

The Times of India**Title : Experts pin hope on weather****Author :****Location :****New Delhi:****Article Date : 01/06/2016**

Air quality in the city continued to remain “very poor” on Tuesday as the western disturbance (WD) intensified. Experts said the meteorological conditions continued to have a strong impact on Delhi's air quality but Wednesday onwards they are likely to improve a little and there may be some scope to make an assessment of emission control measures such as the oddeven rule.

According to IGI Met department, there is a wind circulation over Delhi--wind speed has picked up, which may start dispersing the existing pollution particles. TOI had reported on Monday that WD over Pakistan and Afghanistan that brought snowfall to Jammu and Kashmir had led to a rise in moisture in Delhi. The wind speed was as low as 0.87msecond on Monday. Usually during such meteorological conditions, pollution particles often cling to water particles intensifying the impact of air pollution.

On Tuesday too, the minimum temperature remained 4 degrees higher than the normal and humidity quite high but lower than on Monday. “There is more snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday. Wind circulation has started over Delhi and wind speed has picked up. Soon, the conditions may be adequate for vertical dispersal of pollutants,” said an official from IGI Met department. “It was a much warmer day with slightly less humidity and a marginally higher wind speed.”

PM 2.5 (fine, respirable pollution particles) levels were high on Tuesday but lower than Monday with the wind speed picking up. In Punjabi Bagh, for instance, the level fell from 361 at 8am to 272 micrograms per cubic metres at 11am. At 1pm, it was 194 micrograms per cubic metres but rose to 371 at 4pm.

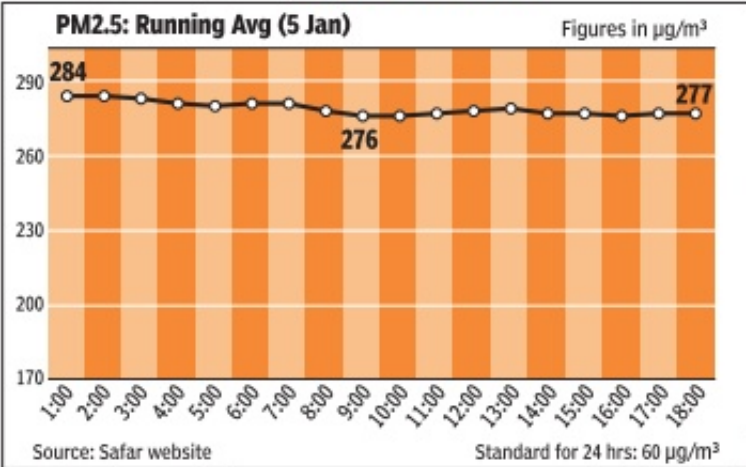
In Anand Vihar, the levels hovered between 553 and 325 micrograms per cubic metres between 8am and 2.30pm, about five times the 24-hour standard of 60 micrograms per cubic metres. “We are really hoping that there is rain to wash out the smog. Assessing the real impact of oddeven strategy will be easier when we start monitoring from scratch and help us understand how levels fall and peak between 8am and 8pm,” said a senior official of Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).

The Delhi government also claimed on Tuesday that there is a “definite declining trend” in air pollution levels. M P George, scientist, DPCC, said both PM 2.5 and PM 10 levels were lower than that of 2014. Last year, there was a heavy rain that had washed out the pollutants. “There is an improvement but we will have better data in a few more days,” he said.

Anumita Roy Chowdhury, head of CSE's clean air campaign said: “Though the average pollution (PM2.5) levels are high due to hostile weather conditions, the fall during the day is sharper. We are seeing delayed peaking of morning pollution around 910am for past two days. But the fall after that is sharp from the peak levels during the subsequent hours when the odd-even rule is on. The lowest PM2.5 level was at 1.30-2pm on Tuesday when wind speed was 2msecond, a little higher. It shows why we need emergency steps.”

**The Met department
said wind speed has
picked up, which
may start dispersing
pollution particles**

BATTLING BAD AIR — THEN AND NOW



Location	AQI	Lead pollutant
RK Puram	Severe 449	PM2.5
Punjabi Bagh	Severe 458	PM10
Anand Vihar	Severe 486	PM10
IHBAS	Severe 418	PM2.5

Values taken at 5pm; Source: CPCB

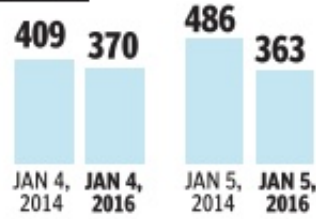


IMPROVED AIR

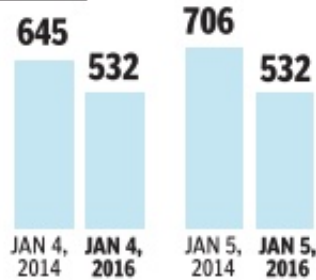
DPCC claims that air quality is, in fact, better than 2yrs ago

*Jan 5, 2014 & 2016, till afternoon

PM2.5



PM10



Figures in micrograms per cubic metres ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

DPCC didn't release figures for 2015 because there was heavy rain in the city on these days and the levels were too low to be comparable

Source-DPCC

Title : Warmest opening week in nine years

Author :

Location :

New Delhi:

Article Date : 01/06/2016

Foggy Day Ahead, Might Rain Tomorrow

Is Delhi witnessing a relatively mild winter?

Going by the first five days of January and second half of December, it appears so. The city has recorded the highest day temperatures in at least the past nine years from January 1 to 5. Tuesday experienced a maximum temperature of 26.5 degrees Celsius, the highest day temperature recorded in January since 2008.

While the maximum temperature was seven degrees above normal, the minimum was also four degrees above normal at 11 degrees Celsius. Met data since 2008 shows that the average day temperature of the first five days has been highest since then with each day also recording the highest temperature. "The highest recorded maximum temperature in January is 32.5 degrees Celsius on January 28, 2004. We have analysed records since 2008 and the highest since then went up to 28 degrees Celsius, recorded on January 9, 2008," said an official.

Dr R K Jenamani, director in-charge of IGI Met, said Tuesday was warmer than Monday due to slightly less humidity and a light wind. "At IGI, visibility was 1,200-2,200m during most of the day compared to 600-1,200m on Monday," he said.

Met officials said that shallow to moderate fog is most likely to occur at isolated places over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi and UP in the next 2-3 days. The minimum temperature is likely to fall by 2-3 degrees Celsius over the northwest India plains during this time.

Delhi will witness a partly cloudy sky which will start clearing from January 9. There is possibility of rain or thunderstorm on Thursday preceded by moderate to dense fog on Wednesday.

WEATHER



Max 26.5°C (+7)/ Min

11°C (+4)

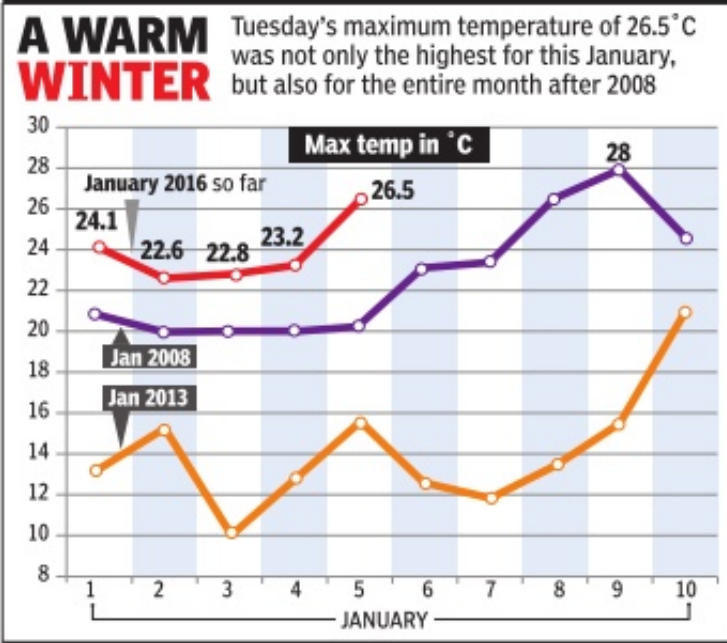
Moonrise: Thursday -

4:25am **Moonset:** Wednesday - 2:44pm

Sunset: Wednesday - 5:40pm

Sunrise: Thursday - 7:15am

Partly cloudy sky. Maximum & minimum temperature on Wednesday will be around 26°C & 10°C.



The Times of India**Title : Winter out cold: Dec '15 was India's hottest ever****Author : Neha Madaan****Location :****Pune****Article Date : 01/06/2016**

December 2015 was the hottest in the country since India Meteorological Department (IMD) started recording data 114 years ago. This, despite several areas experiencing cold wave conditions in the month. In fact, the entire period from September to December was the hottest since 1901, officials said.

The mean temperature in December was above normal by 1.2°C, the highest-ever rise recorded for this month. D Sivananda Pai, head of National Climate Centre, IMD, told TOI that the past decade has thrown up five of the hottest Decembers since 1901.

Seeing a pattern in this trend, Pai said: “El Nino is known to cause year-to-year temperature variation with above-normal temperatures, but the monthly variation has to be the combined effect of increasing global warming and urbanisation.”

Arvind Kumar Srivastava, director at the Meteorological Centre in Jaipur, said December 2015 saw fewer cold wave and fog spells.

“This was because El Nino is still continuing. When a major part of the ocean is warm, an enormous amount of heat is released into the atmosphere, increasing the global mean temperature,” Srivastava added.

For the full report, log on to <http://www.timesofindia.com>

HEAT IS ON	
Warmest Decembers since 1901	
YEAR	Mean temperature rise above normal
2015	1.2°C
2008	1.1°C
2009	1.04°C
2012	1°C
2006	0.82°C

The Times of India

Title : Big quake coming: MHA experts

Author : Pradeep Thakur

Location :

New Delhi

Article Date : 01/06/2016

`Delhi Also Falls In The Danger Zone'

The Union home ministry's disaster management experts have warned of a bigger catastrophe - earthquakes measuring 8.2 or greater on the Richter scale -in the already ruptured Himalayan region.

They say quakes with a higher intensity than the one that struck Manipur on Monday are likely to rock the region in the future. The tectonic shift a series of recent earthquakes have caused in the region - Manipur, 6.7 (2016), Nepal, 7.3 (2015) and Sikkim, 6.9 (2011) -has again ruptured plates that had already developed cracks during previous temblors. This has led to conditions which might trigger multiple earthquakes with a magnitude of up to 8.0.

In a post-Nepal disaster assessment, the MHA's National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) has warned of enhanced risk around the "ring of fire garlanding the entire north India, especially the mountains". This was also highlighted at a recent meeting organised by the Centre in Arunachal Pradesh capital Itanagar where policymakers from 11 hill states had participated and resolved to develop a common building code for mountains.

Speaking to TOI, NIDM director Santosh Kumar said the interconnected plates across Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and India pose a bigger danger, and predicted a disaster of a bigger magnitude that awaits hill states and parts of Bihar, UP and even Delhi, which fall under the second worst seismic classification, Zone IV. The NorthEast and other hill states fall under severe seismic Zone V .

Though some Indian scientists have reservations, but international experts, prominently Roger Bilham, the University of Colorado seismologist, are of the opinion that "the current conditions might trigger at least four earthquakes greater than 8.0 in magnitude. And if they delay, the strain accumulated during the centuries provokes more catastrophic mega earthquakes".

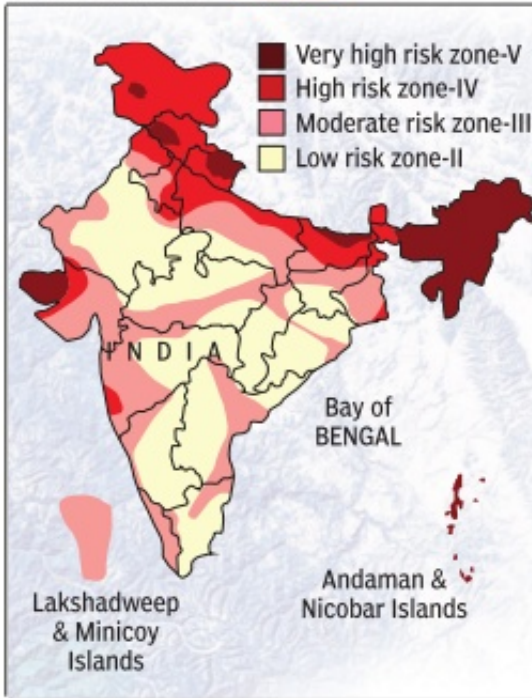
Kumar said the Centre has taken measures to sensitise the governments of all hill states to adopt a common building code different from the rest of India. The Itanagar meet on sustainable development of mountain states were part of Centre's earthquake risk mitigation strategy to sensitise policy-makers about "the natural time bomb".

Stress has increased in the mountains of northeast since the Nepal quake. Monday's temblor shows the stress has not been fully released, it has only become worse. "The collision between the Himalayan plate in the north and the Indo-Burmese plate in the east, and the risk created as a result, is the highest at this moment," according to NIDM experts.

According to MHA's own assessment, the regulatory mechanism in Indian cities that prominently figure on the disaster map are weak, and any disaster in any one would cause huge casualties.

For the full report, log on to <http://www.timesofindia.com>

RING OF FIRE



The April 2015 earthquake in Nepal has pushed **2.3% to 3.5%** of the country's population below poverty line

- A UN report (GAR 2015) pegs the annual global loss from earthquakes and cyclone damages at **\$180 billion**
- Globally **\$71 trillion** worth of assets exposed to serious earthquake risk
- Almost **59%** of the landmass in India prone to earthquakes of moderate to very high intensity
- The DNA of risk management need to change, disaster risk reduction should

be made integral to development initiatives, says NIDM

- Mountain states can create insurance pool like the one in Turkey for earthquake risk transfer that would help speedier economic rehabilitation
- Active zone-V which comprises all of Northeast, parts of Bihar, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Gujarat and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, faces highest risk

1,600 villages along Ganga to be developed on Seechewal model

RAVI S SINGH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 5

The Centre will replicate the model of Punjab's Seechewal village (Jalandhar) for development of villages located on the banks of Ganga under its mission to clean and rejuvenate the river.

Seechewal and its contiguous villages have been successfully transformed by environmentalist Balbir Singh Seechewal with public-private efforts. Earlier, he rejuvenated the historic Kali Bein tributary of the Beas with the help of local people (voluntary kar sevaks).

The Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation was impressed with the Seechewal model, which included a low-cost and locale-specific sewerage system.

The ministry has identified 1,600 villages in various states under the Ganga Gram Yojana as part of the Namami Gange Programme. Minister Uma



Environmentalist Balbir Singh Seechewal cleans the Kali Bein in Kapurthala. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

How it works

- Sewage water is collected in a pond
- After being treated in a natural way, it is used for irrigation
- Besides checking pollution, it also helps in recharging the water table

Bharti today announced that 200 villages would be developed in the first phase.

Launching the programme at Puth in Hapur district (UP), Bharti said Rs 1 crore would be allocated for each village. "These will be developed under the Seechewal model... Open drains falling

into the Ganga will be diverted and alternative arrangement for sewage treatment made. There will be a toilet in every house," she said.

A salient feature of the Seechewal model is the storage of sewage water in a pond and its use for irrigation after treatment in a natural way.

FROM PAGE 1

Uma launches Ganga Gram programme to treat sewage

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 5 January

To contain river water pollution, Centre today launched Ganga Gram programme in Uttar Pradesh that would treat sewage flow from 1,600 villages located along Ganga banks in line with Seechewal model of Punjab.

Union Water Resources Minister Uma Bharti launched the programme in Puth village in Hapur district of the northern state. In the first phase of the programme, 200 villages will be covered, a Ministry statement said.

"In these villages, open drains falling into river Ganga

will be diverted and alternative arrangements for sewage treatment will be made. The villages will have toilets in every household. "It is proposed to incur an expenditure of Rs one crore on every village. These villages will be developed under the Seechewal model," the statement reads. Seechewal is a village located in Punjab where co-operation of locals has been solicited for water management and waste disposal to keep clean a rivulet, Holy Kali Bein. As part of its effort to fast-track implementation of the Namami Gange programme from the on-going month, the government also

deployed first battalion of Ganga Task Force in Garhmukteshwar yesterday while three more such companies will be deployed soon at Kanpur, Varanasi and Allahabad. The task force comprises ex-servicemen who will be residing along the river for monitoring pollution.

"The Ganga Task Force will be deployed on the banks of the river and will ensure industry and civilians do not pollute the river. However, keeping Ganga clean is not the responsibility of our jawans only, but of every Indian living near the river," the Minister said on the occasion there.



LEISURE

DINGANGPOU KAMEI, 53, could not sleep Monday night. The earthquake of the early morning still fresh on his mind, two long cracks running through his house at village Longmai Part 1, his nine-member family spent the night sitting on the verandah.

"People are saying that the epicentre of the earthquake was in that hill," said Kamei, a subsistence farmer, pointing to a hill. "If that is really so, I am sure the earthquake will come again. Look at these cracks on the floor and the courtyard. They seem to have widened in the past 24 hours," he said. An inside wall too has developed a crack, and an almirah tumbled when the earthquake came, he said.

Several houses in this cluster of villages — Longmai Parts 1 to 5, as well as in the bazaar area on NH 37 that connects Imphal with Silchar in Assam — have developed cracks. "While the cracks on walls can be repaired, what about the cracks on the floor and earth?" said Lanthuigong Kamei, secretary of Longmai Village Authority.

The two cracks in Dingangpou Kamei's house continue to the adjoining compound and house of health worker Kahodim Kamei on the hill slope. His ailing mother Pouhaimliu, 75, kept mumbling in fear all of Monday night, Dingangpou said. The next compound, which belongs to farmer Sinthiungam, has three cracks including the two running from the houses below. "Everybody here is scared that the cracks will widen once there is another quake," said Pouniam Gonmei, 24, a teacher in Pfutsero, Nagaland, and now home for Christmas.

Lanthuigong Kamei said at least 30 houses have developed cracks on the floors. Cracks run also through Tent Maker's Academy, a school in the heart of these villages, as also in three churches. A brick wall around a BSNL tower has collapsed; the debris shows there were no pillars or steel structures to hold it up.

In the house of Ringbuan Paomei, 52, two walls of a mud-house collapsed, injuring six persons, four of whom are now at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences in Imphal, about 65 km away. "It took about half an hour to re-



DAMAGE & RELIEF

CASUALTIES

8 dead, according to latest govt statement. 88 injured, including 33 in serious condition in various hospitals

BUILDINGS

NDMA deploying experts to assess safety of partially damaged public buildings and advise state government on repair. More than 100 houses damaged in Tamenglong.

RESCUE

Two NDRF teams sent to Manipur start clearing the debris and looking for survivors in Noney and Nungba in Tamenglong. Third NDRF team stationed in Silchar in Assam.

move the debris and bring the four boys out of the collapsed room," said Ringbuan's wife Pantijeiliu, 44.

The Paomei had nephews as guests that night following a ritual relating to an infant's death on Sunday evening. "Two boys were sleeping on a wooden bed, three others on the floor. It was only when some male neighbours arrived on hearing our shouts that the boys could be rescued," Pantijeiliu recounted, showing the rubble that had crushed the bed and some other household articles. In the absence of an ambulance, the family had to pay

POWER

Supply restored in most areas except in some parts of Senapati and Tamenglong districts. 3-member team of Power Grid in Manipur.

CONNECTIVITY

Telecom services fully operational. BSNL official in Imphal after part of BSNL building damaged.

HEALTHCARE

A central medical team comprising orthopaedics, surgeons, anaesthesiologist and other technicians deputed. Indian Red Cross Society team visit Tamenglong district and distribute relief.

HELPLINE

011-1078, open 24x7

Rs 3,500 to taxi the four boys — Meidunlung and his cousins Gaiphungong, Kainingai and Gailangam — to Imphal.

Not many government officers, political leaders — barring some of the BJP — or NGO members have visited this cluster of villages that has been living in fear since the magnitude-6.7 earthquake. "When we distributed rice, baby food, biscuits and some woollens to the affected families, people complained that no government official has visited them so far," said Th Biswajit Singh, BJP MLA from adjoining Thongju.

Mothers at historic market fret over shutdown

SAMUDRA GUPTA KASHYAP
IMPHAL, JANUARY 5

M SATYABATI DEVI, 61, sold mosquito nets Ima Keithel, Imphal's historic mothers' market. Until Monday's earthquake. With several pillars and walls damaged, part of the market has been shut indefinitely.

"I run my family by selling mosquito nets here," Satyabati said. "With the Imoinu Keithel block closed, it is not only my family that will face problems, but also those of 20 women who sew nets for my stall," she said.

One of 800-odd women with a fixed space in the Imoinu Keithel, Satyabati Devi was earning up to Rs 1,000 a day. "Since I also manufacture designer nets for weddings, my monthly sale during the wedding season goes up to Rs 1 lakh," she said. For the 3x3 sq ft space she has been using for more than 25 years, she has to pay a monthly rent of Rs 90.

"A delegation of our association met the chief minister today, and he has assured us he will do something. But it will take time, we should be immediately allotted alternative space," said G Gyaneswari Devi, 70, who sells puja-related items to supplement her ex-serviceman husband's pension.

The entire Imoinu Keithel has been shut with at least ten pillars as well as the ceiling damaged. The Leimarel Shidabi Keithel has been partially shut after two pillars and a wall were damaged. The third block, Phouoibi Keithel, is unaffected. The three blocks together have 4,300 women vendors. "There will be 300 like me who are above 70," said Pramodini Devi, who sells vegetables.

"It will take some time to work out the cost of the damage. Since Ima Keithel is a pride of Imphal, we will get structural experts from IIT Kharagpur or Roorkee," said Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh.

[OPINION](#) » [COLUMNS](#)

Published: January 6, 2016 01:57 IST | Updated: January 6, 2016 01:57 IST January 6, 2016

Green safeguards yield higher economic returns

- [Vinod Thomas](#)

For growth to go forward, it must be environmentally and socially concordant.

The [launch of the Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) and agreements in Paris finally signalled the realisation that we can no longer achieve our economic ambitions by endangering the environment and society. But even as countries agreed on the need to nurture sustainability, it has come under fire from the mistaken notion that doing so will slow the pace of growth.

A case in point is the severe pressure on environmental and social safeguards which international banks apply to deflect damages that projects can cause. A spike in infrastructure investment is expected in Asia not only from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) but also from the two new entrants: the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the New Development Bank (NDB). More funding for transport, energy and cities can be good for growth, but without adequate mitigation, roads harm habitats, dams displace communities, slum rebuilding hurts livelihoods and climate change blocks growth.

Worrisome proposal

Thus, it is worrisome that a [current proposal at the World Bank, an outline at AIIB](#), and emerging thinking at the NDB are poised to soften these defences on the premise that it will speed growth. Brazil, India, Indonesia, Russia and others have also taken steps to weaken protection related to land acquisition, resettlement, and deforestation. The reality, reflected in countries' support for the SDGs and the Paris accord, however, is that for growth to go forward, it must be environmentally and socially concordant.

After all, the logic of having safeguards is grounded in economic theory. Whether it is displacing people from their homesteads, polluting the air we breathe, or jumping a red light and endangering others, regulatory protection is required to prevent spillover damages (or externalities). Welfare economics calls for enforcing regulations or setting equivalent taxes rather than just announcing flexible standards.

Experiences over the past decades establish the necessity for safeguards. In their absence, new road projects in forest areas of Brazil and Indonesia have aided the encroachment of agriculture and livestock and massive deforestation. The needed scale of the response can be vast: the Sardar Sarovar Dam on the Narmada river eventually displaced over 2,00,000 people, while China's Three Gorges Dam displaced six times as many. And ineffective measures can be very costly. The 1978 Amoco-Cadiz tanker spill on the Brittany coastline of France led to claims of \$250 million, while the costs in the 2010 BP-Amoco Gulf of Mexico oil spill in the U.S. were 100 times as much.

The central point is that compared to these benefits (or avoided damages), the cost of having safeguards is typically small — often 3 per cent or less of the project cost. That means safeguards promise high economic returns. But to get these potential gains, experience tells us that four lessons must be heeded.

Lessons to be heeded

First, safeguards must be legally binding, and compliance should be enforceable. Standards that are to be met flexibly during a project's life will not suffice in ensuring protection against spillover damages. Sure, flexibility can speed up project approval, but for risky projects, the resulting damages could just delay project completions.

Second, [international policy should govern safeguards](#), rather than national systems that by law or in practice are not yet equivalent. Recent years have seen several disasters under national systems; for example, the collapse of a garment factory near Dhaka, Bangladesh; a mining disaster involving a dam burst in Minas Gerais, Brazil; and explosions at a container storage station in Tianjin, China.

Third, it is not enough to have systems in place, but implementation and oversight need strengthening. In particular, downstream supervision of how safeguards are being followed on the ground needs to be bolstered, but without weakening upstream regulation. Monitoring of impacts is essential, not by the investor alone but also by an independent party.

Fourth, the efficiency with which processes and procedures are followed can usually be improved a great deal. Greater differentiation in the treatment of high- and low-risk projects can help. Project processing can be speeded through such efficiency improvements, and not through a weakening of the regulation.

Effective safeguards are needed more than ever both at the established lenders and the newcomers. How the international banks apply these defences will be an indication of their true commitment to the SDGs and the climate accord.

(Vinod Thomas is Director General of Independent Evaluation at the Manila-based Asian Development Bank, and former Senior Vice President and Director General of Independent Evaluation at the World Bank.)

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Manipur, the day after: At source of earthquake, 'widening' cracks keep villagers awake all night



The Indian Express

January 6, 2016



manipur earthquake, earthquake news, earthquake manipur, manipur news, earthquake news, top news, india news

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cluster of villages that has been living in fear since the magnitude-6.7 earthquake. "When we distributed rice, baby food, biscuits and some woolens to the affected families, people complained that no government official has visited them so far," said Th Biswajit Singh, BJP MLA from adjoining Thongju.

Damage & relief:

CASUALTIES

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NDMA deploying experts to assess safety of partially damaged public buildings and advise state government on repair. More than 100 houses damaged in Tamenglong.

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CONNECTIVITY

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HEALTHCARE

A central medical team comprising orthopaedics, surgeons, anesthesiologist and other technicians deputed. Indian Red Cross Society team visit Tamenglong district and distribute relief.

सफाई के लिए गंगा वाहिनी की पहली कंपनी तैनात

नई दिल्ली. सरकार ने गंगा सफाई के लिए गंगा वाहिनी बटालियन की स्थापना करके उसकी पहली कंपनी को उत्तर प्रदेश के गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में तैनात कर दिया है। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय ने मंगलवार को बताया कि गंगा वाहिनी के जवान गंगा के तटों पर तैनात किए जाएंगे और सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि औद्योगिक इकाइयां और स्थानीय नागरिक किसी भी स्तर पर गंगा को प्रदूषित नहीं करें। सेना के जवानों और पूर्व सैनिकों से लैस वाहिनी के जवान गंगा के तटों पर मुश्तैद रहेंगे और गंगा को प्रदूषित नहीं होने देंगे। वाहिनी की तीन और कंपनियों को जल्द ही राज्य के कानपुर, वाराणसी तथा इलाहबाद में तैनात कर दिया जाएगा। गंगा

वाहिनी की पहली कंपनी की तैनाती के मौके पर आयोजित कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती ने कहा कि गंगा की सफाई में नागरिकों की

भूमिका अहम है और उनकी भागीदारी के बिना यह काम नहीं हो सकता है। इस मौके पर उन्होंने लोगों को नमामि गंगे मिशन से जोड़ने के लिए गंगा ग्राम योजना की भी शुरुआत की और कहा कि गंगा को स्वच्छ रखने की जिम्मेदारी सिर्फ गंगा वाहिनी की बटालियनों में तैनात सैनिकों की ही नहीं है बल्कि इस काम में देश के सभी नागरिकों को अपना योगदान देना होगा।

उन्होंने हापुड़ के पुठ गांव में गंगा ग्राम योजना की शुरुआत करते हुए कहा कि इस योजना के तहत गंगा तट पर बसे 1600 गांवों का विकास किया जाएगा और प्रत्येक गांव में एक करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए जाएंगे। पहले चरण में 200 गांवों को विकसित करके वहां पक्के शौचालयों का निर्माण किया जाएगा। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि गंगा ग्राम योजना के तहत गांव के विकास के लिए पंजाब के सिचेवाल गांव को मॉडल के रूप में लिया जाएगा।

11-9-1981

कश्मीर में भारी बर्फबारी

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली: उत्तर भारत को मंगलवार को कड़ाके की ठंड से थोड़ी राहत मिली। नॉर्थ इंडिया के ज्यादातर मैदानी क्षेत्रों में तापमान सामान्य से कम रहा। कश्मीर घाटी के पहाड़ी इलाकों में सोमवार की रात को बर्फबारी हुई, जबकि मैदानी क्षेत्रों में मंगलवार की सुबह तक लगातार बारिश होती रही। उत्तर कश्मीर के मशहूर स्की रिसॉर्ट गुलमर्ग में मंगलवार की सुबह 21 इंच तक बर्फबारी हुई। घाटी में गुलमर्ग एकमात्र स्थान है, जहां न्यूनतम तापमान शून्य से नीचे पहुंच गया।

मं-6-1-16

सफाई के लिए गंगा वाहिनी की पहली कंपनी तैनात

नई दिल्ली, (वार्ता): सरकार ने गंगा सफाई के लिए गंगा वाहिनी बटालियन की स्थापना करके उसकी पहली कंपनी को उत्तर प्रदेश के गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में तैनात कर दिया है। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय ने आज बताया कि गंगा वाहिनी के जवान गंगा के तटों पर तैनात किए जाएंगे और सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि औद्योगिक इकाइयों और स्थानीय नागरिक किसी भी स्तर पर गंगा को प्रदूषित नहीं करें।

सेना के जवानों और पूर्व सैनिकों से लैस वाहिनी के जवान गंगा के तटों पर मुश्तैद रहेंगे और गंगा को प्रदूषित नहीं होने देंगे। वाहिनी की तीन और कंपनियों को जल्द ही राज्य के कानपुर, वाराणसी तथा इलाहाबाद में तैनात कर दिया जाएगा। गंगा वाहिनी की पहली कंपनी की तैनाती के मौके पर आयोजित कार्यक्रम को

नागरिक भी सहयोग दें

**गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में
तैनात कम्पनी किसी
को भी गंगा को प्रदूषित
करने नहीं देगी**

संबोधित करते हुए गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती ने कहा कि गंगा की सफाई में नागरिकों की भूमिका अहम है और उनकी भागीदारी के बिना यह काम नहीं हो सकता है। इस मौके पर उन्होंने लोगों को नमामि गंगे मिशन से जोड़ने के लिए गंगा ग्राम योजना की भी शुरूआत की और कहा कि गंगा को स्वच्छ रखने की जिम्मेदारी सिर्फ गंगा वाहिनी की बटालियनों में तैनात सैनिकों की ही नहीं है बल्कि इस काम में देश के सभी नागरिकों को अपना योगदान देना होगा। उन्होंने हापुड़ के पुठ गांव में गंगा ग्राम योजना की शुरूआत



करते हुए कहा कि इस योजना के तहत गंगा तट पर बसे 1600 गांवों का विकास किया जाएगा और प्रत्येक गांव में एक करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए जाएंगे। पहले चरण में 200 गांवों को विकसित करके वहां पक्के शौचालयों का निर्माण किया जाएगा।

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि गंगा ग्राम योजना के तहत गांव के विकास के लिए पंजाब के सिचेवाल गांव को मॉडल के रूप में लिया जाएगा। सिचेवाल में गांव के लोगों के सहयोग से जल प्रबंधन और कचरा निकासी की अनुकरणीय व्यवस्था की गई है।

जनवरी में गर्मी ने पांच साल का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ा

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

हि-6-1-18

मौसम में बदलाव

दिल्ली में मंगलवार को अधिकतम तापमान 26.7 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। यह सामान्य से 7 डिग्री अधिक है। पिछले पांच सालों में 5 जनवरी को इतना तापमान दर्ज नहीं किया गया। वर्ष 2012 में अधिकतम तापमान 22 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया था।

यह इस वर्ष सर्दियों के मौसम का भी सबसे अधिक तापमान है। न्यूनतम पारा 11 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब रहा। यह सामान्य से चार डिग्री अधिक है। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के प्रभाव के चलते राजस्थान में हवाओं का एक चक्रवात बना है। इससे गर्म हवाएं

- पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के चलते राजस्थान से गर्म हवाएं आ रही हैं
- गुरुवार को बारिश की संभावना, आगे घना कोहरा भी पड़ सकता है

दिल्ली की ओर आ रही हैं। इससे तापमान में वृद्धि दर्ज की जा रही है।

स्काईमेट के मौसम वैज्ञानिक समरजीत चौधरी ने बताया कि 7 जनवरी को एक पश्चिमी विक्षोभ सक्रिय हो रहा है। इसके चलते बुधवार शाम के बाद मौसम में बदलाव होगा। गुरुवार को हल्की बारिश हो सकती है। अगले कुछ दिनों तक घना कोहरा भी पड़ सकता है।

गंदगी रोकने को गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में गंगा वाहिनी की पहली बटालियन तैनात, ग्रामीण गंगा योजना में स्थानीय निकाय मदद करेंगे

गंगा को स्वच्छ बनाने का पहला चरण शुरू



नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

गंगा की सफाई के लिए नमामि गंगे अभियान का पहला चरण शुरू हो गया है। गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में गंगा वाहिनी की पहली बटालियन तैनात कर दी गई है जो गंगा में गंदगी फैकने वालों पर नजर रखेगी। कानपुर, वाराणसी और इलाहाबाद भी जल्द ही कंपनियां तैनात की जाएंगी। इसके अलावा ग्रामीण गंगा योजना के तहत उत्तराखंड से उत्तर प्रदेश तक प्रमुख तीर्थ स्थलों पर भी सतही सफाई शुरू हो गई है। इसमें ग्राम पंचायत, नगर निगम जैसे स्थानीय निकायों और स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं की मदद ली जा रही है।

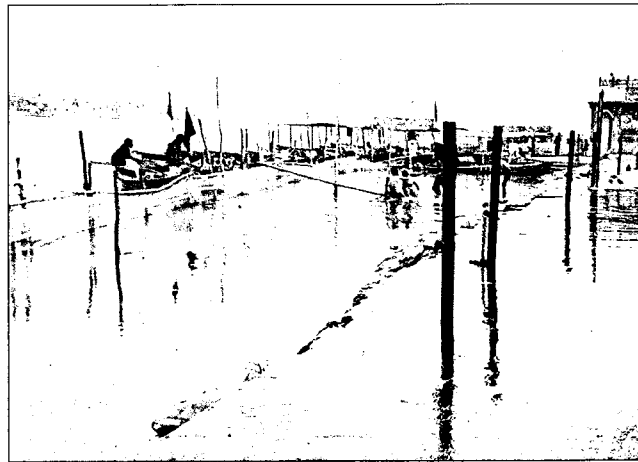
क्या करेगी गंगा वाहिनी : गंगा वाहिनी में सेना के जवान होंगे जो गंगा में कूड़ा-करकट डालने वालों को रोकेंगे। वाहिनी के जवान प्रमुख शहरों और तीर्थ स्थानों पर तैनात किए जाएंगे ताकि औद्योगिक इकाइयों एवं लोगों को गंगा को प्रदूषित करने से रोक सकें। पहली बटालियन की

तैनाती के साथ ही जल संसाधन एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती ने स्पष्ट किया कि सिर्फ जवानों को तैनात करने से ही गंगा को प्रदूषित होने से नहीं रोका जा सकता। इसके लिए हर नागरिक को जिम्मेदारी निभानी होगी।

गंगा ग्राम योजना में क्या : गंगा ग्राम योजना के तहत अन्य स्थानों पर स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं और स्थानीय निकायों की मदद से घाटों और नदी में तैरते कचरे को साफ किया जाएगा। इसकी शुरुआत हापुड़ जिले के पुठ गांव से की गई है। योजना के तहत गंगा के तटवर्ती गांवों में सीवेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट लगेंगे ताकि सीधे गंगा में गिरने वाले नालों को मोड़ा जा सके। इन गांवों के हर घर में शौचालय भी बनाए जाएंगे। इसके लिए हर गांव को एक करोड़ रुपये मिलेंगे। पहले चरण में गंगा के किनारे बसे 1600 में से 200 गांवों को शामिल किया गया है।

सिंचेवाल मॉडल : ग्राम गंगा योजना के लिए सिंचेवाल मॉडल को अपनाया जाएगा। सिंचेवाल पंजाब का एक गांव है, जहां ग्रामीणों ने जल प्रबंधन और कचरा निपटान की बेहतर व्यवस्था की है।

यमुना भी होगी साफ : सरकार के सफाई अभियान में यमुना भी शामिल है। साल के पहले दिन उमा भारती ने दिल्ली में यमुना सफाई अभियान में हिस्सा लिया था।



ब्रजघाट में गंगा तट पर मंगलवार को सफाई की गई।

आरती घाट भी जुड़ेगे

गंगा वाहिनी और ग्राम गंगा योजना कार्यक्रम का मकसद गंगा की ऊपरी सफाई करना है। जिन घाटों पर आरती होती है वहां आरती से पहले या बाद में गंगा में बहने वाली फूल मालाएं एवं अन्य कचरे साफ किए जाएंगे। बनारस में यह काम रोजाना हो रहा है। अभियान के तहत गंगा की सफाई का सबसे ज्यादा जोर उत्तराखंड और उत्तर प्रदेश पर है।

बिजनौर नहीं पहुंचा निर्देश

बिजनौर। उत्तर प्रदेश में गंगा का प्रवेश द्वार बिजनौर को राज्य या केंद्र सफाई निर्देश नहीं मिले। मध्य गंगा परियोजना बैराज एसडीओ आर के गुप्ता के मुताबिक, बिजनौर में गंगा पूरी तरह साफ है और प्रदूषण जिले के बाद शुरू होता है। लेकिन स्थानीय लोगों का कहना है कि जिले के करीब दर्जनभर फैक्ट्रियों का दूषित पानी दूसरी नदियों और रजवाहों के जरिये गंगा में पहुंचता है।

हापुड़ में दिखने लगा असर

जिले में गंगा की सतही सफाई सोमवार से शुरू हुई। कार्तिक पूर्णिमा को ब्रजघाट में करीब 40 लाख श्रद्धालुओं ने स्नान किया था। मेल के बाद फैले टनों कचरे गंगा और इसके तट पर बिखरे हुए थे। पालिका कर्मचारी दूसरे दिन सुबह से ही घाटों की सफाई में जुटे हुए थे। नतीजा ब्रजघाट एकदम साफ हो गया है। जनपद के आला अधिकारी सफाई अभियान को लेकर सक्रिय हैं। एसडीएम और सीडीओ खासतौर से सफाई की निगरानी कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा केंद्र सरकार ने तट पर सेना के जवान भी तैनात कर दिए हैं जो तटों की निगरानी कर रहे हैं।

इलाहाबाद में लापरवाही

इलाहाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण ने सफाई के लिए दो मोटर बोट, सफाईकर्मी और कूड़ा उठाने के लिए तीन गाड़ियां लगाई हैं। संगम तट, रसूलाबाद घाट, सरस्वती घाट और यमुना के किला घाट में सफाई का असर दिखने लगा है। लेकिन यमुना के बलुआघाट, बरगद घाट, अरैल के घाट की स्थिति अभी भी बेहतर नहीं है।

काशी में ज्यादा सुधार नहीं

वाराणसी में 10 दिसंबर से सफाई शुरू हुई थी। टाटा अकादमी की एक मशीन रोजाना तीन बार घाटों से कचरा हटाती है। लेकिन नगर निगम योजनाबद्ध तरीके से इस माह से सफाई शुरू कराएगा। फिलहाल शहर के नालों का पानी गंगा में गिर रहा है। वरुणा नदी से 400 एमएलडी गंगा पानी गंगा में मिल रहा है।

धनबाद नहीं पहुंचा दिशानिर्देश

साहिबगंज जिले में गंगा की सतही सफाई शुरू नहीं हो पाई है। साहिबगंज नगर परिषद (नगरपालिका) के प्रभारी ईओ मिथिलेश कुमार सिंह ने बताया कि सतही सफाई पर विभाग या सरकार से कोई दिशा-निर्देश नहीं मिला है।

हरिद्वार में नहीं शुरू हुई सफाई

हरिद्वार के एडीएम जीवन सिंह नगन्याल (प्रशासन) ने कहा कि केंद्र या राज्य सरकार से इस बाबत कोई आदेश नहीं मिला है। हरकी पैड़ी से खड़खड़ी ऊपर के अलावा अन्य स्थानों से नालों की गंदगी गंगा में गिर रही है। हालांकि उमा भारती ने अर्द्धकुभ से पहले सफाई अभियान शुरू होने का दावा किया था।

Warm winter: Blame it on El Nino effect

Written by [Amitabh Sinha](#) | New Delhi | Published: January 6, 2016 2:47 am



El Nino refers to a condition in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, off the coast of Ecuador and Peru in South America, in which sea surface temperatures become unusually warm.

THE El Nino that has often been the bane of the Indian monsoon is also the reason for the unusually warm winter season this year. Average temperatures across the country, except in Jammu and Kashmir and some adjoining areas, are about 4 to 5 degrees above normal and scientists say the prevailing El Nino in the Pacific Ocean must be held responsible.

El Nino refers to a condition in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, off the coast of Ecuador and Peru in South America, in which sea surface temperatures become unusually warm. The warmer ocean temperatures are the reason behind several weather events worldwide, and are known to suppress the Indian monsoon as well.

Arvind Kumar Srivastava, former head of the National Climate Centre in Pune, said it is not unusual to find winter temperature following an El Nino event to be slightly "milder" than normal. He said the 2009-2010 winter, which followed an El Nino event, was also not very cold. "But the current El Nino has been very strong and prolonged. So its impact is being felt in a more forceful manner," said Srivastava, now the director of the meteorological centre in Jaipur.

In fact, the prevailing El Nino, which is likely to stretch till early summer this year, is one of the strongest in recent times. The January 4 'El Nino Advisory' from the Climate Prediction System of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States says the expectation was that the current El Nino event "will rank among the three strongest episodes" since 1950.

It has already resulted in one of the lowest monsoon rainfalls in recent years this season. And now it could be resulting in a warmer winter. J Srinivasan of the Divecha Centre for Climate Change at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, said the strength of El Nino could be accounting for about 1 to 2 degree rise over the normal temperatures at this time of the year.

There are other, more local, factors as well that are contributing to the unusually high temperatures this winter. Primary amongst them is the lack of rain. The last week of December and first week of January generally see rainfall through most of north India, including Delhi. But this year there has been no rain in this period in most parts of the country.

In the last week of December, the country as a whole received rainfall that was 86 per cent below normal. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, parts of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Jammu and [Kashmir](#) received some rainfall but rest of the country was completely dry.

Scientists blame the prevailing, unusual, atmospheric conditions for this. Rain at this time, at least in northern India, is brought by the 'westerlies', a system of wind that moves in the mid-latitudes, 30 to 60 degrees, in northern hemisphere from the west to east direction. These winds move slightly southwards during this time and flow through most of northern and central India.

"But this year, they have remained north of their usual position during this time and as such their zone of influence has only been parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh where we have seen a little bit of rain," said L S Rathore, director general of the Indian Meteorological Department.