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Hindustan (Hindi)

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The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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

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

World's 'highest' village runs dry as warming hits Himalayas

NITA BHALLA

KOMIK (HP), AUGUST 1

With a backdrop of the snow-capped Himalayas stretched out across a vibrant blue sky, it is hard to dispute the sign as you enter Komik that declares it to be the world's highest village with a road.

Others also boast the title — from Nepal's Dho Tarap to Bolivia's Santa Barbara. But at 4,587 metres, this remote Buddhist hamlet in Himachal Pradesh near India's border with Tibet is no doubt among the planet's topmost motorable human settlements.

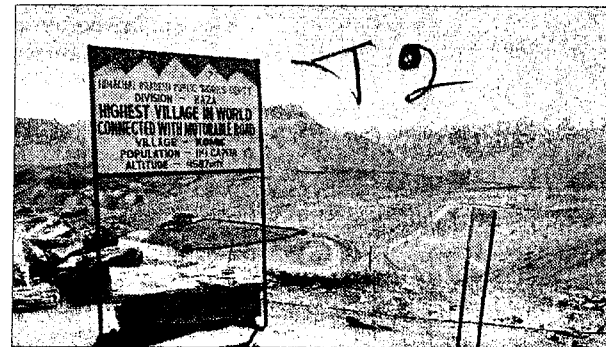
Yet despite its coveted status, life is harsh for the 130 residents of Komik, a quaint collection of whitewashed mud-and-stone houses located in the desolate Spiti valley.

The region is a cold trans-Himalayan desert cut off from the rest of India for six months of the year when snowfall blocks mountain passes. Phone and Internet connectivity is almost non-existent. Schools and clinics are a tough trek away.

But Spiti's inhabitants, who eke out a living farming green peas and barley, have a much bigger concern: their main sources of water — streams, rivers, ponds — are drying up.

"We are used to being in a remote place. We have our traditional ways of living," said farmer Nawang Phunchok, 32, as he sat tying bundles of a prickly desert bush to insulate a monastery roof.

"But these days the water is not coming like it used to. The seasons are changing. We see



Komik village in Spiti is facing a severe shortage of water. TWITTER

there is less water than before." There is little doubt India is facing a water crisis.

Decades of over-extraction of ground water, wasteful and inefficient irrigation practices, pollution of surface water like lakes and rivers, and erratic weather patterns attributed to climate change,

have left many parts of the country thirsty.

From its deepest aquifers to its biggest rivers, India is one of the most water-challenged countries in the world. More than half of the country, including Punjab and Haryana, is considered highly water-stressed.

More than 50 per cent of the country's wells have registered a decline in volumes in the last decade. Up to 80 per cent of rivers, lakes, ponds and streams are polluted with human waste and sewage.

Over 6.3 crore rural Indians do not have clean water to drink, cook or wash with, says WaterAid. Around 7.6 crore need improved water sources and 77 crore require proper toilets. And climate change is exacerbating the situation.

Overall rainfall in the last century has been erratic, and the annual average temperature has risen by 0.5 degrees Celsius, says India's meteorological department.

India is forecast to overtake China as the most populous nation with 1.7 billion people by 2050. With rapid urbanisa-

tion, rising demand for hydropower and changing weather patterns, the situation is set to worsen.

Government data forecasts India's annual water availability per person to drop by over 25 per cent by 2050 to 1,140 cubic metres from 1,545 cubic metres in 2011.

Authorities have in recent years moved to better support farmers and boost water security in drought-prone areas. But environmentalists say the focus is largely on plains.

The Himalayas are one of the world's most sensitive hotspots to climate change. Melting glaciers, erratic rainfall, less snow and rising temperatures are taking their toll. And Spiti valley — "Middle Land" (between India and

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4 dead as rain triggers landslides in Himachal

Waters recede in Bengal; Gujarat toll touches 224; more heavy rain forecast for Himalayan foothills

STAFF REPORTER
SHIMLA/KOLKATA

Heavy rains continued to wreak havoc in many States and triggered landslides in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, resulting in the death of four persons, while seven deaths were reported from flood-hit areas of West Bengal.

The Met Department has warned of further heavy rains across the Himalayan foothills with flooding of rivers.

Landslides across Himachal Pradesh following torrential rains left several small and big link roads blocked and disrupted traffic on the Hindustan-Tibet road. A worker from Nepal was



Deep trouble: People collecting flood relief materials in Udaynarayanpur in West Bengal on Tuesday. *AFP

buried alive at a construction site in Jogindernagar after a landslide which blocked the Mandi-Pathankot National Highway 154. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded on

both sides of the land fall since Tuesday morning.

A two storey building crumbled at Bhawanagar in Kinnaur killing one person on the spot and injuring two

others. Villages on the Indo-Tibetan border like Chitkul witnessed unprecedented rainfall resulting in massive losses to the apple crop. The apple season is also at its peak in most parts of Kullu, Mandi and Shimla districts.

Relief paid in Gujarat

The death toll from the unprecedented rain and floods in Gujarat has climbed to 224 with 61 deaths reported from the worst affected Banaskantha district. The government has so far paid compensation in 116 cases of death. According to the State Relief Commissioner 1,047 animals have also died. Of the 203 dams and reservoirs in the State, 39 are full while

15 are filled to 90.5% of their capacity and the State has already received more than 70 % of its season's average rainfall.

311 camps in Bengal

With seven more deaths, the toll in West Bengal has touched 46, although the flood situation improved with water levels receding as rainfall has stopped. Around 27 lakh people in 14 districts of the State have been affected and around 311 relief camps have been opened, an official said, adding Dhaniakhali of Hooghly district and Ghatal in West Midnapore are the two worst affected.

(with inputs from PTI)

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Water conservation scheme a big success

No tankers with drinking water had to be sent to as many as 94 villages in Rajasthan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JATPUP

The Rajasthan government's flagship water conservation programme - Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan (JSA) - has turned out to be a success in Pratapgarh district, where the groundwater table has increased, green agricultural fields have expanded and no tankers with drinking water had to be sent to as many as 94 villages this year.

NGT hails efforts

The National Green Tribunal lauded the efforts made under the programme at its regional conference on environment in Bhopal on Sunday.

In the Bhopal declaration, the JSA was praised as an initiative which would make every village of the State self-reliant in water by using scientific tools for rejuvenating traditional water bodies.

Pratapgarh Collector Neha Giri said on Tuesday that the JSA had proved to be a blessing after good rain in the water-starved Kanthal region of the district, where special arrangements had to be made till last year for the supply of drinking water.



Anicut built under the Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan in Rajasthan for regulating the flow of water.

"Not a single water tanker was sent to any of the 94 villages in five blocks where water conservation works were taken up," said Ms. Giri. In contrast, 1,337 tankers were sent during the last financial year.

The JSA works have also led to an increase by 10% to 15% in the soybean crop area

and 15% to 20% in the wheat crop area.

Groundwater table

The groundwater table in Pratapgarh has registered an increase by 0.30 metres. Besides, only 18% of the hand-pumps in the district dried up this year against 24% in the previous year.

Ms. Giri pointed out that the structures such as anicuts, staggered trenches and mud walls were put up with people's participation during the implementation of JSA. For the second phase of the programme, 2,886 works have been sanctioned in 70 villages, most of which have already been completed and

the new structures are full to the brim with rainwater.

The NGT's Bhopal declaration has described the JSA as a massive climate change adaptation programme which had elicited public participation and converged the activities of nine government departments.

"Similar participation should be encouraged by other States for protection and conservation of natural water bodies and creation of new water conservation structures," stated the declaration.

Works under the JSA's first phase were undertaken all over Rajasthan at an expenditure of ₹1,300 crore.

Another project

Rajasthan River Basin Authority chairperson Sriram Vedire said the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests had agreed to fund a JSA pilot project in Banswara from the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change. Discussions were under way with the Ministry for getting the support for the JSA's future phases from the Green Climate Fund, he said.

दिनांक ... 1/8/2017 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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

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

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

Bengal flood toll 39; lightning claims 34 lives in Odisha

The number of deaths in Gujarat has risen to 218; rail traffic remains affected due to heavy rains in Gujarat and Rajasthan

STAFF REPORTER
KOLKATA/BHUBANESWAR

Even as the West Bengal government has claimed that the flood situation has improved, the death toll has risen to 39 so far.

Disaster Management Minister Javed Khan said 39 people had died due to the flood-like situation and about 27 lakh had been affected. He said 400 relief camps were running in the State.

The situation is still grim in Howrah, Hooghly and Paschim Medinipur. Locals said several areas of Amta II and Udaynarayanpur block of Howrah district are still waterlogged.

In Odisha, deaths caused by lightning have risen to 34,



Problems aplenty: People braving flood water in Sehagori village in Howrah district on Monday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

with another 16 persons falling victim on Monday. As many as 18 persons were killed in lightning on Sunday. Three deaths were reported from Kadalibada, Dorada and Manipur villages in Cuttack district. Four

deaths were reported from Khordha district.

Lightning deaths were reported from Puri, Angul, Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal and Bargarh.

Eight students were admitted to hospital when

lightning struck a school building in the Athagarh area.

Expressing grief over the deaths, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced an ex gratia of ₹ 4 lakh each for the kin of deceased.

More bodies found

The flood toll in Gujarat has risen to 218 this monsoon, with 61 people killed in worst-hit Banaskantha district, an official said.

"218 people have died, with 61 in Banaskantha and seven in neighbouring Patan district," an official of the State Emergency Operation Centre said.

The toll increased in the last two days after more bodies were found as flood wa-

ters receded in Banaskantha and Patan districts of north Gujarat, he said.

Floods due to torrential rain and release of water from dams affected 4.5 lakh people in the State.

Rail traffic remained affected due to heavy rains in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Six trains have been cancelled, eight partially cancelled and routes of four trains have been changed.

Rains drenched Delhi leading to a dip in the maximum temperature. Heavy rainfall occurred at isolated areas in Jaipur and Udaipur in Rajasthan. Incessant rains led to multiple landslides in Jammu and Kashmir's Mehar and Seeri.

(With PTI inputs)

PM announces ₹2 lakh compensation

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced ₹2 lakh each to the next of kin of those who lost their lives in the floods in Assam and Rajasthan. He also announced ₹50,000 each for those seriously injured, the Prime Minister's Office said. PTI

Woman stays afloat for 13 hours in river, rescued

A 62-year-old woman managed to stay afloat for 13 hours in the turbulent Damodar river in flood-hit Burdwan district till she was rescued 80 km away. Tapati Chowdhury accidentally fell into the river on Saturday and was swept away. PTI

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PM declares ₹2700cr flood package for NE

Assam To Get Lion's Share Of ₹1,200cr

Prabin.Kalita@timesgroup.com

Guwahati: Prime Minister Modi on Tuesday announced a package of Rs 2,700 crore for relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and flood-mitigation measures in the flood-hit northeast (NE) states.

Modi, who arrived here on Tuesday, held separate meetings to review the flood situation in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland with the chief ministers of the respective states. He announced the relief package after taking stock of the situation in these states. A memorandum was received from the CM of Mizoram as he could not be present in person.

Out of the total aid announced, Rs 2,000 crore will come for short-term measures. Assam, which is the worst-hit, will get about Rs 1,200 crore for its infrastructure sector alone.

Modi also announced setting up of a committee to



Prime Minister Modi also announced setting up of a committee to find a solution to the problem of recurrent floods in the region

study ways to synergize efforts towards finding a long-term solution to the problem of recurrent floods in the region and Rs 100 crore would be provided for the purpose which includes studies on the Brahmaputra and its tributaries besides all other major rivers of the region.

The PMO stated that the NE region, with 8% of India's land area, accounts for one-third of the country's water resources. The Centre will also constitute a high-level committee for proper management of the region's vast water resources.

Another Rs 400 crore will be provided for improving water-holding capacity of the Brahmaputra which will in turn assist in flood control, the PMO said. As-

sam will get another Rs 250 crore as relief and rehabilitation assistance.

The floods have so far claimed 83 lives and displaced over two lakh people. In Arunachal, 14 people were killed in landslides, while 19 people were killed in floods in Nagaland.

Assam finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "The PM stressed on a permanent solution to Assam's flood problem."

Nagaland CM TR Zeliang said, "This year, there has been unusual rain and flooding.... 19 lives have been lost and five persons are still missing." Arunachal CM Pema Khandu said he has asked for central assistance for rehabilitation and mitigation of floods.

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हिन्दुस्तान

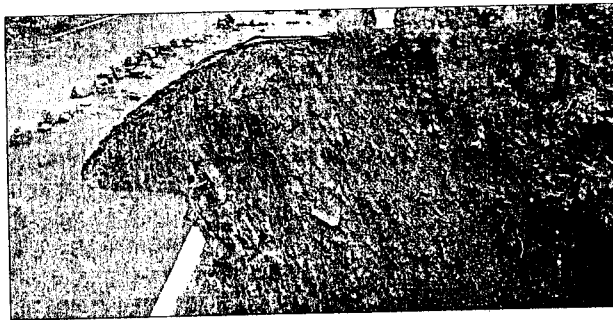
ज्यादा बारिश की वजह से पहाड़ 'टाइम बम' बने

गुप्तबत

देहरादून | मननीत

मौसम में हो रहे बदलावों के कारण हिमालयी क्षेत्र में बारिश की मात्रा बढ़ती जा रही है। यह बारिश वनस्पतियों के लिए भले ही फायदेमंद हो, लेकिन पहले से ही कमजोर हिमालय क्षेत्र की पहाड़ियों को यह और ज्यादा कमजोर कर रही है।

वैज्ञानिकों को आशंका है कि कमजोर पहाड़ों के टूटने से कृत्रिम झीलें बन सकती हैं, जो टूटने की स्थिति में तबाही का कारण बनेंगी। वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि हिमालय की उच्च, मध्य और शिवालिक पहाड़ियां अत्यधिक कमजोर हैं।



भारी बारिश की वजह से दरकते पहाड़। • फाइल फोटो

उत्तराखंड में इधर के कुछ दशकों में बारिश की मात्रा बढ़ रही है। यह बारिश पहाड़ियों को और ज्यादा कमजोर करने का काम कर रही है। ऐसे में इनके खिसकने और नदियों का बहाव रुकने से झीलें बनने का खतरा बढ़ गया है।

वाडिया रख रहा नजर: वाडिया हिमालयन भू-विज्ञान संस्थान में वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डॉ. विक्रम गुप्ता ने बताया कि, ये प्राकृतिक दुर्घटनाएं हैं। इन्हें रोका तो नहीं जा सकता है। हां, सावधानी जरूर बरती जा सकती है।

हरिद्वार में गंगा का जलस्तर बढ़ा

खतरा

हरिद्वार | मुख्य संवाददाता

हरिद्वार में दूसरे दिन भी गंगा का जल स्तर चेतावनी निशान के पार रहा। मंगलवार को गंगा का जल स्तर 293.50 मीटर पर रहा। जबकि खतरा का निशान 294 मीटर पर माना जाता है।

पहाड़ों पर बारिश का सीधा असर गंगा के जल स्तर पर दिखाई दे रहा है। जिला प्रशासन ने बाढ़ चौकियों को सतर्क रहने के आदेश दिए हैं। बीते दिन सोमवार को गंगा का जल स्तर

कटिहार में नदियां उफान पर

भागलपुर। बिहार के कोसी नदी में मंगलवार को जहां दूसरे दिन भी पानी उतार पर रहा वहीं कटिहार में गंगा का जलस्तर बढ़ रहा था जबकि मुंगेर में घट रहा था। कटिहार में महानंदा का जलस्तर भी बढ़ता हुआ रिकार्ड किया गया। काढ़ागोली में गंगा का पानी चेतावनी स्तर से ऊपर बताया गया।

293.30 मीटर दर्ज किया गया था। गंगा के साथ ही गंगनहर समेत अन्य सहायक नहरों में भी पानी पूरे उफान पर चल रहा है। गंगनहर में 14 हजार क्यूसेक पानी चल रहा है।

पूर्वोत्तर को 2350 करोड़ का बाढ़ राहत पैकेज

गुवाहाटी। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में बाढ़ के प्रभावों को अल्पकालिक और दीर्घकालिक आधार पर कम करने के लिए कुल 2350 करोड़ रुपये के पैकेज की घोषणा की।

मोदी मंगलवार को एक दिन की गुवाहाटी यात्रा पर थे, जहां उन्होंने असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मणिपुर और नगालैंड के मुख्यमंत्रियों और उन राज्यों के मंत्रिमंडलों के साथ बैठक की और बाढ़ की स्थिति का जायजा लिया। असम के वित्तमंत्री हिमंत ने कहा, 'प्रधानमंत्री ने बाढ़ से हुई क्षति की भरपाई के साथ राहत और पुनर्वास के लिए सभी पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के लिए 2000 करोड़ के विशेष पैकेज की घोषणा की है।'

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गंगा सफाई के लिए 6 योजनाओं को मंजूरी



नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी) ने गंगा नदी के जल के खराब नहीं होने के गुण और इसमें गाद के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त करने के लिए छह सीवेज इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर विकास योजनाओं तथा एक शोध कार्य को मंजूरी दी है जिनकी लागत करीब 420 करोड़ रुपये आ सकती है। केंद्रीय जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता समीर सिन्हा के मुताबिक एनएमसीजी की कार्यकारी समिति की कल हुई चौथी बैठक में इन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी। इसमें उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में सीवेज से जुड़ी तीन तीन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी गई है। पैनल ने यूपी के उन्नाव, शुक्लागंज और रामनगर में जलमल शोधन संयंत्रों, अवरोधन एवं मार्ग परिवर्तन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी। इन परियोजनाओं का उद्देश्य जलमल शोधन क्षमता को 2.9 करोड़ लीटर प्रतिदिन (एमएलडी) करना है जिसका खर्च 238.64 करोड़ रुपये आएगा। सिन्हा ने कहा-बिहार के सुल्तानगंज, नौगचिया और मोकामा में 175 करोड़ की तीन परियोजनाओं से अतिरिक्त जलमल शोधन क्षमता 27 एमएलडी हो जाएगी।

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
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Bharat

and documented at Bhadrinath/English & Publicity Section, CWT

केंद्र सरकार ने दिया अभूतपूर्व फंड...

20 हजार करोड़ से साफ होगी गंगा



पत्रिका - 2-8-17

गाउंड
रिपोर्ट

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
rajasthanpatrika.com

लखनऊ. गंगा को निर्मल करने के प्रयास 29 बरस से जारी हैं, लेकिन राम की गंगा मैली ही बनी रही। अलग-अलग वक्त पर गंगा की सफाई के लिए कुल मिलाकर चार हजार करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए गए, लेकिन गंगा की दुर्दशा कम नहीं हुई। अब उम्मीद जागी है।

साझा कोशिश का रंग चटख हुआ तो अगले तीन बरस में गंगा को सूरत में निखार दिखेगा। केंद्र सरकार ने नमामि गंगे अभियान के तहत कुल 163 प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूर करने के साथ ही बीस हजार करोड़ रुपए जारी किए हैं। सभी प्रोजेक्ट को तयशुदा वक्त पर खत्म करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार ने निगरानी तंत्र को मुस्तैद किया है। पहले चरण में गौमुख से ऋषिकेश और हरिद्वार से कानपुर तक गंगा को निर्मल किया जाएगा।

साझा अभियान का दिखने लगा है असर

गंगा की सफाई के लिए केंद्र सरकार, अदालत और सामाजिक व्यवस्था के साझा प्रयास रंग दिखाने लगे हैं। केंद्र सरकार ने नमामि गंगे अभियान के तहत बीस हजार करोड़ की राशि जारी करते हुए तीन बरस की अवधि में गंगा को साफ



हरिद्वार, कानपुर व कोलकाता में ज्यादा गंदी

गंगा की स्थिति पर बीते बरस जारी एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, गौमुख से लेकर ऋषिकेश तक गंगा निर्मल रहती है। सबसे पहले मैदान को स्पर्श करते ही हरिद्वार में गंगा में बड़ी मात्रा में गंदगी उड़ेली जाती है। इसी क्रम में यूपी का कानपुर शहर और पश्चिम बंगाल की राजधानी कोलकाता में गंगा सबसे ज्यादा गंदी होती है। गंगा की मैली करने वाले शहरों में इलाहाबाद, पटना, वाराणसी, भागलपुर शामिल हैं। गौरतलब है कि गंगा नदी में बैक्टीरियोफेज नामक विषाणु होते हैं, जो जीवाणुओं व अन्य हानिकारक सूक्ष्मजीवों को जीवित नहीं रहने देते हैं। इसी कारण गंगाजल में कीड़े नहीं पड़ते हैं। नदी के जल में ऑक्सीजन की मात्रा को बनाये रखने की असाधारण क्षमता है, लेकिन कारण अभी तक अज्ञात है। बहरहाल, मौजूदा वक्त में गंगा नदी का रोजाना 2.90 करोड़ लीटर प्रदूषित कचरा गिरता है।

नगरों और फैक्टरों से गंगा का आतंक

गौरतलब है कि गंगा का प्रदूषण दूर करने के लिए बीते पखवारे एनजीटी ने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से कानपुर में गंगा किनारे से टैनेरियों को शिट करने के लिए कहा है। इसी के साथ एनजीटी ने दो चरणों में गंगा किनारे से फैक्ट्री हटाने के लिए उत्तराखंड, उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार को निर्देश दिए हैं। एनजीटी ने यह भी तय किया है कि गंगा किनारे गंदगी फैलाने वाले से 50 हजार रुपए जुर्माना वसूला जाएगा।

पानेवत पर 86 के लिए तीन साल की मियाद

राज्यसभा में बीते दिवस एक सवाल के जवाब में केंद्रीय जल संसाधन एवं गंगा उद्धार मंत्री उमाभारती ने बताया कि गंगा की सफाई के लिए पिछले 29 वर्ष में केंद्र सरकारों ने समय-समय पर कुल मिलाकर चार हजार करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए, लेकिन गंगा की दशा नहीं सुधरी। उमा भारती के अनुसार, किंगरानी नहीं होने के कारण एक-दो प्रोजेक्ट को छोड़ दिया जाए तो कोई भी योजना शत प्रतिशत कामयाब नहीं हुई। अब मोदी सरकार ने गंगा को निर्मल बनाने के लिए 163 प्रोजेक्ट के साथ नमामि गंगे परियोजना को लांच किया है। इस प्रोजेक्ट के तहत 81 शहरों में सीवेज की गंदगी को गंगा में गिरने से रोका जाएगा। इसके अतिरिक्त 59 स्थानों पर घाटों तथा गंगा के किनारों का सुंदरीकरण होगा। केंद्रीय मंत्री के मुताबिक, 41 प्रोजेक्ट लगभग पूर्ण हो चुके हैं, जबकि शेष 86 प्रोजेक्ट के लिए तीन बरस की अवधि तय हुई है।