

Telangana Today 05-January-2021

Alert staff avert major mishap at NSP hydel power plant

STATE BUREAU

Nalgonda

Timely response by employees averted what could have been a major fire mishap at the Nagarjuna Sagar Hydel Power Plant early on Monday.

A supply wire of a transformer in the fourth turbine caught fire at 5 am, but alert staff swung into action and brought the fire under control, averting a major accident. After the incident, TS-GENCO Director (Hydel) Ch Venkata Rajam inspected the plant and enquired about the incident.

Later, speaking to the media, Rajam said a tarpaulin and the supply wire of a transformer caught fire when engineers of a private firm were repairing the roof-former at the fourth turbine. Tarpaulin was used to confine the heat pro-



The mishap occurred when tarpaulin and the supply wire of a transformer caught fire.

duced while taking up heating work for moisture absorption. Unfortunately, the tarpaulin and the supply wire caught fire, which fortunately did not spread to the transformer, he said.

Asserting that there was no damage to the machinery

since the employees had responded swiftly to control the fire, Rajam said the contracting company would take up repair works in their shed but was asked to complete it at the plant to avoid transportation costs.

He said the eighth turbine would be made operational by February after completing the repairs, admitting that the works were delayed as there was a problem in finding experts who can work in deep waters.

Describing the NSP incident as minor, he said it should not be compared with that of the hydel plant in Srisailem last year. "The Srisailem fire accident affected power generation. But here, we are trying to overcome it by generating additional power by utilising the water released from the Nagarjuna Sagar Project," he said.

Deccan Chronicle 05-January-2021

DREAM | PROJECT

Chief Minister consults experts to chalk out strategy to complete water projects

KCR mulls legal options on irrigation projects

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 4

Water-sharing disputes between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are causing hurdles to the expansion of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, the dream project of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao.

Sources in the state government said the Chief Minister is pursuing the issue both legally as also with the parties concerned so that the construction of all irrigation projects in

the state can be expedited and completed as per schedule.

The state has planned to lift 2 TMC of water per day from the Godavari river. As the first phase is already complete, the government invited tenders to increase the lifting capacity from 2 TMC to 3 TMC in a day and entered into agreements with six contract companies to go ahead for expansion.

But, due to the objections raised by the AP government on irrigation projects of Telangana, Union Jal

● The AP government opposed the augmented capacity of Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS), the Sitarama LIS, GUS Phase-III, the Tupakulagudem project, the Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project, barrages on Lower Penganga river and diversion work at the Ramappa lake.

● Following AP's objections, Union Jal Shakthi minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat asked Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao to halt all construction of seven irrigation projects until they were appraised by the Godavari river board.

Shakthi Ministry asked both the governments to hold back their projects.

In December 2020, Union

Jal Shakthi minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has asked the Chief Minister to halt construc-

tion of seven irrigation projects objected to by AP unless and until a mandatory appraisal was done by the Godavari River Management Board, the Central Water Commission and the Apex Council.

The AP government raised objections on the third TMC component of Kaleshwaram LIS, the Sitarama LIS, GUS Phase-III, the Tupakulagudem project, the Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project, the Barrages on Lower Penganga river and the work on the Ramappa

lake to Pakhal lake diversion.

According to the officers of the water resources department, the National Green Tribunal also directed the Telangana government to strictly adhere to the orders of the Union of India in case of Irrigation projects. Sources in the government said that in order to expedite the construction of these projects, KCR would hold meetings with experts of irrigation and the legal field to chalk out a strategy to resolve the issues.

New Indian Express 05-January-2021

Chembarambakkam reservoir bund wall razed to clear weed growth in lake

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

PORTIONS of the Chembarambakkam reservoir's bund wall have been razed by the Public Works Department (PWD) to clear the rampant weed growth in the lake.

When the sluice gates of Chennai's largest reservoir were opened recently after the lake got filled to the brim thanks to the good monsoon, a large mass of water weeds that

carpeted the lake's surface blocked the outflow.

In desperation, PWD officials had to break the bund wall in two places near the reservoir's gates to deploy earth movers and fish out the weeds from the waterbody. The vegetation was so thick that conventional manual methods of weed-removal did not work.

Ramraj, a resident of Kundrathur, said the weed growth was unprecedented this year

and authorities did not intervene even after the catchment areas began receiving heavy rains and filling up the lake. "The lake gets infested with weeds every year, and they usually get flushed out when the gates are opened. But this time, several hectares of the lake were infested with weeds. Some of them were deep-rooted, and required deployment of

heavy machinery."

Noted botanist D Narasimhan said visuals show Chembarambakkam lake is infested with different varieties of weeds. "We need to take a closer look as some of these varieties thrive in polluted water. Officials must regularly remove the invasive species, or they can affect the fish. Since Chembarambakkam lake is a major



source of drinking water for Chennai, a thorough investigation must be conducted to find why such weeds are growing."

A case is pending in the southern bench of the National Green Tribunal on the alleged pollution caused by manufacturing units at the nearby industrial estate. When contacted, senior officials of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and PWD said similar complaints of pollution were made

in 2019 and the water quality was tested. "We did not find anything untoward in the test results. Industries at the nearby SIPCOT treat their sewage and effluents before releasing them into the lake. We will take action if violations are observed," a TNPCB official said.

PWD authorities said the razed bund wall will be rebuilt within a month. "Only a small portion was removed," they said.

RESCUING MANSI GANGA

Delhi-based NGO Smriti Trust by Manoj Jha is using Vedic Cownomics technology to clean up Mansi Ganga in Goverdhan

RAJKUMARI SHARMA TANKHA

It is hoped that by the end of 2021, the waters of Mansi Ganga in Goverdhan, near Mathura, will not only look pristine but actually deep cleaned and suitable for drinking. All thanks to Dwarka resident Manoj Jha, who runs NGO Smriti Trust that has been promoting Madhubani art since 13 years now. The Mansi Ganga cleanup is the first project of this nature by the Trust.

Jha undertook this mammoth task early last month, and his efforts are already showing. The foul smell emanating from the river that had made the life of local residents a hell, no more exists. "The sludge removal process is on, and will take 11 months to clean the water body and make the water potable," says Jha, who is using the Vedic Cownomics method for the cleanup. This method combines cow dung, cow urine and a herbal solution containing about 125 herbs; the solution is developed by Vedic Cownomics Pvt Ltd. "We have a pool of 1,008 herbs,

and the solution was developed after studying the water body along five parameters viz study of longitude and latitude of the water body to find its actual location; photographs and videos of the water surface; problems in the area like weeds, mosquitoes, algae, colour, water viscosity and smell etc.; the kind of vegetation growing here and observing the water sample in a transparent container," says Madhukar Swayambhu, co-founder of Vedic Cownomics Pvt Ltd.

"This knowledge has come to us from our scriptures, the Vedas, that go into the details how we must live in harmony with nature. Vedas consider the elements of nature — air, water, fire, earth — as living ecologies with self-healing mechanism that has to be revived to tackle ecological and environmental issues of today," says Swayambhu, an IT professional, who started Vedic Cownomics in 2015, after having worked in communication network for 25 years. For his environment-friendly technique of cleaning water bodies, he was awarded the title 'Water

Hero' in October 2019 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The beginning

Jha, who has been visiting Goverdhan every month, for the last 11 years for *parikrama*, was perturbed to see the decline of the water body. "Mansi Ganga has religious significance, and is considered as pious as Ganga, and seeing it going from bad to worse was painful," he says, adding that back in 2008, the then central government had declared the Mansi Ganga as a reserve lake and even allocated about ₹23 crore to revive it, but nothing happened. "I was aware of Vedic Cownomics technology, and considering the holy significance of Goverdhan, I wanted to implement it here," he says.

Jha got in touch with NP Singh, Vice Chairman of the Mathura Vrindavan Development Authority, about cleaning Mansi Ganga. "We told him we don't need any funds, just a go ahead from him. Singh then put us in touch with Pandit Khemchand Sharma, Chairman of the Goverdhan Nagar Panchayat, and we were given permission. The work began on December 8. It's not even a month, and

the foul smell that was a permanent feature in the area is already gone," informs Jha. Every day, a solution prepared by Vedic Cownomics is being poured into the water body. "The water is checked after every 10 days. This method will not only clean the water, but rid it of insects and weeds," says Jha.

This initiative has won the approval of environmentalists like 'Green Man' VP Baghel, who says, "Using herbs, cow dung and cow urine is the best possible way to clean water. These all have medicinal properties, and do not contain any chemical. You can call it bio-filtration, if you wish."

Other projects

The technology has already

been used in cleaning up 10 water bodies, including the lake at Jheel Wala Park, Sector 3, Rohini Institutional Area and Prasad Nagar Lake in Karol Bagh. Both projects were undertaken by Win Fluential Technology in association with the Delhi Development Authority. "The Kudikunta Lake in Kondapur, Hyderabad, is also being cleaned up using the same technology," informs Swayambhu.

Jha has now approached the Delhi Government for cleaning up the Najafgarh Lake, which he claims can be converted into the Thames River using the same technology. "We don't want any funds from the government. We just want to clean it up," he signs off.



Goverdhan Nagar Parishad Chairman Khem Chand Sharma and Manoj Jha at Mansi Ganga Ghat with the Cownomics solution; (top) work-in-progress



Using herbs, cow dung and cow urine is the best way to clean water. These have medicinal properties, and no chemicals. You can call it bio-filtration —VP Baghel, Environmentalist

Asian Age 05-January-2021

■ Delhi gets rains for 2nd day in row, min temp rises to 11.4°C

Several parts of N. India witness rain, snowfall; more likely today

New Delhi, Jan. 4: Several parts of north India witnessed light to moderate rains due to a western disturbance and above-normal temperatures on Monday, the India meteorological department (IMD) said.

Once the western disturbance withdraws, the mercury is likely to dip again, it added.

Delhi received light rains for the second consecutive day, even as and the minimum temperature rose to 11.4 degrees Celsius due to a cloud cover over the city, the IMD said.

The Safdarjung observatory, which provides representative data for the city, recorded a minimum temperature of 11.4 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal and the highest in the last 22 days. The maximum temperature settled at 22.6 degrees Celsius, three notches above normal.

The observatory registered 1.7 mm rainfall till 5:30 pm.

The IMD said moderate rains and thunderstorm are likely on Tuesday too.

On Sunday, intense rains, thunder and lightning lashed the city under the influence of the strong western disturbance affecting northwest India. The Safdarjung Observatory recorded 39.9 mm rainfall between 8:30 am on Saturday and 2:30 pm on Sunday.

The western disturbance is causing widespread snowfall in the hills. Once it withdraws, the mercury will fall again to four to five degrees Celsius, the IMD said.

Light rain and snowfall were witnessed in some parts of Himachal Pradesh in the last 24 hours, officials said.

Kalpa received 1 mm snowfall, while Dharamshala witnessed 2.2 mm and Saloni 2 mm rain, they added.

The Shimla Met centre has issued a "yellow" warning for thunderstorm, lightning in the plains and low hills, and for heavy rain and snow-



Farmers stand in rain during their ongoing protest against new farm laws at Singhu border in New Delhi on Monday.

— PTI

► **LIGHT RAIN** and snowfall were witnessed in some parts of Himachal Pradesh in the last 24 hours. Kalpa received 1 mm snowfall, while Dharamshala witnessed 2.2 mm.

fall in the mid-hills on Tuesday. It has issued an "orange" warning for heavy snowfall in the high hills on January 5.

The tribal district of Lahaul and Spiti's administrative centre Keylong continued to be the coldest place in the state at minus 4.5 degrees Celsius. Kalpa in Kinnaur district recorded a low of minus 1.6 degrees Celsius.

Kashmir was cut off from the rest of the country on Monday as the arterial Jammu-Srinagar national highway and the Mughal road were closed due to snowfall across the valley, leaving nearly 4,500 vehicles stranded.

South Kashmir's Kulgam district received the highest snowfall in the Union Territory with two to three feet of snow accumulated at some places, the official said.

Flight operations to and from Srinagar remained suspended for the second consecutive day due to poor visibility.

— PTI

Rain, strong winds help clean Delhi air

New Delhi, Jan. 4: Delhi's air quality improved significantly to the "moderate" category on Monday owing to rain and strong winds.

A government forecasting agency said the air quality is likely to improve further to the "satisfactory" category.

The city's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) was 151 on Monday. It was 354 on Sunday and 443 on Saturday.

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe".

Officials at the India meteorological department said rain and winds gusting up to 30 kmph under the influence of a strong western disturbance dispersed pollutants.

The Safdarjung Observatory, which provides representative data for the city, recorded 1.4 mm rainfall on Monday. It had gauged 39.9 mm rain-

► **THE CITY'S** 24-hour average air quality index was 151 on Monday. It was 354 on Sunday and 443 on Saturday

fall between 8:30 am on Saturday to 2:30 pm on Sunday.

More rain is likely on Tuesday. The maximum wind speed will be around 30 kmph, the IMD said.

The central government's Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi said the AQI is likely to remain in the "moderate" to "satisfactory" on Tuesday.

It said the city's ventilation index -- a product of mixing depth and average wind speed would be 5,000 m²/s on Monday and Tuesday.

Mixing depth is the vertical height in which pollutants are suspended in the air. It reduces on cold days with calm wind speed.

A ventilation index lower than 6,000 sqm/sec-ond, with the average wind speed less than 10 kmph, is unfavourable for dispersal of pollutants.

Several parts of north India witness rains, above-normal temperatures

Over 1,565 deaths due to extreme weather in 2020; Bihar, UP worst affected: IMD

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Several parts of north India witnessed light to moderate rains due to a western disturbance and above-normal temperatures on Monday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Once the western disturbance withdraws, the mercury is likely to dip again, it added.

The western disturbance is causing widespread snowfall in the hills. Once it withdraws, the mercury will fall again to four to five degrees Celsius, the IMD said. Light rain and snowfall were witnessed in some parts of Himachal Pradesh in the last 24 hours, officials said.

Kalpa received 1 mm snowfall, while Dharamshala witnessed 2.2 mm and Saloni 2 mm rain, they added.

The Shimla Met centre has issued a "yellow" warning for thunderstorm, lightning in the plains and low hills, and for heavy rain and snowfall in the mid-hills on Tuesday. It has issued an "orange" warning for heavy snowfall in the high hills on January 5.

The tribal district of Lahaul and Spiti's administrative cen-



Pedestrians walk on a snow-covered road during heavy snowfall in Srinagar

PIC/PTI

tre Keylong continued to be the coldest place in the state at minus 4.5 degrees Celsius. Kalpa in Kinnaur district recorded a low of minus 1.6 degrees Celsius.

Kashmir was cut off from the rest of the country on Monday as the arterial Jammu-Srinagar national highway and the Mughal road were closed due to snowfall across the valley, leaving nearly 4,500 vehicles stranded. An official of the traffic control department said snow-clearance operations were in full swing and efforts were on to restore the movement of the stranded

vehicles along the 260-kilometre Jammu-Srinagar national highway.

The official said nearly 4,500 vehicles, mostly trucks carrying essentials to the valley, are stranded at various places along the highway. South Kashmir's Kulgam district received the highest snowfall in the Union Territory with two to three feet of snow accumulated at some places, the official said.

Flight operations to and from Srinagar remained suspended for the second consecutive day due to poor visibility.

The minimum temperature improved at most places in the

2020 was 8th warmest year since 1901: IMD

valley due to the snowfall but still stayed below the freezing point, officials said.

The MeT office said moderate to heavy snowfall with isolated very heavy snowfall is most likely to take place, especially in south Kashmir, Gulmarg, Banihal-Ramban, Poonch, Rajouri, Kistawar and Zaskar, Drass as well as on the higher reaches of Ladakh, for two days from Monday.

Most parts of Haryana and Punjab recorded above-normal minimum temperatures, an official said. Chandigarh, the joint capital of the two states, recorded a low of 12.5 degrees Celsius, seven notches above normal, the official said.

In Haryana, Ambala recorded a minimum temperature of 11.2 degrees Celsius, Hisar 9.4 degrees Celsius and Karnal 10.5 degrees Celsius.

In Punjab, Amritsar, Ludhiana and Patiala recorded a low of 11 degrees Celsius,

13.4 degrees Celsius and 12.5 degrees Celsius respectively, up to eight notches above normal.

Some places in Punjab received rains the previous day. Among them are Amritsar (2.2 mm), Ludhiana (1.7 mm), Pathankot (16 mm), Adampur (0.8 mm) and Gurdaspur (6.7 mm).

Light to moderate rainfall triggered by the western disturbance was recorded at some places in Rajasthan. Sawaimadhopur recorded 43 mm precipitation, followed by Kota (15.7 mm), Bundi (14 mm), Jaipur (seven mm) and Chittorgarh (four mm) in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Monday, officials said.

However, the night temperatures increased by a few notches. Pilani was the coldest recorded place in the state with a minimum temperature of 4.3 degrees Celsius. Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Barmer recorded their minimum temperatures at 7.4, 9.4 and 9.8 degrees Celsius respectively.

Light to moderate rain coupled with thundershowers occurred at many places in Uttar Pradesh.

According to the meteorological department, state capital Lucknow recorded a minimum temperature of 14.6 degrees Celsius, while Allahabad recorded a low of 13.6 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, extreme weather conditions led to the death of more than 1,565 people last year with thunderstorm and lightning claiming the lives of 815 of them, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

Bihar lost the maximum number of 379 lives due to flood, thunderstorm, lightning and cold wave, followed by Uttar Pradesh (356), it said in a report.

Further more, the year 2020 was the eight warmest since 1901 but it was "substantially lower" than the highest warming observed in 2016, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

During the year, annual mean land surface air temperature averaged over the country was 0.29 degree Celsius above normal (based on the data of 1981-2010)," the IMD said in a statement on Climate of India during 2020.

Haribhoomi 05-January-2021

एसवाईएल मुद्दे पर बोले यादव

45 वर्ष से कर रहे हैं संघर्ष, हमें कागज नहीं खेतों में पानी चाहिए

**हरिभूमि न्यूज ►► गुरुग्राम**

हरियाणा युवा किसान संघर्ष समिति के अध्यक्ष व अटेली से पूर्व विधायक नरेश यादव ने एसवाईएल के मुद्दे पर सुनवाई नहीं होने पर दिल्ली घेराव करने की चेतावनी दी।

सोमवार को पत्रकारों के समक्ष उन्होंने भारत सरकार को तीन दिन का अल्टीमेटम दिया और चेतावनी दी कि यदि इस दौरान महामहिम राष्ट्रपति व प्रधानमंत्री ने उनकी बात नहीं सुनी गई तो वे सात जनवरी को दिल्ली का घेराव करेंगे और गिरफ्तारियां देंगे। यादव ने पत्रकारों से कहा कि इस बार पानी कागजों में नहीं, खेतों में चाहिए। हरियाणा इस पानी को लेकर पिछले 45 सालों से संघर्ष कर रहा है। अब हमें कागजों में नहीं खेत में पानी चाहिए। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी फैसला दे चुका है।

पीएम मोदी एसवाईएल के मुद्दे को सुलझा कर हल करें

नरेश यादव ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी से मांग की कि जिस तरह उन्होंने देश में धारा 370 जैसे कभी न खत्म होने वाले मुद्दों को आसानी से सुलझा दिया, उसी तरह वह एसवाईएल के मुद्दे को भी सुलझा कर इस समस्या का हल करें। उन्होंने कहा कि जैसे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आर्डर के अनुसार अयोध्या में राम मंदिर का निर्माण कार्य शुरू हो गया है, उसी तरह ये कार्य भी करें।

यदि सभी दल पैरवी नहीं करेंगे तो समाधान संभव नहीं

यादव ने भारतीय किसान यूनियन तथा पंजाब व हरियाणा के सभी किसान संगठनों से अपील की है कि जैसे किसान बिल को लेकर हरियाणा का किसान अपने पंजाब किसान भाईयों के साथ खड़ा है। जब सभी दल मिलकर इस मुद्दे में पैरवी करेंगे तभी इस समस्या का हल होगा।

Haribhoomi 05-January-2021

600 से अधिक लोगों ने श्रमदान कर बदल दी एक दर्जन गांवों की तस्वीर

हरिभूमि न्यूज ▶▶ उमरिया

उमरिया जिले के आकाशकोट के पच्चीस से ज्यादा गांवों में पानी का संकट सालों से है। इस संकट समाधान सरकार भी नहीं कर पाई लेकिन इनमें से कुछ ग्रामीणों ने अपनी इच्छा शक्ति से इस बड़ी समस्या को परास्त कर दिया।

न सिर्फ पुराने बिगड़े आठ कुओं को उपयोगी बना डाला, बल्कि दस नए कुएं भी बना दिए। इतना ही नहीं जो तालाब बेकार हो गए थे, उन्हें भी पुनर्जीवित कर दिया। श्रमदान से समाधान की यह कहानी उन गांवों की है जहां के लोग कभी पानी के लिए फरियाद लेकर जिला प्रशासन की चौखट पर फरियाद करते रहते थे।

सोच ने बदली तस्वीर



कोरोना काल में काम बंद था और पानी का बड़ा संकट था। गांव के लोगों ने सोचा खाली समय में कुछ ऐसा करें कि पानी का संकट ही खत्म हो जाए। ग्रामीणों के इस काम में जेनिथ यूथ फाउंडेशन और सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता ने ताकत दी और फिर तस्वीर बदलने

की मुहिम ग्रामीणों के श्रमदान से शुरू हो गई। जुलाई माह से शुरू हुए इस काम को दिसंबर के अंत में मुकाम मिल गया। इसमें किसी ग्रामीण ने 25 दिन, किसी ने 15 दिन और किसी ने एक माह काम किया।