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Cold and cruel

Put on hold new laws, end the misery of protesters

IT is freezing and also raining in north India; every compassionate soul ought to offer the warmth of her hearth to those out on the streets. It is a sad irony that thousands of proud farmers with homes and farms are braving one of the worst cold waves in recent times, sitting out in the open at the Delhi border demanding their fears be assuaged. Today, when the government representatives meet the farmers again for yet another round of talks, they need to put an end to the misery of these landed people who are not asking for any material relief, but their right to continue farming and selling their produce the way their parents and they have been doing for decades.

The government insists that the new farm laws will revolutionise the Indian agriculture sector and make farmers prosperous. But change has to be brought in only with the consent of the stakeholders. If the intended beneficiaries do not accept a particular change, it will be undemocratic, rather authoritarian, to impose a new order. And the Government of India is doing exactly that — imposing a big shift in the way of farming without the willing consent of the farmers of Punjab and Haryana. The government should pause now for a couple of years and allow agriculture to remain a state subject, letting the state Assemblies decide whether they need to adopt the new farm laws.

The best course of action would be to make the new farm laws a success in Bihar and any other willing state in the next two years and make the farmers of Punjab and Haryana seek out the promised prosperity by forcing their respective state governments to enact the new laws. A farmer looks only at the price of the produce and not at the buyer. It does not matter whether a government agency or a multinational company buys wheat and rice, what is important are the best price and practices. Let the laws be proved good elsewhere before provoking farmers to break police barriers and march towards Delhi in this terrible cold.

Assam Tribune 04 January 2021

Majuli protection project misses deadline again

KALYAN BAROOAH

NEW DELHI, Jan 3: A project to protect the Majuli river island has yet again slipped a deadline, with the Ministry of Jal Shakti being directed to expedite the project. The agitation against the Citizenship (Amended) Act, 2019 and the rainy season have been cited as the main reasons for the delay.

The project was initially scheduled to be completed by March 2020, but later it was rescheduled and projected for completion by December 2020, which was again missed because of the national lockdown imposed following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Official sources said the physical progress of the scheme 'Protection of Majuli island from flood and erosion of river Brahmaputra' up to December, 2019 was 70.61 per cent when project had been planned to be completed by March, 2020. The physical progress was 84.10 per cent as on March 31, 2020.

Sources in the government have acknowledge that the river island requires great amount of attention to preserve its rich ancient culture, protect livelihoods and prevent erosion caused due to anthropogenic activities. This calls for huge attention by administrators and efforts in collaboration and cooperation with experts groups, agencies at local and global levels to promote the idea through reduced disaster risks.

The Brahmaputra Board, which is executing the project, was undertaking bank protection work in Majuli, but it missed the deadline. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) is sponsoring the Rs 207-crore project.

Heavy rains lash Delhi, water logging in some areas

PTI

NEW DELHI, 3 JANUARY

Heavy rains lashed across the national capital on Sunday leading to water logging in some parts of the city.

According to a meteorological department official, the minimum temperature in the city settled at 9.9 degrees Celsius, while the maximum settled at 15.8 degrees Celsius.

The humidity oscillated between 100 and 82 per cent.

The Safdarjung observatory, which provides official figures for the city, recorded 14.8 mm rainfall at 5.30 pm, while the Palam weather station recorded

ed 5.3 mm and Lodhi Road recorded 18.6 mm rainfall.

The MeT department has forecast cloudy sky, light to moderate rain or thunderstorm accompanied with gusty winds 20-30 kmph on Monday. It also predicted possibility of hailstorm at isolated places.

The maximum and minimum temperatures would be at 18 degrees and 10 degrees Celsius, respectively, on Monday, it said.

Heavy rains led to water logging in Pul Prahladpur Underpass, Vasant Kunj and Swami Nagar. According to an official from Delhi Fire Service, two men trapped inside a truck due

to water logging at Pul Prahladpur underpass were rescued by their team after they received a call for assistance.

Taking to Twitter, the Delhi Traffic Police alerted commuters about traffic congestion at Pul Prahladpur Underpass owing to water logging.

"Traffic is affected at Pul Prahladpur Underpass due to water logging. Kindly avoid the stretch," it tweeted.

A report by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation said water logging occurred in parts of Vasant Kunj, Swami Nagar and Masood Pur dairy where heavy rains also led to falling of trees.



A waterlogged Delhi road after rain on Sunday.

SUBRATA DUTTA

Hindustan 04 January 2021

• पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के चलते रविवार को दिल्ली-एनसीआर के कई इलाकों में अच्छी बारिश हुई • बरसात के बाद राजधानी में प्रदूषण के स्तर में भी गिरावट आई

झमाझम बरसात के बाद जलभराव से जूझते लोग

06

कोल आई पुलिस कंट्रोल

रुज में राजधानी में

विभिन्न स्थानों पर हुए

जलभराव को लेकर

मिली मीटर बारिश दर्ज

की गई लफटराज

नौसम केंद्र में



नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

दिल्ली में रविवार को झमाझम बारिश हुई। इसके चलते पुल प्रह्लादपुर

अंडरपास, वसंत कुंज और स्वामी नगर

सहित कई इलाकों में जलभराव हो गया।

पुल प्रह्लादपुर अंडरपास में जलभराव के

चलते दो लोग ट्रक में फंसे गए।

दिल्ली अग्निशमन विभाग के एक

अधिकारी के मुताबिक, पुल प्रह्लादपुर

अंडरपास में जलभराव के चलते दो

लोगों के ट्रक में फंसे थे की सूचना प्राप्त

होने के बाद विभाग की टीम ने दोनों को

सकशल बचाकर निकाला।

वैकल्पिक रास्तों के प्रयोग की

सलाह : यातायात पुलिस ने भी ट्रैफिक कर



पुल प्रह्लादपुर अंडरपास में जलभराव की जानकारी दी और लोगों को वैकल्पिक रास्तों का उपयोग करने की सलाह दी।

पेड़ गिरने की तीन काल : दिल्ली में दिनभर रुक-रुक कर हुई बारिश के दौरान पुलिस कंट्रोल रूम में जलभराव को लेकर करीब छह कॉल आई। वहीं,

पेड़ गिरने की भी करीब तीन कॉल आई। हालांकि, रविवार का दिन होने के चलते लोग सड़क पर काम ही निकले। ज्यादा जाम की स्थिति नहीं बनी।



दिल्ली-एनसीआर में रविवार को कई जगह बाढ़ जमाकर बरसे। इससे एक ओर जहां प्रदूषण में कमी आई वहीं दूसरी ओर लोगों को जलभराव और जाम की समस्या से भी जूझना पड़ा। दिल्ली-गुरुग्राम एक्सप्रेस वे पर जलभराव के बाद वाहन रुक-रुक कर चलते नजर आए। • 8

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अंश पर दर्ज किया गया

राजधानी में

सुरक्षा के तहत

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अंश पर दर्ज किया गया

राजधानी में

सुरक्षा के तहत

प्रदूषण में कमी आई पर हवा अब भी बेहद खराब

विज्ञानियों को बल दिया