News item/letter/article/editorial published on

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Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times'(Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle
A a j (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

Rajinder Singh moots 'water literacy' drive.

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE SHIMLA, 1 JUNE

There is need for 'water literacy' campaign and bridging the gap between science and community to tackle water crisis and natural disasters stressed, 'Waterman of India' Rajinder Singh.

Human nature should be blamed for the 60 per cent drought which is man made, he said adding that 40 per cent of it is natural. People have stopped valuing water, he rued.

The Ramon Magsaysay AwardWinner-2001, Rajinder Singhwas in Shimla on Thursday to address the popular science lecture series of the eminent scientists and environment activists at the historic Gaitey Theatre organised by State Council for Science and technology and Environment, to throw light on the latest happenings in the country and around in the world and the role of the citizen. The state government, policy makers, community, young generation need

to understand the need of water conservation, he said. "Post Independence a lot has been done, but its effect is not well marked as it had been disintegrated. Whatever, education we have sought about nature is the technology of extraction, we have only learnt to exploit the resources, which have lead to lot of destruction giving birth to new kind of disaster. Ever since independence, droughthas increased to 10 folds and floods have witnessed a growth of 8 folds. All this new kind of disaster needs to be tackled with a serious effort by building a bridge between science and community which seems to have broken," he cautioned. Advocating for 'Water literacy campaign', he stressed that water crisis, drought cannot be addressed without reviving the rivers.

In HP drought is happening said Rajinder Singh adding, "We are forgetting the give and take relationship of humans with nature. The state government should move ahead with the

water literacy campaign and if it is not initiated things will not work out. We need to make use of our indigenous knowledge system and Indian wisdom to take forward our efforts which is a 21st century challenge for # all of us." He is renowned for making known to the people of Rajasthan of the traditional water conservation, he has been instrumental in reviving the traditional techniques of storing water in those parts of the villages which were abandoned for decades in Rajasthan.

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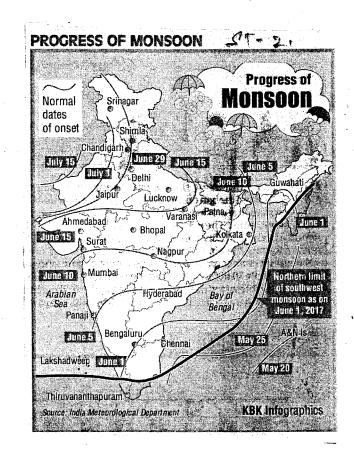
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गर्मी से राहत..

राजस्थान में बारिश, कश्मीर में बादल फटा

नई दिल्ली. देश के कई हिस्सों में गुरुवार को बारिश होने से तापमान में गिरावट आई है। राजस्थान के कई हिस्सों में जहां लगातार दूसरे दिन बारिश और आंधी का दौर चला। इससे लोगों गर्मी से राहत मिली है।

जयपुर में बुधवार से गुरुवार सुबह तक डेढ़ इंच बारिश हुई। वहीं दल्ली में लगातार दूसरे दिन भी रेमझिम फुहार पड़ीं, जिससे मौसम खुशनुमा हो गया। उधर, चक्रवात मोरा से अगरतला में गुरुवार को जोरदार बारिश हुई। कश्मीर के अनतनाग में बादल फटने से युवक की मौत हो गई।



उदयपुर में गुरुवार को तेज हवा के साथ बारिश हुई और अंधेरा छा गया।

पंजाब और हरियाण में पड़ी फुहार

हरियाणा और पंजाब में भी कई जगह गरज के साथ फुहारें गिरीं। इससे लोगों को गर्मी से राहत मिली। हरियाणा के पंचकुला, कुरुक्षेत्र, यमुनानगर, कालका और अंबाला में बारिष्ठ हुई।

केरल में मानसून ने रफ्तार पकड़ी, तमिलनाडु तपा

दो दिन पहले केरल पहुंचे मानसून ने पूरे प्रदेश में रफ्तार पकड़ ली है। कन्नीर के इरीकुर और कोहायम के वैयकम में सबसे ज्यादा 7 सेंटीमीटर बारिश रिकॉर्ड की गई। विभाग ने बताया कि प्रदेश में बारिश का दौर चार जून तक चलेगा। वहीं मानसून का केरल के पड़ोसी राज्य तीमलनाडु में कोई असर नहीं है। तमिलनाडु में तिपश का दौर जारी है। यहां पर पारा 42 डिग्री रिकॉर्ड किया गया।

दिल्ली : दो डिग्री की गिरावट

दिल्ली के कई हिस्सों में बुधवार को हुई बारिश के बाद गुरुवार की सुबह सुहानी रही। यहां न्यूनतम तापमान 24.9 डिग्री रिकॉर्ड किया गया। यह सामान्य से तीन डिग्री नीचे थे। एक दिन में ही इसमें दो डिग्री की ठारावट आ गई। मौसम विभाग ने बताया कि शुक्रवार को मौसम साफ रहेगा।

Uttarakhand's vanishing showpiece Govt seeks to restore Nainital's lake, whose catchment area has choked and levels fallen over the years

KAVITA UPADHYAY

DEHRADUN, JUNE 1

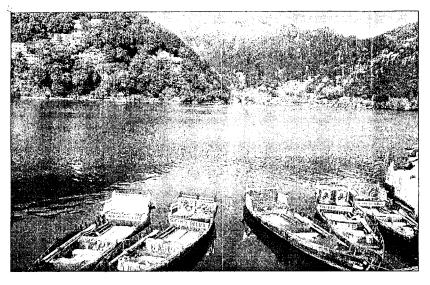
ON MONDAY, the Uttarakhand government announced that the maintenance of Naini lake, one of Nainital's showpiece attractions, is being transferred from the PWD to the irrigation department. The move has come amid widespread concerns about degradation of the lake, which is surrounded by silt and debris, and whose level has fallen drastically over the past few years, all of it being attributed to tourism and wanton construction.

A lake whose maximum depth has been recorded at 27 feet is now 18.5 ft below normal, a PWD official says citing Thursday's level. "The lake has been this dry [ahead of the monsoon] for two years now. In June 2016 too the water level had reduced to about 19 feet below normal level," says Mahendra Pal, a junior engineer with the PWD.

Once it takes over the new responsibility, the irrigation department will work on restoration and maintenance based on surveys to be done by organisations including the Roorkee-based National Institute of Hydrology and the Geological Survey of India, says DC Singh, chief engineer (Kumaon zone).

Nainital, said to have been "discovered" by one P Barron in 1841, soon became a recreational site for the British. A century and a half later, residents and tourists are complaining of degradation with Twitter hashtags such as #SaveNainiLake and YouTube videos.

"On July 5, 2015, after a heavy shower, I saw Mall Road flooded with construction debris," says Rajiv Lochan Sah of Nainital. "The



lake had started overflowing and hotels and restaurants got filled with water, silt and debris." Such flooding was unusual for Nainital until then, Sah says.

Cause & effect

While huge amounts of funds have been spent on aeration of the lake, beautification of the town and cemented roads through the forests surrounding the lake, the catchment area has reduced as houses and hotels have come up in areas surrounding the lake.

With a surface of 47 hectares, the lake has a catchment area of 470 hectares. "There is no problem with the lake. The only problem is with the catchment area," says Surendra

Nagdali, an environmental consultant working on restoration of lakes and reservoirs in the country. "Since the catchment area is small, it's a lake which is easier to manage."

In 2012, local historian Aiav Rawat filed a PIL in the high court against illegal construction in the catchment area. A few encroachments were removed following a court order.

In a study, Cambridge University geography professor Bhaskar Vira and urban ecologist Vishal Singh, currently working with the Centre for Ecology Development and Research, found that the level in the lake depends on recharge from an ephemeral lake, Sukhatal, about a kilometre away.

"Between 40 per cent and 53 per cent wa-

ter in the Nainital lake comes from Sukhatal lake," Singh says, adding that rampant construction near Sukhatal and use of its bed as a dumping ground for construction debris have "killed the Sukhatal lake", leaving little scope for water to store and percolate to Naini.

Lakes in nearby areas such as Bhimtal, 22 km away, too are suffering reduction in levels. At Sat Tal and Naukuchiatal, respectively 26 and 30 km from Nainital, the water quality too needs to be addressed, says Nagdali.

A heavy tourist inflow has contributed to the degradation. R Meenakshi Sundaram, state tourism secretary, says the department is "working on decentralising tourism" so that tourists don't crowd the hill towns, including Nainital, especially during summers and weekends. "We are developing villages into tourist spots so that crowds move to the lesser known places and tourism can be managed," Sundaram says.

Climate change

SPSingh, a forest ecologist and currently a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, was among the first to take note of what was happening to the lake, in 1975.

In an ongoing study, Singh and scientists of the Almora-based G B Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, have found climate change as another factor causing the lake to dry: "We found that the temperature in the area [within 45 km of Nainital is increasing by 0.02°C annually. Also, pre-monsoon rainfall has sharply declined. So, there is increased evaporation from the lake, with less water entering. This is due to climate change," Singh says.

Hindustan Times (Delhi) नवभारत टाईम्स (दिल्ली) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Times of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru) The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad) Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Early monsoon showers cheer farmers in North Karnataka

ರ್BLAGAVI: Parts of Belagavi district received showers on Wednesday, indicating arrival of the monsoon, a week ahead of schedule. While Belagavi and Khanapur taluks received heavy downpour, other areas received showers in short spells and drizzle.

The showers brought smiles on the faces of farmers. Western parts of Khanapur taluk including Kankumbi, the birth place of River Malaprabha, Jamboti, Kalmani and other villages received heavy downpour as well.

Ramdurg, Savadatti, Bail-hongal, Hukkeri, Gokak and Chikkodi received short spells of rain in the early hours of the

There were no reports of rain in Raibag and Athani taluks. Showers were reported in Dharwad and surrounding areas on Tuesday and Wednesday. There was light intermittent rain in Hubballi.

Moderate rain lashed different parts of Dakshina Kannada district on Wednesday



morning. Kodagu experienced Pushpagiri, Napoklu, Ballama- Several parts of Uttara Kan-

drizzling throughout the day. vati, Mandalpatti and sur-nada district too received rain. Bhagamandala, Talacauvery, rounding areas received rain. DH News Service

Hindustan Times (Delhi) ਜਕभਾरत टाईम्स (ਫਿल्ली) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Times of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) ਫਿਰਫ੍ਰਪਗਰ (ਧਟਗਾ) The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

DC - 1 Jue-

Clear sky, dry winds to ramp up ahead of monsoon

Before the rain, heat

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, MAY 31

The weather bureau has announced the possibility of heatwave conditions in the state and a severe heatwave over coastal Andhra Pradesh in the first week of June, before the monsoon sets in. The still air, clear skies and dry north-westerly winds indicate a heat wave is in the offing.

This summer Telangana has suffered 20 days of heatwave conditions, six days less than last summer.

AccuWeather, a private online weather portal, predicted sunny days from June 1 to 6. Their forecast for June is of mostly cloudy weather with thunderstorms, and heavy showers during the morning hours.

"One of the important factors that facilitate a heat wave is a trough developing at sea. Currently, a trough from Odisha to South Tamil Nadu across coastal Andhra Pradesh persists, which is the reason for the heatwave warning. The heatwave may not be so severe over Telangana but it would be over coastal AP," said IMD, Hyderabad, director Y. K. Reddy.

HEAT RECORD

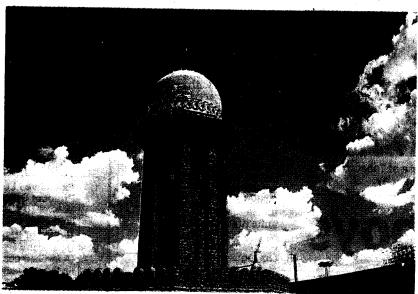
Hottest places ever in Telangana:

Adilabad: 46.8\(\text{QC}\), June 6, 1955

Hanmakonda:
47.8\(\text{QC}\), June 3, 2003

Hyderabad:
45.5\(\text{QC}\), June 2, 1966

Khammam:
47.6\(\text{QC}\), June 23, 2015



White clouds form in Hyderabad on Wednesday, but quick rain relief is unlikely. Meteorologists have predicted a heatwave in the city. -DC

More flash rain this year

COREENA SUARES | DC HYDERABAD, MAY 31

The monsoon on AP and TS this year will see extreme rainfall events, just like last year.

This means that the two states, instead of receiving their average rainfall spread over four months from June to September can expect to get half the quantity in just one month.

This phenomenon is called flash rain.

TS receives an average 75 cm of rainfall during the season, coastal Andhra 55 cm and Rayalaseema 38 cm.

The rest of the rain is expected to be scattered over several episodes spread over three months.

If weather officials are to be believed, there will be no 'rainy days' of yore.

The phenonemon of

flash rain was seen last

July and August are the important monsoon months, but there was scanty rainfall for 20 days in July last year.

There was heavy rainfall in September, and heavy to very heavy rainfall for a short duration on a few days.

This change in pattern is due to climate change and affects the economy of the state, weather experts said.

In 2016, September rains destroyed crops worth crores. Many areas were inundated in Hyderabad along with several places in the two states.

states.

"The state will definitely receive its average rainfall for the season, but the rain which is meant to occur throughout the four monsoon months will largely occur in one

month (50 per cent of the total quantum)," said Mr Y.K. Reddy, director, IMD,

Hyderabad.
"The extreme rainfall events does not allow rainy days in a stretch," he said.

Mr Narsimha Rao, former assistant meteorologist, said, "Extreme rainfall events will include moderate to heavy rain for 24 hours and it will be scanty in the rest of the days."

Apart from climate change, which is responsible for the change in pattern, factors such a prolonged depression mainly in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea and active monsoons, contribute.

Besides, experts have said, urbanisation over large áreas as in densely populated cities create their own 'micro' environment'.