that these cities have more water than they need. Having lived in Hyderabad, it did seem a tall claim. A bit of reading informed me that it actually means that the city is able to dispose of its waste water responsibly, including recycling and reusing at least 30% of it. As part of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, cities have to make sure sewage water is not going to rivers and other sources of drinking water.

I hope one day our cities would be 'Water Plus' in the real sense, when we would learn to respect water and consume less than what we receive through rivers or rains.

(Tweets @anuradhagoyal)

The disappearing wetlands of India

These water bodies are falling prey to real estate mafia on the one hand and becoming dumping ground for waste on the other

The presence of wetlands in urban India is almost taken for granted. These stagnating marshes and bogs are instinctively seen as dumping grounds for construction and other waste material. Almost every city and town in India probably has that wetland which is suffocating under eutrophication thanks to proliferating water hyacinth and algae.

As the water body and the life forms in it fight a losing battle, the final nail in the coffin is served by the real estate mafia who nibble away slowly but steadily at the wetland till enough land is cleared up to be encroached. Thus, in this manner another wetland in India would have died a silent death.

India has 7,57,060 wet-



KOTA SRIRAJ

(The writer is an environmental journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

lands that are ostensibly protected by the Wetland (Conservation & Management Rules) 2017 but unfortunately the enthusiasm of the rules does not extend beyond the paper as illegal acts continue to wreak havoc on wetland across India.

The size matters too, the smaller the wetlands the lesser their chance of survival. In fact, 5,55,557 wetlands out of the 7,57,060 are smaller sized wetlands and hence at a greater risk of disappearing swiftly. But smaller wetlands are by no means environmentally irrelevant as they support almost the same scale of aquatic life and rich biodiversity as the big wetlands.

Historically, India was a water surplus nation due to the widespread availability of wet-



lands, but these water bodies were eventually sidelined in favour of piped water supply so as to gain control over an important natural resource such as water.

Though this act of colonizing water resources provided power and cash to humanity, but it sealed the fate of wetlands forever and resulted in the beginning of water scarcities.

It is critical for India to understand the role played by wetlands to enhance water

resources availability and rejuvenate these water bodies so that water scarcity is replaced with water security.

Apart from being a valuable water resource, wetlands play an essential role in conserving environment and keeping climate change in check. These underestimated water bodies can absorb carbon, replenish groundwater and prevent floods.

They also play a vital role in attracting a variety of wildlife including migratory birds due to which the region around the wetland develops a very healthy balance of human existence and flora and fauna.

The wetlands provide good moisture content in the air which in turn plays a critical role in reining in

air pollution.

Let alone metropolises, the wetlands in smaller cities in India are facing woeful times. Uttarakhand in northern India is an apt example where over 70 per cent of the 994 documented wetlands are facing extinction due to delayed conservation. The 2.62-hectare Niranjapur wetland in Dehradun lying in a coveted real estate location is fast falling prey to builder mafia on one hand and becoming dumping ground for domestic and construction waste on the other. As the construction waste and rubble gradually reach the wetland floor, the process of the water body drying up begins. This is accelerated by the lack of rains and ever-increasing eutrophication levels. All these factors

eventually pave the way for real estate builders to approach the dried-up wetland area and usurp the prime property.

These conditions are fast becoming normal for most of the wetlands in India and unless remedial measures are undertaken on priority basis, the nation will lose some of the best and oldest natural water bodies. In order to make an immediate difference, the government must commission a satellite-assisted remote sensing-based wetland census project to authentically draw up a data of current number of wetlands across India. The last such wetland census exercise was done in 2013 and the data is too old considering the pace of climate change and anthropogenic activities which have changed the ground situation

very much since then.

In addition to this, all the available data concerned with wetlands must be digitally inventoried. This will help earmark wetlands and their buffer zones on public domains and, therefore, assist planners and the public to steer clear of the same when undertaking developmental activities. This in turn will stop encroachment in the name of development.

The government must also undertake immediate measures to cut off the nutrient-rich domestic waste seeping into wetlands as it assists in the growth of algae and water hyacinth. Finally, a nationwide wetland de-siltation project will aid in restoring the lost glory of the wetlands and halt their disappearance.

Amar Ujala- 13- September-2021

2024 तक हर घर नल का जल पर काम कर रहा केंद्र : शेखावत

कोटा। केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने कहा, जल जीवन मिशन के तहत केंद्र 2024 तक हर घर में नल के पानी के कनेक्शन को सुनिश्चित करने पर काम कर रही है। पीएम मोदी ने जब 15 अगस्त 2019 को मिशन की घोषणा की थी, तब 19 करोड़ में से केवल 3.2 करोड़ घरों में नल के पानी का कनेक्शन था। मिशन के बाद से पांच करोड़ कनेक्शन उपलब्ध कराए गए हैं। एजेंसी

Haribhoomi- 13- September-2021

2521 करोड़ रुपए से अधिक के कार्य मंजूर प्रदेश में ग्रामीण आबादी के लिए तैयार होंगी 2840 जल-संरचनाएं

राज्य सरकार ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में नल से जल की करेगी व्यवस्था

हरिभूमि न्यूज ►► मोपाल

प्रदेश में ग्रामीण क्षेत्र की जल व्यवस्था को लेकर राज्य सरकार लगातार पहल कर रही है। इसी क्रम में प्रदेश शासन के लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग ने 2521 करोड़ 23 लाख 44 हजार रुपए लागत की जलप्रदाय योजनाओं की जल जीवन मिशन में मंजूरी दी है। इसमें ग्रामीण क्षेत्र की अब तक की सर्वाधिक 2840 जल संरचनाएं शामिल हैं।

अपर मुख्य सचिव, लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग मलय श्रीवास्तव ने बताया कि प्रदेश के 45 जिलों की ग्रामीण जलप्रदाय योजनाओं से जुड़े 2840 प्राप्त प्रस्तावों का परीक्षण कर स्वीकृति जारी की गई है। उन्होंने बताया कि विभाग द्वारा पहली बार इतनी बड़ी राशि की जलप्रदाय योजनाओं की मंजूरी दी गई है। विभाग का मैदानी अमला शीघ्र



जलप्रदाय योजनाओं को पूरा कर ग्रामीण आबादी को नल कनेक्शन से पेयजल उपलब्ध करवाना सुनिश्चित करेगा। प्रदेश की समूची ग्रामीण आबादी को घरेलू नल कनेक्शन से पेयजल की आपूर्ति किए जाने के लिए राष्ट्रीय जल जीवन मिशन तहत लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग द्वारा निरंतर जल-संरचनाओं की स्थापना एवं विस्तार के कार्य किए जा रहे हैं। प्रदेश में अब तक करीब 3260 ग्रामों के शत-प्रतिशत घरों में नल कनेक्शन के माध्यम से पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने की व्यवस्था की जा चुकी है।

गुणवत्ता प्रभावित ग्रामों को प्राथमिकता

जल जीवन मिशन जल गुणवत्ता प्रभावित ग्रामों, सांसद आदर्श ग्रामों तथा अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति बहुल ग्रामों को प्राथमिकता में रखा जाता है। लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग ने चालू वित्तीय वर्ष (31 मार्च 22) तक ग्रामीण आबादी को कुल 22 लाख 805 नल कनेक्शन देने का लक्ष्य रखा था। विभाग द्वारा एकजाई 2840 जलप्रदाय योजनाओं की इस मंजूरी से आगामी माहों में विभाग की सुनियोजित और समयबद्ध कार्रवाई से शेष लक्ष्य को पूरा किया जाएगा।

Rajasthan Patrika- 13- September-2021

मानसून: राजस्थान, मध्यप्रदेश और छत्तीसगढ़ में तेज बारिश का अनुमान 12 राज्यों में जम के बरसे मेघ; कश्मीर में बादल फटा, 4 मौत

कई राज्यों में भारी
बारिश का अलर्ट

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नई दिल्ली, जम्मू-कश्मीर के बारामूला जिले में दंगीवाचा के ऊँचाई वाले इलाके में शनिवार देर रात बादल फटने से आई बाढ़ से एक ही परिवार के चार लोगों की मौत हो गई। इनमें तीन नाबालिग थे। प्रशासन ने रविवार को सभी शव बरामद कर लिए। ये लोग घुमंतू समुदाय से ताल्लुक रखते थे।

मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आइएमडी) के अनुसार, देश के 12 राज्यों में भारी बारिश हुई है। विभाग ने अगले पांच दिन के लिए कई राज्यों में भारी बारिश का अलर्ट जारी किया है। दिल्ली, हरियाणा, राजस्थान, मध्यप्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, महाराष्ट्र, पंजाब और ओडिशा के कई हिस्सों में कुछ दिन जमकर बारिश हो सकती है। हालांकि, इन राज्यों में पिछले दो दिन से अच्छी बारिश हो रही है। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार, पूर्वी राजस्थान और बंगाल की खाड़ी के ऊपर बने सिस्टम के और तेज होने की संभावना है।

शिमला: पहाड़ दरका, हाइवे अवरुद्ध



हिमाचल प्रदेश की राजधानी शिमला के बधाल में रविवार को भूस्खलन से पहाड़ दरका गया। पत्थर गिरने से राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-5 अवरुद्ध हो गया।



भूस्खलन और बर्फबारी

हिमाचल में मूसलाधार बारिश और भूस्खलन से कई सड़क मार्ग बंद हो गए हैं। चंडीगढ़-शिमला मार्ग पर धर्मपुर और जाबली के बीच सड़क विनाशे लगातार पहाड़ों के सरकने की घटनाएं हो रही हैं। सरकार ने लोगों को इस मार्ग पर यात्रा करने से समय तक रूकने की अपील की है। उधर, मनाली, लाइल और धौलाधार की

ऊपरी चोटियों पर हिमपात हुआ है। इधर, मौसम विभाग ने सोमवार को पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में कई स्थानों और पूर्वी अंचल में कुछ स्थानों पर बारिश होने या गरज-दमक के साथ बौछारे पड़ने का अनुमान जताया है। दिल्ली, एनसीआर, पंजाब, राजस्थान में सोमवार सुबह तक बारिश जारी रह सकती है।

ओडिशा: मछुआरों को लौटने की सलाह

आइएमडी ने कहा, उत्तरी महाराष्ट्र के साथ-साथ पूर्वी विदर्भ व मराठवाड़ा के कुछ हिस्सों में बारिश जारी रह सकती है। मौसम विभाग ने अगले दो दिनों में ओडिशा में बहुत भारी बारिश की केंद्रबिंदु के बाद मछुआरों को तट पर लौटने की सलाह दी है।

दिल्ली का दरिया हो जाना

देश की राजधानी दिल्ली हर वर्ष बारिश से दरिया बन जाती है। घरों से बाहर निकले लोग सड़कों पर डूबने उतर जाते हैं। जाम और जल भराव में फंस जाते हैं। कहीं कोई कार को धक्के मार रहा है तो कोई लंबालब पानी में फंसी अपनी स्कूटी को लेकर बाहर निकलने की जदोजहद करता दिखाई देता है। आखिर लोग अपनी किस्मत को दोष दें या फिर ऊपर वाले को या फिर सरकार को कोसें। पिछले दो दिन से आसमान पर बादलों का डेरा है और जमीन पर पानी का प्रहार है। दिल्ली में 1944 के बाद इस बार सितम्बर माह में सबसे अधिक बारिश हुई है। बारिश का एक नया रिकार्ड यह भी है कि बीते 121 साल में सबसे ज्यादा पिछले 24 घंटों में बारिश हुई। इससे पूर्व 77 वर्ष पहले सितम्बर 1944 में सबसे ज्यादा 417 मि.मी. बारिश दर्ज की गई थी। पिछले चार महीनों में 1139 मि.मी. बारिश दर्ज की गई जो 46 वर्षों में सबसे अधिक है। 1975 में हुई 1155 मि.मी. वर्षा हुई थी। दिल्ली के हवाई अड्डे पर नाव चलाने की नौबत आ गई। एक जगह बस पानी में डूब गई, बड़ी मशक्कत से 40 यात्रियों को निकाला गया। हर जगह सड़कें सैलाब में गुम हो गईं।

ऐसी स्थिति केवल दिल्ली में ही नहीं अन्य शहरों में भी है। बाढ़ के चलते शहर डूब जाएं तो बात समझ में आती है। मान लिया जाता है कि प्रकृति पर किसी का वश नहीं है, लेकिन अब कुछ घंटों की बारिश में दिल्ली ही नहीं बल्कि उससे जुड़े गुरुग्राम, फरीदाबाद और अन्य उपनगर भी डूब जाते हैं।

उत्तर भारत से लेकर दक्षिण भारतीय शहरों की भी इसी तरह की दशा है। हम भले ही यह कहें कि वर्षा मौसलाधार हुई है, परन्तु यह भी सच्चाई है कि शहर प्रकृति के कारण नहीं मानव द्वारा प्रकृति से खिलवाड़ के कारण डूब रहे हैं। पहले तो हम डूब चुके हैं, शहर तो अब डूबे हैं। वर्षा तो पहले भी होती थी। सात-सात दिन लगातार वर्षा होती थी। जब भी मानसून के दिनों में वर्षा शुरू होती थी तो लोगों के मुंह से यही शब्द सुनने को मिलते थे- 'शानि की झड़ी टूटे न लड़ी।' लेकिन तब शहर शोकांतिका में नहीं डूबते थे। वर्षा खत्म होते ही जनजीवन सामान्य हो जाता था। ऐसी स्थिति के लिए हम हर साल व्यवस्था को कोसते हैं, ऐसी स्थिति के लिए जिम्मेदार कौन है? सरकार प्रशासन और स्थानीय निकाय। वर्षा जनित हादसों में अनेक लोगों की मौत हो जाती है, हर साल वर्षा को लेकर सियासत भी होती है।

वास्तव में हम तय नहीं कर पा रहे कि विकास का एक तरीका होता है लेकिन हम वर्षों से अनियोजित विकास कर रहे हैं। यह विकास अपनी संस्कृति, अपनी सभ्यता और जीवन की जड़ों से कट कर किया है। शहरों में आबादी का दबाव काफी बढ़ गया है, ड्रेनेज सिस्टम काफी पुराना है, वह बोझ सहने को तैयार नहीं। नई सड़कें भी बनीं, शहरों में फ्लाईओवरों का जाल बिछाया गया। आप दिल्ली को ही देख लीजिए आज फ्लाईओवरों के दोनों तरफ वर्षा के दौरान पानी भर जाता है। अंडरपास भी पानी में डूब जाते हैं। दीनदयाल उपाध्याय मार्ग से मिंटो ब्रिज तक की सड़क ऐसी है, जिसकी तस्वीर हर मानसून में हम अखबारों और टीवी चैनलों पर देखते हैं, जहां दशकों से पानी भरता है, लेकिन अब ऐसे कई अन्य मंजर देखने को मिलते हैं। हाइवे भी बहुत बने, शहरों के बीच की दूरी भी काफी कम हो गई। परन्तु हाइवे को बनाने में खाली जगहों पर कई टन मिट्टी डाल कर बहुत सारी लेन वाली सड़कें हमने तैयार कर दीं। वर्षा का पानी निकालने की जगह तो हमने खुद ही कम कर दी। कभी शहरों और गांवों में बड़े-बड़े तालाब, पोखर और कुएं होते थे और वर्षा का पानी इनमें धीरे-धीरे समा जाता था। जिससे भूजल का स्तर बढ़ता जाता था। सदियों से नदियों की अविरल धारा और उनके तट पर मानव जीवन फलता-फूलता रहा लेकिन कई दशकों में विकास की ऐसी धारा बही कि नदियों की धारा आबादी के बीच आ गई और आबादी की धारा को जहां जगह मिली वहीं बस गई। दिल्ली में यमुना नदी का कैचमेंट एरिया कभी काफी विस्तृत था, लेकिन कालोनियां बसती गईं। जब यमुना उफान पर होती है तो आबादी को खतरा पैदा हो जाता है। दिल्ली, मुम्बई, गुरुग्राम, कोलकाता, पटना में जल निकासी की व्यवस्था है ही नहीं। महानगरों में भूमिगत सीवर जल भराव का सबसे बड़ा कारण है। हम भूमिगत सीवर के लायक संस्कार नहीं सीख पाए। लाख प्रयासों के बावजूद हम पॉलीथीन और नष्ट न होने वाली चीजों का इस्तेमाल करने से रुक नहीं रहे हैं।

कोरोना से बचने के लिए इस्तेमाल किए गए मास्क वर्षा के पानी में साफ बहते दिखाई दे रहे हैं। लोगों को कोई परवाह ही नहीं कि फिर से संक्रमण फैला तो स्थिति भयानक होगी। विकास के लिए हमने सिंगापुर की नकल तो मार ली, शहरों को पैरिस बनाने का वादा भी किया। मगर हमने अक्ल से काम नहीं लिया। अगर फ्लाईओवरों के दोनों किनारे, अंडरपास पानी से भर जाते हैं तो इनमें डिजाइन में कमी को तलाश करना होगा। शहरी नियोजनकर्ताओं को जान लेना चाहिए कि भविष्य की योजनाएं समझदारी से बनाएं और जल निकासी व्यवस्था को सुदृढ़ बनाएं।

सदियों से नदियों की अविरल धारा और उनके तट पर मानव जीवन फलता-फूलता रहा लेकिन कई दशकों में विकास की ऐसी धारा बही कि नदियों की धारा आबादी के बीच आ गई और आबादी की धारा को जहां जगह मिली वहीं बस गई।

दिल्ली में यमुना नदी का कैचमेंट एरिया कभी काफी विस्तृत था, लेकिन कालोनियां बसती गईं। जब यमुना उफान पर होती है तो आबादी को खतरा पैदा हो जाता है। दिल्ली, मुम्बई, गुरुग्राम, कोलकाता, पटना में जल निकासी की व्यवस्था है ही नहीं। महानगरों में भूमिगत सीवर जल भराव का सबसे बड़ा कारण है।