

Hindustan Times  
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The Times of India (A)  
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and documented at Bhagirathi (English) & Publicity Section, CWC.



■ Dense green cover in Mangar village, Faridabad. MANOJ KUMAR/HT FILE

## Mangar qualifies as a dense forest, shows first survey of area

Snehl Sinha

■ snehl.sinha@hindustantimes.com

**GURGAON:** The union environment and forests ministry and Haryana's forest department confirmed the presence of dense forest cover in Faridabad's Mangar village, making it the last remaining virgin forest in Delhi-NCR.

According to the first ground survey of the area, nearly six lakh trees are spread across 3,793 acres, although a physical counting was not possible due to the forest's density. The figure was calculated using satellite mapping.

The findings are in line with the claims of environmentalists that the area has a dense forest and requires protection.

"It was evident that the land in question is part of Aravalli hills, its valley and/or foothills falling in the revenue categories of 'Gair Mumkin Pahar' and 'Bhur'," states the report, a copy of which is with HT.

'Gair Mumkin Pahar' refers to protected areas of the Aravallis where non-forestry activities such as agriculture are not allowed.

The report states that Mangar's total area is 4,262 acres, out of which about 3,810 acres fall under the 'Gair Mumkin Pahar' category. This is classified ecologically as a dry deciduous forest and is stocked with *Anogeissus pendula* trees which are the main vegetation of the area.

By analysing satellite images, the area was visually divided into five strata based on density of vegetation.

It was evident that the land in question is part of Aravalli hills, its valley and/or foothills falling in the revenue categories of 'Gair Mumkin Pahar' (where agricultural activities are not permitted) and 'Bhur'

### THE GROUND SURVEY

"About 5,99,889 trees or 92 % of them are only from 70 % of the area. Nearly 30 % of the land, which belongs to stratum 5, is so badly damaged by mining that it hardly supports any vegetation even after more than a decade since the closure of mining," the report points out.

The other four strata have thick vegetation. One of them, comprising the core area around the sacred Mangar Bani temple in the foothills, has high levels of biodiversity.

The only category where there isn't a forest is a 1,119-acre patch where vegetation is sparse and the Aravallis' granitic core is exposed.

The area was surveyed following NGT's order to conduct an independent survey of Mangar. The order came in a case that pertains to change of land use application filed by private companies.

The companies owned land at Mangar and sought to change land category from 'Gair Mumkin Pahar' to agricultural land. After the case filed, the companies withdrew their application.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on *July-14-7-2015* in the

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

Nav Ekarat Times (Hindi)  
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and documented at Bhagpur (English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

# Sirhind choe overflows, fields in 100 villages flooded

## TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FATEHGARH SAHIB, JULY 13

Thousands of acres of agricultural land in around 100 villages in the district were submerged as the Sirhind choe overflowed in view of the heavy rain in the region.

A survey of the district revealed that several fields were submerged in knee-deep water as drains passing through the district were overflowing. Nearly 155 mm rainfall was recorded in the region in the past three days as compared to 216 mm rainfall in 2010.

Farmers could be seen pumping excess water out of their fields to save their crops. The rainwater could also be seen entering the low-lying areas of Sirhind town.

Residents of Fatehpur, Raipur, Khanpur and Harbanspura Mullanpur villages alleged the area was flooded as Sirhind choe that originated from Khara in Mohali district had been

encroached upon. Revenue Department records show the width of the choe had decreased from around 100 feet to 20 feet.

Deputy Commissioner Kamaldeep Sangha said at present the situation was under control. However, the SDM and the officials of the Public Works Department had been directed to keep a close eye on the situation, he said. Sangha said soon trees would be planted on both sides of the choe to prevent encroachment in the area.

**Crops on 2,000 acres damaged**  
**Patiala:** Crops, including paddy and vegetables, on nearly 2,000 acres in various parts of the district were damaged in heavy rain in the last two days. With fields getting inundated, farmers suffered heavy losses in Patran, Nabha and Devigarh.

In Patran, hundreds of acres were submerged when the Jhambo drain

## Drain encroached upon

- Local residents alleged the area was flooded as Sirhind choe that originated from Khara in Mohali district had been encroached upon
- Revenue Department records show the width of the choe had decreased from around 100 feet to 20 feet

overflowed. The Irrigation Department had failed to clean it. Nearly 15 villages, including Thuharh, Dugaal Kalan, Deogarh, Hariau Kalan and Chunagra, were inundated. Farmers reported losses in nearly 12 villages in Samana.

In Nabha and Bhadson, farmers alleged their entire paddy crop had been damaged.

**DC sounds alert in villages**  
**Pathankot:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sukhvinder Singh, acting on the advice of the Ranjit Sagar Dam

authorities, has sounded an alert for villagers residing alongside the banks of the Ravi. The DC said the dam officials today released nearly 30,000 cusecs.

Dam Superintending

Engineer RL Mittal said keeping in view the heavy rain in the region the authorities had sounded an alert. He said the water level in the dam today touched 523.90 metres (the

highest this season) as against its storage capacity of 527.91 metres.

Parabhjot Singh Virk, DSP (rural), said the water level in the Ujj was yet to touch the danger mark.

"Since the Met department predicted heavy rain in the coming few days, have directed police personnel to keep an eye on the situation round the clock," he added.



A farmer shows his flooded paddy fields in Kangarh village near Samana on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR

News item/article/editorial published on July-13-7-2013 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Eharat Times (Hindi)

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## GOING ORGANIC IS THE NEW MANTRA FOR FARMERS IN LATUR

# Green revolution

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Latur (Maha), 12 July

Even as Maharashtra continues to grapple with an agrarian crisis, farmers in Latur, one of the drought-prone districts in the state, are slowly moving towards the organic way of farming to reduce input costs and increase agriculture output.

Planting variety of trees on the farmland, using organic manure and bio-enzyme in soil stabilisation are some of ways being adopted by the farmers for a healthy growth of crops that is safer for human consumption.

"The government and researchers have been focusing mainly on how



to increase the yield. But in the process, agriculture has become a costly affair with the use of costly fertilisers, pesticides and commercial seeds. If the farmer sells his harvest at Rs 100, then his input cost is Rs 80 and hence the profit is only Rs 20. And when crop fails, there is a huge debt burden due to the heavy expenditure on

input costs," Mahadev Gomare, Latur Head of Sri Sri Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Trust said.

He said the Trust is striving to improve farmers' financial condition through the practice of 'zero cost farming' and 'sustainable practices for irrigation.'

"Land itself is a self-sufficient unit that can

produce all fertilisers and pesticides required. The first step is to plant more trees. In every acre of farmland there should be around 40 trees. Varieties like shisham, sandalwood and neem are ideal for this purpose. These grow in 3-4 years and produce enough organic matter to keep the land fertile. They improve percolation of water and reduce soil erosion. Neem tree is the best form of natural pesticide," he said.

"Also, waste material from trees like leaves, branches should never be burnt. It should be allowed to naturally decay and become a part of the soil. Since the Green Revolution, many new crop varieties and hybrids

have been introduced. These commercial seeds have poor resistance against disease and require ample amount of water and fertilisers," he added.

Gomare said that farmers should shun the conventional way of sowing a single crop in a field as it causes depletion of soil nutrients and makes crops susceptible to pest attacks.

"It is possible to plant over 150 types of fruits, vegetables, pulses, grains and other plants in a single acre of land. We have developed model farms to show farmers that it can indeed be done. We encourage farmers to have at least around 25 different types of plants and crops in every acre of their field," he said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-14-7-2015 in the

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The Times of India (V)

Elita

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

# No immediate threat of floods in state

Discharge of water from Yamuna and Ghaggar rivers 'too low' to cause harm

**PRADEEP SHARMA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JULY 13

There is no immediate threat of floods in Haryana as the discharge of water to several reservoirs in the state during the past few days has been much below the danger level.

Sources said the discharge of rainwater from two major rivers — the Yamuna and the Ghaggar — known for causing floods in the state in the past, has been "too low" to cause floods immediately. The inundating of several parts of the state, including fields, is largely to be blamed on the "localised" rainfall, the sources said.

This, coupled with the prediction of the Meteorological Centre, Chandigarh, of mostly dry weather with the possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers during next 48 to 72 hours, has receded the prospects of floods in the next few days.

The Daily Flood Situation Report prepared by the Irrigation and Water Resources Department showed water discharge to the Hathni Kund Barrage/Tajewala (upstream) from the Yamuna was just 25,433 cusecs



## FLOOD FACTS

Discharge of water to reservoirs in past few days has been below danger level

Inundation of several areas due to 'localised' rain

**23.5 lakh hectares**

prone to floods in Haryana

**102 vulnerable points**

in state which need special attention during monsoon

Every year, the Yamuna and the Ghaggar cause floods. FILE PHOTO

### WATER DISCHARGE FROM GHAGGAR

Site	Monday morning	Sunday evening	Danger level
P'kula bridge site	1,056 cusecs	1,056 cusecs	1.27 lakh cusecs
Chd-Ambala road crossing	1,208 cusecs	1,597 cusecs	1.91 lakh cusecs
Guhla Cheeka	33,886 cusecs	17,248 cusecs	51,733 cusecs

### FROM YAMUNA

Site	Monday morning	Sunday evening	Danger level
Hathni Kund Barrage or Tajewala (upstream)	25,433 cusecs	30,772 cusecs	2.5 lakh cusecs
Tajewala (downstream)	14,431 cusecs	18,770 cusecs	2.5 lakh cusecs

today morning as against danger level of 2.5 lakh cusecs. Last evening (Sunday), it was 30,772 cusecs.

The water discharge to the Hathni Kund Barrage/Tajewala (downstream) today morning was 14,431 cusecs

as against the danger level of 2.5 lakh cusecs. It was pegged at 18,770 cusecs yesterday evening.

Similarly, discharge of water from the Ghaggar to the Panchkula bridge site (Panchkula-Nada Sahib road bridge) was 1,056 cusecs today morning as against the danger level of 1.27 lakh cusecs. It was 1,056 cusecs yesterday evening.

On the Chandigarh-Ambala road crossing, the discharge of water was 1,208 cusecs today morning, while it was 1,597 cusecs yesterday evening. The danger level at this site is 1.91 lakh cusecs.

At Guhla Cheeka, the discharge from the Ghaggar was higher at 33,886 cusecs as against the danger level of 51,733 cusecs today morning. It was 17,248 cusecs last evening. The floods in Haryana occur because of its physiographic situation which makes a depressional saucer shape zone around the Delhi-Rohtak-Hisar-Sirsa axis, poor natural drainage system and incessant rainfall.

Officials said about 23.5 lakh hectares are prone to floods in Haryana. According to Haryana Flood Manual, there are 102 vulnerable points in Haryana which need special attention during the monsoon.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 14.7.2015 in the

Hindustan Times

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Elitz

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

# In 5th project, Assam, Bengal & Bihar rivers may be linked

## Govt To Seek Consent From 3 States Soon

Vishwa.Mohan  
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**New Delhi:** Moving forward with its grand plan of linking rivers across the country, the Centre on Monday announced that it will take up the task of connecting Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga in Assam, West Bengal and Bihar. The three states will soon be approached for their consent.

This project, if implemented, will not only provide irrigation and water supply benefits to the three states but also make provide large quantity of surplus water for transfer to the southern states.

Once these three states agree for to the plan, the Centre will take up the task of preparing a detailed project report (DPR), including the modalities of implementation, water sharing and actual cost of the project.

The Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga link will be the fifth inter-state project. While actual execution work on the first project, Ken-Betwa link, will begin by the end of this year, three others are at various stages before being taken up for the Cabinet approval.

All these are part of the

## STATUS OF PLANS

Only one (Ken-Betwa) link (Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh) reaches the stage of implementation on ground (actual execution work to begin by year-end)

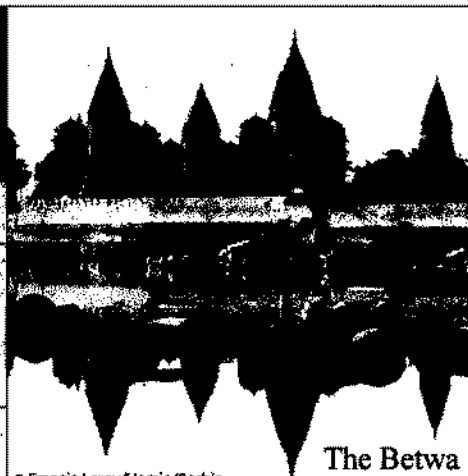
Detail Project Report (DPR) of Damanganga-Pinjal link (Gujarat-Maharashtra) is prepared

Two others are at different stages of DPR preparation:

**1 Par-Tapi-Narmada link (Gujarat and Maharashtra) link:** DPR is expected to be prepared by July-end

**2 Kosi-Ganga link (Bihar-Nepal):** Work has been expedited to prepare DPR of Nepal part of the project

Government plans to take up Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga link (Assam, West Bengal and Bihar) for planning



© Francis Leroy/Hemis/Corbis

The Betwa

total 30 inter-linking of rivers (ILR) projects, which was conceived during the earlier NDA regime (1999-2004) under the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It includes both inter-state and intra-state river linking projects.

Decision to take up the Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga for linking was announced by the minister of state for water resources Sanwar Lal Jat after the fifth meeting of the special committee for ILR.

Updating the committee on the status of the ILR projects, Jat said, "Various clearances related to environment, wildlife and forest for the Ken-Betwa link project are in an advanced stage of processing. I hope with all statutory clearance, we will

be able to start the actual execution of work on the project by the end of this year".

He said the government would implement this national project as a model for the entire ILR programme which will go a long way in enhancing water and food security of the country.

Water resources/irrigation ministers from Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, UP, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh attended the meeting as members of the committee. Some of them were of the view that the ILR projects should be implemented within a definite time-frame.

The water-sharing issue between Maharashtra and Gujarat also came up for discussion during the meeting as both the states had recent-

ly taken a tough stand over the ILR projects. It had become a bone of contention between the two states when Gujarat had in April demanded that Maharashtra must agree to share more water from Tapi if it wanted more water from the proposed Damanganga-Pinjal link, which will supply water to Mumbai.

Referring to those links, Jat said the work for preparation of DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project was in concluding stage and it was expected to be completed by this month end. He said the issue of water sharing between both the states in respect to Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada project would be addressed after the completion of the DPR of the Par-Tapi-Narmada link project.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-14-7-2015 in the

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Indian Express  
Tribune  
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and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, C.V.C.

# 2 monsoon scripts: Who'll get it right?

## IMD Predicts A Deficient Monsoon While Skymet Sticks To Its Forecast Of Normal Rains

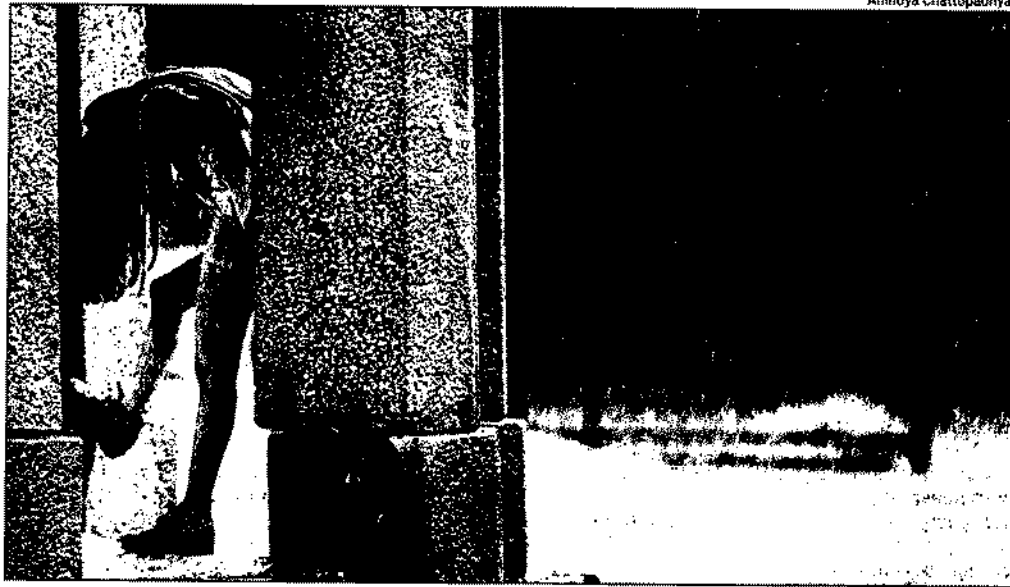
Amit Bhattacharya  
& Vishwa Mohan | TNN

**New Delhi:** Competing forecasts have injected a new dimension to the hazardous business of monsoon prediction this year, with private weather agency Skymet taking a completely different view of how rains would perform in what are the most crucial four months of the year for India's economy.

While the country's official agency, India Meteorological Department, has predicted a deficient monsoon with rains falling 12% short of normal, the new kid on the block Skymet has stuck to its forecast of 'normal' rains at 102% of the average.

Skymet has been making monsoon predictions for four years now. But never has its forecast been so different from IMD's. That, and the fact that rains in June appeared to have followed Skymet's script rather than IMD's, helped the agency grab media attention like never before.

However, the 'contest' over whose prediction would be more accurate is far from over.



Anindya Chattopadhyay

**FORECAST CONTEST:** As on Monday, average countrywide rainfall in July was 30% below normal

As on Monday, average countrywide rainfall in July was 30% below normal. And with no signs of the monsoon strengthening in the next seven days, July's rain output could end up closer to IMD's prediction of

92% rains for the month. Skymet had forecast July rains to be 104% of average.

Overall, the monsoon is currently 3% below normal. According to Skymet's forecast, the monsoon is likely to be 2%

above normal.

"Since July and August are crucial months, we are keeping our fingers crossed," said G P Sharma, Skymet's VP, meteorology. The agency believes the second half of July will see better

rains. Sharma said Madden Julian Oscillation—the factor that led to good rains in June—could make a comeback in the second half of this month and activate the monsoon. Sharma, however, said the agency could downgrade its prediction in the event of the monsoon not strengthening in the next week or so.

Irrespective of the final outcome, several officials and scientists in government meteorological institutes feel it is difficult for private weather agencies such as Skymet to acquire the infrastructure for accurate long-term weather forecasting.

"IMD is using a supercomputer for developing a coupled weather model for monsoon forecasts. We have been fine-tuning it for the past three years and it will be another two years before the model reaches its maximum possible accuracy. Very high computing power is required to achieve high accuracy," said M Rajeevan, director of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, which is developing the computer model.

Skymet said it uses a CFS weather model for its forecasts.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 14.07.2015 in the

Hindustan Times  
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## GLOBAL WARMING MAY EAT UP \$200 BN CROPS

# Danger alarm

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, 13 July

A whopping USD 200 billion worth of wheat, rice and maize crops could be lost by 2050 globally if the issues arising from global warming are not addressed on a war-footing, an independent study on the impact of climate change on crop yields has warned.

"By 2050, about USD 200 billion worth of crops in wheat, rice and maize will be lost in 2010 dollar terms," Arunabha Ghosh, chief executive, Council on Energy, Environment and Water, said here today.

The independent multi-country risk assessment on climate change study was commissioned by the British foreign and commonwealth office.

The Council on Energy, Environment and Water is an independent, not-for-profit policy research institu-

tion addressing pressing global challenges through an integrated and internationally-focused approach.

The study also warned around 750 million people in South Asia could face extreme water shortage, or 1.8 billion people could face chronic water shortage by 2050, due to population growth.

A decline in crop yields mainly considers shortening of the growing season caused by higher average temperatures, the report added.

The study looked at three major crops in three growing areas -- wheat in Punjab, rice in Jiangsu, China, and maize in Illinois in the US.

"A 4 degree Celsius increase in global temperatures above the late 20th century levels, combined with increasing food demand, would pose larger risks to food security globally and regionally," he warned.

With a 1-meter rise of global sea level, the probability of a '100-year flood event could become 1,000 times

more likely in Kolkata, the report said. On a high emission pathway, flooding in the Ganges basin could be six times more frequent, becoming an '1 in 5 year' event over the course of the century, the report said.

Ghosh said another recent study by the agency had warned that due to average temperature rise and consequent 'urban heat stress', over the course of the century a majority of heat related deaths will happen in Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Mumbai.

The study looked at various aspects of risks arising due to climate change. On a high emission pathway, the incidence of extreme drought affecting cropland could increase by about 50 per cent in South Asia, the report stated.

Another direct and systematic risk of increasing climate change in India and the world was the rise in sea levels.



News item/letter/article/editorial published on Tuesday - 14.7.2005 in the

Hindustan Times ✓

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

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Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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

# India may be hotter by 8°C, lose \$200bn per year

**EFFECT** Temperature likely to cross 50° Celsius mark by the turn of the century

Chetan Chauhan

chetan@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Global warming is at a much faster pace than estimated. The visible impact would be temperature crossing 50-degree mark by the turn of the century and water stress in the northern part of India, a new global study released on Monday in London and Mumbai said.

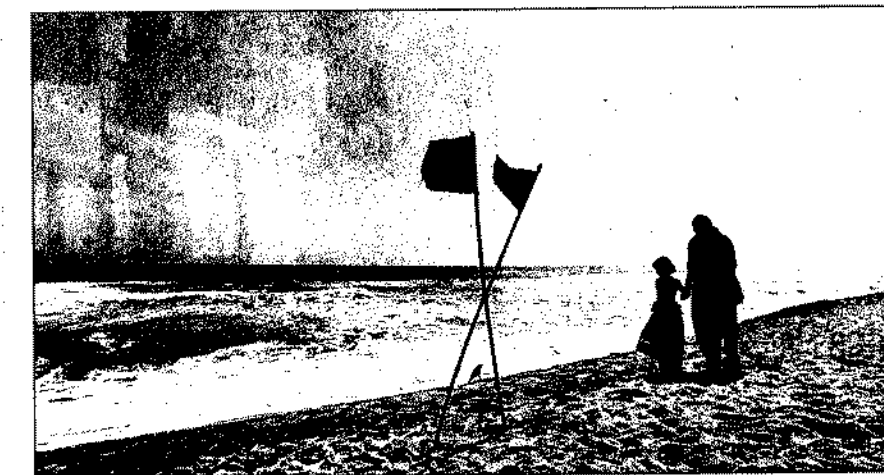
Climate change could cost India US \$200 billion per annum if it fails to ensure adequate adaptation measures and the countries fail to reduce their carbon emissions, the study — Climate Change: A Risk Assessment — conducted by climate advisors to the governments in United States, United Kingdom and China, the world's biggest carbon emitters, said.

They analysed data from across the world to arrive at the conclusions.

"The water stress will increase in coming years and will have implications on India's food security," said Arunabha Ghosh, chief executive officer of Council on Energy, Environment and Water, the Indian partner for the study funded by UK foreign office.

The authors have clearly outlined the northern part of India, including Delhi, Chandigarh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, as high impact zone of climate change in India.

In the report, they said, said high heat stress can have various implications, including restrictions on outdoor work and sports



■ The Shangmugham Beach in Thiruvananthapuram.

VIVEK NAIR/HT

## GLOBAL STUDY SOUND AN ALARM

Was conducted by climate advisors to the govts in US, UK, China

BY 2050...

- India will face acute water crisis in summer
- Drought probability will also rise
- Food production is likely to go down

HEAT WAVE

- Temperature would rise 5° degrees C if the global rise is 2 degrees Celsius and up to 7-8 degrees if global increase is 4 degrees Celsius

MORE FLOODS

- Ganga could flood six times more frequently
- Chances of floods in Kolkata will increase by 1,000 times with sea level rising by one metre

**WORST  
AFFECTED  
STATES IN INDIA**  
Rajasthan,  
Punjab, Haryana,  
Chandigarh, Delhi,  
Bihar and Uttar  
Pradesh

and not getting sound sleep.

Different scenarios presented in the report say the temperature could rise 8 degrees Celsius, crossing the 50-degree mark in cities like Delhi, Jaipur and Chandigarh during summer.

The study reiterated the fact that extreme rainfall will

increase in India and sounded an alarm that frequency of floods will increase in the Gangetic plains.

Its implication will be on India's food security with an estimated loss of up to US \$200 billion per year by the turn of this century.

This is in tune with the

assessment made by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

The report for the first time also showed internal security risks arising because of climate change.

It is well documented that a reason for rise of IS in was back to back droughts and food crises, the study said.



■ The stranded pilgrims

## RAIN SWELLS JHELMUM, HALTS AMARNATH YATRA

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**SRINAGAR:** Inclement weather and rain swelled the Valley's main river, Jhelum, on Sunday and halted pilgrimage to the Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir. However, pilgrims were allowed to move around in north Kashmir's Sonamarg area after the weather improved.

On Monday, authorities once again had to issue an alert to those living near the river as its banks had swelled after intermittent rains since Friday. The water level in Jhelum had gone up by more than six feet, crossing the alert mark in Srinagar. On Sunday, the level was up to around 19 feet.

But irrigation and flood chief engineer, Javed Jaffer, clarified there was no flood threat.

The Shri Amarnath Shrine Board stopped movement of pilgrims from base camps to the cave shrine after rains continued along the trek routes in the morning. The pilgrimage had been stopped on Sunday due to heavy rainfall and slippery tracks.

In the afternoon, the Baltal route in north Kashmir's Sonamarg was opened, allowing pilgrims to trek the 14km-route up to the shrine. But a distance of more than 40 kilometres, from the Pahalgam side, was closed for the day.



News item/letter/article/editorial published on Sept-14-7-2018 in the

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Indian Nation

Kal Dunya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

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and documented at Ehsanirath/English/8 Publicity Section, O.N.C.

# Once the lifeline of western UP, Hindon is just a toxic drain now



■ The 200km-long Hindon originates from Purka Tanda village in UP's Saharanpur district. It meets the Yamuna near Delhi, adding tons of sewage to the already choked river.

BURHAAN KINU / HT PHOTO

hindustan

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## DYING RIVER

Peeyush Khandelwal

✉ letters@hindustantimes.com

**SAHARANPUR:** Kehar Singh, 70, sits atop a hillock in his village in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur district, firm in the belief that the Hindon, "his river", flows as usual through nearby ravines, as it used to three decades back.

The village, Purka Tanda, is considered the origin of

the 200km-long river, with the Shivalik mountain ranges seemingly a stone's throw away.

"My river is flowing as usual. I never inquire about it or go downstream but the government-made dams still hold water as they used to 25-30 years back," Singh says.

But what he cannot see with his failing eyesight is that the once-mighty lifeline of the western UP region now runs

dry, laden with toxic effluents from city municipalities and industries dotting its banks.

The river and its two tributaries flow from Saharanpur through the UP towns of Muzaffarpur and Baghpat, crossing six districts in the state as they snake their way to the national capital region, meeting the Yamuna at Danakur in the NCR.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## SAME WASTE FLOWS INTO THE YAMUNA

Nearly 162 drains dump their pollutants into the Dhamola, a Hindon tributary, which merges into the Yamuna near Delhi

»P4

# CM holds meet on ways to deal with heavy rain, waterlogging

10

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

16-14

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal convened a meeting on Monday to gauge the preparedness levels of different agencies in dealing with the monsoon and issues of waterlogging, even as the municipal corporations continued to blame the Public Works Department (PWD) for the state of affairs in the city after heavy rain last week.

Meanwhile, during the meeting, Kejriwal reportedly suggested that all concerned departments and agencies have to respond better to people's complaints on waterlogging and other rain-related issues.

Kejriwal reportedly suggested that instead of installing pumps to drain out excess water, agencies should work on a long-term plan and come up with a better system to deal with waterlogging.

"Kejriwal also asked all the agencies and departments to work in an integrated manner, not in isolation, to combat the issue. He was of the view that when the goal is the same, all departments should join hands to handle the situation," said a senior official.

"Presentations on control measures and preparedness were made by the DDA, all three MCDs, NDMC, PWD, Irrigation Department and Flood Control Department during the meeting. These included details on the machines being used, evacuation systems, complaints received, complaints handled, officials deployed and other measures taken," a senior official said.

Meanwhile, corporation officials who inspected areas under their jurisdiction alleged that desilting of PWD drains was not carried out. "The drains are filled with debris and silt. Residents of Mundka and Tikri villages are facing a flood-like situation due to waterlogging. Sewage water is also flowing into houses on the ground floor," standing committee chairman of North corporation Mohan Prasad Bhardwaj said.

Bhardwaj also said, "We want desilting work of PWD drains to be given to the corporations. The Delhi government does not have enough manpower, equipment or experience for this work. We also demand that funds should be released to repair roads. Due to waterlogging, the condition of bituminous roads have become worse and many of them are not motorable."

South corporation officials also attacked the Delhi government. "The government has failed to control waterlogging in PWD areas and Delhi residents suffered a lot as a result. It is time all agencies work together to deal with the issue," South body mayor Subhash Arya said.

The corporations have also directed health officials to undertake work on controlling diseases such as dengue and malaria.

"We have completed desilting work of all the drains under the South body's jurisdiction. Officials have been directed to regularly check the functioning of pumps. All call centres have been asked to function with full strength and complaints are to be attended immediately," Arya said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 14. 7. 2015 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (M.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. & J. (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Mal Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Etha

and documented at Bhagirath (H/English) & Publicity Section, C.Y.C.

# Give natural drains, remove concretisation, say experts



**LES:** A portion of road that caved in near Gate. - PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

**Damini Nath**

**NEW DELHI:** The massive waterlogging, traffic jams and inconvenience that Delhiites experienced over the weekend could have been avoided if, as environmentalists say, rainwater was diverted and stored, and the surface runoff prevented.

Every monsoon, the city goes through the same drill — it pours, the civic bodies get caught off-guard, water accumulates on roads, the traffic becomes a nightmare and authorities blame each other. A year later, the cycle repeats itself.

However, experts say if rain-

water harvesting and de-concretisation programmes are carried out across the city, the monsoons will become an enjoyable season in Delhi instead of a dreaded one.

"If the existing rainwater harvesting guidelines were implemented, we would not have had waterlogging in Delhi," said Vinod Jain, an activist who has petitioned the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on making rainwater harvesting mandatory for buildings over 100 square metres and above.

Mr. Jain said all flyovers and roads should have rainwater harvesting mechanisms. The re-

charge pits along the roadside will be used to relay the water to an aquifer through pipes.

"The existing rainwater harvesting in some areas like AIIMS flyover are not being monitored properly. Plastic and trash have been found in the recharge pits. The lack of institutional machinery and monitoring are to be blamed," Mr. Jain added.

Also contributing to the problem, say experts, is the increasing concretisation in Delhi. With pavements and roadsides getting cemented or tiled, water that would earlier seep through is now collecting on the surface.

"We need to consciously re-

move paved areas and look at pavement design. These days there are tiles available that absorb rainwater, prevent runoff and help with groundwater recharge," said Manoj Misra, the convenor of Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan.

Environmentalist Akash Vashishtha, who has petitioned the NGT to have concretisation removed, said the Urban Development Ministry guidelines on the issue are being flouted in Delhi.

"The roadsides were supposed to be left with soil and mud, but large-scale concretisation has left no option for groundwater

recharge," said Mr. Vashishtha.

Apart from de-concretisation, experts say Delhi's natural drainage system needs to be revived. "There were 201 storm water drains in Delhi and as long as they were kept free from sewage and uncovered, they carried rainwater and recharged the groundwater, before falling into the river," said Mr. Misra.

He added that Delhi has 800 water bodies that have an important role in urban flood management. "There is no need to beautify these water bodies as some agencies have been doing. The catchment should be made secure," said Mr. Misra.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 14, 2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Madrasan (Hindi)

Nav Ekarat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Kesari (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)

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and documented at Bhadrath/English/ Publicity Section, G.C.C.

# राजस्थान में नदियों को जोड़ने का आग्रह

स्पेशल कमेटी फॉर  
इन्टरलिकिंग ऑफ रीवर्स  
की बैठक में बोले डॉ.  
रामप्रताप

नई दिल्ली @ पत्रिका ब्यूरो

patrika.com/india

राजस्थान के जल संसाधन मंत्री डॉ. रामप्रताप ने केन्द्र सरकार से राजस्थान में ब्राह्मणी से बनास और पार्वती नदी, कालीसिंध-बनास-गम्भीर नदियों को धौलपुर तक आपस में जोड़ने का आग्रह किया है। साथ ही, साबरमती बेसिन के अधिशेष जल का अपवर्तन जवाई एवं राजसमंद बांध में करने और इन चारों परियोजनाओं को राष्ट्रीय महत्व की घोषित कर डीपीआर बनाने तथा सर्वेक्षण आदि कार्यों के लिए राशि

दिलाने का आग्रह भी किया।

केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन राज्यमंत्री प्रो. सावरलाल जाट की अध्यक्षता में सोमवार को विज्ञान भवन में आयोजित स्पेशल कमेटी फॉर इन्टरलिकिंग ऑफ रीवर्स की पांचवीं बैठक में डॉ. रामप्रताप ने यह मांग रखी। उन्होंने कहा कि राजस्थान की चारों परियोजनाओं के लिए राज्य सरकार केन्द्रीय जल आयोग को प्रस्ताव भेज चुकी है। राष्ट्रीय नदी विकास प्राधिकरण (एनडब्ल्यू डीए) ने शारदा नदी के आधिक्य पानी को साबरमती नदी तक ले जाने की परियोजना तैयार की है। इससे किल्लत वाले शहरों व गांवों में पेयजल उपलब्ध करवाया जा सकेगा। परियोजना से राजस्थान के अलावा उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, दिल्ली तथा गुजरात को भी लाभ होगा।

News Item/Letter/Article/Editorial published on 14-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (M.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribuna  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi) ✓  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deoran Chronicle  
Deoran Koralia

M.F. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (V.)  
Pitz

and documented at Bhadrath/English/8 Publicity Section, CMC

मेजाब-14-7-15

# यमुना उफान पर, राजधानी में बाढ़ का खतरा

**नई दिल्ली, (ब्यूरो):** गर्मी से अब तक राहत दे रहा मानसून आफत भी ला सकता है। हर साल की तरह इस साल भी दिल्ली में बाढ़ का खतरा एक बार फिर सामने आ गया है। हरियाणा के हथिनी कुंड बैराज से सोमवार रात दो बजे छोड़े गए पानी से दिल्ली में यमुना के जलस्तर ने वार्निंग लेवल (204.8) की क्रॉस कर दिया है।

जानकारी के मुताबिक यमुना में सोमवार को तीन बार में 50 हजार क्यूसेक तक पानी छोड़ा जा चुका है। इसमें रात दो बजे करीब 18013 क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ा गया तो वहीं सुबह 8 बजे 16422 क्यूसेक तो शाम 4.00 बजे 14853 तक पानी छोड़ा जा चुका

है। हालांकि अभी खतरे के निशान को क्रॉस नहीं किया है। हरियाणा से लगातार पानी छोड़े जाने को लेकर दिल्ली में भले ही बाढ़ का खतरा बढ़ गया हो लेकिन दिल्ली सरकार ने तैयारी पूरी होने का दावा किया है।

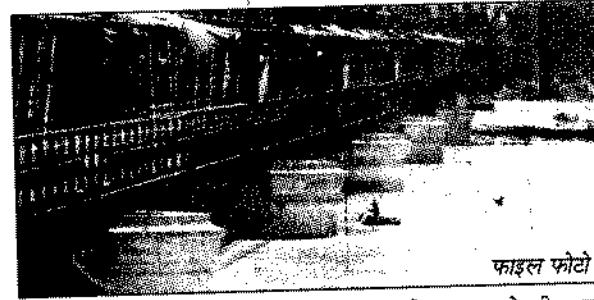
## बारिश से डरें नहीं

दिल्ली में पानी की कमी को लेकर केजरीवाल सरकार ने प्लान तैयार किया है। केजरीवाल सरकार ने सोमवार की बाढ़ नियंत्रण को लेकर हुई विभिन्न विभागों के अधिकारियों के साथ बैठक की। बैठक में केजरीवाल ने कहा कि दिल्ली में पानी की कमी है। पानी की कमी से हो

## यमुना की बुझी प्यास

खतरे के निशान से ऊपर हुआ यमुना का जलस्तर रात को दो बजे हरियाणा ने छोड़ा 50 हजार क्यूसेक पानी

रही समस्याओं को लेकर सरकार बारिश की हर बुंद को संयोजन करने की कोशिश करेगी। हमें पानी से डरने की जरूरत नहीं है बल्कि इसका स्वागत करना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा



फाइल फोटो

कि दिल्लीवाले बारिश का बेसब्री से इंतजार करते हैं, लेकिन जलभराव होने की वजह से सब लोग इससे डरते हैं और दूर भागने की कोशिश करते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि जलभराव से निपटने और पानी के संयोजन के

लिए स्थायी प्लान बनाने की जरूरत है। उन्होंने अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिए कि वह इसके लिए बेहतर प्लान बनाकर लाएं। सीएम ने कहा कि 47 फीसदी हुई बारिश ने दिल्ली की स्थिति को बेहतर किया है, इससे गर्व करने

की जरूरत है। इस बैठक में उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया, कानून मंत्री कपिल मिश्रा, परिवहन मंत्री गोपाल राय, महिला एवं विकास संदीप कुमार ने जलभराव और वर्षा जल संयोजन को लेकर अपने विचार रखे। इसके साथ ही सरकार के मुख्य सचिव केके शर्मा ने कहा कि जलभराव को रोकने के लिए बेहतर प्रयास किए जाएंगे। इस बैठक में डीडीए, तीनों एमसीडी, एनडीएमसी, पीडब्ल्यूडी, सिंचाई विभाग, बाढ़ नियंत्रण विभाग सहित अन्य विभाग से आए अधिकारियों ने मुख्यमंत्री को प्रस्तुति दिखाते हुए दिल्ली में किए गए कार्यों की रिपोर्ट दिखाई।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-14-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (M.E.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

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

K.F. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (L)  
ETB

and documented at Embassy (English) & Publicity Section, C.O.C.

# 8 साल का टूटा रिकॉर्ड

■ नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली में सोमवार को मौसम का पैटर्न बदल गया और लोगों को उमस भरी गर्मी ने खूब तंग किया। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया है कि बारिश के बाद उमस काफी बढ़ गई। जिसकी वजह से सोमवार को लोगों को गर्मी का सामना करना पड़ा है। दरअसल सोमवार को भी बारिश होने के आसार थे, लेकिन जिन सिस्टम की वजह से बारिश होनी थी वे दिल्ली और आसपास के इलाकों से पहाड़ी इलाकों की तरफ चले गए। स्काइमेट ने डेटा जारी किया है जिसके मुताबिक दिल्ली में 1 से 12 जुलाई के दौरान साल 2015 में पिछले 8 सालों में सबसे ज्यादा बारिश दर्ज हुई है।

स्काइमेट वेदर सर्विसेज के मौसम वैज्ञानिक महेश पलावत बताते हैं कि इस साल जुलाई महीने में दिल्ली में पिछले 8 सालों में सबसे ज्यादा बारिश दर्ज हुई है। उन्होंने कहा कि सफदरजंग इलाके में 1 से 12 जुलाई तक 2007 में 28.8 मिमी, 2009 में 11.3 मिमी, 2010 में 125.8

मिमी, 2011 में

19.1 मिमी, 2012

में 52.4 मिमी, 2013

में 76.4 मिमी, 2014 में

12.2 मिमी और 2015 में

208.5 मिमी बारिश दर्ज

हुई है। उन्होंने बताया कि

अब दिल्ली में अगले दो

दिनों तक लोगों को उमस

तंग कर सकती है। दो से

तीन दिनों तक बादल छाए

रह सकते हैं। फिलहाल

16 जुलाई को हल्की



उमस

और गर्मी

बढ़ी गुरुवार

के बाद लोटेगी

बारिश

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बारिश होने के आसार हैं। वहीं 17 और 18 जुलाई को एक बार फिर जोरदार बारिश होने की संभावना है। पलावत ने कहा है कि 16 जुलाई से एक और नया वेस्टर्न डिस्टर्बेंस उत्तर भारत में पहुंचेगा। इससे मौसम का पैटर्न एक बार फिर बदलने की उम्मीद है। दिल्ली के साथ-साथ आसपास के राज्यों में गुरुवार के बाद

अच्छी बारिश होने की उम्मीद है।

मंगलवार को दिल्ली में मैक्सिमम टेम्परेचर नॉर्मल से दो डिग्री कम के साथ 33.7 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज हुआ। टेम्परेचर संडे की तुलना में 7 डिग्री सेल्सियस ज्यादा बढ़ गया। मिनिमम टेम्परेचर नॉर्मल से 4 डिग्री सेल्सियस कम के साथ 23.3 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ। सोमवार को मैक्सिमम ह्यूमिडिटी 95 परसेंट दर्ज हुई। मौसम विभाग ने अपने बुलेटिन में कहा है कि दिल्ली और आसपास के इलाकों में मंगलवार को बादल छाए रह सकते हैं। फिलहाल बारिश होने के चांस कम हैं। मैक्सिमम टेम्परेचर 35 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेम्परेचर 26 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहने का अनुमान है।



Central Water Commission  
Technical Documentation Directorate  
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section  
\*\*\*\*\*


725(A), North, Sewa Bhawan,  
R.K. Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 14.7.2015

*Subject: Submission of News Clippings.*

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As stated above.

  
P. Mahesh  
14/7/2015  
Assistant Director (publicity)

  
Editor, Bhagirath (English) & Publicity

  
14.7.15

Director (T.D.)

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R M.), CWC and all concerned,  
uploaded at [www.cwc.nic.in](http://www.cwc.nic.in)

Hindustan Times (Delhi)  
The Tribune (Chandigarh)  
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)  
The Times of India (Mumbai)  
The Telegraph (Kolkata)  
The New Indian Express (Chennai)

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# The Tribune 14 July 2015 Sirhind choke overflows, fields in 100 villages flooded

## TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FATEHGARH SAHIB, JULY 13

Thousands of acres of agricultural land in around 100 villages in the district were submerged as the Sirhind choke overflowed in view of the heavy rain in the region.

A survey of the district revealed that several fields were submerged in knee-deep water as drains passing through the district were overflowing. Nearly 155 mm rainfall was recorded in the region in the past three days as compared to 216 mm rainfall in 2010.

Farmers could be seen pumping excess water out of their fields to save their crops. The rainwater could also be seen entering the low-lying areas of Sirhind town.

Residents of Fatehpur, Raipur, Khanpur and Harbanspura Mullanpur villages alleged the area was flooded as Sirhind choke that originated from Khara in Mohali district had been

encroached upon. Revenue Department records show the width of the choke had decreased from around 100 feet to 20 feet.

Deputy Commissioner Kamaldeep Sangha said at present the situation was under control. However, the SDM and the officials of the Public Works Department had been directed to keep a close eye on the situation, he said. Sangha said soon trees would be planted on both sides of the choke to prevent encroachment in the area.

**Crops on 2,000 acres damaged**  
**Patiala:** Crops, including paddy and vegetables, on nearly 2,000 acres in various parts of the district were damaged in heavy rain in the last two days. With fields getting inundated, farmers suffered heavy losses in Patran, Nabha and Deigarh.

In Patran, hundreds of acres were submerged when the Jhambo drain

## Drain encroached upon

- Local residents alleged the area was flooded as Sirhind choke that originated from Khara in Mohali district had been encroached upon
- Revenue Department records show the width of the choke had decreased from around 100 feet to 20 feet

overflowed. The Irrigation Department had failed to clean it. Nearly 15 villages, including Thuharh, Dugaal Kalan, Deogarh, Hariau Kalan and Chunagra, were inundated. Farmers reported losses in nearly 12 villages in Samana.

In Nabha and Bhadson, farmers alleged their entire paddy crop had been damaged.

**DC sounds alert in villages**  
**Pathankot:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sukhvinder Singh, acting on the advice of the Ranjit Sagar Dam



A farmer shows his flooded paddy fields in Kangarh village near Samana on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR

authorities, has sounded an alert for villagers residing alongside the banks of the Ravi. The DC said the dam officials today released nearly 30,000 cusecs.

Dam Superintending

Engineer RL Mittal said keeping in view the heavy rain in the region the authorities had sounded an alert. He said the water level in the dam today touched 523.90 metres (the

highest this season) as against its storage capacity of 527.91 metres.

Parabhjot Singh Virk, DSP (rural), said the water level in the Ujj was yet to touch the danger mark.

"Since the Met department predicted heavy rain in the coming few days, I have directed police personnel to keep an eye on the situation round the clock," he added.

16-07-2015 14:00:00

The Hindustan Times (Delhi)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

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# Locals say Hindon will flow no more

**INTERRUPTED** Massive groundwater extraction and heavy reliance on borewells have affected the river's flow

Poojush Khandelwal

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**SAHARANPUR:** Once it was the lifeline of western UP but the Hindon nowadays barely resembles a river, laden with lethal effluents, as it flows across six districts to merge with the Yamuna near the Capital.

The level of pollution is so high that the Dhamola, once considered a tributary of the river, has now turned into a full-fledged drain that discharges tonnes of noxious municipal refuse into the river near UP's industrial town of Baghpat.

UP Pollution Control

Board officials estimate nearly 162 big and small drains dump their pollutants into the Dhamola, the same waste that flows into

the Yamuna about 200 km downstream, choking Delhi's principal source of water.

"I have not seen any traces of fresh water for ages. It was a pleasant surprise that fresh water flowed here during recent Uttarakhand floods. The drain areas also stand encroached and discharges continue to flow into river Hindon," said Ahmed Nisar, a local resident.

Major tracts of the river's flow have now been taken over by farmers for cultivation as they are sure the Hindon is dead.

"The Hindon's catchment areas are predominantly rural where there is a heavy usage of groundwater for sugar-



■ Hindon's tributary Dhamola flows in Saharanpur. Locals now call it Dhamola nala.

cane irrigation. Massive quantities of underground water extraction by industries and heavy reliance on borewells have marred underground water resources. All this has severely affected the river's capacity to maintain a constant flow of water," said Krishna Kant, a river activist from Baghpat.

Several paper mills that dot the river's banks are the first and principal sources of effluent, with UPCCB officials estimating sewerage of around 127 million litres per day (MLD) — approximately 50 Olympic-sized swimming pools — is dumped into the river every day. Around 100 MLD of this is municipal waste.

As a result, the river has no surviving aquatic life as its dissolved oxygen levels have dwindled to nil because of the pollution. A Central Pollution Control Board study in 2011 confirmed this, noting that

the Hindon had oxygen levels of 0 mg/litre.

"We still have 4,500 houses which drain their discharge directly into the river. Though we have a 38 MLD treatment plant, around 62% of sewerage remains untreated," said municipal commissioner Dr Neeraj Shukla.

District administration says they are trying to revive local water bodies such as ponds to fight plunging water levels.

"There are around 1582 water bodies in Saharanpur and work for revival of around 180 has already started for improving water table and water conservation," district magistrate Dr Indravir Singh Yadav said.

Water conservationist Rajendra Singh agrees. "The river needs its land back. The encroachments have to be removed and its land should be identified and not be allowed for any other usage," he said.

## NEXT

Villagers continue to battle with river Krishna's pollution

12/06/2015 10:00 AM

✓ Hindustan Times (Delhi)  
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# The 8-km tributary that was set right

HT Correspondent

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**SAHARANPUR:** The Hindon and many of its tributaries may be gasping for breath but one of its tributaries has been turned into a picture of hope.

The 8km-long Paon Dhoi river got a fresh lease of life in 2012 when a social movement and strong administrative will revived the polluted river.

"The river has a religious importance because it has a number of places of worship along its banks. It was earlier filled with solid waste and direct sewage discharge. In 2012, district magistrate Alok Kumar and other senior officials got along with river activists and gave shape to the river revival plan," says PK Sharma, a retired Geography professor, from Saharanpur.

## VOLUNTEERS FISHEO OUT ABOUT 10,000 TRUCKS OF SOLID WASTE AND STOPPED DIRECT DISCHARGE OF SEWERAGE INTO THE RIVER

Under the plan, volunteers and activists fished out nearly 10,000 truck load of solid waste and stopped direct discharge of sewerage from flowing into the river. "The small sewerage outlets from houses were emptied into newly made soak pits. Nearly 70-80 soak pits were dug up. Small drains were diverted to bigger drains away from the river. It took nearly four months for the entire cleanup process. The work was a bit easy as no industrial discharge was present

along the river," Sharma said.

The Paon Dhoi river, stretching nearly 8km from Shakiapuri area, flows into the Dhamola, which was earlier a tributary of river Hindon but is and now burdened with municipal discharge.

"During that period, nearly 1,100 challans were issued against offenders who dumped waste into the river. We are still carrying on with the task to maintain the river and getting support from the administration as well," the retired professor said.

Activists said that the river is perennial and gets water from small springs at its point of origin near Shakiapuri.

"While I was a child, I had seen fish and turtles in the river. It was so clean. The river is still clean but not as much as it used to be after its revival. It all depends on the administrative will and the interest of officials," he added.

HT 14 July 2015

Front Street Times (Delhi)  
The Tribune (Chandigarh)  
The Hindustan (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)  
The Times of India (Mumbai)  
The Telegraph (Kolkata)  
The New Indian Express (Chennai)

The New York Times (New York)  
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The New York Times (New York)

Monday, July 13, 2015

B

# Nation

## Monsoon mayhem: Showers wreak Rain unabated in UP

**LUCKNOW:** As many as 10 people were killed in incidents of house collapse in different parts of Uttar Pradesh, taking the toll so far to 25 even as heavy rain continued to lash the state on Sunday.

According to reports, five people were killed and two others injured when a "kuchha" house collapsed amid heavy rain in Sitapur district, about 90 km from here, on Saturday night. Four people were killed in a similar incident in Aligarh district.

Deaths were also reported from Budaon, Azamgarh and Hardoi districts, sources said.

Heavy rain accompanied by strong winds caused widespread destruction across the state.

A large number of trees and electric poles were uprooted in various parts of the state blocking roads at many places.

Snapping of electrical wires at many places caused power outages for several hours. Many areas in the state capital also experienced prolonged disruption in power supply on Saturday afternoon and in the night.

The water levels of major rivers, including Ganga, Ghaghra, Saryu, Rapti, Ramganga, Sharda and some others have been rising. In some districts like Barabanki, Lakhimpur-Kheri, Azamgarh, Baharaich and Balrampur flood waters had inundated large tracts of lands.

Ganga was rising in Ballia while Ramganga waters had entered the low lying areas in Moradabad town, reports said.

DH News Service

**Heavy rain accompanied by strong winds caused widespread destruction across UP. A large number of trees and electric poles were uprooted in various parts of the state blocking roads at many places.**

13 July 2015  
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 The Tribune (Chandigarh)  
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## Monsoon remains elusive in some parts

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** Though the Southwest monsoon was vigorous in north and eastern India in the last three days, large tracts of central and peninsular India continue to be devoid of significant rainfall in the last two weeks.

The week between July 2 and July 8 witnessed 51 per cent dip in rainfall as the monsoon remained elusive in most parts of India barring the Gangetic plains. But the sky opened up in the north and northwest in the last 72 hours, making up for the loss.

Northwest India that stretches from east Uttar Pradesh to west Rajasthan received 159 per cent excess rainfall on Sunday.

Only two meteorological subdivisions in the north-west Rajasthan and Uttarakhand – received less than normal rainfall, while the downpour was far excess in Jammu and Kashmir (334 per cent more), west Uttar Pradesh (350 per cent excess), and Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi (256 per cent additional).

Other three regions – east and north east, central and peninsula – barely received any rain on Sunday because of which the country as a whole is five per cent short of its regular rainfall.

But taken the monsoon showers from June 1 into account, the cumulative deficiency is just two per cent.

Weather scientists, however, feel that the shortage could intensify because of a full blown El Nino that made the Pacific active. "There are typhoons in the Pacific, which are not good for us. We will have to watch for the next 2-3 days as there are reports on weakening of some of the typhoons," said M Rajeevan, director of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune.

The area under summer (kharif) crop is more than 445 lakh hectares on July 10, which is 50 per cent more than last year. This includes five times more sowing of oilseeds, doubling of coarse cereals and additional area under pulses. With adequate water in 91

reservoirs, the government has not pressed the panic button yet, though officials are watchful. Twice in the last two months, the Indian Meteorological Department forecast below normal rainfall because of the El Nino factor, which starts from unusual warming of the sea surface in the Pacific.

The IMD forecasts for the next three days suggests rainfall would continue to occur in the north and east, but from Wednesday, there are strong chances of shower in Kerala and Karnataka.

Delhi received an average of 80 mm rainfall, bringing the national capital to its knees and Palam station recorded close to 100 mm rainfall.

Deccan Herald 13 July 2015



Indian Express (Delhi)  
 The Hindustan Times (Delhi)  
 The Tribune (Chandigarh)  
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The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)  
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The Times of India

13 July 2015

# Rains pick up, drought fears recede

## Half way Into Season, Monsoon Only 2% Below Average, Within Normal Range

Amit.Bhattacharya @timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** It hasn't washed away the fears of deficit rainfall, but the monsoon's satisfactory performance so far has sharply reduced the possibility of a second consecutive drought in the country this year.

In a drought year, average nationwide rainfall is at least 10% below normal. As of now, almost halfway into the rainy season, the monsoon is 2% below average, still within the normal range of 96%-104%.

From here on, a countrywide drought would occur only if rains are more than 14% below average for the rest of the monsoon season. Given that overall meteorological conditions have been adverse for rains in India because of the El Nino factor, monsoon has so far been better than expected.

What's been good for kharif sowing is the wide distribution of rains, with every region having received one or two good wet spells. The latest round of monsoon activity, which began around July 6, brought heavy showers to the northern plains where rain deficit had been growing in the past couple of weeks.

"The spell of wet weather in the northern plains is expected to last another two-three days. After that, we do



The wide distribution of rains is expected to increase kharif crop production

not see major monsoon activity except in east and northeast India, at least for the rest of the coming week," said B P Yadav, director, India Meteorological Department.

As on Sunday, 11 of the 36 meteorological subdivisions in the country had received deficient rains, which at that subdivisional level is defined as rains 20% or more below normal. Most of these areas lie along the west coast and adjoining areas, apart from Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh and a clutch of states in the northeast. Many of these areas had received rains in June.

However, the danger of deficit rainfall for the rest of the season persists. Despite heavy rains in north India over the past week, the monsoon remains 28% below normal in the month of July. This deficit could grow as the current rain spell weakens.

"Overall, the outlook still isn't too bright as El Nino grows stronger and, under its influence, a higher than usual frequency of typhoons is expected in the Pacific," said an expert.

Typhoons usually take away energy from India's southwest monsoon. However, some of these storms can also increase rains in country if they head westwards towards the Bay of Bengal.

Room No. 208(S), Sewa Bhawan,  
R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.

विषय : दिनांक 13.3.15 (15 जुलाई) की समाचार की कतरन ( News Clippings ) प्रस्तुत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचारों की कतरन ( News Clippings ) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

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( सहायक निदेशक ) 14/7/15

निदेशक (बा.प.प्र.)

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14/7/2015

कृपया केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेब साईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें ।

निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन)

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