

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

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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.

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SPA (Publicity)

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10/11

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Monsoon woes: (From left) Vehicles wading through rainwater on Monday in Salt Cotaurs; children playing cricket on the Marina as schools were closed and water entered a house in Ganghadhar Street in Puzhal. ■ R. RAGU, K.V. SRINIVASAN AND V. GANESAN

City to get more rain, but intensity⁴⁻¹⁴ will come down

Chennai gets 126 cm of rain against annual share of 140 cm; Puducherry, Pudukottai and Villupuram may receive moderate rain

K. LAKSHMI
CHENNAI

Chennai and its neighbouring districts will receive rain which may, at times, be heavy till Tuesday evening. There may be a gradual decrease in rain after that.

The city has received 126 cm of rain against its annual share of 140 cm. Meenambakkam has received 137 cm of rain against the yearly average of 138 cm.

The low pressure area over the southwest Bay of Bengal and its neighbourhood has become well-marked and an associated cyclonic circulation along with it persists. The weather system, which has intensified, has led to rainfall over the north coastal areas, especially Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts, since Sunday night. During the 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, Ennore registered the highest volume of 11 cm of rainfall. The weather stations in Ponneri, Nungambakkam and Madhavaram received 7 cm of rain.

On Monday, Nungambakkam received 7 cm of rain, while Ponneri received 7 cm of rain.

Intermittent showers lashed several parts of north Chennai and suburbs throughout the day. The weather stations in Ennore registered nearly 3 cm and Madhavaram 2 cm till 7 p.m.

Officials of the Meteorological Department said Puducherry, Pudukottai and Villupuram in north coastal parts may also receive moderate rain on Tuesday. The other parts of the State would receive rainfall only in one or two places.

S. Balachandran, director of Area Cyclone Warning Centre, said the well-marked low pressure area is moving northwards and may lead to gradual decrease in rainfall. As the system is closer to Chennai and its neighbourhood, these areas may benefit more. However, the intensity of rainfall would reduce from Tuesday evening. "We are monitoring the system for further development," he said.

However, the State's rainfall for the season still remains deficit by 10 % as it has registered only 27 cm so far, but officials said the deficit would be made up by the end of the season.

Velachery facing sewage overflows

'It gets mixed with stagnant rainwater causing hardship'

STAFF REPORTER
CHENNAI

Sunday night rain and intermittent drizzle on Monday led to overflowing sewage in some residential areas in Velachery.

Residents of Dhandeeswaram Nagar (3rd Main Road, 7th Main Road, 9th and 10th cross streets), Bhuvaneswari Nagar, Udayam Nagar and VGP Selva Nagar and Extension complained of sewage overflow from the manholes.

M. Eshwar, a resident of Udayam Nagar, said that overflowing sewage mixed with stagnant rainwater is causing hardship to residents for a week now. Similarly in Nanganallur, the residents complained of water stagnation at the intersection of 100-foot Road and 100-foot Road. He said the



People walking on the median to avoid stagnant rainwater at Demellows Road, Choolai on Monday. ■ R. RAGU

the stormwater drain network to the Veerangal Odai.

Heavy duty pumps

A senior Corporation official of the Adyar Zone, under which Udayam Nagar falls, said a heavy duty pump has been installed to prevent stagnation of rainwater on the 100-foot Road. He said

officials, despite being informed about the sewage overflow, were not taking any remedial measures.

South Chennai residents also faced severe traffic jams as the arterial roads of Velachery Main Road, Taramani Link Road and the Inner Ring Road were choked with water. The water level

Local Metrowater officials, despite being informed about the sewage overflow, are not taking any remedial measures

CORPORATION OFFICIAL

Road and Bypass Road, vehicles which were diverted through the LIC Colony were stuck in traffic because of the poor condition of the Velachery Main Road. Similarly, the railway station work at Ullagaram MRTS station caused traffic jam on the Inner Ring Road.

Train services not hit

However, operation of suburban train services was not affected on Monday. An official of the Southern Railway said that train services have been smooth in spite of signalling problem and flooding of railway tracks on Sunday night. The official said trains were operated with caution as the north-bound train from Chennai to

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

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The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

Dry spell triggers water crisis

SANGAM, NOVEMBER 14

For the first time, Kashmir is battling an acute drinking water crisis as over 700 water supply schemes have been affected because of scanty precipitation in the past six months.

Of the 1,681 water supply schemes in Kashmir, officials say that over 700 are badly hit as the Jhelum — the main source of drinking water in Kashmir — is flowing at a record low level in the past six decades.

Unprecedented water crisis is unfolding in Kashmir due to continuing spell of dry weather. We are improvising on available resources by resorting to a long curtailment scheme and an artificial

barrier at the Chattabal locality near the Jhelum.

The reducing water level in the Jhelum — which traverses from south to north Kashmir — has forced the authorities to block its flow near the Chattabal locality here to manage the crisis in the city. The barrier to the water flow in the Jhelum has, however, aggravated the crisis in north Kashmir where taps are running dry for the past several weeks.

"We have never seen such a crisis in our area. Women have to travel long distances to fetch water from a spring which doesn't suffice our drinking water need," said a woman from Nowpora village in Baramulla district.

People of Budgam, Kupwara and Baramulla dis-

trict where the Government has failed to provide adequate safe drinking water are also facing a similar situation.

The Jhelum originates from the Verinag spring in south Kashmir and flows through Srinagar to north Kashmir. It is fed by at least a dozen tributaries, which source themselves from melting glaciers and rainwater.

However, the river water has dipped to minus 0.75 feet at Sangam in south Kashmir, which is the lowest in its recorded history as long dry spell continues.

Officials say that it is the river's lowest water level since 1955 when the Irrigation and Flood Control Department began maintaining a record.

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Light rain likely today but pollution may shoot up again, cautions Met

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI Delhi is likely to receive a drizzle on Wednesday, which might help in temporarily bringing down the pollution level of the city to some extent.

Experts, however, warn that the air quality is likely to become fouler after the rain but was unlikely to hit the severe level.

The rain will also ensure that the moisture level in the city's air builds up again. The high moisture content would keep the local pollutants running through their natural process.

This could help the pollution level to shoot up again from Thursday.

The Indian Meteorological Department has forecasted some shallow fog and mist in the morning till Saturday.

There can be a rise in pollution levels after the rain. This is because the moisture level will increase which will help trap pollutants," said B. Saha head of the air quality laboratory of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Scientists said that fog and aerosol hazes likely amplify each other and form a vicious cycle. "On one hand aerosol - a kind of pollutant - serves as 'seeds' that

make it easier for fog to form, on the other hand the moisture droplets in the fog acts like small

chemical factories that help gas-borne pollutants to gradually transform into aerosols," said S. N. Tripathi, coordinator in the Centre for Environmental Science & Engineering at IIT Kanpur.

Tripathi said that the rate of dispersal of pollutants depends much on the type of rain.

"Heavy rain with large and high velocity raindrops is able to clear pollutants more effectively than a drizzle with smaller water droplets falling at a lower speed,"

said J. P. Ganguly, assistant professor at Centre for Atmospheric Sciences in IIT Delhi.

Usually rain washes away the particulate matter. But there are some particulate matters, whose size varies between 0.1 micron and 10 microns. They are not cleaned and linger even after heavy rains. They are hydrophobic and tend to bounce away whenever a rain drop hits them.

This phenomenon, experts say, is known as Greenfield Gap.

"Not all types of rain is effective. Longer durations of drizzle are more effective than short lived heavy showers," said Abhijit Chatterjee, assistant professor of environmental sciences section at Bose Institute in Kolkata.

Rainfall vs pollution

Small raindrops are less effective to wash off pollutants from the air. Only heavy rain and high velocity rain can do the job.

HEAVY RAIN	LIGHT RAIN
<p>LARGE RAIN DROPS Larger droplets means higher chances of water hitting particulate matter and reducing pollution.</p> <p>HIGH-VELOCITY RAIN High-velocity rain will capture more pollutants.</p> <p>HYDROPHILIC POLLUTANTS Some pollutants are friendly with water and get easily attached. When rain falls, they are washed away first.</p>	<p>SMALL RAIN DROPS Smaller rain droplets might miss particles and fail to bring down pollutants.</p> <p>LOW-VELOCITY RAIN Low-velocity rain drops might get deflected by winds and may not be effective.</p> <p>HYDROPHOBIC POLLUTANTS Some particles are scared of water and tend to bounce out of the way when water falls. They linger after a shower.</p>