

The Times of India

Title : Warming may delay next ice age

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Global warming is likely to disrupt a natural cycle of ice ages and delay the onset of the next one until about 1,00,000 years from now, scientists said on Wednesday .

In the past million years, the world has had about 10 ice ages before swinging back to warmer conditions. In the last ice age that ended 12,000 years ago, ice sheets blanketed what is now Canada, northern Europe and Siberia.

In a new explanation for the long-lasting plunges in global temperatures that cause ice ages, scientists pointed to a combination of long-term shifts in the Earth's orbit around the sun, together with levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. They said the planet seemed naturally on track to escape an ice age for the next 50,000 years, an unusually long period of warmth. But rising man-made greenhouse gas emissions since the Industrial Revolution could mean the balmy period will last for 100,000 years.

“Humans have the power to change the climate on geological timescales,” said lead author Andrey Ganopolski. Another group of scientists suggested an “Anthropocene epoch” began in the mid-20th century with factors such as nuclear tests and industrialisation. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, another author, said a new epoch might instead be called the ‘Deglacial’.



1,00,000 YEARS AWAY

shot at my window. They then cornered my car and pointed

team combed the fields.

"On and off, there were

procure the criminal history of the accused," the SSP added.

Mercury falls by 5 degrees, city shivers

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: The Capital witnessed a cold and overcast Thursday as the temperature fell five degrees compared to Wednesday.

The Met department forecast that Friday and Saturday will also remain foggy, with chances of thunderstorm with rain on January 19.

The maximum temperature on Wednesday was 19 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal, while the minimum temperature settled at 13.6

FOGGY WEATHER FORECAST FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY WITH CHANCES OF THUNDERSTORM AND RAIN ON JANUARY 19

degrees Celsius, six degrees above normal.

Humidity levels hovered between 96% and 69%.

Visibility at 5.30 am was 500 metres, which improved to 700 metres by 8.30 am. It then further improved to 1000 metres

as the day progressed.

Despite fog, flight operations remained normal.

But nine Delhi-bound trains, including Guwahati Rajdhani and Poorva Express, ran late and 70 trains were cancelled due to fog.

"On Friday, the skies will remain partly cloudy with moderate or dense fog in the morning," said an India Meteorological Department (IMD) official.

Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 21 and 11 degrees Celsius.

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Haryana

Nine districts hit by soil salinity, waterlogging

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A waterlogged and saline land in Sirsa's Lohgarh village. file photo

Sushil Manav

Tribune News Service

Fatehabad, January 14

The twin problem of soil salinity and waterlogging is reaching an alarming proportion in Haryana, as around 10 per cent of the state's land has water table less than 3-meter deep.

As per Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), an organisation working under the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), nine districts are hit by the problem.

As per Working Group (Natural Resource Management) Report of the Haryana Kisan Aayog (2012) out of 44.21 lakh hectares of area in Haryana more than 50,000 hectares is having

(2013), out of 44.2 lakh hectares of area in Haryana, more than 30,000 hectares is having shallow water table of less than 1.5-meter deep, turning it into a waste land.

The extent of salinity in a waterlogged area is 35 to 40 deci Siemens per meter (dS/m) against the normal limit of 2 dS/m.

To put this into perspective, consider the salinity of sea water: 25 dS/m.

An additional 3.8 lakh hectares has water table between 1.5 meter and 3 meter, rendering it potentially waterlogged and saline land. "Most of the existing and potential waterlogged saline soil occur in arid and semi-arid regions in central inland depression basin of the state, encompassing Rohtak, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Hisar, Sonapat districts and some parts of Jind, Fatehabad, Sirsa and Palwal districts," said Sushil Kamra, a principal scientist at the CSSRI in Karnal.

Rohtak is the worst-hit district in the state with 47.2 per cent of its area (78,694 hectares out of 1,66,777 hectares) falling under "potentially waterlogged category" and 9.9 percent of the area (16,516 hectares) coming under "existing waterlogged and saline" area.

In Jhajjar, 40.5 per cent of its land (75,651 hectares out of 1,86,670 hectares) comes under "potentially waterlogged and saline" category and 6.9 percent (12,980 hectares) of the area suffers from acute salinity. It is followed by Sonapat.

The situation in other six districts, too, is worrisome, though not as acute as in Rohtak, Jhajjar and Sonapat.

What is even worrisome is that the problem is being aggravated by the use of sub-soil water, which is either saline or alkaline in most parts of the state.

As per data compiled from Groundwater Yearbook (2010-2011) of the Central Groundwater Board, groundwater is severally affected by salinity and or alkalinity in districts hit by soil salinity and waterlogging.

"Considering that about two-thirds of Haryana's area is underlain by marginally to severely saline or alkaline groundwater, even partial use of such water for irrigation is going to accentuate soil salinity," Kamra added.



गुरुवार साल का सबसे ठंडा दिन रहा

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

राजधानी में गुरुवार इस साल का सबसे ठंडा दिन रहा। अधिकतम तापमान 19 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। यह सामान्य से एक डिग्री सेल्सियस कम है। यह इस वर्ष का सबसे कम तापमान है। इससे पहले 8 जनवरी को अधिकतम तापमान 21.4 दर्ज किया गया था, जो सबसे कम था।

गुरुवार को पूसा दिल्ली का सबसे ठंडा क्षेत्र रहा। यहां अधिकतम तापमान सबसे कम 17.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। गुरुवार को हवा में आर्द्रता का स्तर 96 प्रतिशत दर्ज किया गया। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार शुक्रवार को सुबह के



समय घना कोहरा दर्ज किया जा सकता है। आसमान में बादल छाए रहेंगे। अधिकतम तापमान 21 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम तापमान 11 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब दर्ज किया जाएगा। इस पूरे

सप्ताह अधिकतम तापमान 20 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम तापमान 9 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब रहने की संभावना है। पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के प्रभाव के चलते 19 जनवरी को हल्की बारिश दर्ज की जा सकती है।

बुधवार की रात सबसे गर्म: बुधवार रात तो न्यूनतम तापमान इस वर्ष में सबसे अधिक 13.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। यह सामान्य से छह डिग्री सेल्सियस अधिक है। इसके पहले आठ जनवरी व 12 जनवरी को न्यूनतम तापमान 12 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब दर्ज किया गया था। पूसा, अक्षरधाम व पीतमपुरा इलाकों में भी न्यूनतम तापमान 13 डिग्री सेल्सियस से अधिक दर्ज किया गया।



WHAT DEATH BY BREATH LOOKS LIKE FROM SPACE

THIS IMAGE was tweeted by US astronaut Scott Kelly (@StationCDRKelly), commander of the International Space Station, from his post in space on January 12. Kelly referred to the news television channel CNN which was "just talking about this pollution in #India sitting up against the #Himalayas". Kelly tweets pictures of Earth from space all day.

INDIA IS on the left half of the image, under the grey pall of pollution. The Himalayas and Nepal are on the right. The image is of a section of central UP. According to a database of PM 2.5 pollution produced by the WHO in 2014, 13 of the world's 20 most polluted cities are in India. Delhi, Patna, Gwalior and Raipur are the top four in the list.

SCOTT KELLY, along with Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Komiyenko, has been in space since March 27, 2015, on a one-year mission to understand how the human body reacts to long-duration spaceflight. According to NASA, the science will be used to determine ways to reduce risks on future deep space missions such as a flight to Mars.