

News item/letter/article/editorial published on _____ in the _____

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| Hindustan Times | Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) | M.P. Chronicle |
| Statesman | Punjab Keshari (Hindi) | Aaj (Hindi) |
| The Times of India (W.D.) | The Hindu | Indian Nation |
| Indian Express | Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) | Nai Duniya (Hindi) |
| Tribune | Deccan Chronicle | The Times of India (A) |
| Hindustan (Hindi) | Deccan Herald | Elite |

and documented at Ehadirath/English & Publicity Section, GWC.

Speed up work to clean Yamuna: NGT

Times News Network

New Delhi: Disappointed with the delay in implementing 'Mailey Se Nirmal Yamuna Revitalization Project', National Green Tribunal (NGT) warned on Tuesday that there should be no interference or undue delay in implementing it.

In 2015, the tribunal laid out the plan focused on plugging discharge of untreated sewage into the Yamuna by setting up a network of decentralised sewage treatment plants (STPs). Its phase I was to be completed by 2017.

In a stock-taking meeting on Tuesday, NGT said phase I, which involves constructing 14 STPs to treat sewage coming from the Najafgarh drain, should be completed as planned. According to the meeting, NGT also said officials would be penalised or sent for civil imprisonment if they didn't comply with its orders.

About 64% of pollution on the Delhi stretch of the Yamuna is contributed by two

RIVER REVIVAL PLAN

- In 2015, NGT ordered the setting up of 14 STPs to separately treat water from Najafgarh and Delhi Gate feeder drains. These two drains together cause 64% of the pollution in Yamuna and carries sewage from rural Najafgarh and surrounding areas
- There's a separate interceptor project by DJB to treat sewage from urban Najafgarh, Shahdara and supplementary drains. It was supposed to get over in 2010 but is still incomplete
- NGT wants all of this done as part of Phase I of Mailey Se Nirmal Yamuna 2017 project



feeder drains — Najafgarh and Delhi Gate. Rural Najafgarh doesn't have any sewerage system.

The project could not take off until this year because of a confusion between the Delhi government and the Centre over funding of the project. NGT, in a 2016 order, had termed these excuses as "frivolous and casual".

On Tuesday, the lawyer of Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Kush Sharma, submitted that it had released Rs 37 crore out of its share of

Rs 300 to the Delhi government while National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) had given Rs 47 crore (of Rs 350 crore) for phase 1. The Delhi government will have to pay around Rs 300 crore for seven STPs. Delhi Jal Board (DJB) officials told NGT that the agency had received the amount and the work had started. NGT directed DJB to implement the project expeditiously.

The Delhi assembly's estimate committee, which is probing alleged irregulariti-

es of Rs 776.7 crore in the construction of these 14 STPs by DJB, has opined that even before these 14 STPs were built, the existing STPs running under capacity should be optimised. The committee was referring to a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report that had concluded the same and said Delhi needed to plan how to re-use treated sewage water before planning more STPs.

An interceptor sewer system, which is meant to stop sewage from drains in urban

Najafgarh and the surrounding areas to flow into the Yamuna, was to be completed before the Commonwealth Games in 2010. The Rs 1,394-crore project was finally commissioned in 2011 and is likely to be completed by March 2018. Till then, the Yamuna's condition would continue to deteriorate with all untreated sewage entering the river.

NGT, on Tuesday, also directed Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana government representatives to conduct surveys and check all pollution sources that are discharging into their Yamuna stretches. It also directed all four states to file project reports on how they would clean up the river. The case will be heard again on September 15.

The DJB, during its site inspections, had noted in July that hutments, cowsheds/dairies, dhobi ghats and parking spots were seen on the left bank of the Yamuna within the floodplain boundary. "These activities contribute to the pollution to the river," it said.

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The displaced must have a say

Resettlement should be dealt with in a humane manner

Narmada Bachao Andolan activist Medha Patkar's 12-day-long fast which has been cut short by the police taking her into custody and putting her in a hospital is not likely to make much difference to the cause she is espousing – that of the appropriate rehabilitation of those displaced by the Narmada dam construction.

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Since Independence, at least 4.4 million people have been displaced due to dam construction. Many who lost their lands when the country's oldest dam, the Hirakud was built, are yet to get adequate compensation. Today, many families of successful farmers who gave up their land to build the temples of modern India have been reduced to daily wage workers, still waiting for full compensation. The rehabilitation, when it is provided, is almost always substandard. The land provided is often waterlogged and uncultivable or simply not enough. There is also the emotional connect to the land that is missed in rehabilitation schemes. People have a strong attachment to the land of their ancestors and their gods and are loath to leave it for a substitute far from their zones of comfort. The main problem is that the displaced people rarely have a say in the selection of the sites where they are to be resettled. This leads to rejection and the exertion of authority by the State as seen in the Narmada cases and those before it. The authorities seem to consider the displaced persons as a homogenous entity, overlooking the fact that they have different needs to pursue their livelihoods and way of life.

It is no one's contention that big projects which deliver much needed water, electricity or roads be put off. If the rehabilitation process was executed in a more humane and holistic manner, many of the problems could be obviated. It would be best looking ahead if these issues were first discussed with the people involved and resolved before starting big projects. And even now, instead of adopting an adversarial position, a dialogue with representatives of the displaced persons would be a better way of ending the dispute once and for all, rather than this endless cycle of protests and arrests.

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

तेजी से बढ़ रहा घाघरा का जलस्तर

देवरिया @पत्रिका घाघरा नदी का जलस्तर पिछले 24 घण्टे में तेजी से बढ़ा है। नदी खतरे के निशान से 35 सेमी. ऊपर बह रही है। कृषि योग्य भूमि की कटान भी तेज होता दिख रहा है। जिससे तटवर्ती गांवों के ग्रामीणों में दहशत बढ़ गई है।

कुछ दिनों पूर्व बरहज थाना घाट पर बने बाढ़ मापक के अनुसार नदी का जलस्तर 64 मीटर 80 सेमी पर दर्ज किया गया था लेकिन लगातार बढ़ोतरी के कारण चार दिन पूर्व जहाँ जलस्तर 66 सेमी. पर था वहीं आज जहाजघाट पर 66.50 से 66.85 तक नदी का बहाव नजर आ रहा था।

दिनांक ०७.०८.२०१७ 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)

North East witnessing deficit rainfall since June 1-7.

AJIT PATOWARY

GUWAHATI, Aug 6: Most of the NE States have recorded deficit rainfall between June 1 and August 5 this monsoon. Meanwhile, rainless condition for quite a long period has made life miserable in many areas of the region with the day temperature soaring under a scorching Sun.

Borjhar-based Regional Meteorology Centre (RMC) here maintained that after a long break, monsoon rainfall activities are expected to start over the region from Saturday.

During the monsoon this time, Arunachal Pradesh has recorded a deficit rainfall of 24 per cent, with 822 mm of rainfall, against a normal of 1087.2 mm, while Assam recorded a deficit rainfall of 15 per cent with an actual of 796.9 mm, against a normal of 936 mm.

Manipur recorded the highest deficit of 75 per cent, with an actual of 212.8 mm, against a normal of 857.4 mm while Meghalaya recorded a deficit rainfall of 42 per cent with an actual of 1059.8 mm, against a normal of 1824.5 mm. The deficit in Nagaland was 35 per cent, with an actual of 520.6 mm, against

the normal of 802.7 mm.

Mizoram and Tripura are the only two States which recorded surplus rainfall during this period. While Mizoram recorded a surplus rainfall of 38 per cent, receiving a rainfall of 1324.1 mm, against the normal of 959.9 mm, Tripura recorded a surplus of 21 per cent by receiving 1133.7 mm of rainfall, against the average of 936.5 mm.

Meanwhile, Guwahati yesterday recorded a day temperature of 36.4 degree Celsius, which was 4.2 degree Celsius above its normal for the day. Dibrugarh recorded a day

temperature of 36 degree Celsius (4 degree Celsius above normal), Pasighat recorded 36.4 mm (4.6 degree Celsius higher), North Lakhimpur saw a day temperature of 36.6 degree Celsius (4.6 degree above normal) and Dhubri recorded 33.1 degree Celsius (2 degree Celsius higher).

Rainfall: RMC sources said that rainfall activities would occur at most of the places over Assam-Meghalaya on August 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Over the Nagaland-Manipur-Mizoram-Tripura (NMMT) Meteorological sub-division, rainfall activities would occur at most of its

places on August 6, 7 and 8 and at many of its places on August 9.

Over Arunachal Pradesh Meteorological sub-division, rainfall activities would occur at many places on August 6 and at most of its places on August 7, 8 and 9.

RMC sources also informed that heavy rainfall (64.5 mm to 115.5 mm) would occur at isolated places over Assam-Meghalaya Meteorological sub-division on August 6, while the sub-division is expected to receive heavy to very heavy (115.6 mm to 204.4 mm) at isolated places on August 7, 8 and 9.

Over the NMMT Meteorologi-

cal sub-division, heavy rainfall would occur at isolated places on August 6 and 8.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall would occur at isolated places over Nagaland on August 6, while on August 7, this Meteorological sub-division is expected to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places.

Over Arunachal Pradesh Meteorological sub-division, heavy rainfall would occur at isolated places on August 6 and 7, and it is to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places on August 8 and 9, said the RMC sources.