

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

दिनांक: 09.10.2019

विषय - समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग का प्रस्तुतीकरण।

जल संसाधन विकास और संबद्ध विषयों से संबंधित समाचार पत्रों की कटिंग को केंद्रीय जल आयोग के अध्यक्ष और सदस्य (कार्य योजना एवं परियोजना / अभिकल्प एवं अनुसंधान / नदी प्रबंध) के अवलोकन के लिए संलग्न किया गया है। इन समाचारों की कटिंग की सॉफ्ट कॉपी केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट पर भी अपलोड की जाएगी।

अ.स.ग.
09/10/2019
वरिष्ठ कलाकार

जल प्रणाली अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय

संलग्नक: उपरोक्त

उप निदेशक, (ज. प्र. आ.) निदे०

विदे०
09/10/2019

निदेशक, (ज. प्र. आ.) निदे०

प्रो. ज. आ.
09/10/2019

सेवा में,

अध्यक्ष, के. ज. आ., नई दिल्ली

जानकारी हेतु - सभी संबंधित केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेबसाइट www.cwc.gov.in पर देखें।





Flood of Benefits

India is a water-stressed country and the crisis is worsening. But this year's monsoon, the wettest in a quarter of a century, has been a stressbuster. While longer-term worries remain, for the moment, India can relish the prospect of abundant water for the next cropping season and adequate supplies for drinking and power generation as well.

Reservoirs have filled up

Billion Cubic Metres

This year	151.09
Last year	128.60
10 year Average	123.16

Source: Central Water Commission

This is particularly good for crops as the winter-sown (rabi) crop depends mainly on irrigation

No. of reservoirs with irrigation benefits	95
Total capacity of these reservoirs (billion cu metres)	126.92
% of storage capacity filled, 2019	90
% of storage capacity filled, 2018	73
% of storage capacity filled, 10 years	72

Water In Reservoirs With Irrigation Facility

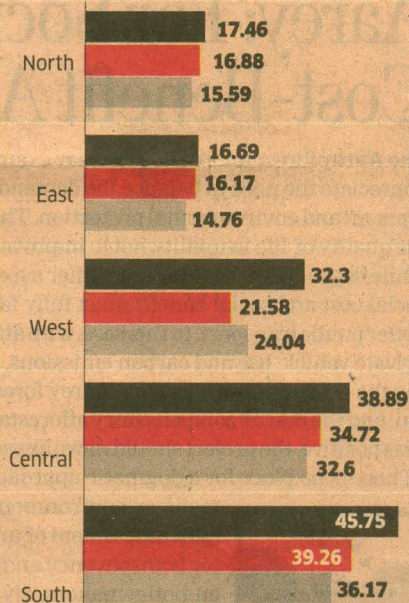
Billion Cubic Metres

Storage on Oct 3, 2019	114.101
Storage on Oct 3, 2018	93.01
Average storage for last 10 years	91.2

Reservoirs in every region are filled to capacity

■ Oct '19 ■ Oct '18 ■ 10-year average

Billion Cubic Metres



Filled-up reservoirs have many benefits

Increased availability of drinking water

Higher hydropower generation

Better irrigation of farms

Better soil moisture

More water available for industry

But this year's windfall should not dilute worries of a water crisis

India has 17% of the world's population but only 4% of the world's fresh water

Groundwater is depleting rapidly

Water-intensive crops such as rice and sugarcane are planted in water-scarce regions

820 million

Indians face high to extreme water stress, Niti Aayog has said

The per capita water storage capacity in India very low (cu metres)

India	Australia	US	Brazil	China
209	3,223	2,193	2,632	416

ET-9

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Rethinking water management issues

NITI Aayog's strategy for water resources is a continuation of failed policies of the past



CHETAN PANDIT &
ASIT K. BISWAS

In December 2018, NITI Aayog released its 'Strategy for New India @75' which defined clear objectives for 2022-23, with an overview of 41 distinct areas. In this document, however, the strategy for 'water resources' is as insipid and unrealistic as the successive National Water Policies (NWP). Effective strategic planning must satisfy three essential requirements. One, acknowledge and analyse past failures; two, suggest realistic and implementable goals; and three, stipulate who will do what, and within what time frame. The 'strategy' for water fails on all three counts.

No new vision

The document reiterates two failed ideas: adopting an integrated river basin management approach, and setting up of river basin organisations (RBOs) for major basins. The integrated management concept has been around for 70 years, but not even one moderate size basin has been managed thus anywhere in the world. And 32 years after the NWP of 1987 recommended RBOs, not a single one has been established for any major basin.

The water resources regulatory

authority is another failed idea. Maharashtra established a water resources regulatory authority in 2005. But far from an improvement in managing resources, water management in Maharashtra has gone from bad to worse. Without analysing why the WRA already established has failed, the recommendation to establish water resources regulatory authorities is inexcusable.

The strategy document notes that there is a huge gap between irrigation potential created and utilised, and recommends that the Water Ministry draw up an action plan to complete command area development (CAD) works to reduce the gap. Again, a recommendation is made without analysing why CAD works remain incomplete, that too despite having a CAD authority as an integral component of the ministry.

Goals include providing adequate and safe piped water supply to all citizens and livestock; providing irrigation to all farms; providing water to industries; ensuring continuous and clean flow in the "Ganga and other rivers along with their tributaries", i.e. in all Indian rivers; assuring long-term sustainability of groundwater; safeguarding proper operation and maintenance of water infrastructure; utilising surface water resources to the full potential of 690 billion cubic metres; improving on-farm water-use efficiency; and ensuring zero discharge of untreated effluents from industrial units. These goals are not just over ambitious, but absurdly unrealistic,



A. SHAIKHMOHIDEEN

tic, particularly for a five-year window. Not even one of these goals has been achieved in any State in the past 72 years. Some goals, such as 'Har Khet Ko Pani (irrigation to every field)', are simply not achievable.

Who is accountable?

A strategy document must specify who will be responsible and accountable for achieving the specific goals, and in what time-frame. Otherwise, no one will accept the responsibility to carry out various tasks, and nothing will get done. Take one goal: "Encourage industries to utilise recycled/treated water". Merely encouraging someone to do something, is not a "goal". That apart, NITI Aayog does not say who will do this encouraging, and how? Should the State Water Ministries do this by restricting or even withholding recalcitrant industry's access to fresh water? Should the Environment Ministries cancel clearances for industries which do not practise recycling? Or should the Finance Ministries do this through monetary incentives and disincentives? No one knows.

Of the issues listed under 'con-

straints', only one, the Easement Act, 1882, which grants groundwater ownership rights to landowners, and has resulted in uncontrolled extractions of groundwater, is actually a constraint. The remaining are not constraints. These are: irrigation potential created but not being used; poor efficiency of irrigation systems; indiscriminate use of water in agriculture; poor implementation and maintenance of projects; cropping patterns not aligned to agroclimatic zones; subsidised pricing of water; citizens not getting piped water supply; and contamination of groundwater. These are problems, caused by 72 years of mis-governance in the water sector, and remain challenges for the future.

Ideas listed under 'way forward' and 'suggested reforms' do not say how any of these will come about. For example, there is no recommendation to amend the Easement Act, or to stop subsidised/free electricity to farmers. On the contrary, the strategy recommends promoting solar pumps. These are environmentally correct and ease the financial burden on electricity supply agencies. However, the free electricity provided by solar units will further encourage unrestricted pumping of groundwater, and will further aggravate the problem of a steady decline of groundwater levels.

Reforms overlooked

The document fails to identify real constraints. For example, it notes that the Ken-Betwa River inter-

linking project, the India-Nepal Pancheshwar project, and the Siang project in Northeast India need to be completed. A major roadblock in completion of these projects is public interest litigations filed in the National Green Tribunal, the Supreme Court, or in various High Courts. Unless the government has a plan to arrest the blatant misuse of PIL for environmental posturing, not only these but also other infrastructure projects will remain bogged down in court rooms.

The document takes no cognisance of some real and effective reforms that were once put into motion but later got stalled, such as a National Water Framework law; significant amendments to the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act; and the Dam Safety Bill.

India's water problems can be solved with existing knowledge, technology and available funds. But India's water establishment needs to admit that the strategy pursued so far has not worked. Only then can a realistic vision emerge. It is unfortunate that NITI Aayog has failed to admit this and has prescribed only a continuation of past failed policies. Far from solving our water problems, this helps India to continue walking on the unsustainable path it has pursued for decades.

Chetan Pandit is a former member of the Central Water Commission. Asit K. Biswas is Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Glasgow, U.K., and Chairman, Water Management International Pte Ltd, Singapore

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JAL JEEVAN MISSION

Panchayats, Local Bodies to Decide Water Charges

Two models – smaller, single village ones and bigger multi-village models – being worked out

Anubhuti.Vishnoi
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Centre has allowed gram panchayats and local bodies to decide on water usage charges for supply of potable piped water under the Jal Jeevan Mission, thereby ending a long debate on the matter.

The Centre has decided that it will not prescribe a price structure for water usage under its flagship scheme to state governments. Instead, it will give 'full flexibility' to local bodies and gram panchayats to run the scheme.

Imposing water usage charges has always been a politically sensitive issue. Currently, charges for domestic use are quite ad hoc and nominal and even these are not fully recovered by the water supply departments of various state governments, leading to poor maintenance of the network. The Centre hopes that this will change by making villages in charge of the water distribution to households and deciding the water charges. The money collected could be used for operation and maintenance of the water distribution system.

At present, only 18% of India's rural households (approximately 3.2 crore) have access to piped water. The Centre hopes to take this figure to 100% in five years under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Around 18 crore households will be provided piped water supply under the Mission announced by Prime Minister Modi on August 15.

Local bodies and panchayats, the key financial partners, may have to pay up to 10% of the cost for laying the pipeline and control the water distribution system in villages.

Villages will be asked to contribute

up to 10% of the capital cost towards laying the piped water supply. Villages in tribal areas and difficult terrains are likely to be asked to contribute up to 5%.

"We do not want a contractor-driver project. Water is best managed locally. We strongly feel that we must have panchayats and village bodies as active financial and implementation partners for the 'Nal se Jal' plan to make it successful," a senior official told ET on condition of anonymity. Government funding will also be tied to performances. A sum of Rs 3.35 lakh crore has already been approved for the 'Nal Se Jal' project.

Jal Jeevan Model



Only 18% of India's rural households (3.2 crore) have access to piped water

Under the scheme being devised by the Jal Shakti ministry, there will be two basic models—a small single village model and a bigger multi village model one. Top officials told ET that the single village model—to be kept simple, cost-effective and backed with technology—will be implemented

in one or two adjacent villages which have good water availability.

It will also involve construction of small shallow channels/trenches along the gradient and drainage path in the village—which will be mapped by 3D mapping technology. The Department of Space has already started sharing details of the same with the Jal Shakti ministry. These channels—preferably closed at the top—will lead to sinks at natural drainage points to ensure that ground water sources are recharged and sustainable.

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India to work with China, Pakistan to gauge impact of climate change

A regional centre will help to better forecast impact on Hindu Kush mountains

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI

To better gauge the impact of climate change on the Hindu Kush mountains, which includes the Himalayas, and spruce up data-gathering, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) will collaborate with meteorological agencies in China and Pakistan, among others, to provide climate forecast services to countries in the region.

Earlier this month, the IMD organised a workshop to discuss ways to establish a regional climate centre that will provide forecasting services and climate analyses.

It will be under the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and take a few years to take shape, IMD Director-General M. Mohapatra told *The Hindu*.



Natural impact The HKH region spans Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and India among other nations.

“The Hindu-Kush-Himalayan (HKH) region is considered the Third Pole [after the North and South Poles], and has significant implications for climate. However, data-gathering here is sparse. We are discussing a system whereby countries can share data and improve forecasts and predictions.

The WMO proposal was to have nodal centres in Islamabad, Delhi and Beijing,” he said.

Largest store of snow

The HKH region spans Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Tajikistan,

and Uzbekistan.

The Third Pole, which contains vast cryospheric zones, is also the world's largest store of snow and ice outside the polar region, and the source of 10 major rivers, and, therefore, particularly sensitive to climate change.

Alongside forecasting weather over long periods, the regional centres would provide data services, training and capacity-building, research and development.

The meeting in Delhi earlier this week was meant “to identify partnerships among relevant stakeholders, formulate research directions, identify user-groups and sectors and provide information on changes in hydrological extremes as part of climate change projections,” according to an official note.

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Yamuna pollution: NGT body slams Delhi Jal Board, NDMC

H-9

'Authorities have done little to remove sewage pollution from storm water drains'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A Monitoring Committee appointed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for the cleaning of the Yamuna has slammed multiple government bodies, including the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), South Delhi Municipal Corporation and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) for pollution of storm water drains in the city.

The storm water drains are supposed to carry away excess rainwater, but many of them carry untreated sewage and flow into the Yamuna due to lack of proper mechanism to treat sewage.

Following court orders and health concerns raised by some residents, the committee had inspected residential areas in Greater Kailash 1, Defence Colony, and Nizamuddin (west), through which Barapulla and Kushak



Workers unclog a storm water drain in Delhi.

drains pass.

"The DJB had submitted its action plan to the NGT for trapping sewage flowing into Barapulla and its tributaries in 2014 according to which most of the work was to be completed by 2017. However, very little appears to have been done on the ground with no improvement in terms of containment of pollution," the MC said.

"A lot of floating solid waste has accumulated, which was visible from the



Kushak storm water drain is carrying sewage along with a lot of floating material, which is difficult to clean under the covered portion of the drain

REPORT BY THE NGT-APPOINTED
MONITORING COMMITTEE

open portion of the drain... The Monitoring Committee directed the SDMC to clean the drain regularly," read the minutes of a meeting of the committee when it was discussing the drain passing through Greater Kailash 1.

The SDMC was also directed to instal cameras to catch trucks that were dumping construction waste near the drains.

Regarding the drain passing through Defence Colony, the committee stated:

"Kushak storm water drain is carrying sewage along with a lot of floating material, which is difficult to clean under the covered portion of the drain. Before and after Defence Colony, the drain is not covered."

About Nizamuddin (west), the report stated: "NDMC representatives were not present to explain the action plan for reducing sewage in NDMC area... the committee took a very serious note of the callous attitude of the NDMC officials. The committee will report this to the Chief Secretary who is holding charge of the NDMC."

Both DJB Vice Chairman Dinesh Mohaniya and also DJB PRO did not respond to multiple calls and messages seeking a comment.

Meanwhile, NDMC Secretary Rashmi Singh said that she will look into the issue.

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With 89 artificial ponds, Delhi govt. makes an effort to protect Yamuna

Government bodies work in shifts; official says no report of idol immersion in river

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

In a first, the Delhi government had created 89 artificial ponds for idol immersion across the city to prevent the Yamuna from getting polluted. This initiative has fetched results with the Delhi government on Tuesday claiming that there has been no reports of idol immersion in the Yamuna.

"Till now we have no reports of anyone immersing the idols in the river. We have also deployed Civil Defence volunteers at 11 entry points to the Yamuna where people usually immerse idols," K.S. Meena, Deputy Commissioner (headquarters) of Revenue Department told *The Hindu* at 9 p.m. on Tuesday.

"Last year, we had dug up pits along the banks of the Yamuna and allowed immersion of idols only in it. But it also caused pollution as many people went ahead and immersed idols in the river," the official said.

As they don't want to take any chance, artificial ponds were created this year. Some of the ponds were as deep as eight feet and is 20x30 feet in size. To make use of the artificial ponds, the government had held meetings



Durga idol being immersed in a temporary tank in Burari. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN

with various puja committees ahead of the immersion and had given advertisements with details of all the 89 locations.

Various government bodies, including the municipal corporations, Delhi Jal Board and Revenue Department, which is the nodal agency, worked in shifts to prevent the Yamuna from getting polluted.

Durga puja organisers

were also happy with the arrangement, though there were some operational difficulties.

S. Mitra, general secretary of Antaranga Durga Puja in Mayur Vihar Phase-1, said that they have been celebrating Durga Puja for 27 years in the Capital and it was for the first time that they immersed the idol in an artificial pond.

"It is a good move and we completely support it. There

is less pollution and we didn't have to spend much money as the location was close to our pandal," he said.

Operational difficulty

However, Mr. Mitra said that there was only four-feet water in the eight-feet deep pond. "There was some problem with the arrangement and the plastic was not covering the base of the entire pond," he added.

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अनियोजित विकास बाढ़ का मुख्य कारण : जावडेकर

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री प्रकाश जावडेकर ने कहा है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के बजाय अनियोजित शहरीकरण से देश के कई हिस्सों में बाढ़ का कहर देखने को मिल रहा है। 'विरासत में मिली' इस गलती को सरकार स्मार्ट सिटी योजना से सुधार रही है।

जावडेकर ने पीटीआइ मुख्यालय में समाचार एजेंसी के पत्रकारों से कहा कि शहर बेहतर ढंग से नियोजित होने चाहिए, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ। मंत्री ने कहा, 'यह कहना विज्ञान नहीं है कि ये (बाढ़) जलवायु परिवर्तन के चलते हुआ, बल्कि सच ये है कि देश में अनियोजित ढंग से विकास हुआ है। हमने समुचित निकास प्रणाली सुनिश्चित करते हुए चंडीगढ़, फिर

गांधीनगर की योजना बनाई। दूसरे शहरों में ऐसा नहीं हुआ। अनियोजित विकास से चिंताएं बढ़ रही हैं, इसलिए शहरी नियोजन बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है।'

आधिकारिक आंकड़ों के अनुसार इस मानसून सत्र के दौरान बारिश और बाढ़ में करीब 1900 लोगों को जान गंवानी पड़ी और 46 लोग लापता हैं और जिससे 22 राज्यों में 25 लाख से अधिक लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं। जावडेकर ने जलवायु परिवर्तन रिपोर्ट पर अंतर सरकारी पैनल के नतीजों को भी खारिज कर दिया, जिसके अनुसार समुद्र का जलस्तर बढ़ने से 2100 तक मुंबई जैसे शहर और अंडमान-निकोबार जैसे द्वीप क्रमिक रूप से निर्जन हो जाएंगे।

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मापेंगे गंगा का प्रदूषण

28-9/10

वैज्ञानिक करेंगे ढाई हजार किमी की जलयात्रा

भारतीय विष विज्ञान
अनुसंधान संस्थान
यानी आईआईटीआर
के वैज्ञानिक देव प्रयाग
से गंगा सागर तक का
एकत्र करेंगे डाटा



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लखनऊ. गंगा नदी का प्रदूषण मापने के लिए वैज्ञानिक ढाई हजार किलोमीटर की जल यात्रा करेंगे। जल यात्रा करके भारतीय विश्व विज्ञान अनुसंधान यानी आईआईटीआर के वैज्ञानिक देवप्रयाग से गंगासागर तक का डाटा एकत्र करेंगे। इसके लिए वैज्ञानिकों के साथ जल, थल और वायु सेना के



जवान ढाई हजार किलोमीटर तक का सफर तय करेंगे। इसके अंतर्गत नदी व उसके किनारे जैव विविधता पर अध्ययन किया जाएगा। साथ ही गंगा के पानी की निर्मलता की भी परख की जाएगी। वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा इस सफर की शुरुआत 10 अक्टूबर को देवप्रयाग से होगी जो 12 नवंबर को गंगा सागर के तट पर समाप्त होगी।

केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्रालय की ओर से नेशनल मिशन फॉर क्लीन गंगा परियोजना के तहत गंगा

आमंत्रण अभियान की जिम्मेदारी वायुसेना के विंग कमांडर परमवीर सिंह को दी गई है।

इसके लिए केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने हरी झंडी दिखा दी है। 3 राफ्ट, छोटी नाव पर सवार होकर 25 सदस्य दल अपने सफर की शुरुआत करेंगे। इसमें भारतीय विष विज्ञान अनुसंधान संस्थान व वाइल्डलाइफ इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंडिया के वैज्ञानिक सेना के तीनों अंगों की के जवान व स्वयंसेवी

लगाई जाएगी विज्ञापन चौपाल

आईआईटीआर के वैज्ञानिक जगह-जगह पर विज्ञापन चौपाल भी लगाएंगे। वैज्ञानिकों के पास पानी के नमूने की मौके पर जांच करने के लिए बेसिक किट होगी। गंगा किनारे स्कूलों में पहुंचकर बच्चों के सामने पानी की जांच करेंगे और गंगा के महत्व के बारे में जानकारी देंगे।

संस्था के सदस्य शामिल होंगे। गंगा के उ-म से समुद्र में समागम तक शोध के लिए पहली बार इतनी लंबी यात्रा की जा रही है।

इससे पहले विंग कमांडर परमवीर सिंह ने वर्ष 2013 में राफ्टिंग करके वर्ष 2015 में तैर कर यह सफर तय किया था। उनको सफर में गंगा के कई रूप देखने को मिले थे। विभिन्न प्रकार के जीव जंतुओं का सामना भी हुआ था। उनकी रिपोर्ट जब जल शक्ति मंत्रालय पहुंची तो

एकत्र किया जाएगा डाटा और नमूना

आईआईटीआर के वैज्ञानिक जगह-जगह गंगा का नमूना लेंगे। कहाँ पर गंगा का पानी कितना निर्मल है और कहाँ कितना प्रदूषण है। इस पर अध्ययन किया जाएगा साथ ही वाइल्डलाइफ इंस्टीट्यूट के वैज्ञानिक विविधता पर शोध करेंगे। पूर्व में डाटा से मिलान करेंगे। समस्त रिपोर्ट जल शक्ति मंत्रालय को सौंप दी जाएगी। इसी रिपोर्ट के आधार पर मंत्रालय गंगा की निर्मलता के लिए योजना तैयार करेगा।

वृहद स्तर पर इस अभियान की नींव पड़ी। अभियान में गंगा के किनारे रहने वाले लोगों को जागरूक किया जाएगा। उनको बताया जाएगा कि गंगा आपकी है इसकी सुरक्षा करने की जिम्मेदारी भी आपकी है। यदि हमें स्वस्थ रहना है तो गंगा को भी साफ रखना पड़ेगा।

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In 5 years, Clean Ganga Mission sees 15-fold hike in govt spend

18-8

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 7

THERE HAS been a 15-fold increase in government spending on the river Ganga, and the expenditure under the Namami Gange scheme may reach an all-time high by the end of current financial year.

"Based on current liabilities and sanctioned projects we expect the actual expenditure under Namami Gange to reach Rs 3,000 crore. This will be the highest ever amount spent in a year to clean the Ganga," said Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).

The amount will be spent on schemes and projects for the Ganga and its tributaries, including on rehabilitation and upgradation of existing sewage treatment plants (STPs) besides commissioning of new STPs, Mishra said.

The Namami Gange scheme was launched in 2014-15 by the Narendra Modi government. The

GOVT EXPENDITURE ON CLEANING THE GANGA

Year	Actual Expenditure (in ₹ crore)
2011-12	53.44
2012-13	135.25
2013-14	266.2
2014-15	170.99
2015-16	602.6
2016-17	1,062.81
2017-18	1,625.11
2018-19	2,626.54
2019-20*	3,000.00

Source : NMCG
*Expected

actual expenditure rose from Rs 170.99 crore in the first year to Rs 2,626.54 crore in 2018-19. So far, 298 projects, including 40 related to STPs, have been sanctioned under the scheme. The Centre has allocated Rs 20,000 crore to be spent on cleaning the Ganga for the period of 2015-2020.

Meanwhile, Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Monday said that the Ganga will be clean between Gangotri and Haridwar by 2021. He said that all untreated domestic sewage as well as industrial effluents will be completely stopped before the Kumbh is organised at Haridwar in 2021.

After launching the 'Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan', a month-long rafting and kayaking expedition on the river, Shekhawat said, "There is a notion that Ganga is the most polluted river in the country. This is not true. We hope that this expedition will help in proving this notion false."

The minister said the government is committed to cleaning the entire length of the Ganga. However, he indicated that it may take longer than expected, saying that it took 30 years to clean the river Rhine in Germany.

The rafting and kayaking expedition will start from Devprayag on October 10 and culminate at Ganga Sagar on November 12.

EXPLAINED

E.

Govt outlay gives big boost

ALTHOUGH THE efforts to clean the Ganga started in the 1980s, due to inadequate funding, it could not gain pace — between 1985 and 2014, less than Rs 4,000 crore was spent. In 2014, the Narendra Modi government launched Namami Gange, a 100 per cent Centrally funded scheme, with an outlay of Rs 20,000 crore for five years.

To rid Kali Bein of pollutants, govt to increase water flow



The polluted Kali Bein in Sultanpur Lodhi. TRIBUNE PHOTO

APARNA BANERJI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 7

With only a month to go for the 550th Gurmurb celebrations at Sultanpur Lodhi, dumping of effluents continue into the Kali Bein even as it readies to host lakhs of devotees.

Meanwhile, unable to rid the Bein of effluents at such a short notice, the state government is now planning to adopt other options. The flow of water into the Bein shall be increased from 250 cusecs to 400 cusecs apparently in a bid to drain out polluted water and sodium oxychloride is being put at the Kapurthala STP to decrease the level of E-coli and B-coli in the untreated water which is going out of the STP and mixing into the Kali Bein near the STP.

Effluents from Bholath sewage wastes, Bhalane Di Colony and untreated water from the Kapurthala sewage treatment plant continue to flow into the Bein. While the issue has been highlighted time and again by activists and environmentalist Balbir Singh Seechewal, the administration has not been able to control the effluent flow.

DPS Kharbanda, DC, Kapurthala, said, "The quantum of fresh water being released into the Bein shall soon be increased to 400 cusecs. Until now it was 250 cusecs. That will drain out

“We have been raising the issue of ridding the Kali Bein of effluents for the past six years. Despite repeated reminders and complaints, the Kapurthala STP is still not functional. Now, increasing the flow of fresh water won't rid the Bein of pollutants.

Balbir Singh Seechewal,
ENVIRONMENTALIST

much of the polluted water. The Kali Bein will also be cleaned of all water hyacinth ahead of the 550th Parkash Utsav celebrations. Additionally, after my recent visit to the STP, we have also treated the water with sodium oxychloride which will reduce the extent of E-coli and B-coli in the water. All steps are being taken to ensure a clean Bein ahead of the celebrations.”

MLA Navtej Singh Cheema said, "The release of 400 cusecs fresh water into the Bein will significantly counter the effects of the pollutants. As far as industrial effluents into the Bein are concerned, treating them is a task which will take a longer time. Presently, all steps are being taken to ensure a cleaner Bein for the celebrations.”

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Kumaraswamy attacks K'taka govt over flood aid

PTI
BENGALURU, 7 OCTOBER

Senior JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy on Monday slammed the BJP-led government in Karnataka for its "failure" to meet the expectations of farmers, who lost their land and livelihood in the floods.

Kumaraswamy specifically mentioned the distressed farmers of Chikkamagaluru district, which saw the devastating floods damaging crops in huge swaths of land and suicide by two farmers who were unable to bear the loss.

He flayed the Udupi-Chikkamagaluru BJP MP Shobha Karandlaje for not standing with the peasants.

"Thousands of families are in distress in Chikkamagaluru due to floods. Farmers are committing suicide as they were not getting any relief from the government," Kumaraswamy tweeted.

"The Chikkamagaluru MP who should come in support



of the farmers is missing from the area, which shows her concerns for farmers," he alleged.

Hitting back at the former Chief Minister, Karandlaje said, "Kumaraswamy has demonstrated what he is. If he says that I don't know the sufferings of farmers then he must be knowing it well because he grew rich by growing potatoes."

Defending the Centre, she said the Union government has long term plans while releasing funds.

The central and state grants would be utilised in the best possible manner, she told reporters in Mysuru.

Chikkamagaluru district made headlines after two farmers Chandre Gowda and Channappa Gowda commit-

ted suicide recently.

They were devastated after the damage to their agriculture land and crops in the ravaging flood last month as well as in the last four to five days.

Following the news of the death of the farmers, Kumaraswamy had visited their houses on Sunday and gave a cheque of Rs two lakh to Chandre Gowda's family and Rs one lakh to Channappa Gowda's family.

Later speaking to reporters, Kumaraswamy alleged large scale corruption was taking place in the distribution of relief money to the flood affected people.

"People told me that a racket is operating, which takes a 'cut' of Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000 from Rs 10,000 given for flood relief to the victims. These are only a few instances.

Such phenomenon is not restricted to Mudigere. We are hearing of similar complaints from elsewhere," he claimed.

The former chief minister

opined that the Central grant of Rs 1,200 crore was final and no other instalment would be on the way.

Elaborating further, Kumaraswamy said the Centre keeps aside Rs 35,000 crore as contingency fund for the entire country and it would not be able to release more than Rs 1,200 crore to the State.

The Centre had released Rs 1,200 crore flood relief as against the demand of Rs 35,000 crore by the State government. Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa had said that this was only the first instalment, while second instalment was on the way.

However, Kumaraswamy did not seem to be convinced with Yediyurappa's statement. He said, "In the present circumstances, I don't think the Centre would release more funds."

The state should utilise the available funds from its own coffer, which he felt has adequate reserves due to good tax collection.

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Snowfall at Rohtang, over 150 vehicles stranded 78



The Rohtang Pass on the Manali-Leh highway wears a white mantle on Monday. PTI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, OCTOBER 7

Over 150 vehicles were stranded on the Manali-Leh highway near the Rohtang Pass on Monday morning after fresh snowfall in the area. Hundreds of people, including tourists, were left stranded between Marhi and Rohtang for hours, forcing the Manali administration to lead a rescue operation to evacuate people.

It was early morning when it suddenly started snowing at the Rohtang Pass and in nearby areas. Within an hour the region witnessed 30 cm of snowfall. An HRTC bus on its way to Keylong from Manali got stuck in snowfall at the Rahni nullah. The driver was forced to take the bus carrying 34 passengers back to Manali. Manali Sub-Divisional Magistrate Raman Gharsanghi along with a police force arrived there to oversee rescue of the stranded people. The SDM said that rescuing stranded

Landslide blocks Nahan road for five hours

■ The Kumarhatti-Nahan national highway remained closed for nearly five hours from 3 am this morning due to a massive landslide near Laddu village.

■ Vehicles were stuck on both sides of the road. Though the PWD staff were pressed into service to clear the debris, the highway was partially opened by 8 am. The disruption of the traffic inconvenienced commuters travelling from Solan, Nahan, Kala Amb, Paonta Sahib and nearby areas.



people and vehicles was it was a full-day exercise. Over 150 vehicles were stranded, which were moved away with the help of the police and the Border Roads Organisation. "The movement of vehicles between Manali and Keylong has been restricted for the next few days following the fresh snowfall. Traffic movement between Manali and Keylong will be

restored as soon as the snow is removed from the highway," he added.

Meanwhile, following fresh snowfall at the mighty Rohtang Pass, residents of Lahaul-Spiti have been cut off from the rest of the state. There were reports that the Kunzum Pass towards Spiti and the Baralacha La towards Leh also received considerable snowfall.

Why outskirts of cities need better water supply

Nikita Kwatra

nikita.k@livemint.com

MUMBAI

One of the first acts of the new central government was to establish a Jal Shakti ministry to tackle India's water crisis. As the policy discourse around the water crisis gathers momentum, a new paper by Sucharita Sen of Jawaharlal Nehru University and others highlights that India's peri-urban areas (the outskirts of cities) could be the most vulnerable.

Focusing on the peri-urban areas of Hyderabad, Sen shows how the concentration of industries and infrastructure development have caused extensive pollution of the surface and groundwater. This has forced peri-urban residents to

rely on treated water which has, in turn, promoted the commercialization of drinking water.

Though treatment plants set up to serve peri-urban residents receive subsidies, these plants find it more lucrative to cater to the rich urban residents who fetch them better prices.

This creates a "spatial outflow" of water to the core city and reduces the water availability for

peri-urban residents. The spatial outflow of water also depletes the groundwater table, reducing the water available for farmers, which has contributed to a rapid decline in agricultural land around Hyderabad.

The survey reveals that to address the lack of public water provisioning in peri-urban spa-



PRADEEP GAUR/MINT

Commercialization of drinking water in India's peri-urban areas has created water scarcity for local residents, shows a study.

ces in Hyderabad, gram panchayats have entered into public-private partnerships (PPPs) with private water suppliers.

The authors argue that while PPP models can deliver water more regularly at fairer prices, the inclusion of informal water suppliers in drinking water governance has diluted the strength of existing regulations established to protect over-extraction and pollution. The

authors, therefore, argue that India's peri-urban areas need robust public infrastructure to deliver safe drinking water that ensures availability and minimises inequalities.

Also Read: *Geographies of Drinking Water (In)securities in Peri-urban Hyderabad* (bit.ly/2VmfpNa)

Snap Fact features new and interesting reads from the world of research.

 **SNAP FACT**

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The Times of India (New Delhi)

The Indian Express (New Delhi)

The Hindu (Delhi)

Pioneer (Delhi)

राष्ट्रीय सहारा (दिल्ली)

☐ Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

☐ Deccan Chronicle

☐ The Economic Times (New Delhi)

☒ Business Standard (New Delhi)

☐ The Tribune (Gurugram)

☐ Financial Express

☐ दैनिक भास्कर (नई दिल्ली)

☐ हिंदुस्तान (नई दिल्ली)

☐ नव भारत टाइम्स (नई दिल्ली)

☐ पंजाब केसरी (दिल्ली)

☐ राजस्थान पत्रिका (नई दिल्ली)

☐ दैनिक जागरण (नई दिल्ली)

☐ जनसत्ता (दिल्ली)

☐ अमर उजाला (नई दिल्ली)

and documented at WSE Dte, CWC.

At idol immersion sites, workers have their hands full so Yamuna stays clean

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

HUNDREDS OF immersions later, the water in four ponds created at Kalindi Kunj for immersion of Durga idols was thick and murky with residue from the idols on Tuesday evening. But the Yamuna was, as a result, a little cleaner.

Kalindi Kunj is one of the venues for over 100 artificial ponds created this puja season, following the government's prohibition of immersion of idols in the Yamuna. The scale of operation at this venue, conducted under the South Delhi Durga Puja committee, was massive, with participants from various agencies working in tandem to ensure it runs smoothly.

There were four artificial ponds of different sizes at the venue to accommodate idols of different sizes. While each was five-feet deep, their length and breadth varied — with the largest



Workers clean the artificial ponds at Kalindi Kunj. Tashi Tobgyal

being 70x60 feet and the smallest being 32x35 feet.

Two cranes organised by the puja committee lifted larger idols from vehicles carrying them and dipped them into the ponds, while smaller idols were lifted in by devotees themselves. As the next batch of devotees arrived, the larger idols were removed by cranes while the smaller ones pulled out by mu-

nicipal corporation workers and kept close to the ponds.

According to Sannu Seth, one of the 20 workers cleaning the venue, they had been at work since 8 am. Raking up residue at the edge of the ponds, they scooped it into garbage vehicles waiting there.

According to M K Roy of the committee, the clean-up at the venue would begin in full swing

the next day.

"We have lost count of the number of idols which have been immersed here over the last two days. Today itself, around 35 sets of idols from proper pandals, which we have been associated with over the years, have been immersed. If we count those from less organised parties and from people's homes, the number would cross a hundred just for today. For both days, it would exceed 200," he said.

While many devotees returned satisfied, some felt there was scope for improvement. "The environment is not clean enough for idol immersion... The pond closest to our pandal is in Gol Market but we were asked to come here because that was not deep enough for our idol. I'm not sure how our 13-foot idol can be immersed here either," said Subhash Mandal, whose group had brought its idol from Pandara Road. Till last year, they would immerse it at Geeta Ghat.

Hindustan Times (New Delhi)
The Statesman (New Delhi)
The Times of India (New Delhi)
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हर साल ओडिशा का 5 किमी तट लील रहा है समुद्र

केंद्रपाड़ा, (एजेंसियां): ओडिशा के बरहपुर में गीली रेत पर चलते हुए जगन्नाथ बहेरा अचानक रुक जाते हैं और दूर पानी में डूब चुके कुछ घरों की ओर इशारा करते हुए बताते हैं, 'वहां मेरी जमीन होती थी। तीस साल पहले समुद्र बहुत दूर था लेकिन हर साल वह नजदीक आ रहा है।' जगन्नाथ अब 60 साल के हैं और उन्हें याद है कि 1990 के दशक में उनका घर, खेत और गांव समुद्र में पानी का स्तर बढ़ने से डूबने लगे थे।

बरहपुर गांव सातभाया ग्राम पंचायत में है। सातभाया में समुद्र के तट में हो रहे बदलवा के कारण कई तटीय कस्बे तबाही की कगार पर हैं। बरहपुर से पिछले 20 साल में 3000 हजार लोगों निकालकर सुरक्षित स्थानों पर भेजा जा चुका है। ओडिशा का कट ऑलिव रिडले समुद्री कछुए की दुनिया में सबसे बड़ी नेस्टिंग साइट है और एशिया में खारे पानी की

● **समुद्र के बढ़ते स्तर और मैंग्रूव फॉरेस्ट के कटने से मिट्टी का कटाव बढ़ा हजारों लोग हो चुके हैं विस्थापित**

सबसे बड़ी खाड़ी है। चिंता की बात यह है कि समुद्र हर साल तट पर कई मीटर अंदर चला आता है।

यहां तक कि 2018 में नैशनल सेंटर फॉर कोस्टल रीसर्च, चेन्नै की एक स्टडी के अनुसार 1990 से 2016 के बीच ओडिशा के कुल 550 किमी तट में से 28% अब समुद्र का हो चुका है। राज्य के दो जिलों केंद्रपाड़ा और जगतसिंहपुर को सबसे ज्यादा नुकसान पहुंचा है। केंद्रपाड़ा का 31 किमी और जगतसिंहपुर का 14.5 किमी तट खत्म हो गया है और हजारों लोग विस्थापित हो गए हैं।

प्रशासन ने बनाई दीवारें

ओडिशा के राज्य प्रशासन का कहना है कि इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए कई कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। केंद्रपाड़ा के पेंटा गांव में 39 करोड़ की कीमत से 600 मीटर लंबी जियो सिन्थेटिक दीवार तीन साल पहले खड़ी गई ताकि बंगाल की खाड़ी की हाई टाइड से मिट्टी के कटाव को कम किया जा सके।

केंद्रपाड़ा के कलेक्टर समर्थ वर्मा ने बताया है कि सातभाया के परिवारों को जल्द से जल्द सुरक्षित स्थानों पर भेजने के प्लान बनाए जा रहे हैं। जगतसिंहपुर के अडिशनल जिला मैजिस्ट्रेट कान्हू चरण धीर ने बताया है कि सियाली गांव में भी एक दीवार बनाने का प्लान है। यहां करीब एक दशक पहले बना गेस्ट हाउस जो समुद्र से दो किमी दूर था, अब वहां पानी पहुंचने लगा है।

पारादीप पोर्ट के कारण बढ़ा संकट

ग्लोबल वॉर्मिंग के कारण समुद्र के बढ़ते जलस्तर, मैंग्रूव पेड़ों को काटने और समुद्र के नजदीक निर्माणकार्य के कारण मिट्टी का कटाव होता है। केंद्रपाड़ा और जगतसिंहपुर के तट पर पारादीप पोर्ट और मैंग्रूव पेड़ों को कटने के कारण समुद्र का तट बढ़ने लगा है। आंध्र यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रफेसर नागेश्वर राव ने यह जानकारी दी है। उन्होंने बताया है कि 1960 तक सातभाया ग्राम पंचायत में घने मैंग्रूव जंगल थे। पारादीप पोर्ट के निर्माण के लिए सरकार ने कई एकड़ मैंग्रूव काट दिए। उसके बाद पोर्ट को अंदर आते समुद्र के लिए एक दीवार खड़ी कर दी। इस कारण पानी सातभाया आने लगा।