

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: 09.08.2019

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।

अंजु
9.8.2019
वरिष्ठ कलाकार

जल प्रणाली अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय

संलग्नक: उपरोक्त

उप निदेशक, (ज. प्र. आ.) निदे०

विवेक
09/08/2019

निदेशक, (ज. प्र. आ.) निदे०

प्रवीण कुमार
09-08-19

सेवा में,

अध्यक्ष, के. ज. आ., नई दिल्ली

सदस्य (कार्य योजना एवं परियोजना/ अभिकल्प एवं अनुसंधान / नदी प्रबंध) और

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



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DEFICIT NARROWS

Rains Just 2.5% Less ^{ET-9} than Normal

Gaurav.Noronha
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New Delhi: The southwest monsoon has made a dramatic turnaround, with total seasonal rainfall rising to the normal range for the first time. The June-September season began on an alarmingly weak note that sparked fears of a drought.

After two weeks of torrential rain, rainfall is just 2.5% short of the normal level, with the deficit narrowing rapidly from about 35% below normal at June-end, when most states were on high alert to combat what seemed an emerging drought.

Rainfall this month has been 39% more than normal, which has helped replenish India's 103 major reservoirs to 99% of the level at this time last year, and 97% of the 10-year average. Just a week ago, the water level was

74% of last year's level, which was a cause for concern because these reservoirs store water for drinking, irrigation and power generation after the monsoon.

The progress of the southwest monsoon sets the mood of the rural economy because more than half of India's farmland depends entirely on rainfall for irrigation. A good monsoon boosts crop output and rural incomes, which in turn increase demand for automobiles, consumer goods, gold and other items in rural India, where two-thirds of Indians live.

The India Meteorology Department (IMD) expects heavy rainfall to continue in many parts of the country.

"Cumulatively, above normal rainfall is likely over Gujarat, Maharashtra, southern parts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands," the weather office said in its forecast for the next seven days.

Monsoon Watch



Monsoon continues to be very vigorous in most parts of the country

Total monsoon rainfall this season is now only **2.5% below normal**

Rainfall deficit is likely to narrow further as heavy rains continue



Rainfall in 24 hours up to Thursday morning was **122% above normal**

A deep depression is causing heavy rain in eastern and central India

CURRENT WEATHER AND FORECAST

Red alert for heavy rain in parts of western and south-western India

Very heavy rainfall forecast in central India, Kerala and Gujarat



Strong wind and heavy rain to lash coasts of Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal

Rainfall to be above normal in many parts of India for the next week



Intensity of rainfall to moderate by next week

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and documented at WSE Die, CWC.

Extreme rainfall in short spells becoming common

Chetan Chauhan

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NEW DELHI: Despite deficient rainfall in most districts of India this year, there have been floods in several parts of the country due to sudden spells of concentrated heavy rain, according to India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s district-wise rainfall data.

This proves as real the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) claim on Monday that extreme rainfall events in south Asia are increasing.

An area getting more than 204 mm of rain within 24 hours is defined as an extreme rainfall event by the IMD.

The IMD's rainfall data from June 1 till August 8 shows that except in parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Assam, the majority of districts in all other states have deficient rainfall, suggesting that rainfall has not been widespread and has been in concentrated spells in certain areas, causing flooding.

"The signs of climate change causing extreme rainfall are much clearer now," said K.J. Ramesh, former director general of IMD. "Most of the flooding this year has been caused by heavy spells of sudden rainfall in a few hours, causing massive flooding and displacement of people."

On August 1 and 2, Vadodara in Gujarat received 499 mm of rain within 24 hours, which was 83.64% of the total rain this monsoon in the industrial city. While Vadodara, Valsad and a few districts of southern Gujarat received heavy rain in the first week of August, deficiency in rainfall in most other districts of the state was up to 52%.

Bihar is another state that exemplifies contrasts in weather. While parts of northern Bihar such as East Champaran district - it received 87.2% of the total monsoon rainfall in the first week of July - have had the worst floods in the past two decades, most of southern Bihar and Jharkhand have seen dry weather conditions.

Both in Maharashtra and Karnataka, which have been receiv-

HEAVY DOWNPOUR

Floods caused by extreme rainfall appears to be a new normal even though India has 2.5% monsoon rain deficit

	Maximum rain on which days (mm)	Total rainfall this season (mm)	% of total rainfall
Mumbai	2,454.3 798.40 on July 1 and 2 and July 26 and 27		32.5%
Raigarh	3,324.3 410 on August 5		12.3%
Vadodara	596.5 499 on August 1 and 2		83.64%
Valsad	2,143.9 808 on June 29, 30 and July 31		37.7%
Kokrajhar	2,250.2 775.1 on July 25, 26 and 27		34.4%
Dhemaji	1,834.4 694.3 on July 10 and 11		37.85%
Kishanganj	1,230.41 915.1 in first week of July		74.3%
East Champaran	763 665.4 in first week of July		87.2%
Patiala	395 236 on July 16		59.7%
Srinagar	159.3 36.7 on July 25		23.08%
Kota	570.1 151.8 on July 28		26.6%
Ajmer	459.1 114.2 on August 2		24.8%
Pratapgarh	635 280 on July 19		44.09%
North Goa	2,728 250 on August 6		9.16%
Bhopal	880.6 165.5 July 1 and July 2		18.9%
Kasargode (Kerala)	1,956 480 on July 20 and 21		24.5%
Nizamabad (Telangana)	520 140 on August 4		27%

Source: IMD

ing heavy rain in the past few days, there are regions that have received less than normal rainfall. In Maharashtra, the Marathwada region has 15% rain deficiency whereas in Karnataka, Bengaluru and nearby districts had 32% less rainfall between June 1 and August 8, according to IMD district-wise rainfall data.

The rainfall pattern this year confirms the findings of a study on rainfall in India between 1901 and 2016 by Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorol-

ogy, which showed that extreme rainfall events intensified in the period 1981-2016 with "significant decline" in monsoon rainfall in eastern UP, Assam and Meghalaya and increase in East Rajasthan, Kutch and Saurashtra.

In the context of climate change impact on monsoon, Priyadarshi Shukla, one of the co-authors of the IPCC report on "Climate Change and Land", said the change in rainfall patterns in India could lead to food production going down by 23%.

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Heavy floods threaten life, crops

DELUGE 10 people die in Kerala, 205,000 people displaced in Maharashtra as states sound alarm bell

Zia Haq

letters@hindustantimes

NEW DELHI: Heavy rains in the second half of monsoon have caused deadly flooding in several states, threatening life and summer-sown crops even as central advisories asked key states to take mitigation measures to protect farms.

A deep depression, a rain-bearing stormy weather system that formed over the Bay of Bengal, is sweeping from east to west, inundating large swathes in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Although overall monsoon has been 2% below normal since the start of the wet season in June, for the first week August, rainfall has been 28% surplus, triggering deadly floods.

Several rice-growing districts are inundated in Odisha, where torrential rains continued on Thursday. Crops have gone under water in Rayagada, Malkangiri Koraput, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Ganjam and Gajapati districts.

Major rivers in Andhra Pradesh are in spate. Dams in Maharashtra are overflowing. Farms in large tracts in Kolhapur and Sangli are inundated. Vidarbha, which has been facing drought-like conditions, has witnessed flooding in several areas.

"Based on inputs from agricultural meteorology, state-specific advisories have been issued to save standing crops. That's a standard procedure," a farm ministry official said, requesting anonymity. Madhya Pradesh, a large soyabean grower, too has started witnessing heavy rains.

The weather bureau on Thursday said Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha, Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Kerala will continue to get robust rains for the next three days. Farmers in Maharashtra's Marathwada, where sowing has not been not completed have been advised to complete the process after sufficient rainfall has occurred. In flooded areas, sowing of alternate crops like hybrid pearl millet, sunflower, castor and sesamum have been advised.



• A river in spate at Munnar in Kerala on Thursday.



• Rescue and relief work in flood-hit Sangli.

UDAY DEOLEKAR

RAIN, FLOOD BATTER SEVERAL STATES

KERALA

At least 10 persons are killed as rains continue to batter many areas of Kerala. Twenty-five people are feared missing in Wayanad in north Kerala after a landslide, said rescue officials. Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan has sought Army and Air Force help as weathermen predicted more rains in the next two days. Over half of the 44 rivers in the state are in spate and many dams are filled to the brim. Over 5,000 people have been evacuated to safety as overflowing rivers and swollen dams flooded several districts amid heavy rains, the state revenue department said. The CM has directed ministers to rush to affected districts and co-ordinate rescue works. In a tweet, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who is sitting MP from Wayanad, said he talked to the CM and asked Congress workers to join relief and rescue work. Kerala's Disaster Management Authority has issued red alert in Idukki, Malappuram, Kozhikode and Wayanad districts for two more days. Educational institutions in 11 districts will remain closed on

MAHARASHTRA

About 205,000 people have been displaced and 27 killed this monsoon as floods continue to ravage western Maharashtra. Rainfall has abated to an extent, but dam waters are yet to recede in the worse-hit districts of Kolhapur and Sangli. With a forecast of very heavy rainfall on Friday and an estimated 30,000 to 35,000 stranded people still awaiting rescue, the situation in these two districts is serious. Chief minister Devendra Fadnis, who undertook an aerial tour of the flood-affected districts, said the situation would improve after Karnataka released water from the Almatti dam. "Home minister Amit Shah held a meeting with both Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa and myself to resolve this issue. They [Karnataka] have agreed to discharge this water by tonight," said Fadnis. He admitted that Karnataka had concerns about releasing so much water as it could potentially flood some of its own regions downstream.

Friday. Cochin airport was closed till Thursday midnight after the runway was flooded

KARNATAKA

Rescue efforts are in full swing in the state, with around 15,000 people being evacuated in just a day (till Thursday afternoon). As many as 15 of the state's 30 districts have witnessed very high rainfall over the past week, causing flooding in several parts. Belagavi is

the worst-affected. In all, nine people have died over the past week, officials said. Around 17,000 people have been shifted to 272 relief camps across the state. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for the coastal and Malnad regions for another two days. Holidays have been announced for schools and colleges across 12 districts for a second consecutive day. The state's health department has cancelled leaves to

all its officials.

ANDHRA PRADESH

The situation in flood-hit areas of East and West Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh continues to be grim, with the Godavari river continuing to swell with heavy inflows from upstream on Thursday. North coastal Andhra districts of Srikakulam and Vizianagaram, which have been facing a flood-like situation due to overflowing Vamsadhara and Nagavali rivers, returned to normalcy. Andhra Pradesh chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Thursday made an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas with his cabinet colleagues.

TAMIL NADU

Even as heavy rains continue to lash the Western Ghats, the delta region, the rice bowl of Tamil Nadu, remains parched. The demand for the release of Cauvery water by Karnataka is gaining momentum. The continuing heavy spell of rain in the southern and western districts is expected to provide great relief to the drinking water crisis though.

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Heavy rain brings life to a standstill in southern States



In safe hands: Army personnel rescuing people from the flood-affected areas in Belagavi district. ■PTI

9 dead, over 43,000 evacuated in Karnataka

CM visits flood-hit areas in Belagavi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Heavy rains and floods continued to batter Karnataka on Thursday, with nine deaths reported and over 43,000 people evacuated in 12 flood-hit districts so far. The worst-hit was the northern district of Belagavi, where heavy rain coupled with release of water from dams upstream in Maharashtra left many villages and towns marooned. Districts in coastal Karnataka and Malnad region also saw heavy rain and flooding. Nearly 17,000 people are taking shelter in 272 relief camps across the State.

Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa visited the flood-hit areas of Belagavi. Speaking in the district, he denied lack of coordination on water release from dams, saying the process was done as per protocol and in coordination with Maharashtra.

In South Karnataka also, all dams in the Cauvery ba-

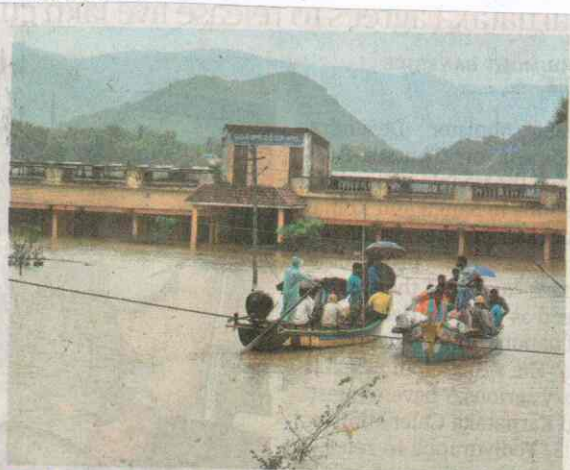
They clung to a tree for 2 days

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BELAGAVI

In a heart-warming incident, Kadappa Jagannanavar and Rathnavva, a couple in their 30s, were rescued by NDRF nearly 50 hours after they were stranded in Belagavi. They climbed a tree, fastened themselves to it and clung on to each other for two days.

sin area have recorded heavy inflows, with rain battering Kodagu district which is part of the catchment area. The crest gates of the Kabini reservoir at H.D. Kote have been opened and discharge stepped up to 90,000 cusecs.

However, the reservoir levels in the Cauvery basin are still at only 50% of the installed capacity.



Moving to safety: Boats ferrying people stranded in a village near Devipatnam. ■CH. VIJAYA BHASKAR

Godavari continues to flood parts of A.P.

Officials issue second warning

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA

The flood discharge in the Godavari at the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage in Dowleswaram was 13.62 lakh cusecs on Thursday evening. It is the highest since the deluge began over a week ago. The A.P. State Disaster Management Authority, in a bulletin at 6 p.m., said the second warning was issued as soon as the flood crossed the 13-lakh cusec mark at the barrage.

The level at the Bhadrachalam gauge was 44.20 feet, which again crossed the first warning.

The NDRF, the SDRF and the fire services teams had been deployed at several marooned villages in West and East Godavari to begin evacuation if there was a further rise in the water level, the A.P. State Disaster Management Authority said in a release.

Meanwhile, authorities continued to release near-

Jagan orders financial aid

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

A.P. Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy ordered that a special financial assistance of ₹5,000 each be given to the families affected by the floods, including those whose houses and crops were damaged.

ly 4 lakh cusecs from the Almatti reservoir on the Krishna in Karnataka to prevent overflowing. This water will go straight to the Srisailem reservoir, which is gradually getting filled, after passing through the Narayanapur and Jurala projects, which are filled to the brim and forced to release the entire inflow. The waters in the Vamsadhara and the Nagavalli in north A.P. are receding.

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AHEAD OF NGT HEARING ON AUGUST 23 95-9

Jal Shakti to Oppose Min's Ground Water Suggestions

Conservation Measures

If the NGT goes by the expert committee recommendations, it could close the door on all major industrial, commercial and residential projects in large areas of **Delhi-NCR, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat & Tamil Nadu**

Delhi has the highest Over exploited, Critical, Semi-Critical units at

82%

Panel calls for restriction in production and capacity if an industrial unit cannot recharge as much ground water as it is extracting in OCS areas

Panel recommends imposing a 'water conservation fee' on users besides rolling out a scheme for 'water credits' that can be earned for undertaking water conservation measures

Farmers with individual land holdings of 3-5 hectares may be covered under a regulation 'with nominal charges' by CGWA or the state offices: panel

Anubhuti Vishnoi
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New Delhi: The newly created Jal Shakti ministry is set to oppose the environment ministry in the National Green Tribunal over a clutch of radical recommendations on ground water usage like banning new commercial as well as residential projects and levying a water charge on farmers with larger holding in water stressed areas.

ET has learnt that the Jal Shakti ministry has begun hectic inter-ministerial consultations ahead of NGT's August 23 hearing as the green ministry's Expert Committee made its submission just about a month ago. Jal Shakti believes that there's ambiguity in the recommendations, which it alleges were made without adequate consultation with all stakeholders.

If the NGT goes by the expert committee's recommendations, it could close the door on all major industrial, commercial and residential projects in large areas of Delhi-NCR, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu which are considered water stressed. According to the recent ground water assessment reports of the Central Ground Water Authority, Delhi has the highest OCS (Over exploited, Critical, Semi-Critical) units at 82%, Rajasthan is weighed down with 81% along with Punjab, neighbouring Haryana is at 75% units in OCS category and Tamil Nadu is at 59%. The water re-

sources department recently held rounds of meetings with the environment ministry on the matter, seeking clarifications on the expert committee's submissions and apprising the green ministry of its disagreement with any blanket ban regimes.

On January 4, the NGT had stayed environment ministry's December 12, 2018 notification on ground water extraction in view of 'serious shortcomings'. It also ordered the ministry to set up a committee with experts from IIT, IIM, Central Pollution Control Board and Niti Aayog to draw up a policy framework for ground water usage. The committee submitted its report to NGT on July 17 and has sparked strong concerns within the government over its implications. It calls for restriction in production and capacity if an industrial unit cannot recharge as much ground water as it is extracting in OCS areas. The committee has said that farmers with individual land holdings of 3-5 hectares may be covered under a regulation 'with nominal charges' by CGWA or the state offices. As per the 10th Agriculture census 2015-16 report released last year, farmers owning between 2-10 hectares of land account for 13.2% of all farmers, but own 43.6% of crop area. So this 'nominal charges' regime will apply to a huge crop area, if implemented.

The committee also recommended imposing a 'water conservation fee' on users besides rolling out a scheme for 'Water Credits' points that can be earned for undertaking water conservation measures.

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and documented at WSE Die, CWC.

H-9 Cycle of extremes

India must address its crippling cycles of drought and flood with redoubled vigour

After a worrying pre-monsoon phase between March and May, when rainfall was scarce, the current robust season in most parts of coastal, western and central India augurs well for the entire economy. Aided apparently by beneficial conditions in the Indian Ocean, very heavy rainfall has been recorded, notably in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, the north-eastern States, Karnataka, the Konkan coast, hilly districts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. This pattern may extend into the eastern regions. A normal Indian Summer Monsoon is bountiful overall, but as last year's flooding in Kerala, and the Chennai catastrophe of 2015 showed, there can be a terrible cost. Distressing scenes of death and destruction are again being witnessed. Even in a rain-shadow region such as Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, the collapse of a railway parcel office after a downpour has led to avoidable deaths. What this underscores is the need to prepare for the rainy season with harvesting measures, as advocated by the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, and a safety audit of structures, particularly those used by the official agencies. In drafting their management plans, States must be aware of the scientific consensus: that future rain spells may be short, often unpredictable and very heavy, influenced by a changing climate. They need to invest in reliable infrastructure to mitigate the impact of flooding and avert disasters that could have global consequences in an integrated economy.

The long-term trends for flood impact in India have been one of declining loss of lives and cattle since the decadal high of 1971-80, but rising absolute economic losses, though not as a share of GDP. It is important, therefore, to increase urban resilience through planning. Orderly urban development is critical for sustainability, as the mega flood disasters in Mumbai and Chennai make clear. It is worth pointing out that the response of State governments to the imperative is tardy. They are hesitant to act against encroachment of lake catchments, river courses and floodplains. The extreme distress in Chennai, for instance, has not persuaded the State government against allowing structures such as a police station being constructed on a lake bed, after reclassification of land. Granting such permissions is an abdication of responsibility and a violation of National Disaster Management Authority Guidelines to prevent urban flooding. As a nation that is set to become the most populous in less than a decade, India must address its crippling cycles of drought and flood with redoubled vigour. Scientific hydrology, coupled with the traditional wisdom of saving water through large innovative structures, will mitigate floods and help communities prosper.

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Why Gujarat and MP are arguing over Narmada water and hydro power

ADITIRAJA

VADODARA, AUGUST 8

OVER THE last two weeks, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have engaged in war of words over the sharing of Narmada river waters. Madhya Pradesh has threatened to restrict the flow of water into the Sardar Sarovar Dam, located in Gujarat. This was after Gujarat, in April, had requested the Narmada Control Authority for permission — which was granted — not to start generation at a power house until the dam fills to its full level.

The power equation

The Sardar Sarovar Project includes two power houses, the River Bed Power House (RBPH; 1,200 MW) and the Canal Head Power House (250 MW). Power is shared among Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat in a 57:27:16 ratio. The RBPH has been shut since 2017, when the gates were closed and the reservoir height was raised

to 138.63 m. Gujarat has sought that generation should not start until the water reaches the full reservoir level (FRL).

"The protocol is that once the dam crosses 131 m, we ought to release some water as it fills to its FRL. For this, we have to resume power generation in the RBPH, where the turbines release the water downstream into the river. If the inflow exceeds the capacity of the water released by the turbines after power generation, then too we have to open the gates. The dam cannot just be filled to 138.63 metres without balancing the outflow," said Rajeev Kumar Gupta, Managing Director, Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd (SSNNL).

On Thursday, the SSNNL issued a circular announcing an upcoming 6-cusec release, in keeping with the 131m protocol. The current level is 129.65 m

What Gujarat wants

In April, the SSNNL approached the Narmada Control Authority which granted its request not to start production until the

water reaches 138.63 m. Gujarat has been facing a rain deficit in 2017 and 2018, when the reservoir reached levels of 130.75 m and 129 m. Engineers in Gujarat say reaching the FRL is necessary for testing whether the concrete can withstand the thrust at that level. The construction has lasted close to five decades with gaps of several years. Filling the reservoir is possible only when the RBPH is closed because the water used for generating hydro power cannot be reused — it is drained into the sea. The Garudeshwar Weir is still being constructed to store water released after generation of power at the RBPH. Once the weir is ready, the water can be stored and pumped back using reversible turbines during non-peak hours of the grid, officials say.

Why MP objects

While MP Chief Minister Kamal Nath has indicated that the state will follow the Authority guidelines in letter and spirit, the government has raised an objection to its consent to Gujarat, terming it 'unilateral'.

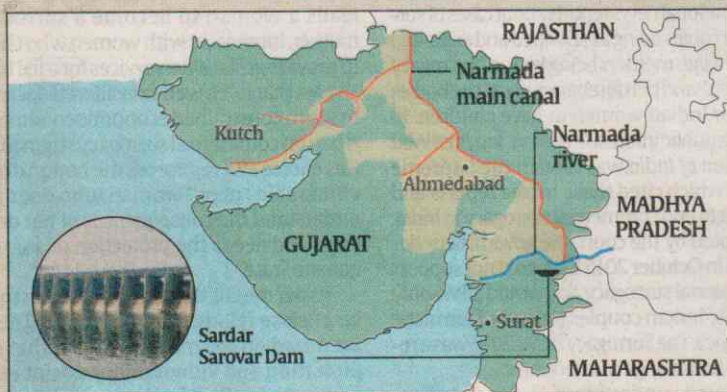
ernment's official position was instead of generating power — and sharing it with MP — Gujarat was storing the water released from MP. The MP government has also cited incomplete rules and regulations, arguing that if the reservoir level increases, those yet to be resettled will be affected.

Gujarat counter

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has blamed the Congress government in MP for playing politics over Narmada water. Officials say that Gujarat's share of 9 MAF (million acre feet) water in a normal monsoon year is insufficient to generate power as drinking water and irrigation are priorities, and Gujarat can generate power only when all states work together. They allege that while MP has the highest share of the water at 18 MAF, it refuses to release the surplus share for power generation and to allow the dam to be tested at FRL out of a "political design".

With inputs from Milind Ghatwai in Bhopal

SARDAR SAROVAR (NARMADA) PROJECT



and has refused to share its surplus water with Gujarat that would allow the reservoir to be filled. MP took that position after frequent power outages led to discontent, the

political power having just changed hands. The BJP attacked the government saying MP has returned to the "dark days" of the previous Congress rule of 1993-2003. The gov-

Hindustan Times ☐

Statesman ☐

The Times of India (New Delhi) ☐

Indian Express ☐

The Hindu (New Delhi) ☐

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and documented at WSE Dte, CWC.

Deccan Herald ☐

Deccan Herald ☐

The Economic Times ☐

Business Standard ☒

Tribune ☐

Financial Express ☐

Dainik Bhaskar ☐

Hindustan (Hindi) ☐

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) ☐

Dainik Jagran ☐

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Interlinking of rivers: A dangerous idea

If completed, the project could endanger the integrity of India's monsoon cycle



WATER: REFORM OR PERISH

MIHIR SHAH

As the water crisis has deepened, so has our desperation and the extent we are prepared to go to violate the basic principles of both science and spirituality. Instead of learning from our errors, we are tempted to go even further in the same mistaken direction.

The proposal for interlinking of India's rivers (ILR) is based on a series of erroneous presumptions. It is claimed that since some parts of India chronically have floods and others have droughts, the solution is to divert water from surplus river basins to deficit ones, so that everyone can live happily ever after! Is it true that some areas in India have too much water? Try telling the north-eastern states that! Did you know that Sohra (previously known as Cherrapunjee), one of the highest rainfall hotspots on the planet, today suffers from an acute shortage of drinking water? The reason for that lies precisely in the old paradigm of water management, where we have failed to protect our catchment areas, destroyed springs and over-exploited groundwater.

Climate change has aggravated the situation. Today, my organisation, Samaj Pragati Sahayog, is working hard to find a solution to this vexed problem but I can tell you in Sohra, with only 70,000 people and as much as 8,000 mm of rain (10 times that of Delhi), we still have no water to spare for anyone else in the country! In the sub-continent, given the dependence on the monsoon, the periods when rivers have "surplus" water are generally synchronous. And a recent study finds a significant decrease in monsoon rainfall over water "surplus" river basins in India, thus raising questions about the basic presumptions of the ILR project.

It was a massive relief that the finance minister did not even make a mention of ILR in her Budget speech last month, hopefully an indicator of the clarity of thinking of the new Jal Shakti minister. But given that the idea keeps popping up from time to time, and how dangerous it is, we must examine it carefully. The Himalayan component of the ILR project plans to store water in dams on the Ganga and the Brahmaputra, in the supposedly surplus northern and eastern states and transfer that water via canals to the water-short central, southern and the western regions. The Peninsular component attempts something similar on peninsular rivers, again transferring supposedly surplus water from the east to the south and west. Overall, the attempt is to connect 44 rivers via 9,600 km of canals at an estimated cost of ₹11 trillion. This is only an approximation of the actual cost, which is likely to be much higher (given expected delays in implementation) and does not include costs of energy, farm and forest sub-



Rivers are not human creations like roads and power lines, to be twisted and turned at will. They are living ecosystems

mergence and human displacement. What is truly ironic is that, given the topography of India and the way the links are envisaged, they might totally bypass the core dryland areas of central and western India, which are located on elevations of 300 to 1,000 metres above mean sea level.

In recent years, scientists have begun to carefully examine the potential impact of such large interventions in India's river systems. A 2018 study of 29 of these 44 rivers published in the renowned international science journal *Elementa* finds that ILR will submerge 3,400 sqkm of land and displace approximately 700,000 people, other than the huge additional displacement that would be caused by the vast canal network. It will also decrease river flows for 24 of the 29 rivers (as much as 73 per cent), reducing freshwater deliveries to wetlands and estuaries. Waterways will be exposed to new contaminants, invasive species, and disease-causing agents and the already vulnerable deltas of the Indian subcon-

tinent will be further compromised due to reduced silt deposited by rivers in their deltas by as much as 87 per cent. Reduced stream-flows will likely affect delta salinity conditions and under a future rising sea-level scenario, the salinity of groundwater and river channels is expected to increase. Climate-related salinity incursion in rivers and deltas will be exacerbated by the decrease in river mouth discharge. Rare ecosystems and vital agricultural areas would become more vulnerable to storm surges, river flooding, and heightened salinity.

Already, reduced inflows due to natural and man-made processes have led to shoreline losses in the Krishna, Godavari and Mahanadi rivers. The ILR will only aggravate the problem. This scenario is very much in line with the past experience of the Colorado, Nile, Indus and Yellow (Huang He) river systems, where similar but actually smaller projects have been attempted in the past. As the *Elementa* study argues, India's ILR is "fifty to one-hundred

times the volume of the largest inter-basin water transfer system in the United States and will likely constitute the largest construction project in human history".

Finally, we must recognise that the ILR could profoundly impact the very integrity of India's monsoon system. The continuous flow of fresh river water into the sea is what helps maintain a low salinity layer of water with low density, in the upper layers of the Bay of Bengal. This is a reason for the maintenance of high sea-surface temperatures (greater than 28 degrees Celsius), which create low-pressure areas and intensify monsoon activity. Rainfall over much of the sub-continent is effectively controlled by this layer of low-salinity water. A disruption in this layer because of massive damming of rivers under the ILR and resultant reduction in fresh water flows into the sea, could have serious long-term consequences for climate and rainfall in the subcontinent, endangering the livelihoods of a vast population.

Rivers are not human creations like roads and power lines, to be twisted and turned at will. They are living ecosystems that have evolved over hundreds of thousands of years. In our arrogance we have already caused them much damage. It is time now for us to urgently come together to regenerate our river basin ecosystems, weaving our interventions into the delicate fabric of nature, with humility and wisdom, heeding both science and spirituality.

The writer is co-founder Samaj Pragati Sahayog. Every fortnight, he outlines multiple dimensions of long overdue reforms in the water sector

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 09.08.2019 in the following newspaper

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Rashtriya Sahara	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dainik Bhaskar			

and documented at WSE Die, CWC.

Flood situation ^{9-H} improving in south Odisha districts

Train services remain affected

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

With decrease in rainfall on Thursday, the flood situation is slowly improving in south Odisha districts.

Continuous heavy rain since August 6 had created flash flood-like situation in Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada, Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Gajapati, and Kandhamal districts.

Speaking to newsmen, State Revenue Minister Sudam Marandi said the situation had started to improve in Malkangiri, Koraput and Gajapati districts.

However, during the past 24 hours, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput and Jajpur districts recorded over 100 mm of rainfall. Around 300 mm of rainfall was received by Thuamul

Rampur and Karlamunda blocks of Kalhandi district. According to Mr. Marandi, nine blocks of the district received 200 to 300 mm of rainfall, while 53 blocks recorded 100mm to 200mm rain.

Train services remained affected on the Rayagada-Titilagarh route. Several trains have been cancelled or short terminated or diverted till Friday by the East Coast Railway.

According to railway authorities, heavy rain on Wednesday night had badly hampered and delayed the restoration work. Movement of traffic may start by Friday morning.

Problem of water-logging in low laying areas continues despite water level receding in the rivers.

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The Hindu (New Delhi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tribune	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dainik Jagran	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Rashtriya Sahara	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dainik Bhaskar	<input type="checkbox"/>		

and documented at WSE Die, CWC.

After aerial survey, CM says situation in Sangli very serious

Karnataka agrees to release five lakh cusecs of water from Almatti dam following Fadnavis's request to Yediyurappa; 67,000 hectares of crops damaged in Kolhapur

SHOUMJOIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday assured the people in flood-hit regions in Sangli and Kolhapur districts that rescue operations are proceeding apace, and that there is no need as yet for a declaration of national emergency.

"The situation in Sangli is very serious. I have requested Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa to release five lakh cusecs of water from Almatti dam to ease the plight of the Sangli residents," the CM said, adding, "Our priority is to first evacuate pregnant women, children and the sick."

Meanwhile, Karnataka agreed to release five lakh cusecs of water from Almatti dam, located downstream on the Krishna river, an official from Mr. Fadnavis' office said. This will help bring down the water level in the flood-affected areas in Western Maharashtra, he said.

Mr. Fadnavis was speaking in Kolhapur after conducting an aerial survey of the flood-affected zones in Satara, Sangli and Kolhapur districts. He reviewed rescue work at Shivaji Bridge and visited affected people at a transit camp in Kolhapur district. While four persons in Kolhapur have lost their lives in rain-related accidents in the last few days, the CM said there have been no casualties owing to the floods so far in the district.

Mr. Fadnavis said 67,000 hectares of crops have been damaged in Kolhapur owing to the deluge, which has also destroyed 3,813 houses



Rising to the occasion: Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis with ministers (from left) Girish Mahajan, Chandrakant Patil and Eknath Shinde during an aerial survey to take the stock of the flood situation in Kolhapur, Sangli and Satara districts. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

while rendering 390 water supply schemes dysfunctional. "If the situation demands, we will declare a national emergency. As of now, the government is carrying out relief efforts comparable to one," the CM said.

Explaining why he was compelled to take an aerial survey, the CM said he attempted to land his helicopter in flood-hit Karad but was unable to get permission owing to inclement weather.

Responding to accusations of tardiness in responding to the crisis, Mr. Fadnavis said he had cancelled his 'Mahajanadesh Yatra'. "Maximum evacuation will be car-

ried out by the end of Thursday. Water levels in Karad are going down. The rescue

teams are conducting operations at full throttle." Mr. Fadnavis said the chal-

lenge is to tackle the petrol and diesel shortage in Kolhapur and Sangli districts.

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A farmer shows waterlogged fields at Udekan village in Muktsar on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

3 weeks on, fields still inundated in Muktsar

ARCHIT WATTS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, AUGUST 8

It has been nearly three weeks after rainwater inundated fields, government offices and residential areas in the district, the water is yet to be drained out. A huge chunk of agricultural land is still waterlogged at Udekan and Bhullar villages.

A large number of houses at Udekan village are still flooded and residents have migrated to safer places. Further, the Criminal Investigation Agency (CIA) office is also inundated and the dewatering work has also stopped.

The main road leading to Udekan village is still not operational for traffic, which was cut to make a passage for rainwater. Cotton and paddy crops had been fully damaged.

Sukhjinder Singh, a resi-

RESIDENTS SHIFT TO SAFER PLACES

- A large number of houses at Udekan village are still flooded and residents have migrated to safer places.
- The Criminal Investigation Agency (CIA) office is also inundated and the dewatering work has also stopped.
- The main road leading to Udekan village is still not operational for traffic, which was cut to make a passage for rainwater.

dent of Udekan village, said, "Nearly 600 acres is still waterlogged in and around our village. There is no proper drainage system in place. The rainwater is damaging crops almost every year. Water from other villages comes here due

to its topography, but the administration has no arrangement to take it out. A new drain should be made here."

Meanwhile, the district administration has informed the state government that crops on 24,975 acres have been damaged due to rain.

Avtar Singh, District Revenue Officer, Muktsar, said, "A special girdawari to assess damages has started in the district. Besides, the dewatering work at Udekan and Bhullar villages is also underway and two executive engineers of the drainage wing of the Irrigation Department are supervising it. The state government has released funds for this purpose, which has been transferred to the department concerned."

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 09.08.2019 in the following newspaper

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Pioneer Delhi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Express	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jansatta	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rashtriya Sahara	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dainik Bhaskar	<input type="checkbox"/>		

and documented at WSE Dte, CWC.

कैबिनेट सचिव की अध्यक्षता में उच्चस्तरीय बैठक ^{प्र-१}

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा) कैबिनेट सचिव पीके सिन्हा ने बुधस्वतिवार को एक उच्चस्तरीय बैठक की अध्यक्षता की और महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, केरल तथा गुजरात में बाढ़ की मौजूदा स्थिति की समीक्षा की। उन्होंने संकट के समाधान के लिए राज्यों को तत्काल सहायता प्रदान का निर्देश भी दिया। भारतीय मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आईएमडी) ने कहा है कि पिछले कुछ दिनों में इन राज्यों में बहुत भारी वर्षा हुई। उसने यह कहा कि अगले दो दिनों में गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र तथा तटीय कर्नाटक में और बारिश होने की उम्मीद है। अधिकारियों के मुताबिक आईएमडी के पूर्वानुमान के मददेनजर इन राज्यों में बचाव और राहत अभियान तेज किया जाएगा।

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Statesman	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deccan Herald	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Rashtriya Sahara	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dainik Bhaskar	<input type="checkbox"/>		

and documented at WSE Dte, CWC.

जानना होगा कि बाढ़ का सामना लोग पहले कैसे करते थे, फसलों की कौन सी किस्में उगाते थे स्थानीय भागीदारी से बने बाढ़ नियंत्रण नीति



भारत डोगरा

एक बार फिर देश का काफी बड़ा भाग बाढ़ की चपेट में है। इस समय की सबसे बड़ी जरूरत बचाव व राहत उपायों की है, पर अधिक व्यापक सवालों को भी ध्यान में रखना होगा ताकि बाढ़ से होने वाली क्षति को स्थायी तौर पर कम किया जा सके। 1953-2010 के बीच देश में (2010-11 की कीमतों पर) बाढ़-नियंत्रण को लेकर 124,000 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए गए। इसके बावजूद लगभग 5 करोड़ हेक्टेयर इलाका आज भी बाढ़ प्रभावित है, जबकि राष्ट्रीय बाढ़ आयोग ने वर्ष 1980 में केवल 4 करोड़ हेक्टेयर इलाके के ही बाढ़ से प्रभावित होने का अनुमान लगाया था। अनेक बड़े बहुउद्देशीय बांध बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिए बनाए गए। 35,000 किलोमीटर के नदी तटबंध बनाए गए। इसके बावजूद बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्र बढ़ता ही गया। ऐसे में कहा जा रहा है कि क्यों न बाढ़ पर ऐसी राष्ट्रीय नीति बनाई जाए जो बाढ़ से होने वाली क्षति को स्थायी तौर पर कम करने की व्यवस्था कर सके।

बहते हुए पैसे

बाढ़ नियंत्रण के ये प्रयास पूरी तरह विकेंद्रीकृत होने चाहिए ताकि वे स्थानीय स्थितियों के अनुकूल हों और स्थानीय लोगों के अनुभवों पर आधारित हों। सच है कि बाढ़ नियंत्रण और आपदा नियंत्रण में विकेंद्रीकरण बहुत महत्वपूर्ण और उपयोगी है, लेकिन इसे लेकर बनाई गई एक राष्ट्रीय नीति की भी उपयोगी भूमिका हो सकती है। बाढ़ नियंत्रण पर व्यापक सोच को

स्पष्ट करने में राष्ट्रीय नीति धुरी का काम कर सकती है। पिछली गलतियों से हम क्या सीख ले सकते हैं और उन्हें कैसे सुधार सकते हैं, इसमें राष्ट्रीय नीति उपयोगी भूमिका निभा सकती है। राष्ट्रीय नीति बनाने के क्रम में स्थानीय लोगों की भागीदारी प्राप्त करने और आस-पड़ोस से सामंजस्य बनाने को महत्व देना चाहिए। राष्ट्रीय नीति का एक अन्य जरूरी पक्ष यह है कि यह जलवायु परिवर्तन के दौर में आने वाले बदलावों को बेहतर ढंग से ध्यान में रख सकती है। इसमें नवीनतम जानकारी के आधार पर आकलन हो सकता है जबकि ऐसी जानकारियां दूर-दराज के क्षेत्रों में सदैव उपलब्ध नहीं होती हैं।

राष्ट्रीय नीति तैयार करते हुए यह याद रखना होगा कि सरकारी स्तर पर अनेक गंभीर गलतियां हो चुकी हैं। आखिर कोई तो वजह होगी कि अरबों रुपये खर्च करने के बाद भी बाढ़ से हुई क्षति बढ़ती जा रही है। कुछ स्थानों पर तो स्पष्ट देखा जा सकता है कि बाढ़ नियंत्रण के नाम

बाढ़ फैलाव क्षेत्र का उपयोग ऐसा होना चाहिए कि इससे बाढ़ के पानी का अधिकतम रिसाव सुनिश्चित हो और इससे भू-जल भंडार बढ़ाया जा सके

पर अंधाधुंध पैसा खर्च हुआ, फिर भी बाढ़ का दायरा बढ़ गया या यह अधिक उग्र हो गई। इसलिए पिछली गलतियों को पहचानना और सुधारना बहुत जरूरी है। लेकिन यहीं पर एक बड़ी समस्या आती है कि प्रायः केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारें या स्थानीय अधिकारी इन गलतियों को मानने के लिए तैयार नहीं होते हैं।



Pramod Sharma

बिहार में मुजफ्फरपुर-सीतामढ़ी हाईवे पर मौजूदा जल भराव का दृश्य

इस हठधर्मिता के कारण पिछली गलतियों से सबक लेते हुए नई नीति की ओर बढ़ना संभव नहीं हो पाता। बाढ़ नियंत्रण पर समग्र नीति बनाने का प्रयास तभी सार्थक होगा जब इसमें पिछले अनुभवों का निष्पक्ष आकलन हो और इससे जो भी सीख मिलती हो उसका समावेश प्रस्तावित नीति में किया जाए।

एक बड़ी बात यह है कि पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में वनों व पर्यावरण की रक्षा पर अधिक ध्यान दिया जाए। जिन गतिविधियों से पहाड़ कमजोर होते हैं, भू-स्खलन होता है और मलबे के ढेर बढ़ते हैं, उन पर रोक लगाई जानी चाहिए। नदियों के प्राकृतिक बहाव से यथासंभव छेड़छाड़ नहीं होनी चाहिए या इसे कम से कम रखना चाहिए। उनके मार्ग बदलकर कृत्रिम ढंग से नदियों को

जोड़ने और उनके भूगोल से खिलवाड़ करने की योजनाओं पर रोक लगनी चाहिए। पानी की निर्बाध निकासी पर अधिक ध्यान देना चाहिए। बाढ़ का जो पानी आए वह निर्बाध ढंग से शीघ्र ही निकल जाए, गांव, बस्ती और खेतों में देर तक रुका न रहे, ऐसी व्यवस्था बनाई जानी चाहिए। प्राकृतिक निकासी के रास्ते में जो तरह-तरह की नई रुकावटें आ गई हैं उन्हें हटाकर पानी निकलने का सिलसिला दुरुस्त करना चाहिए। विभिन्न विकास कार्य नियोजित या स्वीकृत करते हुए इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए कि पानी की निकासी के प्राकृतिक या प्रचलित मार्ग किसी भी हाल में अवरुद्ध न हों।

तटबंधों और बांधों की बाढ़ नियंत्रण में क्या भूमिका रही है, इसके निष्पक्ष आकलन के बाद

इनसे जुड़ी योजनाओं में जरूरी बदलाव किए जाने चाहिए। बांध प्रबंधन में सुधार जरूरी है। यदि हम पिछले कुछ वर्षों के बाढ़ के दिनों के समाचार पत्रों को ध्यान से पढ़ें तो हमें पता चलेगा कि सबसे अधिक विनाशक और जानलेवा बाढ़ प्रायः वहीं आई है जहां तटबंध टूटे हैं या किसी बांध से बड़े पैमाने पर पानी छोड़ा गया है। अब आगे के लिए जो भी नियोजन हो, उसके लिए बाढ़ के इस बदलते रूप को ध्यान में रखना जरूरी है। बाढ़ के फैलाव के प्राकृतिक क्षेत्र में सीमेंट और कंक्रीट के निर्माणों को बढ़ावा नहीं देना चाहिए। इस क्षेत्र का उपयोग इस तरह किया जाना चाहिए कि इससे बाढ़ के पानी का अधिकाधिक रिसाव सुनिश्चित हो और इसका उपयोग भू-जल को बढ़ाने में हो सके।

बुजुर्गों के अनुभव

जल-संरक्षण को विभिन्न स्तरों पर, विशेषकर पर्वतीय व पठारी क्षेत्रों में बढ़ाना चाहिए। इससे बाढ़ और सूखा, दोनों के प्रकोप को कम करने में सहायता मिलेगी। बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले बुजुर्गों के अनुभव संरक्षित किए जाने चाहिए। सामान्य बाढ़ का सामना लोग कैसे करते थे, फसलों की कौन सी किस्में उगाते थे, ऐसे परंपरागत ज्ञान को एकत्र करने और उससे सीखने की जरूरत है। बाढ़ और जल-भराव के क्षेत्रों के अनुकूल पेयजल, स्वच्छता और स्वास्थ्य जरूरतों को समझ बढ़ाने में और इसके अनुकूल काम करने की जरूरत है। बाढ़ अधिक उग्र व वेगवती न हो तथा सामान्य बाढ़ को सहने की बेहतर तैयारी हो सके, इस पर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। बाढ़ पर एक समग्र सोच की जरूरत आज भी है और जलवायु परिवर्तन के दौर में आगे इसकी और भी जरूरत पड़ेगी।

<input type="checkbox"/> Hindustan Times	<input type="checkbox"/> Deccan Herald	<input type="checkbox"/> Hindustan (Hindi)
<input type="checkbox"/> Statesman	<input type="checkbox"/> Deccan Chronicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
<input type="checkbox"/> The Times of India (New Delhi)	<input type="checkbox"/> The Economic Times	<input type="checkbox"/> Punjab Kesari (Hindi)
<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Express	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
<input type="checkbox"/> The Hindu (New Delhi)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribune	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dainik Jagran
<input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Delhi	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Express	<input type="checkbox"/> Jansatta
<input type="checkbox"/> Rashtriya Sahara	<input type="checkbox"/> Dainik Bhaskar	

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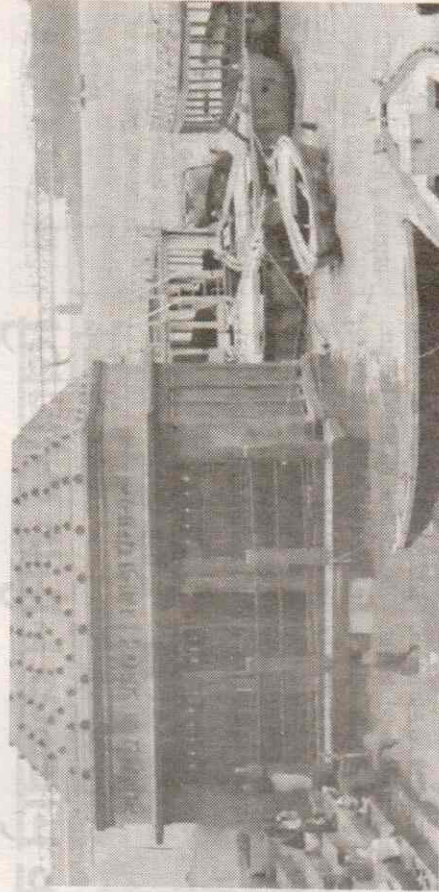
गंगा के जलस्तर में बढ़ाव जारी, छत पर जलाने पड़ रहे शव

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एक घंटे प्रति सेंटीमीटर की दर से हो रही बढ़ोतरी, अभी जलस्तर और बढ़ने की संभावना

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वाराणसी. गंगा के जलस्तर में लगातार वृद्धि जारी है। पहाड़ी पर हो रही बारिश के चलते प्रति घंटे एक सेंटीमीटर की दर से गंगा के जलस्तर में वृद्धि हो रही है। पानी बढ़ जाने से कई घाटों का स मार्क टूट गया है। सबसे अधिक दिक्कत शव जलाने वालों को हो रही है। पानी अधिक होने से छत पर लोगों को शव जलाना पड़ रहा है।



गंगा का जलस्तर तेजी से बढ़ने के कारण घाट के पास रहने वाले लोग सहम गये हैं। पहाड़ों पर लगातार बारिश का दौर जारी है जिससे अनुमान लगाया जा रहा है कि गंगा का जलस्तर अभी और बढ़ेगा। गुरुवार को केन्द्रीय जल आयोग के अनुसार गंगा का जलस्तर 63.45 मीटर पर पहुंच गया है और

चार दिन में दो मीटर से अधिक बढ़ा गंगा का जलस्तर

चार दिन में गंगा का जलस्तर दो मीटर से अधिक बढ़ गया है। गंगा के जलस्तर का वार्निंग लेवल 70.26 मीटर है जबकि खतरे का निशान 71.26 मीटर है। गंगा का जलस्तर सबसे अधिक 1978 में दर्ज किया था जब शहर में बाढ़ आ गयी थी और गंगा का जलस्तर 73.90 मीटर पर पहुंच गया था इसके बाद बनारस में कभी बाढ़ नहीं आयी है।

प्रति घंटे एक सेंटीमीटर की दर से बढ़ाव हो रहा है। बताते चले कि गंगा

कई मंदिर डूबे, बदलना पड़ा गंगा आरती का स्थल

गंगा का जलस्तर बढ़ने से कई मंदिर डूब गये हैं जबकि गंगा आरती का स्थल पर भी बदलना पड़ गया है। पानी में लगातार बढ़ाव हो रहा है, जिसका हल्का असर वरुणा नदी पर भी दिखायी पड़ रहा है। गंगा किनारे रहने वालों के लिए गंगा का बढ़ा जलस्तर परेशानी का कारण बन गया है। कई घाटों का स पर्क टूट जाने से उन्हें कई आने-जाने के लिए लंबा रास्ता तय करना पड़ रहा है।

का जलस्तर वार्निंग लेवल से अभी लगभग सात मीटर दूर है यदि इसी

गंगा के उफान पर आते ही नौका संचालक पर रोक

वाराणसी. गंगा के उफान पर आते ही जिला प्रशासन ने नौका संचालन पर रोक लगा दी है। गंगा में प्रति घंटे एक सेंटीमीटर की दर से बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। वार्निंग लेवल से लगभग सात मीटर अभी गंगा का पानी बढ़ रहा है। प्रशासन ने एहतियात के तौर पर ही नौका संचालन पर रोक लगायी है, जिससे नाविकों के लिए आर्थिक संकट खड़ा हो गया है।

तरह पानी बढ़ता रहा तो प्रमुख घाट के स पर्क भी टूट जायेंगे।