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AS SUMMER ADVANCES, WATER LEVEL IN DAMS ACROSS KERALA DEPLETES

Bleak picture

for - 6- 57

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

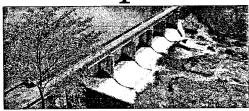
Thiruvananthapuram, 5 February

With the drought situation advancing, water level in all major dams of Kerala has depleted to an alarming level causing concern among authorities.

The level of water in 20 major reservoirs of the state was about 34.43 per cent less in January, when compared to the water level of these dams in January last year, which has been attributed to the low rainfall, both during the south-west and south-east monsoon seasons.

"Yes, the situation is

worse... water level in dams is very bleak. In some places, the condition is worse and in others, the situation is better due to rains," State Water Resources Minister Mathew T Thomas told reporters. The condition was worse in Palakkad, Thrissur, Malappuram and in Thiruvananthapuran. As of now the most affected district was Palakkad, Thomas said. The state has geared up to meet any exigency as the consequence of drought aggravates in coming months, he said, adding, several borewells have been made functional. 'We will be able to supply



An ariel view of Kallada Reservoir. a file photo

ground water. Also water kiosk's would be provided in all wards of civic bodies," he said. "The plan is to supply drinking water by bringing it from areas where it is available," he added. With regard to Palakkad, he said pumping in water treatment plants have been suspended for

the past few days. Due to state's continuous pressure, the Tamil Nadu government has agreed to release water to Chitoor from Parambikulam-Aliyar project in a day or two, he said adding, "once we get water, we can resume pumping." With regard to shortage of rainfall, the

minister said it was 40 per cent less than last year during South-West monsoon.

"Even rains received during the North-East monsoon between September-October was less than the quantity received in deserts," he noted.

Citing the grim situation of water level in dams, he said the water deficiency was 55 per cent in the Kallada Reservoir ~ the largest capacity dam in the state ~ when compared to water level in this time during the last year, he said, adding similar was the condition in Malampuzha dam, the second largest in capacity.

"This is the situation when the state usually receives rainfall. The drought is going to be severe during the coming four summer months. Even if the state receives the usual quantity of summer rains, it will not fill the gap caused due to dip in monsoon rains," he said. On alternative measures to fight drought. Thomas said massive programmes to rejuvenate ponds and wells have been taken up. An amount of Rs 12.43 crore has been sanctioned for implementing various schemes worked out by Kerala Water Authority to face the drought, he added.

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Date with rain over for now, minimum temp may fall

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Despite a cloudy sky and a light drizzle across parts of the city on Sunday, Delhi remained rather warm. The minimum temperature rose six degrees above normal to touch 15.5 degrees Celsius. While no further rain is predicted in the immediate future, minimum temperatures across parts of northwest India are expected to fall by 3-5 degrees from Tuesday.

No rain ahead, temp set to fall

The Met department said on Sunday that no further rain is predicted in the city in the immediate future. However, minimum temperatures across parts of northwest India are expected to fall by 35 degrees from Tuesday. P4

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Summers getting hotter, as monsoon gets erratic

ANALYSIS Delhi and Mumbai among 23 cities worst hit due to changes in weather pattern

mehal fernandes@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Erratic monsoon rain and rapid urbanisation are making the Indian summer hötter and more humid, especially in Mumbai, Delhi and another 23 cities that have a combined population of 116 million people.

The findings are from an analysis of temperature and humidity levels recorded at 283 weather stations between 1951 and 2010. The study conducted by the Pune-based Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology found an increase in heat index that measures human discomfort at particular temperatures. The index has risen by 0.56 degree Celsius on an average every decade during summer, and 0.32 degree Celsius a decade in monsoon.

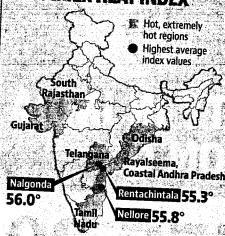
Human activities such as urbanisation and release of heattrapping greenhouse gases from industries, vehicles, biomass burning, are creating islands with ambient temperatures that are often higher than surrounding areas. "During monsoon, temperatures are rising due to a break in rain, short but heavy spells of rainfall, and more dry days. As the atmosphere warms, its ability to hold moisture increases, and this translates into increased stress on the human body," said AK Jaswal, lead investigator, IMD.

"Pollutants in the air during summer absorb water vapour, thereby contributing to the rise in humidity along with high temperature." Among the cities

Mercury rising

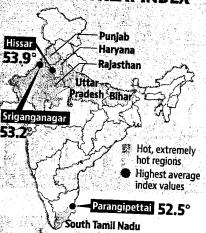
Heat Index (HI) is a measure of how warm the weather feels as compared to the actual temperature. In India, 283 stations measure HI, 238 shot up in summers, 233 in monsoon

SUMMER HEAT INDEX



- Average heat index was lowest at 40.2°C in 1957, and highest at 47.3°C in 2010, which is also among the warmest summer seasons in India with highest average maximum temperature of 36.9°C
- Moderate to strong increasing trends in heat index are concentrated in the Indo-Gangetic plains, central India and along the western and southeast coast of the country. These vary between 1.0°C per decade and 3°C per decade

MONSOON HEAT INDEX



- * Average heat index was lowest at 40.5°C in 1956, and highest at 46.1°C in 1987, also a severe drought year with 19.4% below normal rainfall. The highest average maximum temperature was recorded at 33.9°C in 1987.
- Central India has long-term values of 40-45°C.
- Hilly areas and stations along Western Ghats (e.g. Belgaum, Satara, Kolhapur and Shimoga) have values lower than 35°C

studied, 22 recorded a significant increase in summer heat index with 14 cities seeing an increase between 0.51 degree Celsius and 0.95 degree Celsius a decade.

For Mumbai, the average heat index in 60 years is 41.2 degrees Celsius, putting it in the "very hot" category between 41 and 54

degrees Celsius that triggers ailments such as cramps, exhaustion and heat stroke from prolonged exposure or physical activity. The average for Kolkata, Chennai and Vishakapatnam is 47.7, 49.5 and 50.4 degrees Celsius. In 10 cities, monsoon has become hotter, with the heat

index increasing between 0.53 degree Celsius and 0.77 degree Celsius every 10 years. The average recorded in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Amritsar was 47.6, 47.4, 49.9, and 49.8 degrees Celsius. The study, researchers said, can be used by policy makers to plan disaster relief.

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अब नहीं जायेगा सीधा यमुना

Deccan Herald

निकलने वाला सीवेज का पानी स्थानीय नालों द्वारा सीधा जाता था यमुना मे

पश्चिमी दिल्ली,(पंजाब केसरी): दिल्ली के जल मंत्री तथा दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष कपिल मिश्रा ने रविवार को ओखला जल उपचार संयंत्र के अन्तर्गत आने वाले संगम विहार में 250 मि.मी. से 1000 मि.मी. न्यूनतम् व्यासं की आन्तरिक तथा परिधीय सीवर लाइन के बिछाने के कार्यका

शुभारम्भ किया।

इस मौके पर

शुभारम्भ देवली के विधायक और जल बोर्ड के में बर प्रकाश जरवाल, जल बोर्ड के मुख्य कार्यकारी के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारी

फाइल फोटो.. मंत्री ने सीवर लाइन को बिछाने के कार्य का किया

अधिकारी केशव चंद्रा, मेंबर जल बोर्ड (जल आपूर्ति) सदस्य एवं विधायक, देवली, दिल्ली आर.एस. त्यागी, एवं जल बोर्ड

उपस्थित थे। दिजबो के अनुसार वर्तमान में संगम विहार कालोनी से निकलने वाला सीवेज स्थानीय नालों द्वारा सीधे यमुना नदी में

प्रवाहित हो जाता है । इस कार्य के 21 महीनों में पूर्ण होने के पश्चात् इन कालोनियों से निकलने वाले सीवेज को सीवरेज प्रणाली में रोककर ओखला सीवेज ट्रीटमेंट में उपचारित किया जायेगा, जिससे यमना नदी के प्रदूषण में कमी आयेगी । इस कार्य के पूर्ण होने से इस क्षेत्र की 29 अनधिकृत कालोनियों के लगभग 2.5 लाख निवासी लाभान्वित होंगे। दिजबो का दावा दिल्ली के नागरिकों को बेहतर पेयजल आपूर्ति उपलब्ध कराने

एवं दिल्ली सरकार के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए दिल्ली जल बोर्ड निरन्तर पानी के वितरण तंत्र को सुधारने का प्रयास कर रहा है।

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हि-*ढ-इ-१*न पानी पृथ्वी के मध्य भाग में बना

लंदन। वैज्ञानिकों ने दावा किया है कि पानी पृथ्वी के मध्य भाग (मैंटल) में बना होगा। यह दावा एक नए अध्ययन में किया गया है।

पानी पृथ्वी पर जीवन का जरूरी आधार है। लेकिन इसकी उत्पत्ति को लेकर वैज्ञानिक किसी एक निष्कर्ष पर नहीं पहुंच सके हैं। नए अध्ययन के नतीजों के अनुसार, पृथ्वी पर पाया जाने वाला जल इसके मैंटल में गसायनिक प्रतिक्रियाओं के माध्यम से बना। पृथ्वी की सबसे बाहरी सतह (क्रस्ट) और सबसे केंद्रीय भाग (कोर) के बीच वाले हिस्से को मैंटल कहते हैं। आयरलैंड स्थित यूनिवर्सिटी कॉलेज डबलिन के शोधकर्ताओं ने यह अध्ययन किया है। अब तक वैज्ञानिक मानते रहे थे कि पृथ्वी से टकराने वाले धूमकेतुओं ने संभवतः इसकी सतह पर भारी मात्रा में बर्फ जमा कर दी होगी। उसी बर्फ के पिघलने से पानी वजूद में आया। **(एजेंसी**)