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Capital gets driest August in 16 years

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NEW DELHI: The month of August ended with 41.6mm of rainfall for Delhi, translating to a deficit of 83% from the normal of 247.7mm for the month, making it the Capital's driest August in 16 years, data from India Meteorological Department (IMD) showed on Wednesday.

According to a separate analysis of IMD's gridded data by HT, which has a slight variation from the numbers the department releases, Delhi's rain deficit for August was 81% and the Capital recorded the ninth lowest volume of precipitation in August since 1901. As per this data, the amount of rain received this month was the lowest since 2006.

This meant citizens spent most of the month in hot and humid conditions.

At fault was a monsoon trough, a band of the cloud system where rain is active, that was stuck more southwards. "The monsoon trough was mostly over Central India and did not remain close to Delhi for more than one or two days.

A hot and humid month

This year Delhi saw its lowest August rainfall since 2006, leaving people sweating in humid conditions

41.6mm
rain recorded in Delhi through August 2022, against the normal of 247.7mm

83%
deficit rainfall in Delhi recorded for the month of August

SEVERAL RAINFALL DAYS, BUT RAINFALL STILL LOW
Through the month, it rained on 16 days in Delhi but none of these were in the moderate or heavy category - the most was 8.8mm recorded between August 5 and 6

Even then, the proximity to Delhi was not much and it simply passed over the region," said a Met department official, asking not to be named.

Overall, the monsoon rain across the country as an aggregate was normal, with the number for August being 3.4% excess. But this number hides wide variations, especially in

the paddy belt of the Indo-Gangetic Plains that remained mostly dry.

During August alone, there was a 26.5% deficiency over east and northeast India; 18.2% excess over central India and 27% excess over south Peninsula. At the end of the third month of the monsoon, west

continued on →13

UN forecasts rare triple-dip La Nina climate effect

Agence France-Presse

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GENEVA: The La Nina weather phenomenon is likely to last until at least the end of the year, the United Nations forecast Wednesday, becoming the first "triple-dip" La Nina this century.

La Nina will likely span three consecutive northern hemisphere winters -- southern hemisphere summers -- according to the UN's World Meteorological Organization. It would be only the third time this has happened since 1950, the WMO said.

La Nina is the large-scale cooling of surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, normally occurring every two to seven years.

The effect has widespread impacts on weather around the world -- typically the opposite impacts to the El Nino phenomenon, which has a warming influence on global temperatures.

The current La Nina event started in September 2020. The WMO predicts it will continue over the next six months, with a 70% chance of doing so into September-November 2022. That gradually decreases to a 55% chance into December-February.

La Nina is usually associated with wetter conditions in some parts of the world, and drier conditions in others.

But the UN's weather agency said all naturally-occurring climate events now take place in the context of human-induced climate change, which is increasing global temperatures and exacerbating extreme weather. "It is exceptional to have three consecutive years with a La Nina event," said WMO chief Petteri Taalas. "Its cooling influence is temporarily slowing the rise in global temperatures -- but it will not halt or reverse the long-term warming trend."

La Nina's cooling effect was not enough to stop 2021 being one of the seven hottest years on record. Taalas said the drought in the Horn of Africa and southern South America "bears the hallmarks of La Nina".

"The new La Nina update unfortunately confirms regional climate projections that the devastating drought in the Horn of Africa will worsen and affect millions of people."

That drought is set to get even worse with a fifth consecutive failed rainy season, the WMO projected on Friday, fearing an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe.

La Nina conditions in the tropical Pacific have strengthened as trade winds intensified in recent months, affecting temperature and precipitation patterns and exacerbating drought and flooding, the WMO said.

Millennium Post- 01- September-2022

Why no action was taken to control water quality of Yamuna: NGT asks CS

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal has directed the Delhi chief secretary to explain why coercive and penal measures be not taken for "blatant failure" of the authorities in protecting the water quality of the Yamuna by preventing discharge of pollutants into the river.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the steps taken to control pollution of the river, a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice A K Goel said it remains a matter of concern that authorities have not been able to keep it clean in spite of a clear road-map for its rejuvenation.

"While the proceedings were disposed of after specific directions with the expectation that the concerned authorities will show due sensitivity to the matter, but unfortunately this does not appear to have happened. The present application depicts grim situation calling for further intervention of this Tribunal.

"The Chief Secretary of Delhi is required to ascertain latest factual position and give his report by email within two months with explanation why coercive and penal measures be not taken in terms of fixing accountability for such blatant failure of the authorities in protecting the water quality of river

Yamuna," the bench said.

It also ordered similar reports to be submitted by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

The tribunal said it is shocking to note the data relating to the water quality of river Yamuna and the pollution load posted by the DPCC on its website showing drains remaining untrapped even a year after the last order.

"This shows utter lack of adequate action and monitoring by higher authorities. Delhi, Haryana and UP have to review the situation at higher levels and take remedial action.

"They may place factual status on progress made in the last one year, whether the higher authorities are satisfied with the same, if not, further plan of action with timelines and fixing accountability, extent of sewage and trade effluents being still discharged," the tribunal said.

Based on these reports the Tribunal may have to fix accountability of the authorities concerned and financial liability for compensation for damage to the environment, it said.

The NGT also directed the Central Monitoring Committee constituted by it to file a report on the latest compliance status, besides an action taken report and recommendations within one month.

Millennium Post- 01- September-2022

Bihar, UP, Jharkhand record deficit rains; paddy sowing hit

UP reported 44% deficit on long period avg for the season

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The south-west monsoon season is entering its final lap with states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Manipur reporting deficit rainfall, which has had a direct impact on the paddy crop in the region, the weather office said.

As of Wednesday, Uttar Pradesh has reported 44 per cent deficit rainfall of the long period average for the monsoon season, followed by Bihar (38 per cent), Jharkhand (27 per cent), Manipur (45 per cent) and Tripura (29 per cent) and Delhi (31 per cent).

Delhi also reported 82 per cent less rains than normal for the month of August. The national capital received just 41.6 mm of rain in August against the normal rainfall of 233.1 mm for the month.

The southwest monsoon season begins on June 1 and extends till September 30.

According to the Agriculture Ministry, as of August 26 farmers had sown paddy on 367.55 lakh hectares of farm land, which is 23.44 lakh hectares less than the acreage



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

achieved for the same period last year.

"The less area coverage under rice mainly recorded in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Telangana," the agriculture ministry said.

Earlier this month, the weather office had said that the conditions would become favourable for withdrawal of south-west monsoon in the first week of September, which is at least a fortnight earlier than normal.

According to the weather office, Uttar Pradesh received

332.6 mm rains between June 1 and August 31, against the normal of 593.1 mm for the season. Bihar has received 477.2 mm rainfall against the normal of 775.7 mm, Jharkhand has received 585.6 mm rains against the normal of 798.9 mm. For the country as a whole, monsoon rains were six per cent above normal with states such as Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana reporting excess rains. Between June 1 and August 31, India had received 743.8 mm rainfall against the normal of 700.7 mm, the weather office said.

Millennium Post- 01- September-2022

UTTAR PRADESH FLOODS

3 more die; CM Yogi conducts aerial survey of affected areas

OUR CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW/GHAZIPUR/ VARANASI: At least three people have died due to floods in the last 24 hours in Uttar Pradesh, taking the toll to four even as Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday conducted an aerial survey of the flood affected areas.

Adityanath said water released from dams in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh caused flooding in parts of the state. Around 2.4 lakh people in over 1,000 villages in 22 districts of the state are in the grip of floods and thousands of hectares of standing crops have been submerged in floodwater, officials said.

After making an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas of Ghazipur district, the chief minister distributed relief material to the people.

Later, speaking to report-



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on boat, inspects the flood situation in Varanasi on Wednesday

PTI

ers, he said, "The rainfall in Uttar Pradesh has been less than average this time, but the problem of flooding has been caused due to excess water released from dams in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh."

Adityanath said there have been heavy rains in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Due to the release of 26 lakh cusecs

of water from Rajasthan and more than four lakh cusecs from Madhya Pradesh, the water level in Chambal and Betwa rivers along with other tributaries in Uttar Pradesh increased significantly leading to rise in water level in Ganga and Yamuna rivers, he said.

The CM said that the government stands with the

Highlights

- » Around 2.4 lakh people in over 1,000 villages in 22 districts of the state are in the grip of floods and thousands of hectares of standing crops have been submerged in floodwater, officials said
- » After making an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas of Ghazipur district, the chief minister distributed relief material to the people

affected people in the time of this calamity. Along with government officials, ministers and BJP workers have also been asked to join hands in helping people in the marooned areas.

He said that an adequate number of boats have been arranged in the flood affected areas for the evacuation of people and distribution of relief material. Flood units of NDRF (National Disaster Response Force), SDRF, and PAC (Provincial Armed Constabulary) have been deployed for relief and rescue operations, he said.

Relief kits, containing 15 days of ration and other essentials, are being provided to affected families. Efforts are also being made to provide help to people in more than 100 villages which have been cut off from district headquarters and other places due to flooding, officials said. Adityanath also made a trip to Varanasi to take stock of the flood situation in the district. According to officials, three people, including a two-year-old girl, have died in the floodwater in Ballia district in the last 24 hours.

Millennium Post- 01- September-2022

Ensuring the elixir

Uttar Pradesh government is on a mission mode to rid the Bundelkhand region of water scarcity through robust policies and even international collaboration



SANJAY SINGH

Israel records less rainfall and still manages agriculture nicely because of its unique conservation techniques; the model can be replicated in the topographically similar Bundelkhand region as well

Bundelkhand region, known for its valour, lately became infamous for water scarcity — leading up to large-scale migration of people to big cities. Owing to inaction of successive governments, it remained neglected, and was cumulatively relegated to a backward area status. Historically, however, the region had boasted of effective water management — both for drinking and irrigation purposes.

Rahila Sagar, Vijay Sagar, Keerat Sagar, Madan Sagar, Kalyan Sagar, Brahm Sagar and linked ponds in Charkhari in Mahoba district are some of the many man-made water bodies in the region — mostly in bad shape. Actually, they fell prey to the so-called growth and development activities breaking the catchment areas of these water bodies, which resulted in their drying up. The condition deteriorated so much that people did not have enough to feed their cattle, forcing them to let these animals roam around. This practice, called Anna system in local parlance, harmed whatever little crops were being grown. So, there was a big challenge before the government. Instead of digging their heads in the sand, the Yogi government took the problem head on to resolve it. Actually, the state leadership is of the view that all these measures will contribute to Uttar Pradesh becoming



Provision of 11,95,265 FHTC is to be made for a population of 72,68,705 living in 3,823 revenue villages

ing a USD 1 trillion economy by 2027, with equitable focus on each region.

Bundelkhand region also faced the problem of outbound migration, as agriculture suffered due to the water crisis. So, the state government has taken initiatives that will not only increase the area of irrigated land but will also ensure safe drinking water for over 30 lakh people in the region. The government has separate plans for various districts falling under the Bundelkhand region. It has five projects for the Mahoba District with a total of over 11 lakh beneficiaries. The aim is to provide over 1.3 lakh Full Functional Household Tap Connections

(FHTC), giving 2,300 direct employment opportunities at the same time. Lalitpur has been sanctioned 15 projects to benefit over 9.5 lakh people with a plan to provide 1.7 lakh FHTC, direct employment to 456 people and indirect employment to 710 people. Hamirpur has two projects to benefit 6.4 lakh people with 1.1 lakh FHTC. The project will provide direct employment to 1,854 people and indirect employment to 4,500 people. Jhansi District has been allotted seven projects to benefit 11.5 lakh people by providing over two lakh FHTC. This will generate significant employment opportunities as well.

To further expedite the process of taking tap water to villages, the Yogi government decided to organise camps in the Bundelkhand region to monitor 'Har Ghar Nal Yojana' scheme to ensure tap water for every household by November 2022.

Thirty-two projects of Jal Jeevan Mission are being taken to the ground, and around 467 piped drinking water schemes are under construction in the region. There are 43 surface water-based schemes and 424 ground water-based schemes. Provision of 11,95,265 FHTC is to be made for a population of 72,68,705 people living in 3,823 revenue villages.

Another project that would help the Bundelkhand region to regain some lost ground is the Ken-Betwa River linking project — possibly the first river interlinking project in the country. The Union Finance Minister announced in the 2022-23 Budget a huge allocation of Rs 44,605 crore for the project that is expected to offer irrigation benefits across nine lakh hectares of farmland, ensure drinking water for 62 lakh people, and generate 103 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of solar power. The work is likely to be completed in a span of eight years. Also, the UP CM had claimed in July that 60 rivers have been revived in the state, providing a boost to irrigation. Besides rivers, as many as 325 ponds have been revived in Jhansi District under the "One

Village, One Pond" initiative.

Furthermore, the Israeli ministry of water and the UP government signed a MoU on August 20, 2019 for creating an India-Israel Bundelkhand Water Project. A 'plan of cooperation' was launched to create a long-term sustainable water management project for the region. They shared technical know-how in solving the water crisis in Bundelkhand region in which Babina block had been chosen for the pilot project. Basic planning for irrigation through river Pahuj in Babina block has already been drawn and now plans are afoot to execute it.

Why the assistance from Israel to solve the problem of water scarcity in the Bundelkhand region? Because the topography of the region is very similar to that of Israel. The country has been successfully dealing with similar issues for a long time. Israel records less rainfall and still manages agriculture nicely because of its unique conservation techniques. It may also change the lives of people of Bundelkhand. Efforts are being made to develop a number of agroforestry-based interventions for water conservation technologies in different parts of Bundelkhand region, which is helping in raising the groundwater tables at a number of places. So, the UP government is truly working on the dictum that water is the elixir of life.

Views expressed are personal

The Statesman- 01- September-2022

Riverine politics

Eleven years ago, when the initiative to conclude an agreement on sharing the waters of the Teesta with Bangladesh had come a cropper, it was rather presumptuous to expect an accord at last Thursday's meeting of the Joint River Commission in Delhi though all issues relating to common rivers had figured in the talks. It was hardly a success to claim breakthroughs on two fronts ~ an agreement for the interim sharing of Kushiya, which flows into Bangladesh from Assam, and another on the design and location of the water intake point from the Feni river to meet the water requirements of landlocked Tripura. There was no mention of Teesta and this is suggestive of the fact that there has been no change in the stance of Mamata Banerjee since September 2011 when she decided to skip the the bilateral meeting which was presided over by the then Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh. According to the External Affairs Ministry on Friday, the "Bangladesh side requested the conclusion of the long-pending Teesta Water-sharing Treaty at an early date." Both countries seem riveted to the Teesta though India and Bangladesh share as many as 54 rivers. Rightly has the West Bengal government maintained that the Teesta doesn't have enough water to meet the irrigation needs on either side of the border. The inadequate flow is bound to affect irrigation in North Bengal, where the ruling Trinamul Congress is seeking to make its presence felt. The greater imperative is to ensure that the river doesn't dry up, and both countries have a role to play on this score.

The fact of the matter must be that the two countries, though rent asunder by historical circumstances, have a geopolitical duty to protect the river. This must be of uppermost import during Begum Hasina's visit to India from September 5 to 7. Given the stout reservations of the West Bengal's Chief Minister, any agreement on Teesta is hugely improbable. India and Bangladesh share 54 rivers, of which seven have been identified for developing the framework of water-sharing agreements. At Thursday's meeting, both countries agreed to expand this sphere of cooperation by including eight more rivers for the exchange of data. The foreign policies of both countries are on test a decade after Dhaka's stand on the issue had hit the reefs. Thursday's bilateral deal on rivers in general almost inevitably skirted Teesta ~ the direly controversial waterway that meanders through North Bengal. Teesta needs to be protected by both India and Bangladesh, and this is no less critical than the sharing of its water. Miss Banerjee has a point to buttress; so too arguably does Begum Hasina. It would be profoundly unfortunate if bilateral relations are soured by riverine politics.

The Statesman- 01- September-2022

Flood protection calls for a comprehensive approach

BHARAT DOGRA

While the need for evolving a comprehensive and balanced flood protection policy has always been there, this need has become pressing in times of climate change when much heavier rain spells and higher flood flows are being seen. A balanced flood policy can contribute both in the short run and in the long run to considerably reduce the damage from floods and reduce their more destructive impacts.

Sometimes a line is drawn between the ecological and engineering approaches to flood control. However, while drawing up a comprehensive policy, we need to look at both aspects.

Coming to ecological aspects, there is no doubt that we need to considerably increase the green cover, particularly in the hilly and catchment areas. The Himalayan region is of the greatest importance. We should not make the mistake of confusing the commercial plantations and monocultures as forests.

We should try to protect all remaining natural forests and revive natural forests in degraded areas, all this with the cooperation and involvement of locals. Where new forests are being created, we should try to imitate native natural forests to the extent possible. We human beings may not be able to equal the ingenuity of nature, but we can try to come close to it.

Flood waters have been generally best handled in the past by allowing them to spread considerably in the flood plains in such a way that large parts of them find their way to ponds, lakes, tanks, and wetlands. This way depleted water sources are filled up and there is significant recharge of groundwater which will help us during the dry months, while at the same time the immediate danger is reduced. For this to happen, these water bodies must be safe and



secure, free from encroachments, ready to welcome and absorb the flood water.

In all construction and development works, drainage should get adequate attention and no final approval or final payments should be granted till the drainage component has been properly completed. More problems arise if the flood waters stay on for a long time due to drainage obstruction and fewer problems are seen if the flood waters leave quickly.

A guest is considered a good guest if she or he does not overstay and leaves behind a gift or two. If a flood leaves rather quickly after depositing some fertile silt and replenishing the drying water bodies, then it is a good flood. It is therefore important that we create the conditions in which a flood can become relatively good, or at least not such a bad flood.

The most common way of controlling floods has been to build

embankments. But we cannot go on building embankments along all rivers.

We must be selective and learn from experience which can warn us of several possible mistakes. Should we build embankments so close to rivers that they do not have the space needed to deposit silt and replenish ponds or recharge groundwater? The answer must be in the negative. But if the embankments are to be built some distance away, we must have the will and the resources for the proper care and rehabilitation of people in areas between the river and the embankment.

At best embankments have only a limited role and a wise engineer will learn to be selective, knowing where to build and where not to build. We cannot look only at immediate protection. We must consider what happens after five or ten years. We should not forget that when breaches occur in embankments, the floods

unleashed can be much more destructive. What we should always remember is that in several areas where many embankments have been built, flood damage is still heavy and perhaps heavier than before. Without resolving this contradiction, we cannot go on building more embankments.

A lot of money in the name of flood control has been spent on dams, but again we must reckon with the difficult fact that many destructive floods are being caused by very heavy release of dam waters. To reduce such possibilities, flood reduction should receive more importance in dam management. Secondly, steps to check rapid siltation of dam reservoirs should be taken. Dam safety and safe management practices should get more attention. Beyond this, there is a need to reconsider several adverse impacts of damming rivers as adequate caution has not always been

exercised by quickly approving hazardous projects that may pass the scrutiny of an honest cost-benefit appraisal.

In urban areas, the tendency to encroach on riverbeds, and/or on natural waterways, for various construction activities must be checked. The clearing of drains must be better, and garbage which clogs drains and obstructs water flow must be minimized.

We must realize that floods have always been with us and will always be with us, particularly in those countries where rain tends to be concentrated in a relatively short season of three or four months. The challenge is to handle them in ways which will make them less destructive while enjoying their bounty of water recharge and fertile silt deposition.

The writer is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include A Day in 2071, Planet in Peril and Protecting Earth for Children.

Jansatta- 01- September-2022

राजनीति में उलझे नदी विवाद

प्रमोद भार्गव

भारत में नदियों के जल बंटवारे, बांधों के निर्माण और राज्यों के बीच उनकी हिस्सेदारी एक गंभीर समस्या बनी हुई है। राज्यों के बीच नदी जल बंटवारे को लेकर दशकों से चले आ रहे विवादों का अगर समाधान नहीं निकल पा रहा है तो इसका मुख्य कारण नदी जैसे प्राकृतिक संसाधन के समुचित व तर्कसंगत उपयोग की जगह राजनीतिक सोच से प्रेरित होकर नदियों के जल का दोहन करना रहा है।

देश में उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश के बीच केन और जेतवा नदियों को जोड़ने की स्वीकृति एक अच्छी शुरुआत मानी जा रही है। लेकिन अन्य नदियों को परस्पर जोड़ने वाली परियोजनाओं पर राज्यों में सहमति बनना मुश्किल हो रहा है। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि गोदावरी-कृष्णा और कृष्णा-पेन्नार-कावेरी नदी जोड़ परियोजना के जल के उपयोग को लेकर व्यावहारिक सहमति राज्यों के बीच नहीं बन पा रही है। राज्य अधिशेष पानी के हस्तांतरण और आबंटन से जुड़े जटिल मुद्दों पर सहमत नहीं हैं। इसी तरह पार-ताप्ती-नर्मदा परियोजना पर महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात ने आगे काम करने से इनकार कर दिया है। राष्ट्रीय परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस योजना के तहत राष्ट्रीय जल विकास एजेंसी (एनडब्ल्यूडीए) ने व्यावहार्यता रिपोर्ट तैयार करने के लिए तीस अंतरराज्यीय नदियों की पहचान की है। इनमें प्रायद्वीपीय घटक के रूप में सोलह और हिमालयी घटक के रूप में चौदह नदी जोड़ परियोजनाओं के

प्रस्ताव शामिल हैं। इनमें से आठ परियोजनाओं की विस्तृत परियोजना रिपोर्ट (डीपीआर) तैयार हो चुकी है, जबकि अन्य पर काम चल रहा है।

भारत में नदियों के जल बंटवारे, बांधों के निर्माण और राज्यों के बीच उनकी हिस्सेदारी एक गंभीर समस्या बनी हुई है। राज्यों के बीच नदी जल बंटवारे को लेकर दशकों से चले आ रहे विवादों का अगर समाधान नहीं निकल पा रहा है तो इसका मुख्य कारण नदी जैसे प्राकृतिक संसाधन के समुचित व तर्कसंगत उपयोग की जगह राजनीतिक सोच से प्रेरित होकर नदियों के जल का दोहन करना रहा है। कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु की जीवनरेखा मानी जाने वाली कावेरी नदी के जल को लेकर देश के दो बड़े राज्यों में हिंसा और आगजनी की घटनाएं देखने को मिलती ही रही हैं। जबकि कावेरी दोनों राज्यों के करोड़ों लोगों के लिए वरदान है, लेकिन राजनीतिक स्वार्थों के चलते कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु की जनता के बीच केवल आगजनी और हिंसा के ही नहीं, बल्कि सांस्कृतिक टकराव के हालात भी पैदा होते रहे हैं।

कहना न होगा कि कर्नाटक में जल विवाद के सामने आते ही पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री एचडी देवगीड़ा ने क्षेत्रीय मानसिकता से काम लेते हुए इस मुद्दे को भड़काने का काम किया। उन्होंने कहा था कि इस मुद्दे पर लड़ाई जीतने के लिए राजनीतिक पार्टियाँ व जनता को एकजुट होना होगा। यही नहीं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले पर भी नाराजगी जताते हुए देवगीड़ा ने कहा था कि तमिलनाडु के किसान एक साल में तीन फसल उगा रहे हैं, जबकि कर्नाटक के पास एक फसल के लिए भी पानी नहीं है। ऐसे में उन्हें पानी देना कैसे संभव है। इसके विरोध में हमें तमिलनाडु के लोगों की तरह एकजुट होना होगा। जाहिर है, अगर हमारे राजनेता ही किसी विवाद को सुलझाने की बजाय क्षेत्रीयता के आधार पर लोगों को उकसाने की बात करते रहेंगे, तो समाधान कैसे निकलेगा! ऐसी ही एक पक्षीय धारणाओं की वजह से कर्नाटक-तमिलनाडु के बीच कावेरी जल विवाद सवा सौ साल से बना हुआ है।

दक्षिण भारत की गंगा मानी जाने वाली कावेरी नदी कर्नाटक और उत्तरी तमिलनाडु में बहने वाली जीवनदायी सदानारी नदी है। यह पश्चिमी घाट के ब्रह्मगिरि पर्वत से निकली है। यह आठ सौ किलोमीटर लंबी है। इसके आसपास के दोनों राज्यों के हिस्सों में खेती होती है। तमिल भाषा में कावेरी को 'पोन्नी' कहते हैं। पोन्नी का अर्थ सोना उगाना है। दोनों राज्यों की स्थानीय आबादी में ऐसी लोकमान्यता है कि कावेरी के जल में धूल के कण मिले हुए हैं। इस लोकमान्यता को हम इस अर्थ में ले सकते हैं कि कावेरी के पानी से

जिन खेतों में सिंचाई होती है, उन खेतों से फसल के रूप में सोना पैदा होता है। इसीलिए यह नदी कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु की कृषि आधारित ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था का मूलधार है।

जल बंटवारे को लेकर सन 1892 और 1924 में मैसूर राज्य व मद्रास प्रेसीडेंसी (वर्तमान तमिलनाडु) के बीच समझौते हुए थे। आजादी के बाद मैसूर का कर्नाटक में विलय हो गया। इसके बाद से कर्नाटक को लगने लगा कि मद्रास प्रेसीडेंसी पर अंग्रेजों का प्रभाव अधिक था, इसलिए समझौता मद्रास के पक्ष में किया गया है। लिहाजा वह इस समझौते को नहीं मानता है। जबकि तमिलनाडु का तर्क है कि पूर्व समझौते के मुताबिक उसने ऐसी कृषि योग्य भूमि विकसित कर ली है, जिसकी खेती कावेरी से मिलने वाले सिंचाई जल के बिना संभव ही नहीं है। इस बावत 1986 में तमिलनाडु ने विवाद के निपटारे के लिए केंद्र सरकार से एक

फैसले और अदालत के दबाव में कर्नाटक मजबूरीवश तमिलनाडु को पानी दे रहा है, लेकिन उसकी पानी देने की मंशा कतई नहीं है। यह पानी कर्नाटक में कावेरी नदी पर बने कृष्णा-राजा सागर बांध से दिया जाता है जबकि तमिलनाडु कावेरी के पानी पर ज्यादा हक की मांग इसलिए करता है, क्योंकि कावेरी का जीवन प्रतिशत बेसिन इलाका उसके क्षेत्र में है। कर्नाटक में बेसिन क्षेत्र बयालीस प्रतिशत है। इसी आधार पर प्राधिकरण ने तमिलनाडु को कावेरी के अद्युवन प्रतिशत पानी का हकदार बताया था। लेकिन कर्नाटक केवल एक हजार टीएमसी पानी देने को तैयार है। नतीजतन विवाद कायम है। इसी तरह तमिलनाडु व केरल के बीच मुल्ला पेरियार बांध की ऊंचाई को लेकर भी विवाद गहराया हुआ है। तमिलनाडु इस बांध की ऊंचाई एक सौ बत्तीस फीट से बढ़ा कर एक सौ बयालीस फीट करना चाहता है, वहीं केरल इसकी ऊंचाई कम रखना चाहता है। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में केरल का दावा है कि यह बांध खतरनाक है, इसलिए इसकी जगह नया बांध बनना चाहिए। जबकि तमिलनाडु ऐसे किसी खतरे की आशंका को सिरे से खारिज करता है।

इसी तरह पांच नदियों वाले प्रदेश पंजाब में रावी और ब्यास नदी के जल बंटवारे पर पंजाब और हरियाणा पिछले कई दशकों से अदालत लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं। इनके बीच दूसरा जल विवाद सतलुज और यमुना जोड़ का भी है। प्रस्तावित योजना के तहत सतलुज और यमुना नदियों को जोड़ कर नहर बनाने से पूर्वी व पश्चिमी भारत के बीच अस्तित्व में आने वाले जलमार्ग से परिवहन की उम्मीद बढ़ जाएगी। इस मार्ग से जहाजों के आवागमन से माल ढुलाई शुरू हो जाएगी मसलन सड़क के समानांतर जलमार्ग का विकल्प खुल जाएगा। हरियाणा ने तो अपने हिस्से का निर्माण कार्य पूरा कर लिया है, लेकिन

पंजाब को इसमें कुछ नुकसान नजर आया तो उसने विधानसभा में प्रस्ताव लाकर इस समझौते को ही रद्द कर दिया। लिहाजा अब यह मामला भी अदालत में है। कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र और गोवा के बीच भी महादयी नदी के जल बंटवारे को लेकर दशकों से विवाद गहराया हुआ है। गौरतलब है कि न्यायाधीश जेएम पांचाल व महादयी नदी जल पंचाट ने तीनों राज्यों को सलाह दी थी कि जल बंटवारे का हल परस्पर बातचीत और किसी तीसरे पक्ष के बिना हस्तक्षेप के निकालने की कोशिश की जाए। लेकिन विवाद है कि सुलझ ही नहीं पा रहे। बहरहाल, अंतरराज्यीय जल विवादों का राजनीतिकरण इसी तरह होता रहा तो देश की जीवनदायी नदियों को जोड़ने की परियोजनाएं अधर में लटक रहींगी।



Haribhoomi- 01- September-2022

चिंता

लगातार शोध से
सामने आ रहे
चिंताजनक
नतीजे, बढ़ रहा
है नॉर्थ पोल का
तापमान

एजेसी ►► वाशिंगटन

फ़िनिश मेटेयोरोलॉजिकल इंस्टीट्यूट के शोधार्थियों ने ये चौंकाने वाला खुलासा किया है। शोधार्थियों का कहना है कि 1979-2021 के बीच आर्कटिक का तापमान बाकी पृथ्वी से चार गुना तेजी से बढ़ा है। गौरतलब है कि वैज्ञानिकों को पहले से ही इस बात का अंदाज़ा था कि आर्कटिक का तापमान बाकी पृथ्वी के तापमान से ज्यादा तेजी से बढ़ रहा है लेकिन इसकी रफ़्तार के बारे में अब पता चला है

पूरी पृथ्वी पर पड़ेगा दुष्प्रभाव

आर्कटिक के बढ़ते तापमान का दुष्प्रभाव न सिर्फ़ वहां बसने वाले जीव-जन्तुओं बल्कि पूरी पृथ्वी पर पड़ेगा। ग्रीनलैंड की आइस शीट्स तेजी से पिघल रही है और इनमें इतना पानी है कि पृथ्वी के समंदरों का जलस्तर 6 मीटर तक बढ़ा दे। स्टडी का हिस्सा रह चुके एनटी लिपोनेन ने कहा कि क्लाइमेट चेंज की वजह है, हम इंसान। आर्कटिक का तापमान बढ़ने से वहां के ग्लेशियर्स पिघलेंगे और इससे पृथ्वी के समंदरों का जल स्तर भी बढ़ेगा।

शोधार्थियों

ने किये हैं कई चौंकाने
वाले खुलासे



जलवायु परिवर्तन का एक और भयंकर परिणाम सामने आया है। बीते गुरुवार को प्रकाशित जलवायु अध्ययन के अनुसार बीते चार दशकों में आर्कटिक का तापमान बाकी पृथ्वी की तुलना में चार गुना अधिक बढ़ा है।



चार गुना तेज़ी से पिघल रही है आर्कटिक की बर्फ़



3.1 डिग्री

बढ़ा तापमान 1971 से
2019 के बीच

नॉर्वे के आर्कटिक काउंसिल वर्किंग ग्रुप के मुताबिक 1971 से 2019 के बीच आर्कटिक का तापमान 3.1 डिग्री सेल्सियस बढ़ा है। ये ग्लोबल एवरेज से 3 गुना ज्यादा है। कम्युनिकेशन्स अर्थ एंड एनवायरनमेंट नामक जर्नल में ये स्टडी छपी है।



स्विट्जरलैंड में जारी है प्रयोग

कुछ दिनों पहले खबर आई थी कि स्विट्जरलैंड में ग्लेशियर्स को पिघलने से बचाने के लिए लोग उन्हें सफ़ेद यूवी रेसिस्टेंट कंबलों से ढक रहे हैं। पिछले 5 सालों से लोग ग्लेशियर्स तक हाइकिंग कर रहे हैं और उन्हें ऐसे यूवी ब्लैकेंट्स से ढक रहे हैं। दावा किया जा रहा है कि यूवी रेसिस्टेंट ब्लैकेंट्स से 70 प्रतिशत तक ग्लेशियर्स का पिघलना रोका जा सकता है।

यूवी रेसिस्टेंट कंबल

से 70 प्रतिशत तक ग्लेशियर्स
का पिघलना रोका जा सकता

6 मीटर

तक बढ़ सकता है
समंदरों का जलस्तर

Rashtriya Sahara- 01- September-2022

हाईकोर्ट ने गंगा की सफाई में खर्च पैसे का मांगा हिसाब

■ प्रयागराज (एसएनबी)।

इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट ने गंगा प्रदूषण मामले में सुनवाई करते हुए जल निगम, यूपी प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड सहित अन्य विभागों की कार्यप्रणाली पर तल्लख टिप्पणी की है। कोर्ट ने कहा विभाग अपनी जवाबदेही को शटलकॉक की तरह शिफ्ट कर रहे हैं। जल निगम के पास पर्यावरण विशेषज्ञ नहीं फिर भी वह पर्यावरण की निगरानी कैसे कर रहा है। यह आदेश मुख्य न्यायमूर्ति राजेश बिंदल, न्यायमूर्ति मनोज कुमार गुप्ता और न्यायमूर्ति अजीत कुमार की फुल बेंच ने गंगा प्रदूषण के मामले में दाखिल जनहित याचिका पर सुनवाई करते हुए दिया।

सीवेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट चलाने की जिम्मेदारी प्राइवेट कंपनी को सौंप दिया है और स्वयं अक्षम अधिकारी के मार्फत

■ विभाग अपनी जवाबदेही शटल कॉक तरह शिफ्ट कर रहे

■ गंगा की सफाई में लगे विभागों का कार्य आंखों में धूल झोंकने वाला

निगरानी कर रहा है। कोर्ट ने तीखी नाराजगी जतायी। कोर्ट ने महानिदेशक नेशनल मिशन क्लीन गंगा से उठाए गए कदमों की जानकारी मांगी है और पूछा है कि नमामि गंगे परियोजना के तहत अब तक कितना पैसा खर्च किया है। कोर्ट ने केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड से जांच रिपोर्ट मांगी है। बोर्ड ने एसटीपी की जांच के

लिए 28 टीमे गठित की है। कोर्ट ने यूपी प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड से टेस्टिंग, शिकायत निस्तारण व अधिकारियों के खिलाफ अभियोग चलाने की स्टेटस रिपोर्ट पेश करने का निर्देश दिया है। पूछा कि

गंगा जिन शहरों से होकर गुजरती है, वहां पर बने नालों को एसटीपी से जोड़ा गया या नहीं। उन्होंने इस संबंध में यूपी जल निगम, जलनिगम अर्बन से हलफनामे पर जानकारी देने को कहा है।

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बाढ़ से बेहाल यूपी के 15 जिलों में फिर होगी जोरदार बारिश

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लखनऊ. उत्तर प्रदेश में तेजी से बढ़ती हुई गंगा, यमुना और सरयू नदियों के पानी के साथ साथ अब मौसम विभाग ने यूपी के 15 जिलों में आज यानी बुधवार को बारिश का अलर्ट जारी किया है।

दोपहर 1 बजे वाराणसी में तेज हवाओं और गरज-चमक के बीच बारिश हुई। जबकि प्रयागराज में बाढ़ से हालात बेकाबू हो रहे हैं। जहाँ एक तरफ मौसम विभाग ने भारी बरसात का अलर्ट जारी किया है। वहीं, दूसरी तरफ यूपी में नदियाँ उफान पर हैं। बाढ़ से हालात बदतर



होते जा रहे हैं। काशी में 7 दिनों के जबरदस्त उफान के बाद आज पहली बार गंगा के जलस्तर में कमी आई है।

वाराणसी में बुधवार सुबह गंगा के जलस्तर में 18 सेंटीमीटर की कमी आई है। इससे कृषीवासियों ने

राहत की सांस ली है। केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार गंगा का जलस्तर आज सुबह 8 बजे 71.96 मीटर दर्ज किया गया, जबकि मंगलवार को यह 72.14 मीटर पर था। वहीं, प्रयागराज में बाढ़ का पानी रिहायशी इलाकों में घुस गया है।

इन जिलों में जारी किया गया अलर्ट

यूपी के मेरठ, गौतम बुद्ध नगर, पीलीभीत, बरेली, हाथरस, मैनपुरी, आगरा, झांसी, कानपुर नगर, औरैया, लखनऊ, फुरसतगंज, फतेहपुर, प्रयागराज, बलिया, वाराणसी, मऊ, गोरखपुर, संत कबीर नगर और बहराइच में

भारी बारिश का अलर्ट जारी किया गया है। मौसम विभाग का यह भी मानना है कि इन जिलों में 70 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से हवाएं भी चल सकती हैं। कुछ जिलों में बिजली की गरज के साथ बारिश हो सकती है।

इससे लोगों को घर छोड़कर छतों पर रहना पड़ रहा है। बीते दिन मंगलवार को डिप्टी सीएम केशव प्रसाद मौर्य प्रयागराज पहुंचे थे। उन्होंने बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में राहत सामग्री बांटी। जहाँ एक तरफ यूपी में बाढ़ से हालात बिगड़ते नजर आ रहे हैं।

पिछले 24 घंटे यूपी में 100% बारिश रिकॉर्ड की गई। बीते 24 घंटे में 4.8 मिली मीटर बारिश मौसम विभाग ने रिकॉर्ड किया है। खास बात यह रही मौसम विभाग ने पहले ही अनुमान लगाया था कि प्रदेश में 4.8 मिलीमीटर बारिश होगी।