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NGT SUMMONS TO 38 YAMUNA NURSERIES

'Serve notices through SHOs'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, 13 August

The National Green Tribunal has directed concerned persons associated with 38 nurseries to appear before it after they allegedly refused to accept notice issued to them for causing pollution on the floodplains of river Yamuna here.

A bench, headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar, directed that the notice be served through the concerned SHO who will ensure service to all of

them.
It asked all the noticees to show cause

why they will not be directed to pay environmental compensation in terms of Section 15 of NGT Act. 2010.

NGT, Act, 2010.

"The counsel appearing for the NCT, Delhi and DDA submit that the notices were issued. However, as they have not been accepted by persons present on behalf of those nurseries... we direct notice be issued and served to all the 38 nurseries, the list of which have been placed before us," the bench said.

The green panel also noted that various illegal activities were being carried out on Yamuna flood-

plains which belong to Delhi Development Authority

During the proceedings, DDA also told the bench that most of the licenses/leases have already been revoked and some of them have no right whatsoever yet there was encroachment on the flood plain. The matter is listed for next hearing on September 11.

The Tribunal had earlier issued notice to various illegal nurseries and private persons after perusing a report submitted by DDA. Taking note of DDA's inspection that around 3,000 nurseries were operating, the green

panel had directed it to submit a complete report on nurseries and other commercial activities going on in the floodplains of the river

The Tribunal had noted that illegal activities relating to cement pots and nurseries were going on without permission from DDA, which is causing pollution as broken pots are being converted into debris and deposited on the riverbed.

It had also stated that these nurseries, which are getting plants in plastic bags are not collecting them and burning plastic on the river bank.

'India could lead on Climate Change...'

A dialogue on sustainable consumption should get centre stage at the Paris Summit for combating climate change

Pallava Bagla

The world is gearing up for the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP-21) or the 2015 Paris Climate Summit, to be held later this year, where 195 countries are expected to participate, mostly at the heads of state level. A key player, Laurence Tubiana, the French Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations, spoke to Pallava Bagia on India's role and expectations at the upcoming Faris meeting, explaining that a debate on sustainable consumption should become the keystone. A globally recognised specialist on climate change and development issues, Ms. Tubiana founded the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations in Faris in 2001.

You were in India for several days for talks. What has been the outcome?

What I learn is that at the domestic level India is very engaged; your Prime Minister has launched an enormous effort to change the energy policy, particularly with his massive programme for renewable energy which comes from his Gujarat experience — which I know. I also see a huge commitment to the future, looking at the development of an India which is clean and allows for much more access to energy to the ones who do not have it.

Clean energy has a link to local pollution and [there is a] connection between clean energy and health. This creates a different option for India's thinking that combating climate change and development can be hand-in-hand.

India is not fighting climate change. We don't even have electricity available to 300 million people, where are we talking about India fighting climate change? India is not a big contributor to the problem of changing climate.

No. But you can show that for a country that is so keen on making its people well off and developed and on this key issue of health, sanitation and energy.



"India can show that you can be better off with basic needs fulfilled and a sustainable lifestyle," says the Ambassador. Picture shows a solar thermal power plant in Aburoad, Rajasthan.

- PHOTO: BKWCREATOR/CC-BY-SA-3.0

you have a very progressive understanding. So that is why I think in these negotiations India can show real leadership. India can show most developing countries the pathway, the direction and a different way of developing — both as a source of energy and the way to cleaner development.

At the same time, India should also talk about how to promote a life style that is compatible with nature.

India's per capita emission is low and is in contrast to the West — look at the per capita emissions in the U.S. and France...

Yes, nobody contests that. On the contrary, the consumption of energy in India has to go up, that is for sure. People who don't have access to electricity need to have that and I think that would be an achievement. At the same time, it is not my idea, but many of my Indian interlocutors also spoke about the need for a sustainable life style. India can show the way that you can be better off with basic needs fulfilled and a sustainable lifestyle. I do think that India can show the way to the West to

The over consumption of meat is linked to excessive land use and deforestation. We should try going a day without eating meat!

LAURENCE TURIANA, the French Ambassador for

think back on how they live, which is not sustainable.

Climate Change Negotiations

So are you saying that the debate should now shift to sustainable consumption?

Yes, I think that on food consumption, for example, the over consumption of meat is linked to too much land use, deforestation, methane emission etc. This is something that must be considered as part of sustainable consumption. We should at least try going a day without eating meat!

So would the Parls convention be willing to tell the U.S. to cut down its consumption or even Europe?

In this process you don't dictate. You have to make people believe that this is a better way. Nobody will dictate to India about a development model; you have to make the choice. But we can reflect together and have collective discussion on what is really suitable to the international community.

So we will not dictate to the U.S. about its consumption model but we can make the U.S., and even the Europe, see the need for transformation, which is already happening to some extent. We have now in France and in some European countries begin a campaign against all this terrible wastage of food, for example. Sometimes 20 or 30 per cent is wasted. That is totally crazy. That is where you can have leadership from India in the form of political, intellectual and spiritual leadership. People are ready to listen to that message.

What is the expectation from India at the Paris Conference?

One, India is a big power — politically, internationally — so any agreement has to have India on-board and one that supports the development model that India has chosen. And this is clearly a clean development model, on which I see no contradiction between India and others.

On the contrary I see a convergence in trying to draft an agreement that India would be comfortable with. This could be a model agreement for many of the smaller countries to emulate and who face the same problems as India. For example, countries in Africa, which are poor and deprived also face issues related to access to energy. A solution in Paris that is acceptable to India would create a basis for powerful support from these countries as well.

Pallava Bagla is Science Editor for New Delhi Television (NDTV) and he can be reached at pallava.bagla@gmail.com or on Twitter @pallavabagla. News its miletterier ticles editorial published on / Jugus)

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Maharashtra government extends PDS benefits to APL farmers

Special Correspondent

MUMBAI: The Maharashtra government will flag off ambitious programmes of digging one lakh wells, and 50,000 farm ponds and bringing Above Poverty Line farmers from 14 suicide-affected districts within the ambit of the Food Security Act from Independence Day, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced on Thursday.

The inconsistent monsoon has reduced soil moisture, and to prevent its negative impact, the State government had launched the Jal Yukt Shivar scheme to involve villagers in increasing the water table in their respective village.

To prevent a spurt in farm suicides, the government will extend the benefits of the Food Security Act to Above Poverty Line (APL) farmers too in six drought-prone districts of Marathwada, and six suicide-affected districts in Vidarbha.

The State will provide rice at Rs. 3 per kg, and wheat at Rs. 2 per kg to APL beneficiaries, and this way all ration-

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The Maharashtra government has launched the Jal Yukt Shivar scheme to involve villagers in increasing the water table in their respective villages. - FILE PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

card holders in 14 districts will benefit from the scheme. The foodgrain distribution will begin from August 15, the Chief Minister said.

Fresh loans

Mr. Fadnavis also said fresh loans would be given to farmers affected by natural calamity in financial year 2014-15, and their previous loans would be restricted.

Interest would be waived

on loans taken by the farmers who have been repaying their yearly instalments in the financial year 2015-16. The State will bear the interest of six per cent for four years from 2019-2020 which amounts to Rs. 1,526 crore, he said.

He said medical aid under the Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayi Yojana will be provided to farmers in the suicide-affected districts.

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'Water from bore wells wasted at Supreme Court, DMRC sites'

CRIMINAL Water pumped out to avoid flooding in basements, says report

Vinod Rajput

wipod.rajput@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Despite coming down heavily against use of bore wells and wasted water in the Capital, huge quantities of water drawn from multiple bore wells in the Supreme Court complex is being pumped away into drains, a report submitted to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) said.

A private contractor constructing additional offices worth ₹433 crore in the SC complex is drawing water from bore wells in the complex for construction. "There is large scale wastage of underground water at the Supreme Court of India," a local commissioner appointed by the NGT has written in his report.

"With 50 bore wells, the contractor—JMC projects (India) With 50 bore wells, the contractor is extracting ground water to keep the water table below 15 metres, the depth of the basement site. Water is being drained away instead of recharging it back into ground.

VIKRAMJEET, NGT-appointed commissioner

limited—is extracting ground water to keep the water table below 15 meters, the depth of the basement site. Instead of using treated water, ground water is being used for construction and being pumped away into drains," the report notes.

The NGT, in January 11, 2013, had banned extracting groundwater by private agencies, including buildersn for construction purposes.

According to report, 6.20,000 litres of ground water is being

used for construction at the SC every month. The contractor is pumping away water into drains to keep the water table in the area at 15 metres (m) to avoid flooding the basement. Before the construction began water table was at 6 m.

"Ground water was being pumpedaway into drains instead of being recharged back into ground through recharge pits," wrote Vikramjeet, the commissioner who authored the NGT report.

On April 23, 2015, the NGT directed a team of local commis-

sioners to conduct inspections at construction sites in Delhi-NCR areas. Of the seven commissioners, Iwo have submitted their reports to the NGT.

Similarly, at the underground metro construction site near Red Fort in Old Delhi, ground water was being extracted to keep the water table at 18 m depth, the report added. "A private construction agency L&T told me that in 2012 ground water level in this area was at 45 m depth. But it was informed that underground water level now is 10 meters down. For metro construction is being done at 18 meters depth," the commissioner notes in the report.

A DMRC spokesperson told HT that they have all requisite permissions to extract ground water to make way for metro work underground.

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Dwarka residents help revive dying water bodies

Ritam Halder

ritamhalder@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Activists and residents of Dwarka claim to have revived two natural groundwater recharge sites at Sector 20 and 23 of the parched locality at a time when the Capital's water bodies are vanishing due to poor maintenance.

A survey conducted three years ago by an environmental group showed that all 183 water bodies in south west Delhi were nearly dead with 93 turning dry, 63 covered with sewage and the rest filled up artificially for ani-

mal husbandry purposes, said Captain SS Mann of the Sukh Dukh ke Saathi, a resident group of senior citizens. "Many water bodies could easily be revived. but they were not even in records of the land-owning department. One of these was Naya Johad at Pochanpur in Sector 23," he said.

The 200-year-old water body was about to be filled with earth and destroyed. However, Mann said, residents and activists intervened and kick-started its revival.

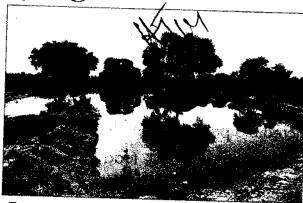
"Channels were dug to link storm water drains. Residents pooled in money to hire equipment to deepen and desilt it.

Results started showing soon with exotic birds coming to it. There were little results over two monsoons, but this time we have a totally recharged corner of Dwarka," he said.

Activist Diwan Singh, a member of the Dwarka Water Bodies Committee, who among those spearheading the movement, said the Delhi Development Authority was helpful in the revival process.

The Sector-20 water body was also revived in a similar fashion, said residents.

"When officials did not work, we engaged experts and scientists," said Singh.



■ The water body at Sector 20 in Dwarka, which was restored in a joint effort by residents and activists. VIPIN KUMAR/HT

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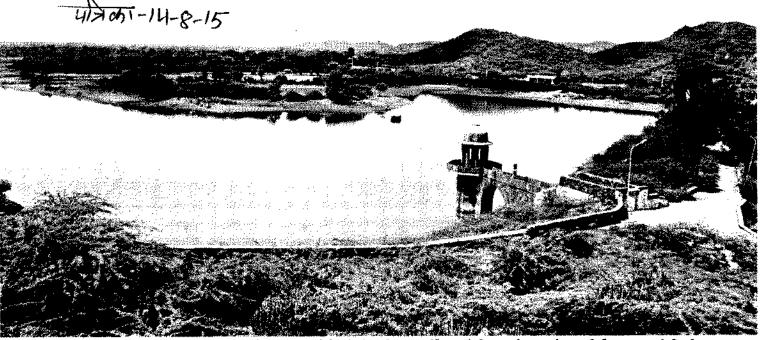
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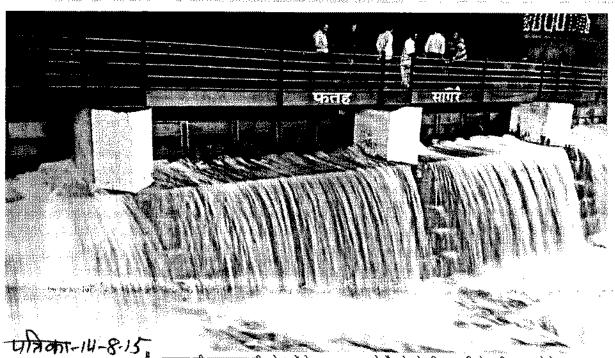
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हरियाली : जोधपुर सहित असपास के क्षेत्रों में हाल ही हुई अच्छी बारिख से विभिन्न जलाक्ष्यों में पानी की अच्छी आवक हुई है। शहर के निकट उम्मेद सागर में भरा पानी और आसपास छाई हरियाली।

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उदयपुर की फतहसागर झील के चारों गेट गुरुवार रात साढ़े मैं। बजे खोल दिए गए। पिछोला झील छलकने के बाद झीलों की नगरी के बांत्रिंदे फताहसागर के छतकने का इंतजार कर रहे थे। हार्लाकि खुद-ब-खुद छतकने के बाद जल संसाधन विभाग ने झील के चारों गेट खोले, तो जल रात्रि झील के चक्राकार ओवरपतों से आर्च बनाती हुई आगे बढ़ गई। इस नजारे को देखने के लिए बड़ी संख्या में शहर के बाशिंदे उपस्थित थे।

उदयपुर. तेज गर्जना के साथ झमाझम बरसे बादलों ने झीलों की नगरी को गुरुवार को भी जमकर नहलाया। पिछोला झील में पानी की आवक तेज होने से दोपहर में स्वरूपसागर के तीन गेट सवा फीट खोले गए। इससे आयड़ में भी प्रवाह हो गया। रात करीब साढे नौ बजे फतहसागर झील के चारों गेट

खोल दिए गए। दिनभर बारिश की झड़ी के बीच दोपहर में उमरडा में केरिंग (45) पुत्र दल्ला मीणा पर बिजली गिर गईं। परिजन उसे चिकित्सालय ले गए जहां चिकित्सकों ने मृत बताया।

जिले समेत उदयपुर शहर में सुबह 11 शुरू हुई बरखा शाम 4 बजे तक चली। इससे शहर की

सड़कें निदयों में तब्दील हो गई। झीलों में पानी की आवक को देखते हुए जल संसाधन विभाग ने स्वरूपसागर के तीन गेट खोल दिए। आकोदडा डेम अभी 20 सेंटीमीटर खाली है। इसके साथ ही उदयसागर बांध के कल एक फुट तक खोल गए दोनों गेट गुरुवार की डेढ फीट तक खोल दिए गए।

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सूचना मिलते ही कलेक्टर महेशचंद्र चौधरी ने मौके पर पहुंच कर दरार का निरीक्षण किया और एनएचएआई अधिकारियों से इस निर्माण पर नाराजगी व्यक्त की। इसके बाद एनएचआई के कर्मचारियों ने पुल मरम्मत का काम शुरू कर दिया है। इस मार्ग पर तीन घंटे आवागमन बंद रहा। उसके बाद पुलिस-प्रशासन ने खुटामा और



षडेला बिछुआ वैकल्पिक मार्ग से आवागमन चालू कराया।राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग क्रमांक 547 नरसिंहपुर-छिदवाड़ा-सावनेर निर्माण के दौरान सद्भाव कंस्ट्रक्शन कम्पनी द्वारा इस पुल का निर्माण कराया गया था। बारिश से कन्हान नदी में आए अत्यधिक पानी के बहाव को पुल पर लगी मिट्टी सहन नहीं कर पाई और उसने स्ट्रक्चर को छोड़ दिया। इससे पुल के उमर सड़क में 10 से 15 फीट की दरार आ गई। इससे दोनों और वाहन थम गए।

रामाकोना में कन्हान नदी के पुल की मिट्टी बरसाली पानी का बहाव सहन नहीं कर सकी। इसका कंसद्रकान सुरक्षित है। इसकी मरम्मत का काम शुरू कर दिया गया है। शुक्रवार तक छोटे-बड़े वाहन का आवागमन शुरू कर दिया जाएगा। यह प्रथम दृष्ट्या निर्माण में लापरवाही का मामला नहीं है, फिर भी आवश्यक होने पर जांच की जाएगी।

एकर्स स्वतक्टर, परिवोजना निदेशक, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण छिदवाड़ा।

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The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)



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पूर्वी और परिचमी मध्य प्रदेश के साब ही वेंसंगाना के कई इसाकों में बहुत देज बारिश होगी।



Admn focuses on roads, water in Mandi's flood-hit Dharampur

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, AUGUST 13

The state government has stepped up its efforts to restore water supply and road connectivity in areas affected by heavy rain and floods in Dharampur, Mandi.

The loss caused to roads last week has been estimated at Rs 27 crore. "Restoration w. "k is continuing and

90 water supply schemes have been restored," said Tarun Sridhar, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue and Forest). He said the remaining nine schemes would also be made operational in two days.

Sridhar said the administration has distributed relief amounting to Rs 23 lakh among the affected

families. "As per initial surveys, a total of 45 houses and 64 cowsheds suffered damage following the flashflood," he stated.

He said three persons died after they were buried under the debris of their house. He said besides providing relief, 380 tarpaulin had been providing to the locals.

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The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Rains lash AP, TS; still elusive in Rayalaseema

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, AUG. 12

Heavy rains lashed Telangana and Coastal Andhra Pradesh in the last 24 hours as the Southwest monsoon continued be active in the region.

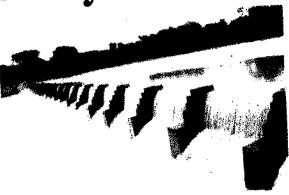
However, the monsoon is yet to become active in Rayalaseema, said IMD officials.

Fishermen have been advised to be cautious while venturing into the

For the next 48 hours, a heavy to very heavy rain alert has been sounded for a few places in the districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur of Coastal Andhra Pradesh, and Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar Warangal, Nalgonda and Khammam and at isolated places over the remaining districts of Telangana.

Moderate to rather heavy rain or thundershowers would occur at most places over Coastal AP, Telangana and a few places over Rayalaseema in the next 24 hours.

In the last 24 hours, both Telangana and Coastal AP



A view of checkdam at Parakai in Warangal.

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received heavy rains at several places. Pusapatirega mandal of Vizianagaram district received 11 cm rains followed by Cheepurupalle from Vizianagaram, which received 10 cm.

Denkada mandal from Vizianagaram and Peddapuram from East

Godavari received 9 cm each.

A few stations in Rayalaseema recorded moderate to light rains.

In Telangana, Manthani, Karimnagar mandal from Karimnagar recorded the maximum rainfall of 11 cm each followed by Rudrur (A) Nizamabad, Kaleswaram, Karimnagar which recorded 10 cm each.

Most stations recorded light to moderate rain in Telangana. The rains have come as a relief to farmers across both states as crops had been drying due to lack of good rains for nearly a month.

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Central Chronical (Bhopal)



Vehicles wade through a heavily flooded street in Nizamabad after it received heavy rains on Tuesday. - **Deccan Chronicle**

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Devastating deluge Sleepless, swamped in Myanmar's floods

HINTHADA (MYANMAR).

AFP: Every night, Aung Myo
Tun climbs onto the raised
platform where he sleeps with
his wife, six children and mother-in-law, listening in growing
panic to the sound of water lapping around his house in
Myanmar's Irrawaddy delta.

"We are in trouble," said the farmer, his face etched with tiredness from two weeks of guarding his family from the swirling river that has swallowed his village, as the country battles its worst flooding in years.

"We are watching the kids day and night. They are not old enough to swim," said the 39-year-old, explaining that the family now survives on donated food.

They are among thousands of beneficiaries of the mass mobilisation of ordinary people delivering aid — an example of the self-reliance that is



Vegetable farmer Aung Myo Tun (right) lifts his youngest daughter from a boat to his house surrounded by floodwaters in Myanmar's irrawaddy region on Wednesday. AFP

partly the legacy of decades of neglect under military rule.

In Aung Myo Tun's village, near Hinthada in central Myanmar, residents are used to around two feet of seasonal flooding from the mighty Irrawaddy river nearby — they build their houses on stilts and plant special rice crops to grow above the waterline.

But the water has risen to six feet after heavier-than usual rains this year caused landslides and flash floods across swathes of Myanmar, swelling

rivers with debris-filled torrents that churned into the low-lying delta.

More than 100 people have been killed and a million affected since July, with four states declared disaster zones by authorities who have struggled to respond to the vast scale of the crisis.

As the waters rose up the bamboo stilts of his hut, Aung Myo Tun packed all nine family members - from his sevenmonth-old daughter to his 72year-old mother-in-law-into his boat and sought refuge in a nearby village. But when that area was also hit by floods, the family moved back home, building a raised platform for shelter above ankle-deep waters that have inundated the house. "We are such a big family, it would be too difficult for us at the (official) shelter camps," be said.

The farmer has a ted fer-

rying his children to school, now reopened, by boat, which he also uses to pick up donated rations cooked using rainwater collected during the day.

Like many across the country, he has not sought the government's help in Myanmar's worst natural disaster since Cyclone Nargis, which left at least 138,000 dead or missing in May 2008.

That crisis cemented the then ruling junta's reputation for callous indifference—its leaders denied foreign aid for weeks and even suggested in state media that victims did not need help as they could forage for frogs and fish.

This time the country's quasi-civilian government, which took power in 2011, has swiftly welcomed international help, deploying the military to deliver aid by truck and helicopter and setting up shelters in public buildings.

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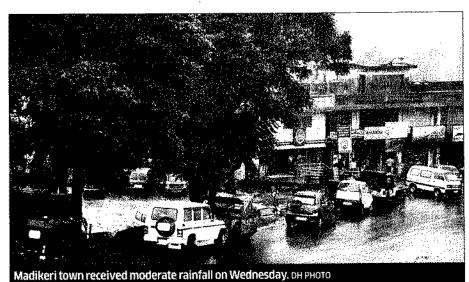
Monsoon picks up pace in Malnad, coastal dists

BENGALURU: Several parts of the State received moderate rainfall on Wednesday leading to a rise in the water level in rivers and damage to property in a few places.

Monsoon has picked up pace in Uttara Kannada with Malnad and the coastal areas receiving moderate rainfall. Coastal areas such as Bhatkal, Honnavar, Kumta, Ankola and Karwar and Sirsi, Siddapur and Yellapur in Malnad region received good rainfall. Semi-arid regions like Mundgod and Haliyal experienced normal rains.

Kodagu and Dakshina Kannada experienced showers on Wednesday. Madikeri, Sampaje, Bhagamandala, Hudikeri, Srimangala, Somwarpet, Shanthalli and other places received moderate rainfall. Sampaje received the highest rainfall of five cm in the past 24 hours. As a result, the inflow of water to Payaswini river has increased drastically.

On the other hand, intermit-



tent rain continued to lash Mangaluru.

The roof of a house collapsed at Kamblapadavu in Mangaluru taluk on Tuesday night. The house belongs to Taniyappa Moolya.

In the past 24 hours, Puttur

received the highest rainfall of 59.8 mm followed by Bantwal with 26.8 mm rainfall.

Shivamogga

After a brief lull, heavy rains lashed several parts of Shivamogga district.

Bhadravathi, Shivamogga, Thirthahalli, Sagar, Hosanagar, parts of Shikaripur and Sorab taluks received good spell of

rains in the morning.
Intermittent rains lashed most parts of the district throughout the day. Unlike the

other days, the district witnessed cloudy weather.

In the last 24 hours, Thirthahalli received rainfall of 22.60 mm, followed by Sagar-4.80 mm, Hosanagar-4.00 mm.

Bagalkot has received moderate rainfall.

Water level in Linganamakki dam rose to 1786.40 feet against the maximum level of 1,819 feet as catchment area of the dam received rainfall of 36.40 mm. The inflow of water was 7,672 cusecs and the outflow was 6,848 cusecs.

Water released from KRS

Water is being released from Krishnarajasagar reservoir to Tamil Nadu since Wednesday morning. The Irrigation department has issued a statement saying that the dam had only 107 feet of water and hence release of water through canals had been stopped. However, the outflow on Wednesday stood at 5,014 cusecs.

DH News Service