epaper
हिन्दुस्तान

कुएं का मीठा पानी प्यास बुझायेगा

नई दिल्ली| प्रिया गौतम

राजधानी के चिड़ियाघर स्थित अजीमगंज की सराय में मुगलकालीन कुएं का पता चला है, जिसका पानी मीठा है। साथ ही जलस्तर भी ऊंचा है। वर्तमान में राज्य पुरातत्व विभाग और आगा खां ट्रस्ट, सराय में संरक्षण का कार्य कर रहे हैं। ऐसे में मीठे पानी का स्त्रोत मिलने पर कुएं को विकसित करने की तैयारी की जा रही है।

राज्य पुरातत्व विभाग के मुताबिक, जुलाई 2014 में सराय के संरक्षण कार्य के दौरान कुएं का पता चला था। तकरीबन 6 माह तक कुएं की सफाई की गई। जिसमें जलस्तर के ऊंचा होने का पता चला। इस साल जनवरी में पानी की जांच की गई। हालांकि, कुएं के पानी को अभी पीने की बजाय सराय के संरक्षण

चिड़ियाघर में मीठे पानी वाला मुगलकालीन कुआं। ● हिन्दुस्तान

कार्यों में इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है। बता दें कि दिल्ली में भूमिगत जल का स्तर काफी नीचे जा चुका है। पुरातत्व विभाग

मुगलकालीन

- चिड़ियाघर स्थित अजीमगंज सराय में कुएं का जलस्तर ऊंचा
- दिल्ली में जलस्तर 172 फुट जबकि कुएं का जलस्तर 40 फुट

चिड़ियाघर प्रशासन संबंधित विभाग से जल्द बातचीत करेगा। अगर मंजूरी मिली तो विशेष जरूरतों के लिए पानी का उपयोग किया जाएगा।

आर खान, क्यूरेटर (चिड़ियाघर)

जल्द ही कुएं के बेहतर प्रबंधन के लिए इसको कंक्रीट से मजबूत बनाया जाएगा। कुएं के पानी को हरियाली बढ़ाने के लिए भी इस्तेमाल करने की योजना है।

Southwest monsoon deficit in State

BENGALURU: The State has received less rainfall during the southwest monsoon season, according to Indian Meteorological Department. IMD-Bengaluru Director-in-charge Dr Geetha Agnihotri said that Karnataka has received 679.7 mm of rains against the normal of 832.3 mm, thereby registering a deficit of 18 per cent.

She said that Bengaluru and most parts of south interior Karnataka were receiving rains because of an upper air cyclonic circulation over west central and adjoining north west Bay of Bengal off north north Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha coasts. Under the influence of these two systems Bengaluru is experiencing moderate rainfall and will continue to do for the next two days. Even though it looked like the City received a heavy down pour on Sunday night, according to IMD officials the City received just 10.9 mm rainfall till Monday morning. However, Hessaraghatta in Bengaluru North received a heavy rainfall of 100.2 mm.

According to IMD, the City received deficit rainfall in September which is considered to be the wettest month of the year. The normal rainfall forecast for September is 211.5 mm while the City received 189.8 mm.

DH News Service

It's getting hotter

At climate talks in Paris later this year, negotiators should ponder the damage already done

Summer sea-ice cover in the Arctic has declined more than 40% over the past four decades since oceans absorb almost all the heat added to the climate system. *Reuters*

SAVING the planet is now a matter of a few clicks—at least on a small scale. On September 22nd the UN's Climate Change Secretariat launched Climate Neutral Now, a website that estimates an individual's carbon footprint based on whereabouts, recycling habits, energy use and so on. Offsetting any resulting guilt is easy: the site takes donations to fund clean development projects. Your correspondent paid $24 to a facility capturing methane from pig dung to cover the carbon-dioxide emissions she had caused during the past year.

The initiative is one of many intended to spur action on greenhouse-gas emissions in the run-up to climate talks in Paris at the end of the year. Some seem quite successful: in recent weeks around 2,000 individuals and 400 organisations have committed to stop investing in firms that produce fossil fuels. More important, countries have responded to a shift in climate-change policy after the failure of negotiations in Copenhagen in 2009: rather than trying to agree on mandatory emissions reductions, they were asked to say by October 1st what they were willing to do.

America's Clean Power Plan, announced in August, could reduce carbon-dioxide emissions from power stations by 870m tonnes by 2030 — a cut of almost a third from 2005 levels and the equivalent of taking 166m cars off the road. China has promised that its emissions will peak in 2030, if not before. And on September 25th Xi Jinping, the country's president, announced that China would launch a national carbon-trading scheme in 2017. A few days later Brazil pledged to cut greenhouse-gas emissions by 43% by 2030 compared with levels in 2005.

On closer scrutiny, though, some of the pledges look less impressive. America is already most of the way to reaching its new target; China will see carbon emissions fall anyway as its economy continues to shift from manufacturing to services. And when negotiators meet in Paris, they need to keep in mind that the world is already suffering from the effects of global warming. Global carbon emissions were 58% higher in 2012 than they were in 1990. The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide has risen from just under 340 parts per million in 1980 to 400 today (see chart).

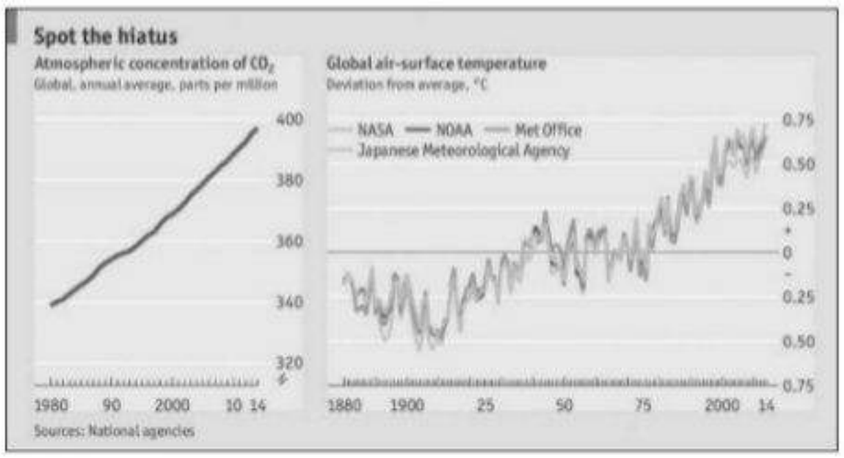
To stand a fair chance of keeping warming to just 2°C by the end of the century—the de-facto goal of global climate policy—the stock of atmospheric carbon dioxide must be kept under 1 trillion tonnes. Estimates vary but, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the total had hit 515 billion tonnes by 2011. Climate Interactive, a research outfit, reckons that if emissions continue on their present course around 140 billion tonnes of greenhouse gases will be released each year and temperatures could rise by 4.5°C by 2100. And even if countries fully honour their recent pledges, temperatures may still increase by 3.5°C by then.

The world is already 0.75°C warmer than before the Industrial Revolution. A recent study published in Science suggests that a much-debated hiatus in global warming between 1998 and 2012 in fact never happened: the cooler readings were caused by a switch to measuring ocean temperatures from buoys rather than ships. Another study, published in Climatic Change, another journal, finds that the statistical tools used to demonstrate the apparent slowdown were not up to the task. And though the science linking weather events to long-term climate change is still tentative, some researchers see the effects of climate change in the fact that July 2015 was the warmest month globally since records began. The year is likely to break records, too. This summer 47,000 people went to hospital after unusually hot days in Japan, and more than 1,000 died in both Pakistan and India during heatwaves.

Boiling the oceans

The oceans are absorbing almost all the heat added to the climate system. Summer sea-ice cover in the Arctic has declined more than 40% over the past four decades as a result. Walruses used to rest and feed on the ice; now they often do so onshore. Over 35,000 gathered recently near Point Lay in Alaska.

Melting glacier ice, and the fact that warmer water has a larger volume, mean higher sea levels: they have already risen by roughly 20cm since 1880 and could rise another metre by 2100. That is perilous for low-lying islands and flat countries: the government of Kiribati, a cluster of tropical islands, has bought land in Fiji to move residents to in case of flooding. Giza Gaspar Martins, a diplomat from Angola who leads the world's poorest countries in the climate talks, points out that they are particularly vulnerable to the effects of a warming planet. Money alone, he argues, will not fix their problems. Without steps to reduce emissions, he predicts, "there will be nothing left to adapt for."



Fresh water is less dense than salt water, meaning that melting ice sheets also disrupt oceanic circulation patterns. The impact on the Atlantic's meridional overturning circulation, which drives cold saltwater into the deep ocean while drawing warm water northward, may make Europe's climate cooler. Changing ocean currents also seem to be shifting jet streams and altering storm patterns. Some blame the severity of California's drought on an unusual ridge of high atmospheric pressure off its coast which appears to block winter storms from reaching the state.

For every 0.6°C rise in temperature, the atmosphere's capacity to hold water grows by 4%, meaning storms will pour forth with greater abandon. The rains of the Indian monsoon could therefore intensify, cutting yields of cereals and pulses. Elsewhere unusual deluges are already disrupting daily life: more than 170 extreme-weather events struck America between 1980 and 2014. Winter storms are more frequent and intense now than at any time in the past six decades.

Climate change seems also to be making dry places drier, killing crops and turning forests into kindling. Forest fires in Indonesia, more likely thanks to the current El Niño weather phenomenon, could release 2 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide, about 5% of annual emissions due to human activity, says Simon Lewis of University College London. In recent months fires have swallowed more than 2.4m hectares of American forests. Alaska suffered 80% of the damage—a particular problem because the soot released in these blazes darkens the ice, making it less able to reflect solar radiation away from the Earth.

Developments in the Arctic are worrying for other reasons, too. The region is warming twice as fast as the rest of the world, a trend that could start a vicious cycle. Around 1,700 gigatonnes of carbon are held in permafrost soils as frozen organic matter. If they thaw, vast amounts of methane, which is 25 times more powerful as a global-warming gas than carbon dioxide when measured over a century, will be released. One hypothesis suggests that self-reinforcing feedback between permafrost emissions and Arctic warming caused disaster before: 55m years ago temperatures jumped by 5°C in a few thousand years.

In a recent paper in Nature Climate Change researchers from Cambridge University and the University of Colorado use standard environmental models to estimate the economic impact of carbon dioxide and methane being released from permafrost. By 2200, when these emissions are expected to peak, the cost could be 0.7% of global GDP—albeit with a very high level of uncertainty. And on September 29th Mark Carney, the governor of the Bank of England, warned that though measures to avoid catastrophic climate change are essential, not least for long-term financial stability, in the shorter term they could cause investors huge losses by making reserves of oil, coal and gas "literally unburnable".

But there is no agreement on who should pay the bill for reducing emissions, whatever it turns out to be. Arguments already rage over how to find $100 billion annually for a climate fund from 2020 to compensate poor countries, which did little to cause global warming. Action is needed immediately, says Christiana Figueres, a Costa Rican diplomat who is overseeing the Paris talks. "We are not treading lightly enough on the planet."

Rain brings misery to old-age home

BENGALURU, DHNS: The residents at the Don Guanella old-age home at Horamavu near Hennur had a tough time as water gushed into the premises following heavy rains that lashed the city on Sunday.

The volunteers at the home had no choice but to shift their residents to some other places with the premises flooded with close to five feet water.

Speaking to *Deccan Herald*, Domnic, Don Guanella Aged Home co-ordinator said that flooding has been common since a month with the stormwater drain nearby being blocked.

"To add to the problems, on one side, the Bescom is doing some work while on the other side, the BWSSB is also carrying out temporary works," he added.

Around 6.30 pm, the water brought down the compound wall.

Residents shifted

By 11.30 pm the situation grew worse and the residents had to be shifted to another building that was nearby. "Some of them are visually impaired and a few are mentally challenged. We had to rush them out on stretchers and ambulances. They are now in a school run for the mentally challenged," said Domnic.

With the repair works under way, the inmates are still residing at the school and a holiday was declared for the school on Monday to accommodate them.

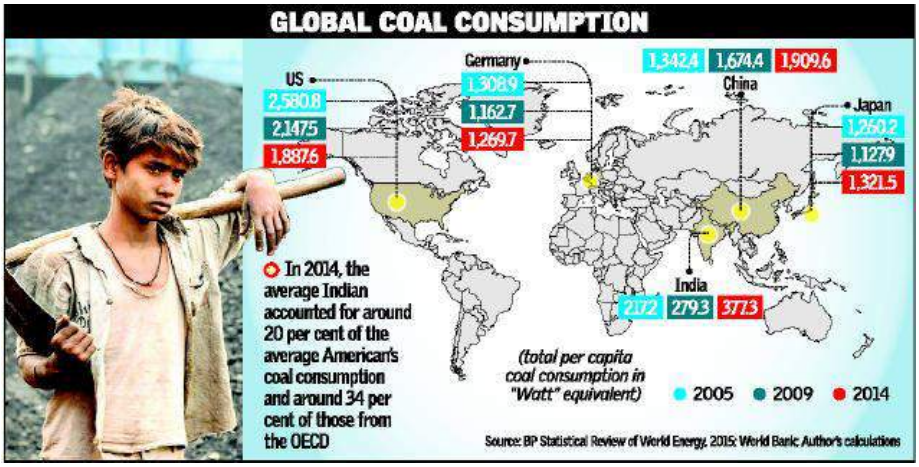
DH News Service

THE HINDU

Published: October 7, 2015 01:59 IST | Updated: October 7, 2015 03:47 IST October 7, 2015

Unbundling the coal-climate equation

- Samir Saran
- Vivan Sharan



There is still enough room for India to grow its coal consumption while continuing to accelerate its thrust on the expansion of renewable energy.

Ahead of the Paris climate summit, India announced on October 2 its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) for climate change mitigation and adaptation. India intends to reduce its carbon emissions intensity by 33-35 per cent by 2030, from its 2005 levels. While this commitment has drawn fulsome praise from many, the green ayatollahs have predictably ignored its herculean clean energy ambitions and focussed on Indian dependence on coal. It is time to lay bare the 'coal hypocrisy' of these privileged 'western greens'.

Read also: Preparing for Paris

India's total energy consumption is a fraction of that of China, the U.S., the European Union and the OECD. Its position at the climate change negotiations has continued to reflect the centrality of access to energy for human development. And India's normative position is supported by data, such as the positive correlation between energy access and the Human Development Index (HDI).

Lifeline energy

While a number of estimates exist on how much energy is needed to meet development objectives (we call it 'lifeline energy'), an interesting benchmark is that of the 2000-Watt (W) society, based on a Swiss research group's findings. The research states that 2000-W per capita is a basic level of energy which accounts for housing, mobility, food, consumption (manufactured goods) and infrastructure. In a forthcoming paper for the European Council on Foreign Relations, we argue that if the 'space' allocated to India for coal consumption towards fulfilling lifeline energy needs is even nominally equitable, India does not have to compromise on its development and growth aspirations.

On an average, U.S. citizens consume nearly the full extent of this lifeline energy benchmark using coal, the 'dirty fuel'. India consumes only 19 per cent of the benchmark through coal. In fact, citizens of OECD countries get a much larger proportion of their energy needs relative to the 2000-W benchmark from coal than non-OECD countries.

It is important to note that in 2014, the average Indian accounted for around 20 per cent of the average American's coal consumption and around 34 per cent of those from the OECD. What has caused concern in the developed world is that while they have reduced per capita coal consumption relative to pre-financial crisis levels, India has increased consumption over the same period. In our analysis, we point out that just as reduced coal consumption of developed countries following the crisis does not necessarily reflect a greater degree of 'responsibility' towards the climate, the increase in consumption by India does not reflect 'irresponsibility'.

This is better explained by two key trends, visible after the crisis. One, while developed countries have been cutting down energy consumption as a whole, developing countries have been increasing consumption, albeit at a gradually declining pace. Two, while developed countries have been cutting coal consumption faster than primary energy consumption, developing countries have increased coal consumption faster than primary energy consumption. Clearly then, industrial consumption (manufacturing and jobs) is very much part of the lifeline consumption matrix for developing countries.

Growth-development link

Many financial institutions such as the U.S. Exim Bank have stopped funding coal-based power generation projects. The World Bank also seems to be following in this direction even though coal consumption has been increasing in developing countries and coal-based energy remains the most practical option of scale. This tendency isolates economic growth from lifeline energy and skirts the central goal of development within growth.

India is neither in the same basket of per capita coal consumption as developed countries nor comparable to China. In fact, we have shown that India will meet a larger proportion of the 2000-W benchmark through 'clean' fuels than developed countries. Therefore, there is enough

room for India to grow its coal consumption while continuing to accelerate its renewable energy thrust. And this is precisely what the Indian INDCs reflect.

India has set a target of renewable energy capacity of 175 gigawatts by 2022; and has promised to achieve 63 GW of nuclear energy if "supply of fuels is ensured". It will be among a handful of countries to source a large proportion of its lifeline energy needs from non-conventional sources, across the developing and developed worlds.

It is worth emphasising that unlike developed countries that have already peaked their energy consumption, India must first strive to provide the 2000-W per capita lifeline energy to all, even as it seeks to clean this energy mix. India will continue to consume coal to grow its industrial base, improve HDI and develop its economy. This in turn will allow it the financial capacity to invest heavily in non-conventional sources. The Indian INDCs reflect this enduring paradox; India will need to grow its coal capacity if it is to successfully go green.

Developed countries such as those within the EU want to reduce their emissions to two tonnes per capita by 2050; which will in turn reflect the total carbon 'space' available per capita if the world is to limit global warming to manageable levels. While the road to Paris is paved with such good intentions, it is essential that each person on this planet begins to move towards an equitable carbon profile. This has two clear implications.

First, large developing countries such as India must invest in renewable energy benchmarks that match developed countries. Second, developed countries must pare down per capita coal consumptions to levels which would match India's lifeline consumption through coal in the future.

Simply put, every time a new coal plant comes up in India, one should be shut down in the OECD. If coal use can be substituted by clean sources, then millions of tonnes of coal capacity in EU and the U.S. are low hanging fruits. India uses coal to satisfy less than a fifth of its potential lifeline energy needs, while OECD countries use this 'nasty' fuel to satisfy two-thirds of theirs. It is time to meet in the middle. No, we are not suggesting historic responsibility; only the one we jointly shoulder for tomorrow.

(Samir Saran is vice-president and Vivan Sharan is visiting fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, India)

दिनांक 07 अक्टूबर, 15 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ संबंधी 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 Hearld (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

POURING MISERY: Residents use a canoe to evacuate from home in Conway, South Carolina, after torrential rainfall triggered once-in-a-millennium flooding in the US state causing at least eight deaths in the Carolinas. REUTERS