

Deccan Chronicle- 17- October-2021

GRAVE ISSUE

**Water dirtied by naturally occurring chemicals, pesticides, fertilisers, poultry feed**

# Of 13L water sampled, over 1L are contaminated

New Delhi, Oct. 16: More than 1.11 lakh of the over 13 lakh drinking water samples tested across the country under a government programme have been found contaminated, according to official data.

The samples were taken as per the government's drinking water testing and surveillance programme.

The contamination of samples includes that from naturally occurring chemicals and minerals, such as arsenic, fluoride, iron and uranium, in the earth layer, local land use practices like fertilisers, pesticides, livestock and

concentrated feeding operations, the data under the Jal Shakti ministry programme stated. It also said that contaminations can also be by manufacturing processes like heavy metals or cyanide near drinking water sources.

Water contamination also includes malfunctioning on-site wastewater treatment systems such as septic systems and twin pit toilets; microbial contamination through mixture of waste water in drinking water source or distribution line, the ministry said.

In addition, drinking

● **THE TESTING OF** water samples is being done across 2,011 active laboratories, and water from 2,05,941 villages have been tested till now, according to the ministry data.

water that is not properly treated or that travels through an improperly maintained distribution system, pipes, may also create conditions that increase risk of contamination, it said.

Out of the 13,17,028 samples tested in laboratories, as many as 1,11,474 were

found contaminated, according to the data.

If a water sample fails quality test, authorities can be informed online and they can check if any action has been taken, an official said.

The testing of water samples is being done across 2,011 active laboratories, and water from 2,05,941 villages have been tested till now, according to the ministry data.

The government has also started water quality surveillance using field test kits (FTKs) under which five women from every village are trained in water

quality surveillance using these kits to lead these activities in their village, the ministry said.

Data stated that 7,39,362 users have been trained for testing water samples using FTKs and 6,27,752 samples have been tested across 32,697 villages, and 22,518 contaminated samples have been found using the kits. The ministry in March had launched a framework and guidelines for testing, monitoring and surveillance of drinking water quality as well as a water quality information management system (WQMIS), an online

portal that provides detailed information on laboratories.

The basic water quality parameters prescribed under the guidelines are pH value, total dissolved solids, turbidity, chloride, total alkalinity, total hardness, sulphate, iron, total arsenic, fluoride, nitrate, total coliform bacteria, E.coli or thermo-tolerant coliform bacteria, the ministry said.

The initiative has been started under the Jal Jeevan Mission which aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all.

-PTI

Millennium Post- 17- October-2021

# 1.11L of 13L drinking water samples found contaminated

*Initiative started under the Jal Jeevan Mission*

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The initiative has been started under the Jal Jeevan Mission which aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.

PTI

## ‘Water supply will not be affected in Delhi due to closure of Ganga Canal’

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi Jal Board (DJB) on Saturday said the water supply in the national Capital will not be affected following the closure of Ganga Canal for maintenance till November 5.

The Ganga Canal, which largely supplies water for drinking and irrigation purposes to several districts of western Uttar Pradesh, including Ghaziabad, was shut for maintenance on Friday. DJB roughly supplies around 900-950 MGD (Million Gallons per Day) water in the national capital.

According to DJB officials, apart from ground water, Delhi depends largely on the Yamuna river and partially on Ganga

river for water supply.

It also gets water from western Yamuna canal, they said.

A senior DJB official said there is no need to panic as only a small percentage of water comes to Delhi from Ganga Canal which can be balanced thorough supply from Yamuna river. “There will no disturbance or shortage in water supply in the city due to closure of the Ganga Canal. We have sufficient water in Yamuna so the shortage from Ganga Canal can be met through excess water from Yamuna. There is no need to worry,” the DJB official told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

AGENCIES



The Asian Age- 17- October-2021

# Devotees immerse Durga idols in Yamuna despite ban

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 16

In a blatant violation of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) order over a ban on idol immersion in River Yamuna along with other natural water bodies in the national capital, several Delhiites have flouted the DPCC norms issued a day before the 'visarjan' (immersion) ritual.

On Saturday morning, Yamuna Ghat, at the ITO, was found littered with idols, other religious materials, and waste.

DPCC, the Delhi government's pollution control body, in its October 13 order, had said that idol immersion should not be allowed during Durga Puja and other festivals in any public place, including River Yamuna or any other water body, ponds,

ghats, etc.

Consequent pollution of such water bodies has been a matter of concern. In addition to silting, toxic chemicals used in making idols tend to leach out and pose serious problems of water pollution.

"Studies carried out to assess deterioration in water quality due to idol immersion reveal the deterioration of water quality in respect to conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand, and heavy metal concentration," the order had said, adding that instead the idol immersion ritual may be performed within the home premises in buckets or containers.

The DPCC order had directed the district magistrates to enforce guidelines related to idol immersion, adding that each violator will be liable to pay ₹50,000 to the Delhi

pollution control body.

The pollution control body directed the general public, Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs), and the Pooja Samitis that the idol immersion ritual may be performed within the home premises in a bucket or a container.

It further stated that worship materials like flowers, decoration materials (made of paper), etc. should be removed before the immersion of idols and may be collected separately for disposal or in an environmentally safe handing over to the door-to-door waste collection vehicle.

The committee also directed the municipal authorities and the Delhi police to ensure strict checks on the entry of vehicles or goods carriers entering into the national capital carrying prohibited idols as its cargo.

The Hindu- 17- October-2021

# More than 13 lakh drinking water samples tested

## Over 1.11 lakh found contaminated

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

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The contamination of samples includes that from naturally occurring chemicals and minerals, such as arsenic, fluoride, iron and uranium, in the earth layer, local land use practices like

fertilizers, pesticides, livestock and concentrated feeding operations, the data under the Jal Shakti Ministry programme stated.

It also said that contaminations can also be by manufacturing processes like heavy metals or cyanide near drinking water sources. Water contamination also includes malfunctioning on-site wastewater treatment systems such as septic systems and twin pit toilets; microbial contamination through mixture of waste water in drinking water source or distribution line, the Ministry said.

INTERVIEW | MIHIR SHAH

## 'Shift focus to demand management of water'

Head of the panel drafting new water policy calls for 'nature-based solutions' for storage, supply

JACOB KOSHY

*Changing patterns and intensity of precipitation require greater emphasis on agility, resilience and flexibility in water management, says Mihir Shah, Distinguished Professor, Shiv Nadar University, and Chairman of the 11-member drafting committee of the country's new water policy.*

We have had a National Water Policy in 1987, 2002, 2012 and now the latest one that is in the works. Why do we need a new one, or is it necessary to have a review once a decade?

■ We need to take very serious cognisance of the current context of climate change and the grave crisis of water facing the country. Recent estimates suggest that if the current pattern of demand continues, about half of the national demand

for water will remain unmet by 2030. With water tables falling and water quality deteriorating, a radical change is needed in the approach to water management.

Changing patterns and intensity of precipitation, as also rates of discharge of rivers, show that it can no longer be assumed that the water cycle operates within an invariant range of predictability. This requires greater emphasis on agility, resilience and flexibility in water management, so that there could be an adequate response to the heightened uncertainty and unpredictability of the future.

What are two major recommendations of the proposed NWP?

■ The two major recommendations are one: shift focus from endlessly increasing supply of water towards measures for demand-man-



**NWP places major emphasis on supply of water through rejuvenation of catchment areas, which needs to be incentivised**

agement. This means diversifying cropping pattern to include less water-intensive crops. It also needs lowering the industrial water footprint, among the highest in the world by reducing fresh water use and shifting to recycled water. Cities must mandatorily shift all non-

potable uses, such as flushing, fire protection, vehicle washing, landscaping etc. to treated wastewater.

Two: shift in focus within the supply-side also because the country is running out of sites for further construction of large dams, while water tables and groundwater quality are falling in many areas.

There is mounting evidence across the globe in favour of "nature-based solutions" for water storage and supply. Thus, the NWP places major emphasis on supply of water through rejuvenation of catchment areas, which needs to be incentivised through compensation for ecosystem services, especially to vulnerable communities in the upstream, mountainous regions.

Renewed thrust on local rainwater harvesting to catch the rain where it falls, when it falls, must be com-

bined with demarcation, notification, protection and revival of traditional local water bodies in both rural and urban areas. This would form part of urban blue-green infrastructure for improved water levels and quality, as also flood mitigation.

Does the policy have recommendations on having 'more people pay', or 'some people pay more' models for the use of water?

■ We propose that economic services (like industrial and commercial use) be charged at a rate where the O&M (Operation and Management) costs and part of the capital cost would be the basis for the water service fees. At the same time, concessional rates should be provided for vulnerable social sections.

(The full interview is at [bit.ly/mihirshahwaterpolicy](http://bit.ly/mihirshahwaterpolicy))



The Pioneer- 17- October-2021

# Devotees immerse Durga idols in Yamuna despite ban

**New Delhi:** Despite ban on idol immersion in Yamuna river and other natural water bodies in the national Capital, several people flouted the rules issued by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), a day before the 'visarjan' (immersion) ritual.

Yamuna Ghat at the ITO was found littered with idols and other religious materials on Saturday morning.

DPCC in its October 13 order had ruled that idol immersion during Durga Puja and other forthcoming festivals in any public place, including river Yamuna or any other water body, ponds and ghats, should not be allowed.

"Consequent pollution of such water bodies has been a matter of concern. In addition

to silting, toxic chemicals used in making idols tend to leach out and pose serious problems of water pollution. Studies carried out to assess deterioration in water quality due to idol immersion reveal the deterioration of water quality in respect to conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand and heavy metal concentration," the order read.

The DPCC had ruled that idol immersion rituals may be performed in a bucket and container within the home premises. Convener of Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan, Manoj Mishra, told IANS, "The prohibition of idol immersion in any public place including Yamuna imposed by DPCC is a welcome step especially in view of idols made of Plaster of Paris (PoP) or paint-

ed with lead-based paints. But it is hardly a measure to rejuvenate the river which is already overloaded with sewage and toxic pollutants from industries."

The DPCC had directed the District Magistrates to enforce guidelines related to idol immersion, adding that each violator will be liable to pay Rs 50,000 to the DPCC body.

River Yamuna whose catchment covers parts of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh in addition to that of Delhi, is most polluted in and around the national capital. Its top pollution sources are the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), untreated water from unauthorised colonies as well as sewer from authorised colonies.

However, a clean and pollution-free Yamuna has been the poll promise of Delhi government for more than 25 years now.

The first Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for which a loan agreement was signed in 1992, aimed at improved water quality conservation and hygienic environment in the river basin.

IANS



The Sunday Standard- 17 October 2021

# Ganga Canal closure won't hit water supply: DJB

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

DELHI Jal Board (DJB) on Saturday said the water supply in the national capital will not be affected with the Ganga Canal being closed for maintenance till November 5.

The Ganga Canal, which largely supplies water for drinking and irrigation to several western Uttar Pradesh districts, including Ghaziabad, shut for maintenance on Friday.

DJB roughly supplies around 900-950 MGD (Million Gallons per Day) water in the city.

According to DJB officials, apart from ground water, Delhi depends largely on the Yamuna and partially on the Ganga for water supply.

It also gets water from western Yamuna canal, they said.

A senior DJB official said there is no need to panic as only a small percentage of water comes to Delhi from Ganga Canal, which can be balanced thorough supply from Yamuna river.

"There will no disturbance or

shortage in water supply in the city due to closure of the Ganga Canal. We have sufficient water in Yamuna so the shortage from

Ganga Canal can be met through excess water from Yamuna. There is no need to worry," said DJB official on the condition of anonymity.

He said the maintenance of Ganga Canal is a routine exercise which is carried out every year.

According to officials of Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department, the canal will be

closed till November 5, and it might impact water supply in Delhi along with other districts of western UP.

Water supply in 19 districts of UP, including Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Etah, Hathras and Firozabad, would be disrupted and farmers are likely to face a shortage, UP Irrigation Department officials said.

They said during the period of maintenance, farmers may have to partially rely on tube wells and pumping sets to irrigate their fields.





The Times of India-17 October 2021

# Promoting sustainable development, environmental conservation in NCR



SK Prabhakar, Executive Engineer, SDMC, Mahi Pal, Assistant Engineer, SDMC, Ashish Sachdeva, Founder President, GDF, Amit Gossain, Managing Director, KONE Elevator India, and Manish Meena, Assistant Commissioner, SDMC

For those who frequent Nehru Place, Greater Kailash, Waste to Wonder Park and Noida, it will be a whole new visual experience now. KONE Elevator India, one of the leading elevator and escalator manufacturers in the country, has collaborated with Green Dream Foundation and repainted many neglected walls in these areas, in line with the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The brand had initiated this project last year to sensitise people on key environmental issues that will expand across India. The ongoing project is not only sensitising the locals on key environmental themes but also creating jobs for talented artists from various parts of the country.

The latest one at the Nehru Place flyover in Delhi, spanning 10,000sqft, highlights the importance of nature conservation, waste management and sustainable development. It was inaugurated recently by KONE Elevator India, along with Green Dream Foundation and SDMC officials, under the guidance of Dr Sonal Swa-

roop, IAS-Deputy Commissioner, SDMC. During the inauguration, Amit Gossain, Managing Director, KONE Elevator India, said, "Our commitment to the society is an integral part of our value system and we have always engaged ourselves

in various efforts to give something back to society. As an environment-conscious organisation, this campaign is aimed at the betterment of the community through measures that will bring in sustainable development."

"To reinforce the message of environmental conservation, we believe that art is the most effective medium for raising awareness. We are certain that this will inspire our people to become eco-warriors, take the environment into account in all of our actions, and work towards sustainable development," Amit added.

Speaking about this initiative, Ashish Sachdeva, Founder President, Green Dream Foundation, shared, "Sustainability is the need of the hour and it will be addressed in a true sense if corporates, ULBs and NGOs come together. Our partnership with the brand and further with the ULBs of respective cities takes us a step closer towards the overall vision of creating a cleaner India in line with the Swachh Bharat Mission."



The graffiti at the Nehru Place flyover wall highlights the importance of nature conservation, waste management and sustainable development



Ritika Chandhok, Head - Corp Comm, KONE Elevator India, Sudhir Mehta, Executive Engineer, SDMC, and Amit Gossain



The Times of India-17 October 2021

## Water supply won't be affected: DJB

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Navbharat Times(Hindi)-17 October 2021

## देश में 1 लाख से अधिक

## पानी के सैंपल फेल

देशभर में पीने के पानी की शुद्धता की जांच में काफी चौकाने वाले नतीजे मिले हैं। 13 लाख सैंपल की जांच में 1.11 लाख सैंपल फेल मिले हैं। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों से पता चला है कि पेयजल में ऑर्गेनिक, फ्लोराइड, आयरन और यूरेनियम अधिक मिले हैं।

# 1 लाख से ज्यादा पानी के सैंपल जांच में फेल

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली

देशभर में पेयजल की शुद्धता की जांच में चौकाने वाले नतीजे सामने आए हैं। पेयजल के 13 लाख से अधिक नमूनों की जांच में 1.11 लाख से अधिक नमूने अशुद्ध पाए गए। ये नमूने सरकार के पेयजल जांच और निगरानी कार्यक्रम के तहत लिए गए थे। आधिकारिक आंकड़ों में यह जानकारी दी गई।

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के कार्यक्रम के तहत जुटाए गए आंकड़ों से पता चला है कि पेयजल में अशुद्धियां पृथ्वी की सतह पर प्राकृतिक तौर पर मौजूद रसायन और मिनरल जैसे ऑर्गेनिक, फ्लोराइड, आयरन और यूरेनियम आदि की थीं। इसमें यह भी कहा गया कि जल स्रोतों के पास भारी मेटल प्रॉडक्शन यूनिट्स के कारण भी जल में अशुद्धियां हो सकती हैं। मंत्रालय ने कहा कि इसके अलावा जल शोधन संयंत्रों के सही से काम नहीं करके के कारण या फिर जलापूर्ति तंत्र सही नहीं होने से भी पानी में अशुद्धियां हो सकती हैं। आंकड़ों के अनुसार, प्रयोगशालाओं में 13,17,028 नमूनों की जांच की गई



जिनमें से 1,11,474 नमूनों में अशुद्धियां पाई गईं। एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि अगर पानी का नमूना गुणवत्ता जांच में खरा नहीं उतरता है तो अधिकारियों को ऑनलाइन इसके बारे में जानकारी दी जा सकती है। वे जांच कर सकते हैं कि क्या कोई कार्रवाई की गई है। मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों के अनुसार अब तक 2,05,941 गांवों के पानी के नमूनों 2,011 प्रयोगशालाओं में जांचे गए हैं। गौरतलब है कि जल के नमूनों की जांच का कार्यक्रम जल जीवन मिशन के तहत शुरू किया गया है। इसका मकसद नलों के जरिए घरों तक सुरक्षित और पर्याप्त पेयजल उपलब्ध कराना है।

## गंगा कनाल बंद होने से पानी की कमी नहीं

■ विस, नई दिल्ली : मेटनेस की वजह से गंगा कनाल बंद होने से राजधानी में पानी की सप्लाई पर असर नहीं पड़ेगा। दिल्ली जल बोर्ड ने साफ किया है कि दिल्ली के पास अभी पर्याप्त पानी है। जल बोर्ड के अनुसार, आमतौर पर राजधानी में प्रतिदिन 900 से 950 एमजीडी पानी सप्लाई होता है। आंशिक तौर पर गंगा

नदी से भी राजधानी को पानी मिलता है। जल बोर्ड के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि गंगा कनाल से राजधानी को कम पानी उपलब्ध होता है, इसलिए घराने की जरूरत नहीं है। इस सप्लाई की पूर्ति यमुना से हो जाएगी। यूपी इरिगेशन डिपार्टमेंट के अनुसार, गंगा कनाल को 5 नवंबर तक के लिए बंद किया गया है।