

भारत सरकार  
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय  
जल संसाधन नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग  
केंद्रीय जल आयोग  
जल प्रणाली अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय



Government of India  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Dept. of Water Resources, RD&GR  
Central Water Commission  
Water System Engineering Directorate

**विषय: समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग का प्रस्तुतीकरण-13-अक्टूबर-2020**

जल संसाधन विकास एवं सम्बद्ध विषयों से संबन्धित समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग को केंद्रीय जल आयोग के अध्यक्ष के अवलोकन के लिए संलग्न किया गया है. इसकी साफ्ट कापी केंद्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट पर भी अपलोड की जाएगी.

**संलग्नक:** उपरोक्त

(-/sd)

**सहायक निदेशक**

**उप निदेशक(-/sd)**

**निदेशक (-/sd)**

**सेवा में**

अध्यक्ष, केंद्रीय जल आयोग, नई दिल्ली

**जानकारी हेतु:** सभी संबन्धित केंद्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट <http://cwc.gov.in/news-clipping> पर देखें

The Tribune 13-October-2020

# In troubled waters

Bangladesh roping in China on Teesta project a challenge for India



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**T**HE situation in eastern Ladakh may be deadlocked, but China's regional challenge is not about to go away. Actually, what it reveals is that the issue is not so much about 10-20 km in an inhospitable area, but the larger geopolitical confrontation between India and China.

We have been seeing important developments in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in recent months. In June, Dhaka asked Beijing for funds for nine new projects worth \$6.4 billion, including for a new port at Payra, the Barisal-Bhola bridge and a technology park. During Xi's 2016 visit, the two countries had signed an MoU for implementing infrastructure projects worth \$24 billion. Chinese investment plans announced then included 27 MoUs worth \$24 billion and 13 joint ventures valued at \$13.6 billion.

But the real sign of the times has been the report that Bangladesh is considering a proposal from China on the management and restoration of the Teesta river that flows down from Sikkim and West Bengal into the country.

A deal with India on the sharing of Teesta waters has been in the works for a decade, with little progress. Opposition by CM Mamata Banerjee at the last minute prevented a deal from being signed in 2011. The drop in water levels of Bangladesh's fourth longest river during the summer months because of irrigation canals and dams upstream, has caused a great deal of unhappiness in the country. The problem is not easy to resolve because it is the outcome of farmers on both sides want-



**BIGGER GAME:** The ongoing border issue is not so much about 10-20 km in an inhospitable area, but the larger geopolitical confrontation between India and China.

**New Delhi must work out a positive agenda in the region, rather than being seen as a naysayer that knows what it doesn't want, but has no idea of what it does.**

ing to cultivate an additional crop of paddy in the dry season.

The Bangladeshi project of water management involves building embankments on both sides of the river till its confluence with the Brahmaputra and involves a cost of nearly \$1 billion, of which 85 per cent will come from China, including the expertise in designing and executing it.

As in all Chinese projects, fears have been raised about a debt trap but these are probably overstated. An August paper by Lee Jones and Shahar Hameiri of Chatham House has debunked the notion that China is using "debt trap diplomacy" to further its interests. China's involvement in a river management project with a country that shares as many as 54 rivers with India is not good news. As it is, the Teesta project is in an area adjacent to the sensitive Siliguri corridor.

Take Sri Lanka. Last week, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa made an

emphatic defence of China's projects in Sri Lanka, denying that they are in any way part of a debt trap setup of China. He said the two countries planned to go ahead with their cooperation and even restart talks on a free trade agreement.

The Rajapaksas have been emphasising that Sri Lanka has an 'India first' policy, as evidenced by the virtual summit between Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and PM Narendra Modi recently. Mahinda's brother Gotabaya, who was elected President in November last year, too, ensured that New Delhi was his first port of call. But New Delhi should be aware that this is just a bit of positioning by the Rajapaksas who have no love lost for India.

Last week, state councillor Yang Jiechi visited Sri Lanka and held meetings with the two brothers. China has sanctioned a new loan worth \$500 million to help Sri Lanka cope with the pandemic. Sri Lanka already owes some \$5 billion

to China and is looking for a loan moratorium, just as it wants with New Delhi. China is currently involved in building Sri Lanka's ambitious Port City project being constructed by a subsidiary of the China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) which was placed under sanctions by the US recently.

China considers Sri Lanka as a vital link in the maritime component of its BRI. Of late, the US has also begun wooing Sri Lanka. Last year, Sri Lanka got a \$480 million loan from the US for building its infrastructure. Washington is also seeking a status of forces agreement with Colombo. One outcome of the talk on debt traps was that following Yang's visit, China announced a \$90 million grant to be used for medical care, education and water supplies by Sri Lanka.

Another area that needs attention from India is Southeast Asia. China has just started a diplomatic drive to win over Southeast Asian countries. This week, Foreign Minister Wang Yi will visit Cambodia, Malaysia, Laos, Thailand and Singapore. In June, the ASEAN surpassed the EU as China's largest trading partner. In an era when supply chains are being rejigged, having those which are nearby is a great advantage. RCEPs passage will only deepen these linkages.

India's Look East and Act East policy have been premised on closer ties with the ASEAN. In 2018, 10 ASEAN leaders attended the Republic Day parade as chief guests. But instead of an effective follow through, ties have been regressing. At the last minute, New Delhi decided to stay out of the RCEP. And to add insult to ASEAN injury, it has been seeking a review of its FTA with ASEAN as part of a larger renegotiation with Japan and South Korea as well. New Delhi needs to work out a positive agenda across the board, rather than being seen as a naysayer that knows what it doesn't want, but has no idea of what it does.

# Heavy rains across Telangana today: IMD

**BALU PUKIPAKA | DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 12

Fourteen districts in Telangana were placed under a warning for heavy rainfall on Tuesday. The Indian Meteorological

Department said rain, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning, can be expected in Peddapalle, Siddipet, Jangaon, Jaishankar-Bhupalapalli, Karimnagar, Warangal Urban and Rural,

Mahbubabad, Bhadadri-Kothagudem, Nalgonda, Yadadri-Bhongir, Suryapet and Mulugu districts. In the GHMC area, between 8.30 am, and 7 pm on Monday 59.5 mm of rain was recorded in Uppal,

while Musheerabad received 53 mm, Trimulgherry 47 mm, while parts of Nampally and Khairatabad areas received between 29 mm and 25 mm of rain.

■ Full report on Page 3

## Himayatsagar upstream full, Musi may flood

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 12

Officials from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB) have sounded a flood alert in Musi river in Hyderabad as the water levels in Himayatsagar reservoir upstream have reached the brim following heavy rains in catchment areas.

They have alerted district administrations of Ranga Reddy and Hyderabad along with Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) officials and police to secure all hutments and encroachments in the course of the Musi.

"Tonight, depending on the rainfall received in upstream areas and flows into the reservoir, the water board is likely to release the excess from Himayatsagar," officials said.

The water at Himayatsagar stands at 1,762.00 feet against the full tank level (FTL) of 1,763.50 feet. The water level at Osmansagar is 1,763.50 feet against the FTL of 1,790 feet. The reservoir has been receiving 1,388 cusecs inflows.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, an official of the Board said that inflows are stabilised and based on the rainfall and inflows, they would take a call. He said

● **DUE TO** heavy rains in the catchment areas of Musi River, there could be flashfloods. Officials advised people to be on alert in low-lying areas like Kishanbagh, Ziaguda, Puranapul, MGBS, Chaderghat and Golnaka.

Osmansagar inflows in reservoirs were also normal and that there is no need to release water into the Musi.

Due to heavy rains in the catchment areas of Musi River, there could be flashfloods. Officials advised people to be on alert in low-lying areas like Kishanbagh, Ziaguda, Puranapul, MGBS, Chaderghat and Golnaka.

The GHMC has asked all deputy commissioners and zonal commissioners of Golconda, Asifnagar, Bahadurpura, Nampally, Charminar, Himayatnagar and Saidabad to be on high alert and be prepared to evacuate people to safer areas if the need arises.

This is the second time this season that officials have warned about the impending release of water from the Himayatsagar. A similar caution had been issued on September 26, but the rain eased off and the officials did not release water.



# 14 dists put on heavy rain alert

Depression over Bay likely to intensify further into deep depression

**BALU PUKIPAKA | DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 12

Fourteen districts in Telangana state have been placed under a warning for heavy to very heavy rainfall for Tuesday. The Indian Meteorological Department said rain, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning, can be expected in Peddapalle, Siddipet, Jangaon, Jaishankar-Bhupalapalli, Karim-nagar, Warangal Urban and Rural, Mahbubabad, Bhadadri-Kothagudem, Nalgonda, Yadadri-Bhongir, Suryapet and Mulugu districts.

In the GHMC area, between 8.30 am, and 7 pm on Monday 59.5 mm of rain was recorded in Uppal, while Musheerabad received 53 mm, Trimulgherry 47 mm, while parts of Nampally and Khairatabad areas received between 29 mm and 25 mm of rain.

Teams from the GHMC, the police and Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Works and Sewerage Board were deployed in various parts of the city to clear waterlogged streets.

Wanaparthi received 77.8 mm of rain for the same period, the highest in the state, followed by 71 mm in parts of Nagarkurnool district, 61 mm in Ranga Reddy district, and 59.5 mm in Medchal-Malkajgiri district. The TS Southern Power Distribution Corporation Limited has been posting minute to minute updates on its Twitter page @TsspdclCorporate on power outages in several parts of the city. Around 50 such power outages were reported till 7 pm in the city.

On Monday, Telangana state received an average rainfall of 13.4 mm against the season normal of 3.7 mm, with heavy rainfall ranging between 64.5 mm and 115.5 mm being reported from Medak, Kamareddy, Jagtial, Siddipet, Sangareddy and Jogulamba-Gadwal districts. The rest of the state, with the exception of Hyderabad, Yadadri-Bhongir and Nalgonda districts, received moderate rain till 5 pm ranging between 15.5 mm and 64.4 mm.

Meanwhile, the IMD said the depression over the west central Bay of Bengal which moved west-northwest on Monday, is very likely to intensify further into a deep depression and cross the north Andhra Pradesh coast between Narsapur and Vishakhapatnam, close to Kakinada during the early morning of October 13.



Above: People take shelter under the Metro Rail bridge and at shops at Moazzam Jahi Market as rain lashed the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad on Monday.

— P. SURENDRA

Left: Vehicles splash through waterlogged road at Rashtrapati Road in Secunderabad on Monday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY

## Emergency teams kept ready

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 12

With the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) predicting heavy to very heavy rain in the city in the next 72 hours, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) commissioner D.S. Lokesh Kumar on Monday instructed zonal and deputy commissioner to press monsoon emergency teams into action and identify rehabilitation centres to evacuate citizens living in low-

lying areas. He asked field-level officials to be on high alert for any kind of emergencies. The rainfall is expected to be anywhere between 9cm to 16 cm in the greater Hyderabad limits.

The civic body chief has called for readying rehabilitation activities in government schools, community halls and other shelter homes. He told officials that in addition to dilapidated buildings, they should give special attention to compound and retaining

● **CIVIC BODY** chief has called for readying rehabilitation activities in government schools, community halls and other shelter homes and to keep a watch on dilapidated buildings.

walls of cellars of buildings that adjoin open lands. He urged people residing in such places to vacate immediately as a preventive measure.

Kumar reiterated that excavation of cellars was not allowed and in case of

already dug cellars and work in progress check safety of surrounding buildings, officials should ensure that all standard safety precautionary measures such as soil strengthening, construction of retaining wall, barricading around the land are all taken up immediately. He told officials to respond to complaints received from IMD control room call centres, and WhatsApp groups and be available for any emergency situation.



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Telangana  Today

# Deluge-like threat for city

IMD warns of heavy rains during next 72 hours; KTR directs GHMC to stay alert



A biker rides past a traffic signal at Tank Bund even as rains lashed several places across Hyderabad on Monday. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

**CITY BUREAU**  
HYDERABAD

The heavy rains lashing the city since Monday morning could be just a sign of heavier downpour ahead with the India Meteorological Department issuing a forecast warning of heavy rains and thunderstorms during the next 72 hours, prompting officials to be on an alert

to initiate rescue and rehabilitation measures.

As per the weather forecast, there is a likelihood of very heavy rainfall from Monday night till Thursday. Till Monday evening, Uppal recorded the highest rainfall of (40.8 mm), Peerzadiguda (40.3 mm), Musheerabad (40 mm), Serilingampally (36 mm) and Patancheru (35.5 mm). The average rain-

fall received in GHMC limits till 8 pm was 22.3 mm.

According to the Met department, the expected rainfall could be in the range of 90 mm to 160 mm. This could lead to a deluge-like situation and is very serious as there is every possibility of inundations and related flooding issues, GHMC Commissioner DS Lokesh Kumar said, adding that officers have

been directed to stay alert and prepare their field teams and brief them accordingly to take up relief and rehabilitation measures. Also, the designated relief centres and evacuation points such as schools, community halls etc in different areas were being kept ready to attend to any eventuality, he said.

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Telangana Today 13-October-2020

# Himayat Sagar full after a decade

Water levels in the reservoir stood at 1,762 feet as against the Full Reservoir Level of 1,763 feet; officials put on alert in the wake of steady inflows

CITY BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

With copious rains lashing the city and its neighbouring areas, the Himayat Sagar is just one foot short of getting filled to the brim and there is the possibility of water being released downstream anytime. The water level in the Himayat Sagar reservoir was 1,762 feet on Monday afternoon as against the Full Reservoir Level of 1,763 feet after receiving 1,666 cusecs of inflows.

Officials of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB) are constantly monitoring the inflows into the Himayat Sagar. With heavy rains expected during the next three days, officials said the decision to release water would be taken based on further inflows into the reservoir.

Already, Revenue, Police and Municipal officials have been put on alert in the wake of steady inflows into the reservoir. After almost a decade, the water levels in the reservoir have increased and district Collectors, Police Commissioners, GHMC and other departments have also been put on alert.

The residents of Shankernagar, Chaderghat, Moosanagar and neighbouring areas have been asked to stay alert, said a senior official from HMWS&SB. Likewise, the water level in Osman Sagar was 1,773 feet against the FRL of 1,790 feet. The reservoir received 1,388 cusecs inflows till Monday afternoon. Similarly, there are steady inflows into Singur reservoir. It is almost after eight years that the Singur reservoir is getting steady inflows, bringing lots of cheer among Hyderabadis and residents of Sanga Reddy. The water level in the Singur reservoir was recorded at 24.12 tmcft against the FRL of 29 tmcft. The reservoirs are getting steady inflows and this augurs well for Hyderabad as HMWS&SB officials inform that there will be no drinking water issues during the next summer and beyond.



With heavy rains expected during the next three days, officials are likely to release water from the reservoir based on further inflows.



## DGP asks officials to stay alert

**HYDERABAD :** Director-General of Police M Mahendar Reddy on Monday asked district Superintendents of Police and Commissioners of Police to be on alert in the wake of reports of heavy rainfall across the State during the next three days. In a statement, Reddy said police officials should be on duty round-the-clock during the next 24 hours to assist the people and special focus should be on low-lying areas. The police officials should coordinate with the district Collector concerned and authorities from the Disaster Management

department to deal with any situation. Reddy asked the police officials to accord priority to the calls received on the Dial 100 facility. He also asked the people to dial 100 in case of any emergency.

**Inundation issues**  
Anjani Kumar asked officials to be alert, especially at low-lying areas along the Musi River, Tank Bund, Mir Alam where inundation issues are reported usually. He asked SHOs to monitor rainfall and alert the authorities concerned to minimize inconvenience to citizens.

## Uppal receives 60 mm rainfall on Monday

**HYDERABAD:** The heavy rainfall that has been lashing the city over the last three days notwithstanding, weathermen have said there was a possibility of more rain, in fact "very heavy rainfall" (above 120 mm), in some parts of the city in the next two days.

According to the Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDDS), light to moderate rain/thundershowers were expected at many places while there would be heavy rain at several places up till Tuesday, after which light to moderate rain, thundershowers and heavy to very heavy rain could be expected at a few places over the next two days.

On Monday, several parts in and around the city reported moderate to heavy rainfall with Uppal recording the highest rainfall of (60.5 mm), Hafeezpet (58 mm), Musheerabad (54.8 mm), Lingampally (50.5 mm) and KPHB (49.3 mm). The average rainfall received in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits till 8 pm was 22.3 mm. As per the impact based weather forecast by the India Meteorologi-

### No respite



cal Department, there was a possibility of water pooling on roads and low lying areas in many places along with traffic congestion at several locations. It also hinted at chances of wet and slippery roads and drainage clogging in the city on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a weather warning from the Meteorological Department, Hyderabad indicated that heavy to very heavy rainfall was likely to occur in parts of Telangana.

## Met warns of extremely heavy rainfall in TS

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Telangana will be receiving extremely heavy rainfall on Tuesday and Wednesday due to a deep depression over Bay of Bengal. The weather department has warned disruption of transportation, power supply and inundation of low-lying areas and even damage to agriculture crops in certain places. Very heavy to extremely heavy rain is expected over Ranga Reddy, Nalgonda and Yadadri Bhongir districts, and heavy to very heavy rain is expected over Nagarkurnool, Ranga Reddy, Nalgonda, Yadadri Bhongir, Suryapet, Khammam, Mahabubabad and Jangaon districts.

Telangana State Development Planning Society has forecast moderate to heavy rain over Nagarkurnool, Narayanpet, Mahabubnagar, Vikarabad, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajigiri, Sangareddy, Medak, Siddipet, Karimnagar, Warangal Urban, Warangal Rural, Mahabubabad, Jangaon, Suryapet, Khammam, Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem and Mulugu districts and light to moderate rain at remaining districts.

The depression over west central Bay of Bengal lay centred about 280 km southeast of Visakhapat-



Children playing at Kotha Cheruvu in Mahabubnagar. With incessant rains lashing parts of Telangana, waterbodies in the State are brimming.

nam is very likely to intensify further into a deep depression during the next 12 hours. It is expected to move west northwest wards and cross north AP coasts between Narsapur and Vishakhapatnam, close to Kakinada during the early hours of Tuesday. Massive flooding, water logging in many parts of low lying areas in several districts has been forecasted. Massive falling of trees and electrical poles over different roads can

lead to total disruption of transport in some areas of the districts for some hours to few days.

Reservoirs can overflow to dangerous levels and submergence of agricultural lands is also possible. Civil administration has been advised to regulate road, rail and air traffic accordingly. People in the affected areas may limit their movement; municipal corporations may take appropriate action to control water borne diseases. Nec-

essary advisory may be issued from municipal and State government authorities on the basis of IMD inputs to State Disaster Management Agency for necessary action.

Meanwhile the State registered an average rainfall of 13.4 mm against normal rainfall of 3.7 mm on Monday. Heavy Rainfall (64.5-115.5mm) was received in Medak, Kamareddy, Jagtial, Siddipet, Sangareddy and Jogulamba Gadwal districts.



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Telangana Today

# Heavy inflows into Srisaillam

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

With the Srisaillam dam reporting heavy inflows on Monday, engineers lifted six crest gates to release water. The inflows are expected to rise further because of heavy rains in the catchment areas of the Krishna river and discharges from the Narayanpet and Jurala projects.

The inflow into the Srisaillam dam on Monday was 1,57,230 cusecs while the outflow was 1,47,399 cusecs. The water level touched 269.69 metres against the FRL of 292 metres. Electricity production was also going on the right bank hydroelectric generation unit.

As per the flood forecast issued by the Central Water Commission (CWC) on Monday, the Godavari river was flowing at 55.82 metres at Dummugudem, 46.57 metres at Bhadrachalam, and 73.22 metres at Eturnagaram. The water level at all these places was rising.

On the other hand, the water level in the Nizam-sagar project was steady at 522.51 metres and 332.54 metres in the SRSP. Similarly, the water level Singur dam



Water being released from the Srisaillam dam by lifting six crest gates. — Photo: Chandrashekhar Sharma

was at 426.06 metres and rising. At Yellampalli, the inflow was 25,736 cusecs while the outflow was 41,180 cusecs. The Lower Manair Dam was receiving 42,637 cusecs and discharging 59,112 cusecs.

On the Krishna river, the water level in the Almatti project in Karnataka was steady at 519.60 metres and in the Narayanpur dam, rising from 491.99 metres with heavy inflows of 90,000 cusecs. The project was discharging 93,000 cusecs.

The water level in the Priyadarshini Jurala Project

## 8 Nagarjuna Sagar gates lifted

**NALGONDA:** Eight crest gates of the Nagarjuna Sagar Project (NSP) were lifted up to 10 feet after the inflow increased to one lakh cusecs late on Monday evening. The project's water storage touched 311 tmc against

the storage capacity of 312 tmc while the water level was 589 feet against the FRL of 590 feet. The outflow was one lakh cusecs, including water released to the left canal and the SLBC low-level canal.

was 318.33 metres while the inflows were 70,500 cusecs. The same was rising in the Srisaillam reservoir from

269.69 metres. The Pulichintala was receiving 66,419 cusecs and was discharging 1,09,196 cusecs.

Business Line 13-October-2020

# With rain gods in generous mood, sparks may not fly over sharing Cauvery water this year

But with elections round the corner in TN, issue may come back to centrestage

**ANIL URS**

Bengaluru, October 12

Bountiful rains in the Cauvery catchment area indicates that the periodic tug-of-war between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over the sharing of Cauvery waters likely to take a back seat this year.

"We don't see any problem. So far adequate water has been released," said a senior water resources department official.

Karnataka had a good rainfall between August and September, which covered the season's shortfall. Now Tamil Nadu

awaits the Mettur reservoir to cross the 100 feet mark. As on October 12, Mettur's water level stood at 99.11 feet as against its capacity of 120 feet.

"In 2019, Karnataka faced double floods in less than three months. This year (2020), we have seen only one with an average inflow and outflow," the water resources department official said.

## Election fever

He added, "In addition to water outflow from Cauvery basin dams in four months, in the last week, there have been heavy rains in the downstream of Kabini, KRS dams and in the

Bengaluru region, leading to water flow to Tamil Nadu." But what is worrying Karnataka

more is the State assembly elections in Tamil Nadu scheduled early next year (2021). The Cauvery water dispute usually takes gargantuan

proportions during an election year, the past years have shown.

With good South-West monsoons rains getting over, this time around politicians in Karnataka don't see demand for water. But what the State is worried about is the delay in giving permission to start the Meke-  
datu reservoir work.

The project aims to store and

provide 4.75 tmc of water to fulfil the drinking water needs of Bengaluru city, without changing the quantum of Cauvery water flow to Tamil Nadu. At the moment, the State is awaiting environmental clearance after submitting a detailed project report to the Centre.

Both Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa and State Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi have met Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar seeking early clearance of the project. The recent Cauvery Water Management Authority's (CWMA) meeting, which saw a sharp exchange of words between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, may be taken as a precursor to what is likely to follow. This will be played out loud in the run-up to the elections.





Assam Tribune 13-October-2020

# Producers' body questions selection norms

## Publicity under Jal Jeevan Mission

**CITY CORRESPONDENT**

GUWAHATI, Oct 12: The Producers' Council, an association of film and TV producers, has alleged that the proposed criteria for selection of empanelment of agencies for publicity-related works under the Jal Jeevan Mission, Assam, will only encourage bigger firms and deprive locals.

The council recently sent a letter to the Chief Engineer, PHE-Water, Assam, cum Additional Mission Director of Jal Jeevan Mission, Assam, in this regard.

"In this pandemic, a crisis has arisen among the TV and film industry of Assam. Therefore, giving out work opportunities to the local creative agencies shall be helpful to strengthen the economic scenario of the local production houses as well as the agencies which comprise producers, directors, artists, technicians, etc," the Council said in a statement.

"We urge the department to empanel a minimum set of qualified firms or agencies under the department for conducting all kinds of audiovisual works. Local artisans should get preference and it will help uplift the economic growth of the local creative agencies," it added.

The council also requested the department to minimise the criteria for selection with the motive of maximum work generation with minimum criteria. This will further help support the lives of many local artisans in the respective field during this pandemic, the statement said.

The council sought modification in the criteria for selection for the benefit of local artisans. The agency said the earnest money should be reduced to Rs 25,000 from Rs 1 lakh. The amount has been fixed as earnest money deposit to be paid online in the e-procurement portal itself or in the form of bank guarantee pledged in favour of Chief Engineer, PHE-Water, Assam.

It further said that as not much work had been done in the field in Assam in the last five years, the minimum value of total work order should be Rs 5 lakh instead of Rs 1 crore. The proposed criteria for eligibility do not consider the individual work orders worth less than Rs 12 lakh. The applicant must have a minimum average annual turnover of Rs 10 lakh over the last three years instead of Rs 2 crore. Moreover, the evaluation matrix for the evaluation process should be at a minimum, it added.

Assam Tribune 13-October-2020

# Brahmaputra, flood and erosion

■ Nripa K Phukan

In his iconic song *Bistrina Parore...*, Dr Bhupen Hazarika accuses the Brahmaputra for flowing silently in spite of sufferings of the poor masses who live by its side. Now after decades, the Brahmaputra feels abused, degenerated and neglected. It symbolizes sufferings, extensive riverbank erosion, watershed degradation and climate change. The Brahmaputra basin has a vast watershed of 580,000 sq km which receives high rainfall. It is the fourth largest river in the world in terms of discharge. There is a sudden drop of gradient (hills to plains) and narrow basin on the plains, with very high drainage density with many tributaries. The big earthquake of 1950 lifted the riverbed of the Brahmaputra substantially. Deforestation, ruthless cutting of trees for logging, clearance of vegetation for new human settlements and farming and rapid urbanization are causing large-scale and continuous removal of topsoil from hills and plains in every rainy season, which gets deposited in the rivers making them shallower. In winter months, large sandbars appear in the Brahmaputra which compel its water to flow in three to six small channels. In addition, people are dumping tons of garbage, plastic bottles, industrial and human waste into the Brahmaputra making it pol-

luted. The river is crying for help and attention.

The Assamese people who are well adept in organizing one protest and the other are not paying any heed to the river's call and yearly sufferings of people. There are so many protests, but there is no organized public protest over the flood and erosion problem of Assam. The students' organizations, NGOs, intellectuals, literati, *et al.*, do not appear to be much concerned with the issue. The All Assam Students' Union (AASU) which always takes leadership in safeguarding the land and people of Assam has not mentioned about flood and erosion while forming a 16-member advisory committee of eminent citizens of Assam recently. Even the Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti, which claims to represent the interest of farmers, is not agitating on the flood problem.

The enormity of the problem is known to all. Almost 40% of Assam's land area is flood-prone compared to the national average of 10%. Over the years, about 2500 villages and 18 towns including sites of cultural heritage have disappeared. Since 1951, Assam has lost at least 8,000 sq km (60 lakh *bighas*) of land due to erosion. According to the Central Water Commission data for the period 1953 to 2016, on an average every

year 26 lakh people are affected, 47 lose lives, 10,961 cattle die, Rs 7 crore worth of houses get destroyed.

The frequency of big and prolonged floods have increased. During the last four years (2017-2020) big floods have occurred in three years. In the 2017 floods, about 34 lakh people got affected and 134 people died. Floods of 2019 affected over 57 lakh of people in 4,600 villages and killed 100 persons. In the current year, three waves of flood again hit the State with very little gap between the second and the third adversely affecting 56 lakh people in about 4,000 villages and damaging paddy cultivation on more than 2.80 lakh hectares of cropland. Hundreds of villages remained under water continuously for four months. Around 1,000 houses have been totally destroyed, 32,725 others have been partially damaged. Till August 20, 2020, 114 persons including 50 children have lost their lives. Sixteen lakh animals including livestock have been affected.

Extensive damage to the State's infrastructure – roads, bridges, culverts and various public utility services – occurs every year. The State Water Resource Department reported that this year's floods breached or destroyed 50 dykes and embankments, 120 road stretches and a large number of bridges and culverts. Assam has 423 embankments, with a total length of about

4,475 kms. It is estimated that 295 of the 423 embankments have outlived their lifespan. The situation will only worsen in the coming years if no sustainable flood control and erosion prevention measures are initiated urgently.

A large amount of taxpayers' money has been spent since 1950 on flood control measures every year. No one is constantly questioning the two governments, water resource departments and the Brahmaputra Board for their failures. A lot was expected, when the Brahmaputra Board was established by an Act of Parliament in 1980 for control of floods, bank erosion and improvement of drainage in the Brahmaputra valley. The Board has achieved very little in the last 40 years. Taking advantage of lack of scrutiny by the Assamese people, bureaucrats and technocrats have quietly diluted its main task, while expanding its domain and budget. The latest Mission Statement of the Board mentions development and utilization of water resources of the Brahmaputra and Barak valleys for irrigation, hydropower, navigation and flood management as main tasks. Flood control, the earlier main task of the Brahmaputra Board, has been changed to flood management. Yet, no protest has been made and demonstrations held by any Assamese organization or students' union against the lackadaisical attitude and failure of the Board.

sical attitude and failure of the Board.

With the change in government in Delhi and Dispur in 2014 and 2016 respectively, it was expected that urgent actions would be initiated to solve the flood and erosion problem of Assam. It did not happen. The present State Government has only a few more months of tenure left. In June 2020, the Modi Government has set up the North East Water Management Authority (NEWMA) to study the reasons for flood and erosion in Assam. It is a belated and little first step. Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal's statement on July 21, 2020 that the Centre would be able to start working on finding a permanent solution of Assam's floods only after the completion of the study by the NEWMA reflects little urgency, whereas the problem calls for warlike efforts.

The problem is gigantic and it will take, even after government approval, at least four to five years to complete various projects to control the Brahmaputra and its tributaries to achieve a sustainable solution. It is imperative that instead of agitating on many different and localized issues, the Assamese people concentrate on the most existential challenge arising from flood and erosion and start a mass movement with a new leadership. Since the Central Government only has the wherewithal to solve this complex and huge issue, effective agitation needs to be held in Delhi also.



Millennium Post 13-October-2020

## Heavy rains batter AP; coastal districts on alert as depression in Bay of Bengal intensifies

**NEW DELHI:** Heavy rains battered parts of Andhra Pradesh on Monday under the influence of a deep depression in the Bay of Bengal, and with a forecast of more heavy showers in the state, the disaster management department has put coastal districts on alert.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has also forecasted heavy rainfall in neighbouring Telangana on Tuesday due to the depression.

The depression over the Bay of Bengal has intensified into a deep depression and it is likely to cross the north Andhra Pradesh coast between Narsapur and Vishakhapatnam early Tuesday, the IMD said.

Under its influence, very heavy rainfall is expected over Telangana, heavy to very heavy falls at isolated places are likely over Karnataka, Rayalaseema, south Konkan and Goa, central Maharashtra and Marathawada on Tuesday, the Cyclone Warning Division of the IMD said.

The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Com-


missioner K Kanna Babu issued a warning, asking people, particularly those residing in low-lying areas, to be alert and take necessary precautions in view of the situation.

Kanna Babu said coastal districts have been put on high alert. The Meteorological Centre at Amaravati said the deep depression was moving at a speed of over six kilometres per hour and was very likely to move west-northwestwards and cross the coast close to Kakinada, the headquarters of East Godavari district. Wind speed could range from 55 to 65 kmph, gusting up to 75 kmph, it said.

The deep depression caused heavy to very heavy rains in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts in particular on Monday and threw normal life out of gear. Parawada near Visakhapatnam received the highest 18.1 cm of rain and industrial town Gajuwaka 17.1 cm. The ancient coastal town of Bhimili recorded 16 cm, Visakhapatnam city 15.9 cm, Kapuluppada 14.6 cm and Anandapuram 12 cm. AGENCIES

**Punjab Kesari 13-October-2020**



—  सिकन्दराबाद : भारी बारिश के बाद पानी से भरी सड़क पर से वाहनों के साथ गुजरते राहगीर।



Hindustan 13-October-2020



गांगेय डॉल्फिन दिवस के अवसर पर राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन, भारतीय वन्य जीव संस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग के द्वारा बिजनौर जिले में गांगेय डॉल्फिन जलज सफारी का ऑनलाइन शुभारंभ किया गया।

## जलज सफारी का ऑनलाइन शुभारंभ किया

नई दिल्ली। गांगेय डॉल्फिन दिवस के अवसर पर राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन, भारतीय वन्य जीव संस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग के द्वारा बिजनौर जिले में कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस मौके पर एनएमसीजी के निदेशक श्री राजीव रंजन मिश्रा द्वारा शीशमहल, बिजनौर से कुल 6 स्थानों बिजनौर, बृजघाट, प्रयागराज, वाराणसी, भागलपुर और पश्चिम बंगाल के बैङ्गल में गांगेय डॉल्फिन जलज सफारी का

ऑनलाइन शुभारंभ किया गया।

जल शक्ति मंत्री, श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत ने वीडियो सदेश के माध्यम से राष्ट्र को बधाई देते हुए बताया कि हाल के वर्षों में नमामि गंगे मिशन के अथक प्रयासों से गंगा में डॉल्फिन की आबादी में अच्छी खासी वृद्धि हुई है। उन्होंने गंगा नदी के कायाकल्प और जैव विविधता के महत्व पर जोर देते हुए जनता से डॉल्फिन संरक्षण अभियान में शामिल होने की अपील की।

Haribhoomi 13-October-2020

# जल परीक्षण के लिए हरियाणा को मिली स्टेट ऑफ द आर्ट मोबाइल वाटर टेस्टिंग लेबोरेटरी वैन

हरिभूमि ब्यूरो ►► नई दिल्ली

केंद्र सरकार के देश के ग्रामीण इलाकों में नल कनेक्शन के जरिए पेयजल मुहैया कराने के लिए शुरू किए गए जल जीवन मिशन के तहत हरियाणा सरकार ने पानी के परीक्षण के लिए स्टेट ऑफ द आर्ट 'मोबाइल वाटर टेस्टिंग लेबोरेटरी वैन' शुरू की है। केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने बताया हरियाणा सरकार जल परीक्षण के लिए एक अभिनव समाधान लेकर आई है, जिसके तहत स्टेट ऑफ द आर्ट मोबाइल वाटर टेस्टिंग लेबोरेटरी वैन शुरू की गई है। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के जल जीवन मिशन के तहत 2024 तक हर ग्रामीण घर में नल जल कनेक्शन प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य है। हरियाणा के कई ब्लॉकों में भूजल प्रदूषित है, ऐसे इलाके में शुद्ध जलापूर्ति के लिए मोबाइल वाटर टेस्टिंग लेबोरेटरी वैन मददगार होगी।

## राज्य में कई स्थानों पर पाया गया है संदूषित जल

हरियाणा में पानी की गुणवत्ता मुख्य रूप से घटक जैसे कुल मंग ठोस (टीडीएस), फ्लोराइड, नाइट्रेट, लोहा और क्षारीयता से प्रभावित है। मंत्रालय ने बताया इस मोबाइल वाटर टेस्टिंग लैब वैन को नवीनतम तकनीकों और विशेषताओं के साथ विशिष्ट रूप से डिजाइन और पूरी तरह से लोड किया गया है। यह ऑन-साइट रिकॉर्डिंग और स्मार्ट फोन या इसी तरह के डिवाइस के माध्यम से परिणामों की रिपोर्टिंग के साथ वेब आधारित सुरक्षित केंद्रीय सर्वर पर सीधे परिणाम भेजने की क्षमता प्रदान करता है। इस मोबाइल वैन में पूरी तरह से स्वचालित सेंसर-आधारित विश्लेषण है, जो केंद्रीय रूप से कमांड किए गए सॉफ्टवेयर द्वारा नियंत्रित किया जाता है।

## पूरे राज्य में किया जाएगा जल परीक्षण

मोबाइल परीक्षण वैन राज्य जल परीक्षण प्रयोगशाला करनाल में तैनात की जाएगी और इसके संचालन का क्षेत्र पूरे राज्य में होगा। इस मोबाइल जल परीक्षण प्रयोगशाला से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में पीने के पानी की गुणवत्ता की निगरानी करने का एक सटीक प्रयोग होगा, जिसके तहत इस लैब के जरिए पानी के नमूनों की पीएच, क्षारीयता, टीडीएस, कठोरता, अवशिष्ट क्लोरीन, जस्ता, नाइट्राइट, फ्लोराइड, टर्बिडिटी और सूक्ष्म जैविक परीक्षण जैसे विभिन्न जल गुणवत्ता मापदंडों को मापने में सक्षम है।



Dainik Jagran 13-Oct-2020

## जागरण विशेष



कंचन किशोर • कलकत्ता

जनता ठान ले, तो कुछ भी असंभव नहीं। मृतप्राय एक नदी में अब लबालब पानी ग्रामीणों के उसी संकल्प की बानगी है। बात बक्सर, बिहार स्थित काव नदी की। अतिक्रमण और गाद के कारण नदी अस्तित्व खो चुकी थी। अब इस साल अक्टूबर में भी निर्मल धारा बह रही है। पिछले साल तक ऐसी स्थिति नहीं थी।

नदी का जीवन लौटा तो आसपास के गांवों में भूजल स्तर ऊपर आ गया है। इस कार्य में जनता आगे आई, तो सरकार ने भी पहल की। शासन-प्रशासन का साथ और जन-सहभागिता ने देखते ही देखते तस्वीर बदल दी। श्रम संसाधन जुटाने में महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी योजना (मनरेगा) की अहम भूमिका रही।

नदी के प्रवाह क्षेत्र को नए सिरे से गढ़ा गया। झाड़-झंकाड़ हटाए गए। अतिक्रमण दूर किए गए। जहाँ गाद थी, निकाली गई।

# सूख चुकी नदी में अब बह रही 'संकल्प' की सुखद धारा

**गुड न्यूज:** गाद और अतिक्रमण के चलते अस्तित्व खो चुकी थी बिहार की काव नदी, जनता के प्रयास को मिल रही सराहना



**तब:** बीते साल इस हाल में थी नदी। • जागरण जर्काइव

**अब:** ग्रामीणों ने लगाया जोर तो अब बह रही धारा। • जागरण

इस काम की शुरुआत स्वयं ग्रामीणों ने की थी। उनके प्रयास को देखते हुए वर्ष 2019-20 की मनरेगा योजना में इस काम को शामिल कर लिया गया।

कैमूर पहाड़ी से निकली यह नदी सासाराम, बिक्रमगंज, दावथ, नावानगर, मलियाबाग, सिकरौल, डुमरांव होते हुए नया भोजपुर के कोकिला ताल के रास्ते

गंगा नदी में मिल जाती है। इसकी न तो कभी सफाई की गई और ना ही गाद हटाई गई। तलहट पर गंदगी जमा होते रहने के कारण इसमें इतनी गाद भर गई कि नदी

नदी के सूख जाने से क्षेत्र में पानी की किल्लत हो गई थी। बोरिंग में डेढ़ सौ फीट पर भी पानी नहीं आता था। अब 50-60 फीट पर पानी मिल जा रहा है। सिंचाई के लिए भी अब पर्याप्त पानी मिल रहा है।

**मुन्ना सिंह,** स्थानीय नागरिक

काव नदी को नया जीवन देने में विभाग ने अपना काम किया, लेकिन ग्रामीणों ने तन-मन से जो सहयोग दिया, उसके बिना यह संभव नहीं था। इसी का परिणाम है कि आज नदी में पानी है।

**सुभांशु शेखर पांडेव,** परियोजना वदाधिकारी

लगभग सूख गई। क्षेत्र में पानी के लिए हाहकार मचने लगा।

आथर पंचायत की मुखिया रेखा देवी कहती हैं कि नदी में गाद भर जाने से

इसका प्रवाह अवरुद्ध हो गया था। कुछ लोग नदी की जमीन पर खेती करने लगे, तो कई जगहों पर अतिक्रमण कर लिया गया। नदी के पुनर्जीवन के लिए अतिक्रमण हटाना सबसे बड़ी चुनौती थी। वह भी सौहार्दपूर्ण तरीके से।

बकौल रेखा, दूसरी चुनौती श्रम की थी। मनरेगा से योजना तो स्वीकृत हो गई, पर मशीन का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकते थे। ऐसे में इस काम को अंजाम देने के लिए ग्रामीण आगे आए। उनका समर्पण देखते बनता था।

आथर में लगभग 24 लाख रुपये के खर्च और ग्रामीणों के श्रमदान से काव नदी फिर अपने री में आ गई है। श्रम के एवज में ग्रामीणों को मजदूरी मिली, पर उनके समर्पण भाव के आगे यह कुछ नहीं।

Dainik Bhaskar 13-Oct-2020

# पहली बार • भारत के 8 बीच को एक साथ मिला सम्माननीय सर्टिफिकेट पुरी के गोल्डन बीच, राधानगर, शिवराजपुर सहित 8 सी-बीच को ब्लू फ्लैग सर्टिफिकेट

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

## 50 देशों के 4500 बीच को ब्लू फ्लैग टैग हासिल है

पुरी के गोल्डन बीच, अंडमान-निकोबार के हवेलोक में राधानगर बीच, गोवा के मीरामार बीच, द्रारिका के शिवराजपुर बीच सहित भारत के 8 बीच (समुद्र तटीय स्पॉट) को ब्लू फ्लैग सर्टिफिकेट हासिल हुआ है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्था फाउंडेशन फॉर एन्वायरन्मेंटल एजुकेशन (एफईई) ने यह ऐलान किया। पर्यावरण मंत्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर ने इसे भारत के लिए गौरव का क्षण बताया। उन्होंने कहा कि यूएनईपी, आईयूसीएन, यूएनडब्ल्यूटीओ व एफईई जैसे सदस्यों वाली इंटरनेशनल जूरी ने भारत के सभी 8 प्रस्तावों को ब्लू फ्लैग के लिए चुना है। जूरी ने समुद्री तटों पर प्रदूषण नियंत्रण की बेस्ट प्रैक्टिसेज के लिए भारत को तृतीय पुरस्कार के लिए भी चुना। आने वाले पांच वर्षों में भारत का लक्ष्य 50 बीच के लिए ब्लू फ्लैग हासिल करने का है।



1987 से 2000 तक यह सर्टिफिकेट केवल यूरोपीय तटों को दिए गए थे। 2001 में पहली बार दक्षिणी अफ्रीका और 2018 में पहली बार एशिया के तट को यह टैग दिया गया। दुनिया के करीब 50 देशों के साढ़े चार हजार समुद्री तटों को ब्लू फ्लैग टैग हासिल है। 566 तटों के लिए ब्लू फ्लैग टैग के साथ स्पेन पहले स्थान, 515 बीच के साथ ग्रीस दूसरे और 395 बीच के साथ फ्रांस तीसरे पायदान पर है। एक साथ 8 ब्लू फ्लैग केवल भारत को ही हासिल हुए हैं।

ब्लू फ्लैग का तमगा सबसे साफ-सुथरे, सुंदर व पर्यावरण अनुकूल सुविधाओं से युक्त समुद्री तटों को दिया जाता है। जनवरी 2018 में ओडिशा के कोणार्क स्थित चंद्रभागा बीच को एशिया में पहला ब्लू फ्लैग टैग मिला था। यह टैग एक वर्ष के लिए होता है। इसके बाद पर्यावरण मंत्रालय की साइकॉम सोसाइटी ने 12

अन्य बीच का चयन कर विकास कार्य शुरू किए थे। हालांकि कोपेनहेगन (डेनमार्क) स्थित एफईई संस्था को द्रारिका के शिवराजपुर, दमन-दीव के घोघला, कर्नाटक के कसरकोड और पट्टाबिदरी, केरल के कप्पड़, विशाखापट्टनम के रुशिकोंडा, पुरी के गोल्डन और अंडमान के राधानगर बीच के नाम भेजे गए थे।