

Business Line 08-May-2021

When water opened the financial floodgates

Stage set for more investment products based on water

RINGSIDE VIEW

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Chennai, May 7

Water is gaining currency globally. It is a commodity consumed for various purposes: domestic (drinking, food preparation, bathing and washing), commercial (construction and restaurants), irrigation and industrial (processing, cleaning, transportation, dilution and cooling in manufacturing facilities).

But going forward, you may get to use water for creating financial wealth as well.

As the demand for water is growing multifold, the natural resource has become a scarce commodity. When anything

turns a rare commodity, it is but natural for the market mavens to move in.

Water futures

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange or the CME Group last year launched an innovative product—Nasdaq Veles California Water Index (NQH2O)—futures for public trading.

“The benchmark powering this innovative, cash-settled water futures contract uses rights leases and sales transactions across the five largest and most actively traded regions of California to provide a volume-weighted average price of freshwater in the region,” it said at the time of the launch.

“A liquid, transparent futures market will help to create a forward curve for this vital resource so water users can hedge price risk. Further, these futures contracts allow agricultural producers to plan ahead for changing cost of the water



they need for large-scale irrigation, while also allowing a commercial end user, like a manufacturer, to better navigate business and financial risks when water prices fluctuate,” the exchange said.

BNP Paribas Aqua Fund

To quench Indian investors’ thirst, BNP Paribas recently launched the Aqua Fund of Fund. The primary investment objective of the scheme was to seek capital appreciation by investing in the Luxembourg-listed BNP Paribas Funds Aqua scheme.

This global mutual fund in-

vests in companies that conduct business in water and related sectors which are picked based on the quality of their financial structure and earnings potential.

Such firms are picked across countries. Some of the companies to which the fund has exposure are Pennon Group, Idex Corp, Georg Fischer, Agilent Technologies, Pentair Plc, Trimble Inc and American Water Works.

With water gaining focus, it is likely to see innovative initiatives that will drive growth.

This is just the beginning. Going forward, there would be many more funds, including exchange-traded funds, and innovative products would be launched on water. Indian investors cannot remain off the shore. However, the moot question is whether water as a tradeable commodity will help all living beings or just financial institutions and investors.

Rajasthan Patrika 08-May-2021

बेमौसम बारिश बालोद में गरज-चमक के साथ ढाई घंटे तेज बारिश

रायपुर और बिलासपुर संभाग के कई जिलों में हल्की वर्षा से माहौल खुशगवार

आज ऐसा रहेगा मौसम

पत्रिका ब्यूरो @ बालोद. रायपुर, दुर्ग और बिलासपुर-सरगुजा संभाग के कई जिलों में शुक्रवार को बारिश से मौसम खुशगवार हो गया है। लगभग पूरे प्रदेश के तापमान में कमी दर्ज की गई है। बालोद में शुक्रवार की शाम 5 बजे से शाम साढ़े 7 बजे तक ढाई घण्टे गरज चमक के साथ 8.8 मिमी तेज बारिश दर्ज की गई। इस बारिश से धान व साग सब्जी की फसलों को सबसे ज्यादा नुकसान हुआ है। वहीं रायगढ़ जिले में कई जगह अंधड़ के साथ तेज बारिश हुई। इससे बिजली व्यवस्था चरमरा गई। जांजगीर, सरगुजा कोरिया और कोरबा में दोपहर बाद से तेज हवाएं चलने लगीं। शाम अधिकांश हिस्सों में झमाझम बारिश हुई। कई जगह बिजली भी गुल रही।

मौसम विज्ञानी एच.पी. चंद्रा ने बताया कि 8 मई को प्रदेश के एक-दो स्थानों पर हल्की वर्षा होने अथवा गरज-चमक के साथ छोटें पड़ने की संभावना है। एक-दो स्थानों पर आकाशीय बिजली गिरने तथा अंधड़ चलने की भी आशंका है।

कहां कितनी हुई बारिश

बालोद 40, लोहांडीगुड़ा और रायगढ़ में 30-30, सूरजपुर 20, डोंगरगढ़ और प्रतापपुर भैयाथान, लैलुंगा में 10-10, पेंडारोड में 14.9 मिमी, 8.8, राजनांदगांव 10.2, दुर्ग 1.2 मिमी बारिश दर्ज की गई।

बारिश मिमी में

