

Workshop on rain water harvesting

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 9 October

In an attempt to prepare an action plan for implementing Rainwater Harvesting in the Capital, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) in association with Delhi Dialogue Commission, organised a workshop to firm up the policy document on "Rain Water Harvesting" on 8th October at Delhi Secretariat.

It was decided at the workshop that, Rainwater harvesting requires a two-pronged approach at micro and macro level. A combination of government push by new

regulation, rules, enforcement and pull created by volunteers/citizens through 'JalSwaraj' initiatives at local level can lead to physical and sustained changes. The JalSwaraj initiative can be orchestrated by an NGO or the local mohalla committees.

Chief minister, Mr Arvind Kejriwal, and Chairperson Delhi Jal Board Mr Kapil Mishra, inaugurated the workshop. Mr Kejriwal appreciated the work done in Chennai and emphasized the urgent need for rain water harvesting for Delhi to reduce the dependence on neighboring states

for its water needs.

He said that the workshop would come up with a concrete workable policy document to implement rainwater harvesting in an effective way.

The representatives from RWAs, NGOs, consumer organisations and professional water organisations attended the workshop and appreciated the initiative. "The workshop on rain water harvesting reflects the commitment of the Delhi government and the Delhi Jal Board to deliberate upon and find solutions to facilitate Rain Water harvesting all

over the city," said DJB spokesperson. "The focus of this workshop was to deliberate upon and discuss issues related to rain water harvesting to ensure adoption of Rainwater Harvesting in all the areas of the city where the water table has gone down," added the spokesperson.

Stressing on the need to implement rain water harvesting, Mr Kapil Mishra, said: "DJB is also looking at wider publicity which is needed for public awareness to enable community at large to participate in rainwater harvesting programmes."



LEAKING | MONEY ■ Contractor uses poor quality material, river beautification funds swindled

Inferior rubber dams stink Musi further

COREENA SUARES | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 8

The two "rubber dams" built opposite the High Court and Salar Jung Museum, as part of the Musi Revitalisation Project to serve as check dams to store water during heavy inflows, are damaged. It is clear from the condition of the dams that the contractor had used low-quality material. The Musi River Beautification Project had cost the GHMC ₹16 crore, which was funded under the JNNURM. Another ₹1.07 crore was sanctioned for laying granite kerbs, MS railing from Mussallam Jung Bridge to Shivaji Bridge for a length of 105 metres and for providing

gates at the entrance opposite the HC and the Salar Jung Museum. Most of this money was swindled. The two rubber dams, one km apart, are seven to eight feet deep. The idea was to pump two million gallons of treated water from the Amberpet sewage treatment plant and store them between the collapsible dams. During heavy inflows, the dams would be deflated by pumping out the water to let the floodwaters flow out instead of leaking onto the embankments. The 40-metre rubber dam near the High Court, with a control room on the other side, has a capacity of 2.6 lakh litres and needs three hours to inflate and one hour for deflation. The

one near the museum is 23 metre long. It needs 2.55 lakh litre of water to be filled. The water in these rubber dams has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Residents of Zia-ul-ah, Puranapul, Jannerali Bazar, Bahadurpura, Sai Nagar, Chaderghat, Chudi Bazar, Nayapul and other nearby localities are struggling with the mosquito menace. Kareem Vagantur, a resident of Puranapul, said, "While more funds were spent, the end results were poor: the dams are not in use for years." Officials of the GHMC wing that deals with JNNURM projects, meanwhile, said that the dams would be visited.

**BUDGET
DETAILS FOR
WORKS TAKEN
UP UNDER THE
MUSI
REVITALISATION
PROJECT.**

**₹6.21
Cr.**
Rubber dams
opposite High
Court and
Salarjung Museum
across Musi:
Contract estimate
₹5.74 cr



₹6.03 Cr.
Sectioning of Musi river
from Puranapul Bridge
under city recreation and
green space programme.
Contract estimate ₹5.70 cr

₹1.74Cr
Balance work of laying
granite kerbing, MS railing
from Mussallam Jung
Bridge to Shivaji Bridge.
Expenditure ₹1.07 cr

City, GHMC gear up for Dasara festivities

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 10

Over 1,700 Durga idols are to be installed in the city for Dasara with the Navratri festivities beginning from October 12.

The GHMC will install 10-feet Bathukammas at all major junctions from the fifth day of the festivities.

Over 150 hoardings will come up greeting citizens for the state festival. There will be 3D lighting at the Clock Tower and Kacheguda on all nine days, and special lighting on the Tank Bund.

The job has been jointly taken up by the GHMC and the Buddha Poornima Project of the HMDA, while the urban forestry wing of HMDA is working on creating "Bathukamma Trails" on Necklace Road, along the railway track, at a cost of ₹50 lakh.

Over 10 varieties of flowers like Senna, Ipomoea, Katla, Teku, hibiscus, stick bush, jasmine, apart from seasonal flowers like Gunuka (celosia), Tangedu (Tanner's Cassia), Banti (marigold), Chamanti



The Bathukamma ghat at Hussainsagar lies in filth and no step has been taken by the GHMC to clear the area before the festival. — DECCAN CHRONICLE

(chrysanthemum) are being cultivated along the stretch of Necklace Road.

However, the work has been stalled as a pipeline is being installed by the Water Board to divert

water from the Kukatpally *nalas* away from the Hussainsagar.

Most of the idols will be immersed in the Hussainsagar at the NTR Marg.

Algae, wastes dirty Hussainsagar ghats

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 10

The state-wide celebration of Bathukamma will start on October 12.

Bathukamma is a floral festival, where more than 10 varieties of flowers are used to make a *gopuram*-like structure that is immersed in water bodies.

There will be a procession from the Lal Bahadur stadium to the Bathukamma ghat of Hussainsagar to immerse the Bathukammas. But the shallow water of the ghat is yet to be cleaned of the algae and the waste that has accumulated.

GHMC officials have said that there will be an inspection of the *ghat* by a combined team of the HMDA, Water Board and GHMC officials.

They have also said that the *ghat* will be cleaned before Saddula Bathuk-

amma and silt will be removed. The traffic police will divert vehicles on the routes for the nine-day festivities.

The public will be informed about the temporary diversions and the alternative routes.

L.S. Chawhan, DCP Traffic 1, Hyderabad said, "Elaborate traffic plans will be in place."

On Saddula Bathukamma, the last day of the festival, there will be processions all over, where women will carry the Bathukammas and proceed towards the water bodies while singing praises of Goddess Gowri.

The state tourism department has introduced four special tour packages for the season. These packages will include trips to Yadadri, Kolanupaka, Warangal, Gadwal, Alampur, Farhabad, Malleththeert-ham and Srisailem.

BBMP to hold survey of SWD encroached upon by Manyata

Bengaluru: The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will be conducting a survey of the stormwater drain (SWD) falling under the property held by Manyata Tech Park at Veeranaahalli, where a teen was washed away recently.

The survey, which will start soon, will include details such as the original alignment of the SWD, costs involved in restoration of SWD that has been encroached upon by the Tech Park, among others, said Palike officials from Yelahanka zone.

BBMP Joint Commissioner, Yelahanka division, Sarfaraz Khan, told *Deccan Herald* that the survey once completed, will also throw light on what exactly



Rainwater floods the road behind Manyata Tech Park on Thursday due to encroachment of the SWD. DH PHOTO

led to the accident and violations made by the Tech Park.

Prakash, a 15-year-old boy

was washed away in a SWD behind Manyata Tech Park on Wednesday noon. According

to Palike, the SWD is connected to many lakes like Puttenahalli lake, Yelahanka lake, Jakkur lake, Rachenahalli lake and Hebbal lake.

The civic agency has also announced a compensation of Rs one lakh to the victim's family which will be handed over soon.

Sarfaraz Khan said after discussing with police officials and BBMP higher officials, a criminal case has been lodged against the Manyata Tech Park on Thursday. "We have also filed a complaint with the Bangalore Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF) against the builders for encroaching upon the SWD," he added.

The Palike said the Tech Park will have to cough up dou-

ble the amount for restoration of SWD once the survey is over. When contacted, Mayor B N Manjunatha Reddy said that a survey was done prior to the accident under the guidance of Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner Shankar V. However, the extent of encroachments were not marked in the survey. Hence, a fresh survey will be conducted, he said.

The mayor also said that during the accident no representatives from Manyata Tech Park met them, which is inhuman on their part. "According to information available, the Tech Park has not paid us tax worth crores. This will also be looked into, by us," he added.

DH News Service

Deficiency of rainfall may hit rural income

• [Oommen A. Ninan](#)



AP

The weak south-west monsoon this time is particularly worrying for the economy, especially the farm sector. File photo

Even though deficiency of rainfall is likely to impact rural economy, as vulnerability of domestic farm sector continues, its impact on food prices is expected to be less compared to the previous years.

For the second year in a row, India has had a deficient monsoon. In June, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) had forecast 12 per cent shortfall in rains, and the actual deficit turned out to be 14 per cent.

“The weak south-west monsoon this time is particularly worrying for the economy, especially the farm sector, because it is the third straight shock after deficient rains in June-September 2014 and the unseasonal downpour in March 2015,” said Crisil, a leading rating agency in a report on current year’s monsoon.

Rainfall deficiency was most acute in the north-west region at 17 per cent, followed by central at 16 per cent, south peninsula at 15 per cent and east and north-east at 8 per cent. In the north-west and east and north-east, rainfall deficiency was lower compared with last year. But for central India and the south peninsula, the deficiency is higher. This time, five States have seen a rainfall deficiency of 20 per cent or more. “The sensitivity of agriculture sector to monsoon has been moderating due to continued improvement in yield, rising share of irrigation, increased global linkages and pro-active food management policies by government, said Anurag Jha, Citi Economist, while talking to *The Hindu*.

In this year, though the cumulative rainfall was 14 per cent deficient in the southwest monsoon, “the timely onset had led to an increase in sowing of kharif crops especially that of pulses and oilseeds”, Mr. Jha added.

However, he said, due to poor rainfall after July, the water storage in key reservoirs are around 22 per cent lower than last year, which could possibly impact the rabi crops.

According to Crisil, there are three key reasons for this year’s decline in food inflation: Proactive food management by the government by clamping down on hoarding and allowing imports of pulses, prices of which are lower abroad; restricted hikes in minimum support prices (MSP) contributing significantly to low inflation in food-grains; and the sharp fall in global prices of agri-commodities following a supply glut, which kept domestic food prices low.

This is especially true of commodities such as oilseeds where global prices have fallen nearly 20 per cent so far, and, where import dependence is almost 62 per cent.

Restrictive fiscal policy also helped in keeping demand under check.

As regards inflation, said Mr. Jha, though prices tend to be impacted by both actual and anticipated shortfall in production, “we expect the food inflation to remain contained” on benign global prices — as seen in UN FAO index; moderate hikes in MSP; and adequate level of food stocks.

“We expect Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation or retail inflation to track an average 5 per cent in 2015-16 and 4.8 per cent in 2016-17, which could open the space for further 25-50 basis points (bps) easing in 2016. Key will be further progress on fiscal and transmission front,” Mr. Jha added. “The impact of a monsoon shock is accentuated due to high vulnerability of the farm sector stemming from disproportionately high dependence on agriculture income, high agricultural indebtedness and farmer suicides, low irrigation buffer and poor crop insurance cover,” said Crisil.

Almost half of India's GDP comes from rural areas. About 40 per cent of India's households engage in agriculture and within this group, two-thirds are heavily reliant on it. As agriculture suffers, Crisil report says the biggest impact will be on rural demand, which has already slowed in the past few years.

Printable version | Oct 12, 2015 1:44:23 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/business/deficiency-of-rainfall-may-hit-rural-income/article7750219.ece>

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Himachal

Jispa Dam project faces opposition

HP Power Corp seeks police protection to carry out site investigation

Published on: Oct 12 2015 1:06AM

Kuldeep Chauhan

Tribune News Service

Shimla, October 11

The 260-mw Jispa Dam project at the snowbound Lahaul valley faces tribal opposition. The dam aims at storing about 0.8 million-acre feet of water to feed 11 major power projects downstream in the Chenab basin.

Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) has sought police protection to carry out site investigation after the HPPCL team was not allowed to work there last month.

The Ministry of Power has declared Jipsa as a project of national importance and had awarded it to the HPPCL about five years ago. The dam will feed 11 major power projects, six in Himachal and five in Jammu and Kashmir, in the Chenab basin.

A faction of tribals under the banner of the Jispa Bandh Jan Sangharsh Samiti (JBJSS), which is spearheading the protest, disallowed the team to work at the project site last month.

The JBJSS faction led by Ringzin Hayarpa protested at the dam site. They have sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister, Chief Minister and National Green Tribunal.

“Our major concern is that the dam will oust 74 families of Darcha, Dangma, Sumoh, Lingchum, Schchling, Thangka, Rangyo-Baryo villages,” said Hayarpa.

He said the tunnel would dry the natural water springs that irrigate cash crops of peas and potatoes and provided drinking water to Gemur, Sarangvar, Khangsar, Kalath, Rangrik, Kolang and Kwaring villages in Jispa valley.

He said the villagers could not be resettled in the valley as other areas were glacier-prone.

DK Sharma, Managing Director, HPPCL, said tribals fear was baseless. He said he had asked the

Tribals protest

- A faction led by Ringzin Hayarpa protested at the dam site
- Its members have sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister and the National Green Tribunal
- They claim that the tunnel will dry the natural water springs that irrigate cash crops of peas and potatoes
- It will create scarcity of drinking water in Gemur, Sarangvar, Khangsar, Kalath, Rangrik, Kolang and Kwaring villages in Jispa valley


district administration to provide police protection as certain samiti members were not allowing them to work at the project site.

The dam would have a positive impact on the local ecology as it was a dry cold desert, he said.

“We have been asked to submit the survey report to the Ministry of Water Sources, which has allotted Rs 7.5 crore for the project,” he said.

The project would bring in Rs 5,000-crore investment in the valley and the state had to invest only 10 per cent of the project cost while 90 per cent by the Centre, he added.

On settlement of oustees, Sharma said: “We are offering liberal packages and will not construct tunnel as the power house will be built near the dam. Jispa village does not fall in the submergence zone as the dam site has been pushed three km upstream.”



FIRST COLOUR IMAGES YIELD NEW BREAKTHROUGH *NASA finds blue skies, ice on Pluto*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, 9 October

In a major finding, the first colour images of Pluto's atmospheric hazes beamed by NASA's New Horizons spacecraft show that the icy-dwarf planet has blue skies similar to Earth and frozen water on its surface.

"Who would have expected a blue sky in the Kuiper Belt? It's gorgeous," said Alan Stern, New Horizons principal investigator from Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), Boulder, Colorado. The haze particles themselves are likely grey or red, but the way they scatter blue light has gotten the attention of the New Horizons science team. "That striking blue tint tells us about the size and composition of the haze particles," said science team researcher Carly Howett, also of SwRI.

"A blue sky often results from scattering of sunlight by very small particles. On Earth, those particles are very tiny nitrogen molecules. On Pluto they appear



to be larger but still relatively small soot-like particles we call tholins," said Howett. Scientists believe the tholin particles form high in the atmosphere, where ultraviolet sunlight breaks apart and ionises nitrogen and methane molecules and

allows them to react with each other to form more and more complex negatively and positively charged ions. When they recombine, they form very complex macromolecules, a process first found to occur in the upper atmosphere of Saturn's moon Titan. The

more complex molecules continue to combine and grow until they become small particles; volatile gases condense and coat their surfaces with ice frost before they have time to fall through the atmosphere to the surface, where they add to Pluto's red colouring.



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The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
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यमुना सफाई के मुद्दे पर स्पेन के राजदूत सीएम से मिले

नई दिल्ली, (ब्यूरो): यमुना की सफाई को लेकर मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने शुक्रवार को स्पेन के राजदूत गुस्तावो मैत्रो अल डी अरेस्टेगी ने से मुलाकात की।

मुलाकात के दौरान यमुना की सफाई, पानी की गुणवत्ता, शहरी संरचना तथा पर्यावरण के मुद्दे पर बात की गई। इस दौरान स्पेन के राजदूत के साथ आये प्रतिनिधि मंडल ने मुख्यमंत्री केजरीवाल को बताया कि उनकी टीम ने उक्त मुद्दों पर गहन अध्ययन किया



हैं और वह जनवरी 2016 तक इन सभी मुद्दों पर एक ठोस योजना दिल्ली सरकार के सामने प्रस्तुत करेगी। मुख्यमंत्री ने स्पेन के राजदूत को बताया कि यमुना की सफाई के लिए सरकार एक विस्तृत योजना बना रही है।

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi) ✓

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CVC.

छोटा भूकंप, बड़े खतरे की घंटी

रिक्टर स्केल पर भूकंप की तीव्रता 3 आंकी गई, भूकंप का केंद्र दिल्ली-एनसीआर

Prachi.Yadav
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नई दिल्ली : दिल्ली-एनसीआर में शुक्रवार देर रात आया भूकंप भले ही लो इंटेसिटी का था और इससे जान माल की हानि की कोई खबर नहीं है, लेकिन एक्सपर्ट भूकंप का केंद्र ईस्ट दिल्ली होने को एक बड़े खतरे की चेतावनी की तरह देख रहे हैं।

दिल्ली में देर रात करीब 1:40 बजे यह भूकंप आया, जिसकी रिक्टर स्केल पर तीव्रता 3 बताई गई। भूकंप का केंद्र दिल्ली-एनसीआर बताया गया और यही

बात चिंता का विषय है। इसी साल अप्रैल में भूकंप ने नेपाल के एक बड़े हिस्से को काफी हद तक बर्बाद कर दिया था। इसमें जानमाल के बेहिसाब नुकसान को देखते हुए कई लेवल पर भूकंप से बचने को लेकर विचार विमर्श शुरू हो गया है। इसी बीच सेंटर फॉर साइंस एंड एनवायरनमेंट (सीएसई)

ने देश की बिल्डिंगों के संबंध में एक स्टडी जारी की जिसमें दिल्ली में 70 से 80 फीसदी बिल्डिंग के तय नियमों के तहत नहीं बने होने का दावा

किया गया। स्टडी से जुड़े रहे सीएसई के सीनियर रिसर्च असोसिएट अविक्ल सोमवंशी ने बताया कि 3 रिक्टर स्केल की तीव्रता वाले भूकंप से भी हल्का-

फुल्का नुकसान हो सकता है, अगर बिल्डिंग स्ट्रक्चर बहुत घटिया हो। हालांकि बिल्डिंग कोलैप्स का खतरा 7 या उससे अधिक तीव्रता वाले भूकंप से रहता है।

उन्होंने इस भूकंप को चेतावनी के तौर पर लेने की बात कहते हुए कहा कि राजधानी में अभी से बिल्डिंगों को सेफ बनाने के लिए काम शुरू कर देना चाहिए।

उन बिल्डिंगों को रेगुलेट किए जाने की तुरंत जरूरत है, जो रेट्रोफिट नहीं हैं और जहां सेंक्शनड बिल्डिंग प्लान को लागू नहीं किया गया है। भूकंप से नहीं बिल्डिंग गिरने से ज्यादा जानमाल के नुकसान का दावा करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि यहां अभी से बिल्डिंगों को कैरेक्टराईज कर उन्हें हाई प्रायोरिटी और लेस प्रायोरिटी वाली बिल्डिंगों में बांट कर उन्हें सेफ बनाने का काम शुरू कर देना चाहिए। मौसम विभाग के वैज्ञानिक भूकंप की इस तीव्रता को दिल्ली के लिए अलार्मिंग नहीं मानते, फिर भी सुरक्षा इंतजामों के लिए सतर्क रहने का पक्ष जरूर ले रहे हैं। मौसम विभाग

के डायरेक्टर जनरल लक्ष्मण राठौड़ ने कहा कि रिक्टर स्केल पर भूकंप की 3 तीव्रता को अलार्मिंग नहीं माना जाता। यहां भूकंप को तब तक खतरनाक नहीं माना जा सकता। जब तक रिक्टर स्केल पर उसकी तीव्रता 6 से ऊपर न हो। उन्होंने यह जरूर कहा कि चूंकि भूकंप का केंद्र दिल्ली-एनसीआर बताया जा रहा है, वह भी यमुना किनारे का इलाका इसलिए इसे अच्छा संकेत नहीं माना जा सकता। क्योंकि यह इलाका इस लिहाज से संवेदनशील जोन के तहत आता है और इसलिए सुरक्षा कदम उठाने के लिए तैयार रहने की जरूरत है।

दिल्ली में 80
फीसदी बिल्डिंग्स
खतरनाक भूकंप
को झेलने के लायक
नहीं

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 11.10.15 in the

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The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi) ✓

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A) ---

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

अगले हफ्ते पहाड़ों पर बारिश टंडक बढ़ाएगी

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

गर्मी से राहत देने के लिए दिल्ली-एनसीआर को बारिश के लिए लंबा इंतजार करना पड़ सकता है लेकिन अगले हफ्ते जम्मू-कश्मीर के ऊपर एक पश्चिमी विक्षोभ से पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में बारिश हो सकती है। इसके प्रभाव से दिल्ली-एनसीआर में टंडक बढ़ेगी।

मौसम वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में 15 अक्टूबर के बाद होने वाली बारिश से मैदानी क्षेत्रों का पारा लुढ़केगा। दरअसल, उत्तर भारत के मैदानी इलाकों में इस बार अगस्त के पहले सप्ताह में ही मानसून ने अलविदा कह दिया था। नतीजन न्यूनतम तापमान दो से तीन डिग्री अधिक चल रहा है।

वरिष्ठ मौसम वैज्ञानिक डॉक्टर रंजीत सिंह के अनुसार, अभी दो निम्न दबाव के क्षेत्र बने थे। एक अरब सागर

यदि उत्तराखंड, हिमाचल और जम्मू-कश्मीर के ऊंचे इलाकों में बारिश कराने में पश्चिमी विक्षोभ सफल रहता है तो हवाओं का रुख बदलेगा और मैदानों में पारा दो डिग्री तक लुढ़क सकता है

- डॉ. रंजीत सिंह, मौसम विज्ञानी

में कर्नाटक के तट के निकट और दूसरा उत्तरी बंगाल की खाड़ी में। मगर कर्नाटक तट से निम्न दबाव का क्षेत्र अरब सागर की तरफ विपरीत दिशा में बढ़ गया। जबकि बंगाल की खाड़ी में बना सिस्टम बंगाल होते हुए पूर्वोत्तर तक ही पहुंच पा रहा है।

उन्होंने कहा, यदि ये दोनों सिस्टम उत्तर-पश्चिम दिशा में बढ़ते तो उत्तर भारत के मैदानी इलाकों को भिगो देते। अब पश्चिमी विक्षोभ पर सारा दारोमदार टिका हुआ है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 11-10-15 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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M.P.Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
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दिल्ली में भूकंप के झटके

नई दिल्ली @ पत्रिका
राजधानी दिल्ली एवं आस-पास
के इलाके में शनिवार को तड़के
भूकंप के झटके महसूस किए गए।
राष्ट्रीय भूकंप विज्ञान केन्द्र के
अनुसार यह भूकंप सुबह करीब
01:40 बजे महसूस किए गए
तथा रिक्टर स्केल पर इसकी
तीव्रता 3.0 मापी गई। उन्होंने
कहा कि इसका केन्द्र गाजियाबाद
के पास राजनगर एक्सटेंशन में
सतह से पांच किलोमीटर के
गहराई में स्थित था। पुलिस सूत्रों
के मुताबिक इस भूकंप से अभी
तक जान-माल के नुकसान की
कोई सूचना नहीं है।

पत्रिका-11-10-15

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 11.10.15 in the

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Statesman
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Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A) ---
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

मंगल ग्रह पर बहते पानी से गेल क्रेटर भरा

वाशिंगटन, (आई एनएस):
लगभग 3.3-3.8 अरब साल पहले
मंगल ग्रह पर मौजूद झरनों व झीलों
ने गेल क्रेटर को तलछट से भरने में
महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई और यही
परतें उस पहाड़ की बुनियाद बनी,
जिसे माउंट शार्प कहा जाता है। एक
भारतवंशी वैज्ञानिक ने यह खुलासा
किया। नासा के मार्स साइंस
लेबोरेटरी में परियोजना वैज्ञानिक
अश्विन वसावडा ने कहा कि ऐसा
लगता है कि अरबों साल पहले मंगल
ग्रह पर व्यापक वायुमंडल था और
एक सक्रिय जलमंडल भी था, जहां
झीलों में पानी जमा होता था।

एमएसएल के दल ने कहा कि
इसी जल ने गेल क्रेटर को भरने में
महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। वसावडा
ने कहा, "क्यूरियोसिटी रोवर के
अवलोकन से पता चलता है कि वहां
मौजूद उन झीलों व झरनों ने तलछट
प्रदान करने का काम किया, जो
धीरे-धीरे माउंट शार्प की निचले
सतह के रूप में विकसित हुआ।"
मंगल ग्रह पर क्यूरियोसिटी रोवर के
पहुँचने के पहले वैज्ञानिकों का
विचार था कि गेल क्रेटर को तलछटों
द्वारा भरा गया होगा। कुछ
संकल्पनाओं के मुताबिक, ये
तलछट हवा में मौजूद धूल कणों व
बालू से जमा हुए, जबकि कुछ अन्य
के मुताबिक ये तलछट झीलों व
झरनों से आए होंगे।

पंजाब-11-10-15

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बारिश से मौसम

बैव होगा ठंडा

■ नस, नई दिल्ली : मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने 15 से 17 अक्टूबर के बीच हल्की बारिश होने का अनुमान जताया है। उनका कहना है कि बारिश होने से मौसम ठंडा हो सकता है। साथ ही बारिश होने के बाद मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 33 डिग्री के आसपास रह सकता है। शुक्रवार दोपहर लोगों को उमस से परेशानी हुई। मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर नॉर्मल से दो डिग्री ज्यादा के साथ 36 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। मिनिमम टेंपरेचर नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री ज्यादा के साथ 21.8 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। मौसम विभाग ने बताया कि शनिवार को आसमान साफ रहेगा। मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 36 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 22 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहने का अनुमान है। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि दिल्ली में फिलहाल दोपहर में गर्मी महसूस हो रही है और रात के समय मिनिमम टेंपरेचर कम दर्ज हो रहा है। अगले दो से तीन दिनों तक ऐसा ही मौसम बना रहेगा। दिल्ली में दोपहर के समय ह्यूमिडिटी का मैक्सिमम लेवल 86 पर्सेंट के आसपास रह सकता है। स्काइमेट के मौसम वैज्ञानिक महेश पलावत ने कहा कि 15 से 17 अक्टूबर तक दिल्ली में बारिश होने की संभावना है। वेस्टर्न डिस्टरबेंस इफेक्ट से हल्की बारिश हो सकती है।

Rayalaseema in a state of discontent

• [M. Rajeev](#)



The Hindu

The neglect of the irrigation sector could be a tipping point for fuelling yet another Statehood movement. A farmer in Kurnool district. Photo. S.Subramanyam

A sense of alienation pervades Rayalaseema region following the non-fulfilment of promises made in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act.

Close to a year-and-a-half after the bifurcation of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, the Rayalaseema region, comprising four districts — Kurnool, Kadapa, Anantapur and Chittoor — finds itself at a crossroads.

Simmering discontent is visible among the political class as well as the general people as they feel alienated from the developmental activities in the new State which started its journey with a deficit in its finances and without a capital of its own. One of the prime factors behind the disenchantment of the people is said to be the priority given to the Krishna and Godavari delta regions in the process of development — be it in the setting up of the new capital or the push given for accelerated development of infrastructure and industry — ignoring areas like Anantapur, a perennially drought-prone district with all mandals declared as drought hit for the fifth year in succession.

Promises on the setting up of institutions of national repute were made at the time of bifurcation and some of them were incorporated into the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. Except for the Chief Minister's home turf, Chittoor, which managed to get work started on some institutions, like the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), a majority of them have remained on paper.

The region has not seen a single major institute except for a central university coming up at Anantapur. There were hopes of Kurnool being converted into an industrial hub, but all that the district got was an IIT while Kadapa, which hoped of housing the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and a High Court bench has got none till date. Other institutions — like a petroleum university, a tribal university and industrial corridors including those that will house the prestigious petrochemical industry — ended up in the coastal districts.

Coupled with this is the emphasis on the construction of the new capital — planned as a world-class economic hub — and the government's failure to give a sense of ownership to the Rayalaseema region on the new capital. Not a day passes without the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu speaking about Amaravati, the new capital, and his priorities in shifting the administration to the area between Vijayawada and Guntur cities.

The talk of a metro rail project and an outer ring road covering the capital region and the announcements about the development planned along the coastline has only accentuated the angst among the people in Rayalaseema. Discontent is already brewing among the people of Kurnool, the capital of the first linguistically-reorganised State in the country.

This has furthered the estrangement in the region, where there is a strong opposition to locating the proposed world-class capital in the already developed delta region rather than the backward Rayalaseema. Leave alone the Opposition parties, the Deputy-Chief Minister, K.E. Krishnamurthy, himself fired a salvo at the Chief Minister for giving "preferential treatment" to the prosperous coastal region. There have been voices of dissent from party MPs like J.C. Diwakar Reddy over the lack of interest in taking up works relating to Rayalaseema.

Then, there is the dispute related to irrigation projects. The government has prioritised the Pattiseema project that caters to the needs of the

Krishna delta, allotting close to Rs. 1,500 crore for its expeditious completion. The same is not the case with the projects like Galeru Nagari and Handri-Neeva that are in the advanced stages of implementation and close to completion.

Notwithstanding the claims of the ruling dispensation on efforts to complete the projects catering to the Rayalaseema region, the government's move to shift one of the pumps from the Handri-Neeva project to the Pattiseema project to ensure pumping of water by the scheduled date has only added insult to injury. And, there are also suspicions about the government's intent on providing irrigation facilities to the region, given that the orders issued on the Pattiseema project did not make a mention of the diversion of water from the Srisailem project to the Rayalaseema region.

The neglect of the irrigation sector for long could be a tipping point for fuelling yet another movement for a separate Statehood for Rayalaseema region, analysts feel. There are already voices of dissent heard in the form of parties like Rayalaseema Rashtra Samithi and the Rayalaseema Adhyayana Samithi over the continued neglect of the region which has been witnessing unemployment, migration and drought. "How is the government planning to settle the issues with the neighbouring Telangana State when its Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Rao has taken a stand that Andhra Pradesh has no right on the assured water from Srisailem project" questions Bhuvan Subramanyam Reddy, founder of the Rayalaseema Adhyayana Samithi.

Senior Congress leader and former MP Chinta Mohan asserted that the movement for a separate Rayalaseema would not come as a surprise as there is an absolute lack of political will to address issues relating to unemployment, irrigation, infrastructure, mass migrations and much more. "There is a high level of discontent among people as there has been a total neglect of Rayalaseema. Several projects have remained non-starters, particularly the irrigation projects, forcing people to purchase water. The expenditure used for Pattiseema project can complete the long pending Handri-Neeva and Galeru Nagari projects, offering some respite to the people," he said.

None among the host of projects announced for the region has materialised for long. The Dugarajapatnam port in Nellore district, falling under the Tirupati parliamentary constituency, has the potential of generating employment as well as contributing to the economic development of the region, but has been put on the back-burner despite the central government's nod.

The government-owned cancer hospital sanctioned for Tirupati has been shifted to Vijayawada and the plan for developing an international cricket stadium has been shelved after the foundation stones were laid for both.

People of the region feel discriminated in the higher education sector as well and there is every reason for them to feel so. The faculty of the Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS) of Tirupati express their anguish at the raw deal meted out to the region, at least in the allocation of seats to the super-specialty courses.

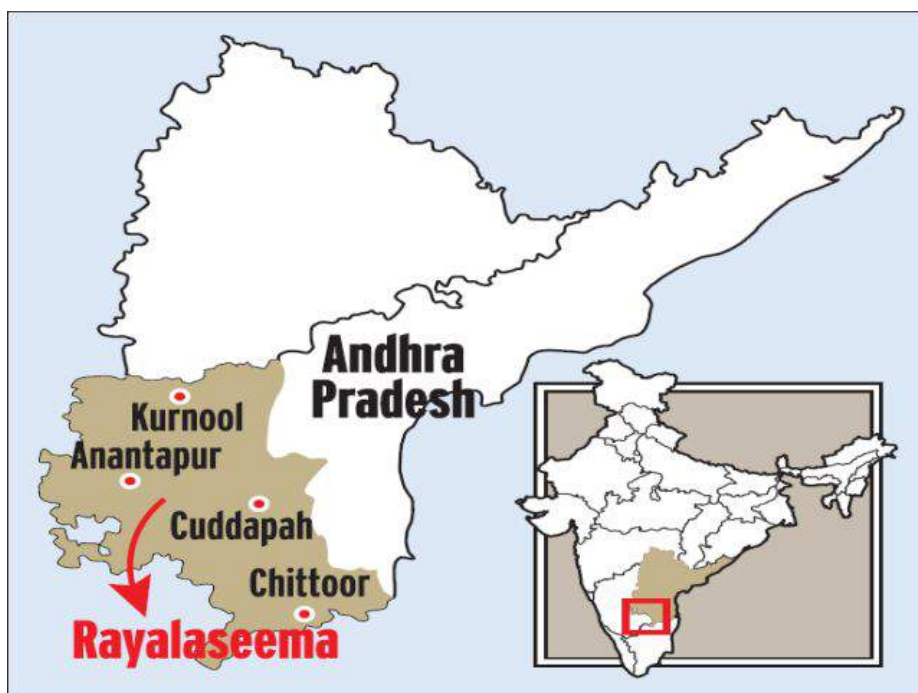
While the medical colleges based in Hyderabad, Guntur and Visakhapatnam have followed local and non-local norms to suit their conditions, admission into advanced medical courses of SVIMS is "State-wide", meaning no special treatment for students of the four districts. "Such being the case, where is the question of justice to Rayalaseema?" a senior professor laments.

The ire is not targeted at the Chief Minister or the ruling party alone as the people are equally concerned that the Opposition leader, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, does not make mention of the problems afflicting the locals though he himself hails from the region. Mr. Reddy and Mr. Naidu have both drawn criticism that their efforts are focused largely on improving the prospects in the next elections three-and-a-half years away and not serving the immediate needs of the people.

"Jagan does not probably want to highlight the Rayalaseema issues due to a fear of being branded as a leader from the region. He cannot afford to lose his base in the coastal Andhra which commands the majority of seats in the 175-member Assembly," an analyst pointed out.

The issues, analysts feel, provide ample scope for movement for a separate State in the Rayalaseema region. This is even more likely if the politicians fail to firm up their resolve for ensuring the fulfilment of promises made in the Reorganisation Act, rather than merely waxing eloquent on the 'special category status' that is being seen as a panacea for all ills plaguing the region.

The forgotten region



People in Rayalaseema feel their region has suffered neglect while an already-prosperous coastal Andhra has been given preferential treatment.

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

Tell us one place where Ganga is clean, National Green Tribunal asks Centre

PTI | Oct 9, 2015, 07:31 PM IST



The Ganga during sunset in Patna. (TOI file photo by Pramod Sharma)

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal on Friday asked the government to "tell one place" where the Ganga is clean and said that despite spending huge sums, the situation has gone from bad to worse.

Expressing open displeasure over the government's lackadaisical approach towards ensuring cleanliness and uninterrupted flow of the river, it said "we take it that almost nothing has happened in reality."

The green panel, which was asked to act against industrial units polluting Ganga by the Supreme Court, said the Centre and the states over the years have only been shifting responsibility and nothing concrete was visible on the ground.

READ ALSO: [Green tribunal gets tough on industries along Ganga](#)

"Would you please tell us that is it correct that more than Rs 5,000 crore has been spent on Ganga in making it worse from bad. We don't want to know whether you have allotted this quantum of money to the states or have spent it yourself.

"Out of the 2,500km stretch of the river Ganga, tell us one place, where the condition of the river has improved," a bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar asked.

The counsel appearing for ministry of water resources told the bench that almost Rs 4,000 crore has been spent on the rejuvenation of the river since 1985 till last year.

READ ALSO: [Systemic failures in Ganga cleaning plan, heads must roll, SC says](#)

He said that Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I was launched as a centrally-funded scheme in 1985 and later GAP Phase II was initiated in 1993 to improve the river's water quality. In 2009, "National Ganga River Basin Authority" (NGRBA) was setup for pollution control in the Ganga.

NGRBA, a World Bank-funded scheme, was aimed at effective abatement of pollution and conservation of Ganga and 70 per cent of the total project cost was contributed by the Centre and the remaining expenses were borne by the states, he said.

READ ALSO: [Don't know if cleaning of Ganga will happen in our generation, SC says](#)

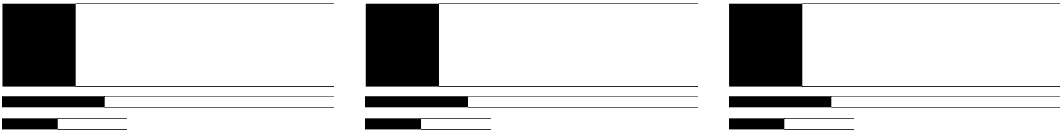
To this, the bench said, "... Better be careful of what you say. We take it as almost nothing has happened in reality. It is not suddenly that we are asking for all the information from you."

"We have been waiting for the last one year. But for one reason or the other, you have been delaying the issue. We don't want to comment on that. But this time we are not leaving it to your discretion, be rest assured. To clean Ganga is your prime responsibility. Days are very short for you," the bench said.

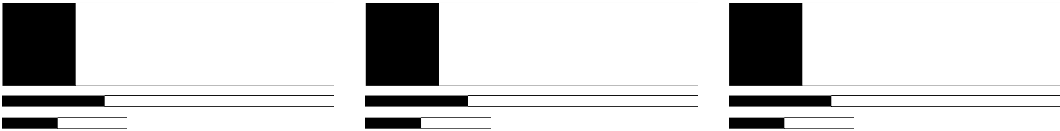
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TN pitches for neutral central force to guard dam

• [Krishnadas Rajagopal](#)



A view of the Mullaperiyar Dam located at Idukki district. —Photo: H.Vibhu

Tells Supreme Court that Kerala police were being ‘silent spectators’ to trespassers

The Tamil Nadu government pitched strongly before the Supreme Court to order deployment of a “neutral central force” to guard the Mullaperiyar dam, accusing the Kerala police of being a “silent spectator” to entry of unauthorised persons to the dam site.

Tamil Nadu pooh-poohed Kerala’s version in the apex court expressing doubts about an Intelligence Bureau report placed on record by the former, claiming that the dam was a terror target. It said the deployment of a central force like the CISF/CRPF was “absolutely essential” to protect the dam considering the threat perceptions.

“The need for CISF is not only on account of the Intelligence Bureau report but also to the recent activity and inaction of the police in restricting the entry of various persons, with local police being a silent spectator...” Tamil Nadu said in a recent rejoinder affidavit.

Kerala in an earlier affidavit had questioned the “reliability” of the report on the dam. Though it had reservations about the report, it had gone ahead and set up a separate police station to provide round-the-clock security to the dam and the Periyar water-spread.

Tamil Nadu had relied on a September 2014 ‘Industrial Security Inspection Report’, which did not give any specific inputs of terror threats to vital installations, but advised caution against Pakistan-sponsored pan-Islamist terror outfits, “remnant cadres of LTTE” and Naxals.

Further, Tamil Nadu objected to Kerala’s version that there was a public perception in the latter State that the dam structure was weak. “This statement of Kerala is totally misconceived and has been made in utter disregard to the judgment of the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court on May 7, 2014, wherein, based on the report of the Empowered Committee, this court recorded a finding that the dam is hydrologically, structurally and seismically safe,” Tamil Nadu countered and accused Kerala of taking an “obstructionist attitude” to its exclusive right of day-to-day management of the dam.

It said Kerala had prevented Tamil Nadu government officials from collecting rainfall data at Mullaikodi rain gauge station. It said Kerala was also not providing the daily rainfall data from the catchment areas which was required for planning the operation of the dam.

“Any impediment on the free access to the leased area by the Kerala officials would not only be against the Lease Deed of 1886 and Supplemental Agreement of 1970, but would also be in direct conflict with 2006 and 2014 judgments of the Supreme Court,” Tamil Nadu said.

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The Times of India

Title : 'Uttarakhand floods played havoc with mental health'

Author : Shivani Azad

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Dehradun

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Cases Rise From 60 to 7,000 in 3 yrs

The number of patients with 'severe mental disorders' has multiplied an astounding 100 times in the last three years in Uttarakhand -from 60 in 2012 to almost 7,000 today as per data compiled by the state health department. A large part of the quantum jump, say worried health officials, can be attributed to the devastating floods of 2013 that killed thousands and displaced lakhs, with innumerable families still waiting for their missing kin to come back. Many are yet to get over the trauma, said doctors.

“That (the floods) led to a number of mental disorders like depression and schizophrenia,” said an official, adding, “Of course, compounding it all are a number of factors like hectic lifestyles, increasingly disrupted family structure and growing unemployment among the youth.”

Acknowledging that the problem was a serious one, J S Bisht, senior psychiatrist of the State Mental Health Institute, Selaqui, said, “The rise in the number of cases of mental illness is a cause of concern. As a society, we should be sensitive towards people who are diagnosed with this illness. However, unfortunately, in Uttarakhand, patients are treated as cursed individuals. This stigma and discrimination is prevalent right from family members to hospital care givers. There are times when the family members of mental patients are not ready to take them back and we have to seek legal intervention through the district magistrate.” What is compounding the problem is that the state doesn't have any public rehabilitation centre for patients suffering from mental illnesses.

This, when according to Bisht, Uttarakhand has 7% of its population reportedly suffering from some form of mental ailment.

Incidentally, the state has been planning to start a rehabilitation centre in Haridwar for the past six years. But the project seems to be moving at snail's pace.

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



7% of the state's population suffers from some form of mental illness

उत्तर बंगाल में भूकम्प के झटके

कोलकाता. उत्तर बंगाल तथा सिक्किम में शनिवार सुबह भूकम्प के झटके महसूस किए गए। 6-7 सेकेंड तक भूकम्प के झटके से लोग दहशत में आ गए। घरों से बाहर निकल आए। सुबह सात बजकर 15 मिनट पर हल्के झटके लगे। भूकम्प से जान-माल के नुकसान की सूचना नहीं मिली है। रेक्टर स्केल पर इसकी तीव्रता 4.5 रही।

सिक्किम के साथ उत्तर बंगाल के जलपाईगुड़ी, दार्जिलिंग, सिलीगुड़ी आदि विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में भूकम्प के हल्के झटके महसूस किए गए। सिक्किम के मौसम वैज्ञानिक गोपीनाथ राहा ने बताया कि सुबह 7 बजकर 15 मिनट पर भूकम्प के झटके महसूस किए गए।

जेल में कुणाल भूख हड़ताल पर

कोलकाता. सारधा चिटफंड घोटाले में गिरफ्तार तृणमूल कांग्रेस के राज्यसभा सदस्य (पार्टी से निष्कासित) कुणाल घोष ने सीबीआई पर जांच में पक्षपात का आरोप लगाते हुए शनिवार को जेल में आनिश्चल काल के लिए भूख हड़ताल पर शुरू कर दी। कुणाल ने शनिवार को खाना खाने से मना कर दिया। कुणाल का आरोप है कि सारधा समूह से तृणमूल कांग्रेस के कई सांसद एवं मंत्री लाभान्वित हुए हैं।