

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 15/2017 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P.Chronicle
Statesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	A z j (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Nai Duniya (Hindi)
Tribune	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A)
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

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

TALES OF THE OLD MAN

NAVA THAKURIA CHRONICLES THE MYRIAD MYTHOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THE MIGHTY BRAHMAPUTRA 16-57

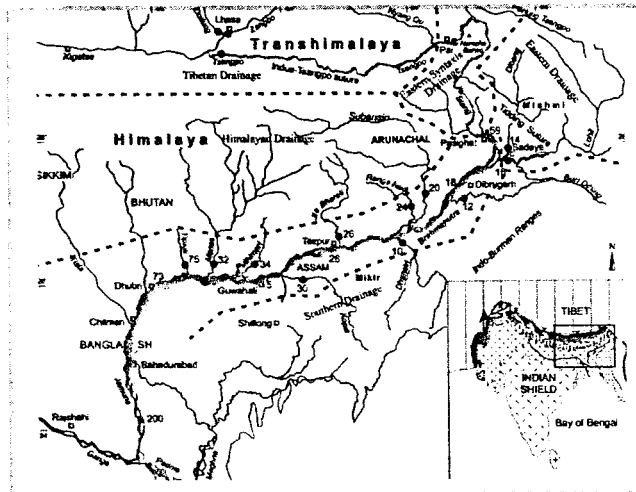
They say there is only one male river (rivers are considered female in India) and that is born in the Tibetan highlands. Of course, the name itself identifies it as the son of Lord Brahma — the creator of the universe according to Hindu mythology. Brahma's son (*putra* in Hindi) is known as Brahmaputra, the sacred river that emerges as a unique identity for the people of Assam.

Even though the Brahmaputra is an international river connecting Tibet (now under China), India and Bangladesh, it is omnipresent in the great Assamese literary-cultural pieces. Often the mighty river is called *Luit* in Assamese literature and Assam's greatest son of recent times, Bhupen Hazarika, described it as *Burha* (literary meaning old) *Luit* also.

Many of Hazarika's immortal creations are related to the Brahmaputra (pronounced in Assamese as *Brohmoputro*). In different songs, the legendary singer terms the river as a symbol of greatness, harmony and assimilation. At times, the celebrated music composer also questioned, "Why does it flow in spite of the endless sufferings of dwellers in both of its banks?"

The powerful river originates from the Jima Yangzong glacier in Tibet (at an elevation of about 5,150 metres), flows across southern Tibet and enters Arunachal Pradesh. It then flows south-west through the Assam valley to penetrate into Bangladesh. Finally, the gigantic river culminates in the Bay of Bengal after merging with the Padma and Meghna rivers.

Identified as one of the major rivers of Asia (the world's fourth largest), the Brahmaputra is known as *Tsangpo* in Tibet (*Yarlung Zangbo* in Chinese), *Siang* or *Dihang* in Arunachal and *Jomuna* (not Yamuna of north India) in northern Bangladesh. It covers nearly 2,900



km and embraces a basin area of around 6,51,300 square km. The river, occasionally adored as a sea, discharges an average of 19,300 cubic metre volume of water per second.

Often called *Tsangpo-Brahmaputra*, it is perhaps the only river in the world that is regarded as holy in four religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Bon). But the river with an average width of three km (maximum 10 km) in the plains and a depth of 40m (maximum 120m) is prone to catastrophic flooding when the Himalayan snow melts every summer and monsoon rains sweep the valleys.

It has a number of tributaries — namely Raka Tsangpo, Kyi, Gyamda, Nyang Chu, Jiadhal, Subansiri, Siang, Dibang, Kameng (or Jia Bhoroli), Aie, Dikhow, Dhansiri, Kopili, Digaru, Puthimari, Paglad-ya, Dudhnai, Saralbhang, Manas, Sankosh, Tista, Raidak, Torsa, Jaldhaka et al — which help it swell in the rainy season and inundate the valleys. Unlike other parts of India, where four distinct seasons (summer, monsoon, autumn and



winter) are observed, the Brahmaputra valley enjoys six *ritus* (seasons) namely *grisma* (summer), *barsha* (rainy or monsoon), *sarat* (autumn), *hemanta* (pre-winter), *seet* (winter) and *basanta* (spring).

In eastern Assam, the majestic river divides into two channels (the northern one is named Kherkuta and southern one, Brahmapu-

tra) and later joins again, around 100 km downstream, to form the unique Majuli Island. It must be mentioned that Majuli is recognised as the largest human inhabited freshwater island in the world. It is also the epicentre of neo-Vaisnavite culture, which was propagated by the 15th century Assamese saint, philosopher and spiritual guru, Shrimanta Shankardev.

The Brahmaputra, Ganga (known as Podda in Bangladesh) and Meghna create thousands of small and medium-sized river islands, popularly called as *char* (both in Assamese and Bengali). The islands give shelter to thousands of poor families, most of who survive without any modern day facility. Sandy in character, many islands disappear during the monsoon floods, forcing the dwellers to move to safer places. The *chars* in western Assam are dominated by Bengali Muslims (migrants from erstwhile East Pakistan) — they depend on agriculture and maintain communication with the mainland through small boats or motorised ferries. An unabated growth of population, low literacy, poor infrastructure and inadequate livelihood opportunities make the dwellers vulnerable.

The smallest one, but inhabitable, Brahmaputra island is named Umananda, which is situated in the greater Guwahati area. North of the pre-historic city, the rock-based island (also known as Peacock Island) is home to an important Shiva temple, which was built in the middle of the majestic river at the end of the 16th century. The narrowest part of the Brahmaputra falls in Guwahati, where the Saraighat rail-and-road bridge was constructed in the 1970s to connect the southern part of it to the rest of India. As an aside, it has historical significance as the great Battle of Saraighat was fought in the locality in 1671, where the Assam (then *Ahom*) forces, under the leadership of great warrior Lachit Borphukan, defeated the Mughal invaders.

One of the widest rivers in the world, the Brahmaputra not only supports millions of human habitations in its basin but also embraces various historic destinations, religious places, forest reserves, tea plantations and water bodies attracting river dolphins and numerous migra-

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SHIMLA STRIVES IN WATER CRISIS

LOCALS COLLECT SNOW TO FULFIL WATER DEMAND; PIPES FROZEN, AUTHORITIES UNMOVED

ARCHANA PHULL

archanaphull252@gmail.com
Shimla, 15 January

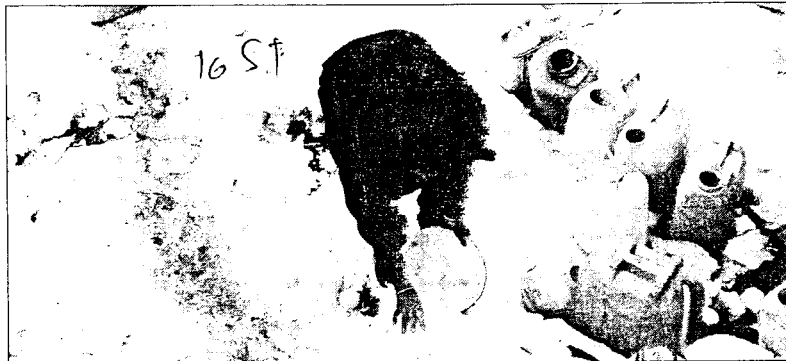
Every day we are crying for water. It is tough to manage like this, rued a local woman, who had no option but to gather snow in buckets to get some water for her house here.

There has been no water supply in her locality in Lakkad Bazaar near The Mall for over a week after the 6 January snowfall. Every time she calls up the water supply wing of Shimla Municipal Corporation, the answer is, "What can we do? We are trying. See the pipes, they have frozen."

And she is not alone in this cry!

Many other residents have been forced to melt the roadside snow for water this time, with the power and water supply in Shimla totally crumbling in the wake of heavy snowfall.

The issue is, however, bigger than this and winter is not the only season when Shimla residents feel the water crunch.



Water crisis has almost become a persistent feature in Shimla. It may actually sound surprising that Shimla locals have been getting water supply for a few hours either on alternate days, or after three to even four days in summers, Monsoons and then winters.

The Shimla Municipal Corporation (SMC), which distributes the water, has different reasons ready to justify the situation. In summers, the peak tourist season, the water sources dry up.

In Monsoons, the silt chokes the water supply schemes and in winters, when the temperature dips, frozen water pipes turns out to be a big time trouble.

All this has been happening year after year, but there is no preparedness to tackle the situation.

"It is frustrating. The authorities do not have a solution to the oft repeated problems of water supply. Why can't they have underground pipes if they freeze every time in winters?," said JS Verma, an elderly resident.

ident.

While the state government has not taken concrete steps to augment water supply in Shimla over the decades, last year in January, the crisis increased, when the worst ever jaundice outbreak claiming over 20 lives throwing light on the water quality as well.

The outbreak occurred after the sewage flowing down from a Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) on the outskirts of Shimla reportedly got mixed with water supply scheme at Ashwani

Khad water source.

On 1 January, 2016, the government had to stop the water supply from Ashwani khad, which used to cater to one third of Shimla's water requirement.

The supply from Ashwani khad could not be restored over the year for quality issues and Shimla is still doing with lesser quantity of water, sometimes half the requirement, against the total need of 40-45 MLD (Million Litres Per Day) water.

"Too much of water crisis occurred this time because of the power failure in the wake of snowfall. The Electricity Board was even short of man power to clear the fallen trees and repair electricity lines in Shimla," deputy Mayor of Shimla MC, Tekinder Singh Panwar told *The Statesman*.

Panwar said the city was getting half the water required (20-22 MLD) these days from three sources of Gumma, Giri and Churut. "We are monitoring the situation day to day for proper distribution of water."

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WESTERN DISTURBANCES TO HIT TEMPERATURE AHEAD *Whinin' winds wounding lives*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 15 January

16 SF
A fresh western disturbance led to a rise in the minimum temperature in Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and the national capital though there was no let-up in the intense cold elsewhere.

The weatherman has warned of rain or snow in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, which were reeling in the grip of intense cold, due to a western disturbance.

The chill kept up its intensity in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. 26 trains were delayed and six rescheduled due to fog in the morning. Flight operations, though continued but was uninterrupted.

The onset of a western disturbance took the minimum temperature in the national capital a notch above the season's average at 8.6 degrees Celsius. The maximum temperature toppled by four notches to settle at 24 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Kupwara and many areas in higher reaches of Kashmir witnessed a fresh bout of snow though the intense cold abated due to an overcast sky. The forecast of more precipitation in the next three days has prompted authorities to put in place a mechanism to respond quickly to any exigency arising out of it.

Leh town in Ladakh region was the coldest place in Jammu and

Kashmir at minus 13.7, while Srinagar had a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius.

Kargil town gauged a minimum of minus 10, Gulmarg minus 10.5, Pahalgam minus 4.6, Kokernag minus 4.7, Kupwara town minus 2.8 and Qazigund 4.6 degrees Celsius. Himachal Pradesh, which has been facing a piercing cold wave, saw a slight rise in the minimum temperature.

Heavily overcast sky in Shimla and surrounding areas kept people on tenterhooks as they were yet to recover from the nightmarish experience they had after the heavy snowfall on the night of January 7, which paralysed normal life for several days.

The high altitude tribal areas and other peaks shivered under freezing cold with mercury staying between minus 17 and minus 22 degrees Celsius. Keylong and Kalpa in tribal Lahaul and Spiti and Kinnaur districts recorded a minus 11.6 and minus 2.8 degrees Celsius.

Manali was warmer at 1 degree Celsius, while Bhuntar had a low of zero degree, Manali and Shimla 1.6, Solan 1.8, Sundernagar 2.4, Dharamsala 6.2, Una 6.4 and Nahan 7.4 degrees Celsius. Cold weather persisted in the states of Punjab and Haryana where rains may occur tomorrow.

Narnaul was the coldest place in the region at 3.5 degrees Celsius.

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At -6°C, Manali colder than Moscow, severe cold wave sweeps the North

MERCURY DOWN Kargil recorded a minimum temperature of -15.6 degrees Celsius

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Nine deaths were reported from Uttar Pradesh as a severe cold wave gripped northern India on Saturday. Shimla recorded a temperature of 0.5 degree Celsius which was colder than Zurich (1 degree) and Manali recorded -6 degrees which was colder than even Moscow (-2 degrees).

Incidentally, the lowest temperatures were recorded at Himachal Pradesh's Keylong and Jammu and Kashmir's Kargil registering -13.9 and -15.6 degrees Celsius, respectively.

According to the weather office, another spell of rain and snowfall was expected both in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir on January 15 and 16.

The weather service has predicted even harsher weather in the next few days.

With Lucknow registering a dip of more than seven degrees, at least nine deaths were reported from Kannauj and Kanpur rural since Friday, an official said on Saturday.

The Met office said the mercury would dip steadily till January 19. The minimum temperature in Lucknow was recorded at 0.4 degrees Celsius.

An intense cold wave has gripped the Kashmir Valley as it passes through the 40-day period of 'Chillai Kalan'. Water bodies in the valley are either completely or partially frozen. Gulmarg and Pahalgam recorded -14.4 and

NORTH INDIA SHIVERS



■ People collecting water from a public tap in Shimla because of water scarcity due to frozen water pipes on Saturday. PTI PHOTO

Kargil:	-15.6°C
Keylong:	-13.9°C
Manali:	-6.8°C
Hisar:	0.1°C (-4 from normal temperature)
Shimla:	0.5°C
Lucknow:	1.6°C (-5)
Coldest in last five years	
Amritsar:	2.2°C (-5)
Dehradun:	2.9°C
■ (Lowest minimum temperature in January in the past three years)	
Chandigarh:	4.4°C (-5)
Patna:	4.8°C (-4)
■ Coldest in last five years	
Bhopal:	7.4°C (-4)
■ Lowest till date: 0.6 degree Celsius (Jan 18, 1935)	

-12 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Similar conditions were witnessed in most parts of Himachal Pradesh as prominent tourist towns like Shimla, Narkanda and Kufri are likely to experience light to moderate spells of snowfall. Tourism business operators are elated because of a rise in bookings.

"Heavy snow has been predicted and if it is like last spell, things can be worse," Suneel Chauhan, a travel agent said, adding, "I am getting booking as well as inquiries for Kufri and Narkanda. All hotels are full to

the capacity."

The administration has made arrangements after predictions of snowfall. Sand has been arranged to clear roads in case of heavy snow. Ambulances are also ready. The district administration has also asked traders to stock up on daily need items.

"Work is on to restore electricity in few areas which are in dark. Main roads have been cleared," Shimla deputy commissioner Rohan Thakur said.

Shimla Superintendent of Police (SP) DW Negi said vehicular traffic will also be a major

concern in the coming days.

"Compared to other days, number of vehicles entering Shimla has increased on Friday and Sunday. Traffic is main concern and we have deployed personnel to ensure smooth flow," he said.

WATER SHORTAGE

Shimla town has been hit by a water shortage as water supply pipes are frozen in many places. Against a demand of 33 million liters per day (MLD), around 28 The rush of tourists will inflate the water demand in the town.

(With agency inputs)

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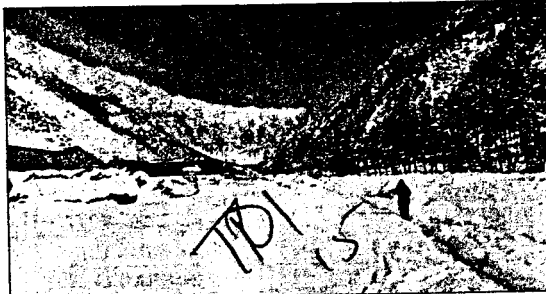
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Temp set to rise from Sunday

Bilal Bahadur



Snow-clad Kangan area in central Kashmir on Saturday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Intense cold conditions continued to keep people indoors as chilly winds swept across the hills and plains of North India on Saturday. While the fringes of waterbodies, including famous Dal Lake, froze in Srinagar, which witnessed its coldest night in January in five years, Patna recorded its lowest temperature of the season due to heavy snowfall in the hills for the past few days.

One person died in Alwar district in Rajasthan due to prolonged exposure to chilly weather.

Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Delhi and Uttarakhand remained under the spell of cold on Saturday. The weatherman, however, said the temperature is likely to go up starting Sunday.

In Jammu and Kashmir, Gulmarg experienced the season's lowest night temperature at minus 14.4 degrees Celsius while minimum temperature in Pahalgam was recorded at minus 12 degrees Celsius.

In the plains of western Uttar Pradesh, Meerut experienced the coldest day of the season at 3.1 degrees Celsius.

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Light rain possible today, warmer days ahead for Delhi

HT Correspondents

■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Rail traffic was affected as the national capital woke up to a cold and foggy morning on Saturday, when visibility dropped to 300 metres and temperature plunged to 3.2 degrees Celsius between 5.30 am and 8.30 am.

According to officials at the Regional Weather Forecasting Centre (RWFC), in certain parts of the city close to Safdarjung, one could not see beyond 300 metres because of the fog.

Flight operations were unaffected, but according to railway officials, 44 trains headed for Delhi were delayed, 13 were rescheduled and eight were cancelled.

There is a possibility of light rains on Sunday, according to the RWFC.

The maximum temperature on Saturday day settled at 19.3 degree Celsius, a notch below the season's average, and the minimum temperature slumped to 3.2 degree Celsius.

**WARMER, MOISTURE-
RICH EASTERLY WINDS
MAY PREVAIL OVER THE
NEXT COUPLE OF
DAYS, TURNING UP THE
HEAT IN THE CITY**

India Meteorological Department has forecast generally cloudy skies for Sunday. "Maximum and minimum temperatures tomorrow are likely to hover around 20 degrees Celsius and 7 degrees Celsius," the official said.

With the onset of a Western Disturbance, which is a weather phenomenon that creates a pressure difference, wind patterns are expected to change.

Warmer, moisture-rich easterly winds may prevail in the next couple of days, turning up the heat in the city. The weatherman has forecast minimum temperatures may rise to even 8 degrees Celsius during the week, and on some days temperature may rise to as high as 21 degrees.

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Only courts can end SYL impasse: CM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 14

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today said the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal issue can be resolved only through court intervention and not by opposition parties threatening to dig it up.

Replying to questions at a meet-the-press event here, he said as Assembly elections had already been announced in Punjab, opposition parties were trying to politicise the issue for their vested interests though it was not a political issue.

"The Supreme Court has already given its decision in favour of Haryana. The statements being made by opposition leaders will make the issue complex. It is time to wait for the verdict of the Supreme court with regard to implementation," he said.

He added that the Hansi-Butana link canal issue, too, would be decided soon. He said the issue of Presidential Reference had been pending for the last 12 years, which was astonishing.

It appeared that the previous governments did nothing to resolve the issue, he said. The present government had, soon after assuming office, pursued the case with the SC and the Punjab Termination of

"The Supreme Court has already given its decision in favour of Haryana. The statements being made by opposition leaders will make the issue complex. It is time to wait for the verdict of the Supreme court with regard to implementation."

Manohar Lal Khattar, CHIEF MINISTER



Inaction during Jat stir

Talking about the officers suspended for inaction during the Jat agitation, the Chief Minister said they had responded to the government's show-cause notice and given their replies. "Those who fail to give satisfactory replies will remain suspended while the suspension of the rest will be revoked," he said.

Agreements Act, 2004, was nullified, he asserted.

Khattar said he had already led a delegation of all political parties to urge the President to make the SYL canal functional at the earliest. A request in writing was made to the PM to seek his appointment for the same, he said.

He ridiculed those saying they would begin digging of the canal on February 23. He added that the SYL canal would not be made functional with 'fawarda and belcha' as such an act would create tension. The CM said the government had been working on the project of state resident database and removing flaws in the system to resolve land disputes.

Describing the restoration of faith of the people in the government as his biggest

achievement, he said the Haryana Government was preparing a scheme to provide affordable meals to workers and poor persons living in 'bastis' in the state.

He said the government was considering a proposal to increase the amount of accidental insurance for state roadways and employment opportunities for outstanding sportspersons in the state in the police and other departments.

Khattar said a committee had been constituted to streamline the process of giving jobs to outstanding sportspersons and first meeting of the committee had been held. It was not possible to appoint every sportsperson as DSP, he said. The priority would be given to seek their service for promotion of sports, he added.

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Only 4% area under forest cover in state

VIJAY MOHAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 13

While the National Forest Policy stipulates that at least 40 per cent of the area should be covered by forest, the forest cover in Haryana is just about four per cent of its geographical area, with forests in many areas becoming degraded.

Revealing this in a new report of geo-environmental hazards in Haryana, the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has also observed that major forest produce in the state is showing a decreasing trend in terms of quantity as well as value.

Forests occupy an area of only 1,770 square km in Haryana, out of which 55 per cent lies in just two of the 22 districts, Panchkula and Yamunanagar, covering the hilly terrain in these regions.

In southern and western Haryana, most of the forests are degraded and have changed into open type jungles or grazing grounds, the GSI has observed. In districts like Rohtak, Bhiwani, Sirsa

and Rewari, forests are used by locals to graze live-stock or collect firewood.

The major forest produce of Haryana is timber and firewood, while the minor produce is bamboo, fodder, gum, resin and grass. The GSI has observed that while the major produce is dwindling, minor produce is on the rise.

Major produce, according to the GSI's report, was 30,000 cubic metres in 1966-67, which peaked at 2.16 lakh cubic metres in 1999-2000. Thereafter, it began falling and was down to 56,000 cubic metres in 2014.

For the same period, minor produce has grown in value from Rs 2.47 lakh to Rs 34 lakh, which some experts opine indicates that the natural availability of traditional forest produce like timber has reduced.

An exponential increase in the number of live-stock heads in the state and Haryana being predominantly an agricultural state are among factors in this change.

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Cash for land is just not done: SC

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Agreeing to hear the plight of the landless victims of the Sardar Sarovar Project in detail, the Supreme Court on Tuesday observed that giving cash instead of land to farmers who lost their fertile lands to the mega dam project is "tentatively" not acceptable.

"We will tell you now itself. You giving cash instead of land is tentatively not acceptable. That's just not done," Chief Justice of India J.S. Khehar, who headed a three-judge Bench, told the Narmada authorities and counsel for Madhya Pradesh.

Appearing for the Narmada Bachao Andolan, advocate Sanjay Parikh asked why poor people whose lands have been taken away from them should continue to suffer. "It is land for land," Mr. Parikh said.

"They have worked in their lands all their lives," Chief Justice Khehar said during the hearing.

Mr. Parikh said the farmers are left with neither land nor livelihood despite there being binding orders from



A view of the Sardar Sarovar dam. — FILE PHOTO

the Supreme Court upholding their right to land.

Hearing adjourned

Chief Justice Khehar, who wanted to hear the petitions on Tuesday, agreed to adjourn the hearing to January 19 for a detailed hearing after the government authorities sought time for preparation.

Earlier, the apex court had dismissed an application by the Madhya Pradesh government and the Narmada Valley Development Authority for a modification of the apex court judgments of 2000 and 2005 upholding land rights for adult sons of the Sardar Sarovar Project-affected farmers.

The apex court's Social Justice Bench led by Justice Madan B. Lokur had said the State's application suffered from gross delay, after having been filed several years since the Supreme Court gave its verdict on the issue.

Mr. Parikh had submitted that as per the Narmada Tribunal Award and the Supreme Court verdicts, all adult sons were indisputably entitled to five acres of cultivable and irrigable land, and any discrimination would lead to the violation of the constitutional rights of the oustees.

Terming the application as "not to be good governance," the Bench had dismissed it.

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Coldest day of season in the Capital

NEW DELHI: The Capital on Tuesday witnessed chilly and strong breezy conditions that resulted in the mercury dropping to 5.2 degrees Celsius, making it the coldest day of the season so far.

According to a MeT department official, the Safdarjung observatory recorded a minimum temperature of 5.2 degrees, two notches below normal while Lodhi Road recorded a minimum of 3.4 degrees Celsius.

At Palam, the minimum temperature settled at 5.9 degrees and at Ayanagar and Ridge it was 5.8 and 7.0 degrees Celsius respectively.

Lowest in 5 years

Tuesday's minimum temperature was the lowest in last five years, the MeT official said. The maximum temperature settled at 17.8 degrees, two notches below the season's average at Safdarjung, the official added.

The visibility was recorded at 800 meters at 5.30 am at Safdarjung which improved to 1,200 meters at 8.30 am and significantly improved to



NIPPY: A girl with an elderly travel in a DTC bus on a cold Tuesday night in New Delhi. PHOTO: V. V. KRISHNAN

3,500 meters at 11.30 am.

At Palam, the visibility was 250 meters at 5.30 am and 8.30 am. It improved to 1,200 meters at 11.30 AM, the official said. According to a Northern Railway spokesperson, 21 trains were reported to be running late while nine were rescheduled and seven had to be cancelled.

Flight operations normal

However, flight operations

at Indira Gandhi International Airport were reported to be normal. The humidity oscillated between 100 and 52 per cent.

The weatherman has forecast clear skies for Wednesday with mist and shallow fog in the morning. "The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 16 and 4 degrees Celsius, respectively," the weatherman said. — PTI

ews item/letter/article/editorial published on January-14-2017 in the

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

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

M.P.Chronicle
A z j (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

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

Hansi-Butana canal row final hearing in April

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

The Supreme Court will hold the final hearing on the Hansi-Butana canal row in the first week of April. A Bench comprising Justices PC Ghose and RF Nariman today passed the order after being informed by Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan that the process of providing evidence was over and that the lawsuits and connected appeals were ready for a hearing.

Appearing for Haryana, senior counsel Jagdeep Dhankar sought an early hearing as an interim order against the state was in oper-

ation for several years. The apex court has restrained Haryana from using the 109-km canal for drawing water from the Bhakra Main Line (BML) following objections by Punjab and Rajasthan.

In April 2014, Haryana had pleaded that it be allowed to use the canal water under certain conditions, including a strict watch by a retired SC judge/Chief Justice as well as the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), to meet the drinking water and irrigation needs of its drought-prone areas.

To allay apprehensions over the possible misuse of the canal for drawing excess

water from BML, it said it was prepared to take its share only after Punjab and Rajasthan had got their due share.

Rejecting the proposal, Punjab had said this was nothing but "old wine in a new bottle" and that the plea had been considered and rejected by various SC Benches. Punjab's concern was not overdrawal by Haryana, but "certain flooding" of its 75 villages as the canal had been constructed perpendicular to the BML.

Rajasthan too had opposed Haryana's proposal, saying letting Haryana use the canal water would further dwindle the flow downstream.

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Surviving drought: Kerala imposes curbs on water use

T. NANDAKUMAR

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Faced with a worsening drought situation, the Kerala government has imposed curbs on the use of water in reservoirs. It has also stepped up the review and monitoring system at the district levels.

District Collectors have been directed to stop the release of water through canals for irrigation, and keep a close tab on the water level in reservoirs.

The assessment of the water situation in terms of Litres Per Capita per Day (LPCD) is being reported to the government on a regular basis. "The focus is on ensuring the availability of drinking water up to the onset of the southwest monsoon in June," said Sekhar L. Kuriaakose, member-secretary,

DROUGHT MITIGATION

RELEASE OF WATER through canals to be stopped

WATER LEVEL in reservoirs to be monitored

The focus is on ensuring the availability of drinking water till the onset of the southwest monsoon in June

SEKHAR L. KURIAKOSE
Member Secretary,
State Disaster Management Authority



WATER AVAILABLE FOR POWER GENERATION

2017	1,873 mu
2016	2,676 mu
2015	3,134 mu
2014	3,646 mu

DRINKING WATER kiosks in all wards

45%
dip in storage position in hydel projects

Rainfall from January 1
99% deficit



*mu: million units

State Disaster Management Authority.

Efforts are on to establish drinking water kiosks in all wards. The project is expected to achieve momentum with the finalisation of the rate contract for installation of tanks by the Joint Commissioner, Land Revenue. The government is also mon-

itoring the utilisation of groundwater. The impact of drought on tourism, industry and power sectors is being closely observed. It would be included in the State's memorandum to the Centre.

Isolated showers during the current dry spell are not expected to improve the water situation.

news item/letter/article/editorial published on January 16.1.2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express ✓

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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Respite from cold wave as mercury rises

New Delhi: The onset of a western disturbance Sunday took the minimum temperature in the national capital one notch above the season's average at 8.6 degrees Celsius.

The gradual approach of the western disturbance has given

Delhi, in grip of a cold spell, a slight respite.

Visibility conditions also improved as compared to Saturday with the Safdarjung observatory recording it at 700 metres at 8.30 am.

"There was shallow fog in the

morning. The maximum temperature is likely to be 20 degrees Celsius," a Met official said.

Flight operations at IGI remained normal although rail services were affected.

Humidity was 95 per cent at 8.30 am. PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-16/2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

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Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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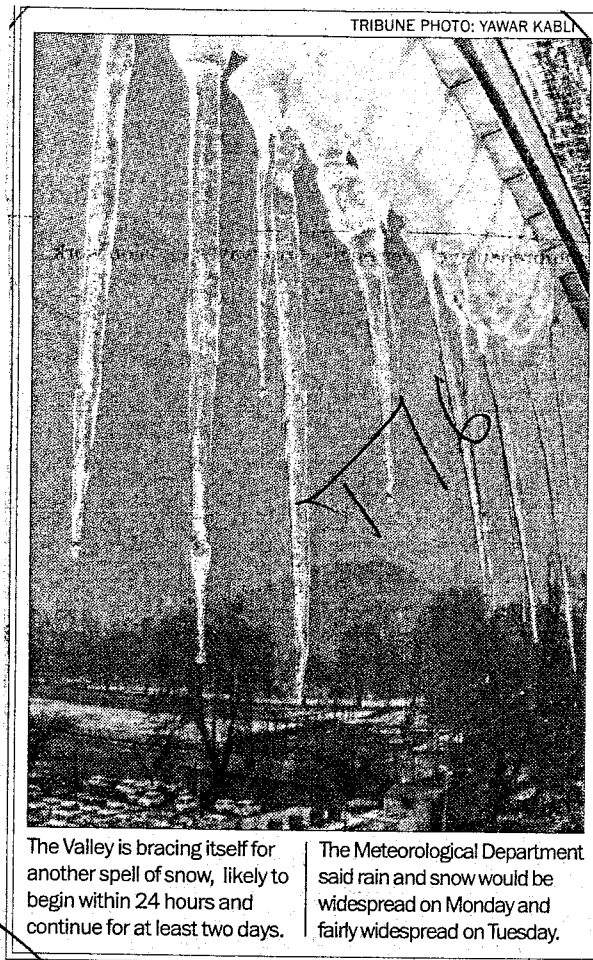
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Cold wave grips most of north, Lucknow at 0.1°C

Temperature To Dip Further, Predicts IMD

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

The cold snap bit deeper into large swathes of north India, and particularly severely into Lucknow where its coldest day in the last three years saw the mercury fall to 0.1° Celsius. Uttar Pradesh had previously experienced a similar drop in temperature in 2013.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) announced that temperatures could dip further on January 15 and that minimum temperatures could be below normal in most parts of the country till January 21.

While Rajasthan's only hill station, Mount Abu, recorded -0.5° Celsius, Udaipur recorded the season's lowest temperature at 2.2°C. The minimum temperature in Jaipur was 4°C. According to the weather office,



WHITE COVER: People walk through the snow on the outskirts of Srinagar on Friday. Winter in the Valley has been extremely harsh this season with Leh recording the coldest night of the season at -17.7° Celsius

the state could experience ground frost over the next 24 hours.

"A severe cold wave is likely at a few places in Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, and a cold wave at a few places in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha and interior Odisha during the next 2-3 days," an IMD official said, adding that north India could experience normal rainfall during

the next two weeks.

In Haryana, Narnaul was the coldest place in the region. The temperature in Nainital, Mussoorie and Haridwar in Uttarakhand also dipped below zero following heavy snowfall in many regions. According to the IMD, Jammu and Kashmir will receive rainfall on January 15 and 16.

"The rains would drop the speed of west-northwes-

terly winds from J&K due to western disturbances. This could have a combined effect on Delhi's weather and help temperatures rise," a weather expert said. Winter in the valley has been extremely harsh this season with Leh town recording the coldest night of the season at minus 17.7° Celsius.

With inputs from Lucknow, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Jammu & Kashmir and Shimla

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Cold tightens grip as Manali gets fresh snow



Tourists enjoy a yak ride near the Nehru Kund in Manali on Sunday. PHOTO BY WRITER

MC THAKUR

MANALI, JANUARY 15

As predicted by the Meteorological Department, the upper Manali areas experienced fresh and mild snowfall, intensifying cold wave conditions in the region today. The entire reaches in the Kullu valley, including Rohtang, Pir Panjal ranges, Dhundi, Beaskund, Marhi, Gulaba, Kothi, Bhrighu slopes, Hamta ski slopes and Chanderkhani, received fresh snow.

The snowfall at famous ski slopes of the Solang valley has brought smiles on the faces of ski lovers, who had come here from different parts to participate in ski courses.

For the safety of tourists,

Snow alert for Lahaul & Spiti residents

Mandi: In the wake of heavy snowfall prediction by the Meteorological Department, the district administration, Lahaul Spiti, has urged residents to avoid visiting the snowbound area for a few days because of safety concerns. The area has been cut off from the rest of the world after the closure of Rohtang, the gateway to Lahaul-Spiti, because of heavy snowfall. Deputy Commissioner Vivek Bhatia said the residents were advised to stay in their home until the sky turns clear. The district is prone to avalanches which may cause threat to human life. Link roads within the district were already blocked and now residents were demanding flight service to the district. - TNS

the district administration has stopped all tourist vehicles from going to a sight-seeing tour to the Solang valley beyond Nehru Kund on the Manali-Rohtang road and deployed police personnel to stop them. Hundreds of tourists made a beeline for Nehru Kund to enjoy the snow. There was a jovial

environment in places between Bahang and Nehru Kund as tourists were seen enjoying sledging, skiing, riding on yaks and throwing snowballs at each others. Locals of adjoining villages were busy renting out snow dresses, woollen garments, jackets, gloves and snow shoes for tourists.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 14.1.2017 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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Drive out of Millennium Depot: SC

Asks Govt To Remove Buses By Feb 4; NGT To Decide On Legality Of Its Existence

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court ordered Delhi government on Friday to drive out by February 4 the last of Delhi Transport Corporation's 320 cluster buses parked at the Millennium Bus Depot, which was meant to be a temporary shelter for two weeks for the fleet during the 2010 Commonwealth Games.

"The Millennium depot shall not be put to use for any purpose till the National Green Tribunal determined the legality of its existence, proximate to Yamuna," said a bench of Chief Justice J S Khehar and Justice D Y Chandrachud.

Immediately after the completion of the scam-tainted Commonwealth Games seven years ago, NGO Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan had questioned the selection of the site

on the river bed, a stand which was countered by the government terming the location as part of Yamuna floodplains.

The Delhi government had in 2014 decided to vacate the space, which was allotted to DTC for two weeks in 2010 for the duration of the Commonwealth Games. The Delhi High Court had repeatedly extended the deadline asking for modification of the Delhi Master Plan for continued using of the site, failing which DTC would have to vacate. As the Master Plan was not amended, the HC had asked DTC to vacate the site by January 27 last year.

An appeal against the HC order had been pending in the SC since then. On Friday, Justices Khehar and Chandrachud asked DTC counsel Santosh Tripathy to bring the head of the organization to the court to record his under-



TEMPORARY SHELTER: The space was given to DTC for 2 weeks in 2010

taking for vacation of the parking shelter.

In the afternoon, DTC's chief general manager appeared before the bench and informed that the corporation was no longer in possession of any part of the depot and that it had handed over the area to the transport department of the Delhi go-

vernment.

The bench was informed by the transport department's counsel Wasim A Qadri that over 300 cluster buses operated by the department were still parked there every night. The bench ordered, "The transport department of Delhi government shall remove the cluster bu-

ses from Millennium depot by February 4."

The SC noted that the NGT was still to decide whether the site was located on the river bed or flood plains of Yamuna. "As and when the matter gets adjudicated, and in case it is found that the site is in the flood plains, the Master Plan could be amended to permit use of the Millennium depot. Subject to such alteration in the Master Plan, the depot shall not be used for any other purpose," it said.

This drew strong objection from Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan's counsel Jayant Bhushan, who argued that a bus depot even on the Yamuna flood plains was environmentally and ecologically hazardous. He requested the court to delete the reference to the amendment of Master Plan to accommodate the bus depot on Yamuna flood plains. The court, however, did not relent.

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Rain adds to the woes of potato growers

Hisar shivers at 0.1° Celsius

Already suffering due to low prices in bumper season

VISHAL JOSHI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PIPLI (KURUKSHETRA), JAN 13

After continuous low pricing of their produce in the wholesale market this season, potato growers are worried due to the weather.

Vijay Kumar of Jhansa village said today at the Pipli mandi that a part his potato crop was damaged due to rain last week.

"There is a forecast of rain next week and I am deeply worried. Slushy fields forced me to go in for manual harvesting, leading to additional cost of labour. Wet fields have turned a considerable part of the produce green and will cause further fall in returns," he told The Tribune.

Vijay had taken 10 acres on lease at Rs 46,000 per acre. He said potato was presently being sold for about Rs 300 per quintal in open auction at Pipli mandi and the wholesale market trend was very dismal.

The vegetable market in Pipli is considered to be the hub of potato trading. More than 8,000 hectares is under potato farming in the district. Ranjit Singh of Untsal village in Babin block complained of discolouring of crop due to rain.

"The first lot of potato fetched me Rs 3.25 per kg. As the market is further down, the threat of rain is looming large. I am not

sure if the potato from three acres can ensure enough returns to recover at least the entire cost incurred," he said.

Traders blamed excessive production behind low pricing and denied the impact of demonetisation. Ashwini Singla, an arthiya, said the average price for a quintal of potato this season varied from Rs 200 to Rs 380, depending upon quality.

"The potato harvested up to March cannot be stored in cold storage. The current produce has to be sold and the bumper crop has brought prices down. Rain has affected the quality of the crop and it leads to further decline in rates," he said.

Singla said had the government granted permission to export potato to Pakistan, farmers might have got better returns for a bumper season.

Ram Chander, another trader, said potato from Kurukshetra was supplied to Bihar for one month and a half till December 31. The bumper harvest in areas bordering Bihar ended the demand for local produce, he said.

The crop was now in demand in parts of Rajasthan and in Shamli and Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh, he said. Farmers would not benefit from random demand from other states, he added.



Frost visible on wild growth near Bahbalpur village in Hisar district. PHOTO: BANSI LAL BASNIWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, JANUARY 13

The temperature fell to 0.1 degree Celsius in the town today.

Weather report of the Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agriculture University (HAU) stated that the minimum temperature was 4.1 degrees below normal at 0.1 degree Celsius which was the lowest of the winter season so far. The maximum temperature was recorded at 17.5 degrees Celsius, 1.9 degree below normal.

The HAU forecast says that there is possibility of dry and variable weather up to January 14 and thereafter, weather may change in the state.

Schools closed till January 16

Chandigarh: In view of the prevailing cold wave conditions, the Haryana Government has declared that all government and private schools in the state would remain closed till January 16. Education Minister Ram Bilas Sharma said here on Friday.

Ground frost may also occur at isolated places of the state due to cold wave condition during two or three days.

Agriculture experts say that the frost could damage the mustard crop and vegetables though it would have lesser impact on wheat and other rabi crops.



Potato farmer Vijay Kumar at Pipli mandi on Friday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 17/10/2014 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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Running On Empty

How water might dissolve the Indian Union if it can't resolve river disputes

Asit K Biswas, Cecilia Tortajada and
Udisha Saklani

Water planning in India has been on an unsustainable path for centuries. In the 16th century, Mughal Emperor Akbar decided to build a new capital in Fatehpur Sikri (City of Victory). In 1589, Robert Fitch, one of the earliest English travellers to India, noted that Agra and Fatehpur Sikri were "two great cities, either of them much greater than London and more populous".

The history of the new capital was not so auspicious. Akbar used it only for 13 years and then abandoned it to return to his old capital permanently. The main reason was very severe water scarcity.

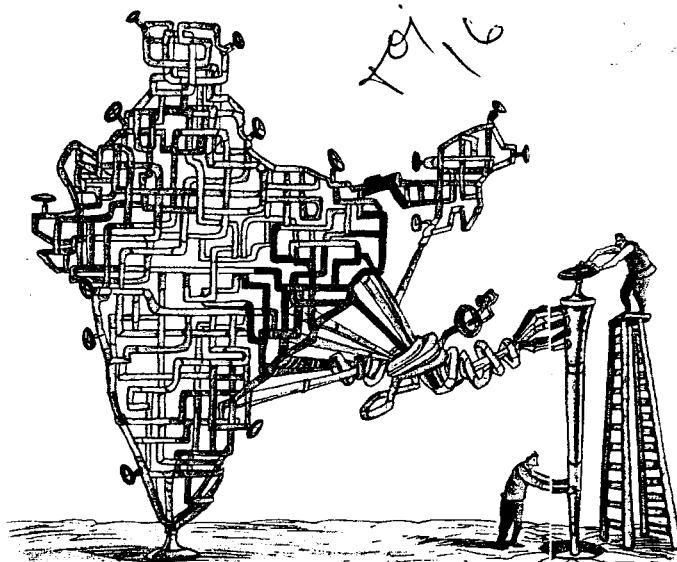
Fatehpur Sikri is a magnificent monument to India's poor water planning. Over the centuries India's water planning has improved incrementally whereas its drivers of water use have increased exponentially, making its water situation worsen steadily with time.

Take population, only one driver of increasing water use. In 1947, the total population of undivided India was 390 million. By 2050, total population of the three countries of undivided India will be 2,206 billion, a 5.66-fold increase in little over a century. India is expected to overtake China around 2022 as the most populous country in the world.

Population growth, rapid urbanisation and industrialisation and exponential growth in human activities over the past century, have resulted in higher water requirements for all types of water uses: human, thermo-industrial and agricultural.

Furthermore, for centuries domestic and industrial wastewaters have been indiscriminately discharged to water bodies without any, or partial treatment. Consequently, all water bodies within and near population centres have already been contaminated seriously with domestic and industrial pollutants. This has posed serious health and environmental problems.

In addition, with steady economic growth, higher literacy and increasing skill levels, the number of Indian middle class families has gone up exponentially. The median income of Indian households is expected to reach over \$10,000, by 2030, in 2014 prices.



Direct results of this affluence have been rapid changes in dietary patterns and energy consumption levels. As the country has prospered, people have moved to a higher protein-based diet like milk products, fish and meat, all of which need significantly more water to produce than cereal-based diets. Their energy consumption has gone up because of increasing use of refrigerators, washing machines and cars. All these need extra energy and no energy can be generated without significant amount of water.

In terms of water, the country now is facing a perfect storm. This means water management practices in India need to change dramatically in the coming years. However, we do not see any sustained political will which will be essential to take some hard decisions in the future.

The problem is further exacerbated by the fact that all important rivers in India are interstate, and water management is basically a state subject on which the Centre has very limited control.

Because of poor water management in all the Indian states and steadily

established on a case by case basis whenever conflicts between two states cannot be resolved by mutual discussion. The objective of this Act was to allow the states to discuss and resolve the conflicts before engaging in adjudication.

Our research indicates that tribunals have often contributed to long-drawn negotiation processes which have led to hardening of the positions of the individual states, instead of promoting compromises.

There are several problems with the existing tribunal system. First, there are no uniform, logical and common processes. They have considerable discretions in terms of processes to arrive at settlements as also underlying concepts under which settlements are made. Fundamental assumptions have often varied from one tribunal to other significantly.

Second, tribunal results are non-binding to the states.

Third, the Centre has been reluctant to establish institutions for implementing the awards.

Fourth, there is no fixed stipulated time frame for negotiations and adjudications. The Cauvery Tribunal took 17 years. Karnataka then promptly decided to file a Special Leave Petition to the Supreme Court to thwart the final award, further delaying the settlement.

An important factor linking water disputes to state politics is the power of state campaigns in distracting voters from real issues of poor governance and lack of administrative skills and actions. Water has now assumed the role of a political weapon.

With a number of states defying orders of tribunals and Supreme Court, water is becoming an important threat to Indian's federalism and future social and economic development.

In the absence of functioning water institutions at central and state levels and lack of political will to take hard decisions of all political levels, interstate water allocation problems will become increasingly more difficult to resolve. It proves Mark Twain's adage "Whiskey is for drinking, water is for fighting over."

Asit K Biswas is Professor and Cecilia Tortajada is Senior Research Fellow, National University of Singapore. Udisha Saklani works with Institute of Water Policy

Water management practices in India need to change dramatically in the coming years. However, we do not see any sustained political will which will be essential to take some hard decisions

increasing water demands, India is now witnessing increasing conflicts on water allocations in interstate rivers. This has become a serious challenge to the regional stability of the country.

Interstate water allocation conflicts have triggered numerous protests, violence and property destruction. If these conflicts continue and grow, they may prove to be one of the biggest political constraints to India's future economic growth and social cohesion.

A major challenge now is the absence of permanent and efficient dispute resolution mechanisms for water allocation in interstate rivers. Under the Interstate Water Disputes Act of 1956, ad hoc tribunals can be

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 16, 2017 in the

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Water, power crises cut short romance with snow

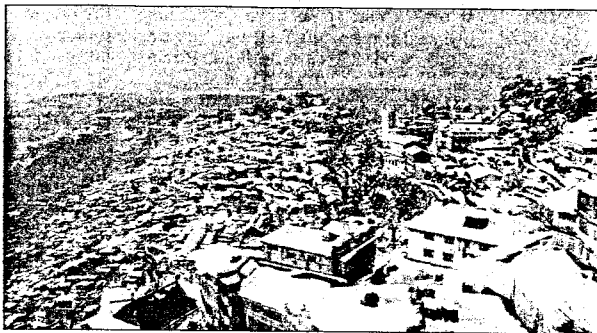
Anand.Bodh@timesgroup.com

Shimla: The romance of the snow may be a major draw for tourists, but ask locals and they will tell you the flipside of the snowfall. Locals fear how there is a huge difference between playing in the snow for a day or two and living with the snow for days together.

The recent spell of snow in the eastern Himalayas lured thousands of tourists to popular tourist spots of Shimla, Manali and Dalhousie. But things were not as rosy as they seem for locals, who were forced to go without water and electricity in freezing temperature.

In fact, even tourists who rushed to hill stations in droves after the January 6 snowfall visualised a blanket of pristine white, but what they got was a slippery mess and a bone-chilling cold they had probably never experienced. Some of them even found their lives at risk.

While five migrant labourers from Bihar died of asphyxiation, they kept a coal heater inside the room and fell asleep, two students of the National Institute of



FREEZE: A view of Shimla after heavy snowfall on Sunday

Technology (NIT) at Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh found themselves stranded in heavy snowfall at Shikari Devi temple, located at an altitude of 12,000 feet in Mandi district. A 28-member rescue team had to walk 36 km amid 5 to 10 feet deep snow only to find them dead.

More than 400 tourists from the plains were trapped between Manali and Solang, close to Rohtang Pass as the snow covered roads didn't allow vehicles to move. The locals came to their rescue and

provided them with shelter, food and heating arrangements.

Manoj Dua, a tourist from Delhi, who was trapped in Solang area of Kullu district with his family, said: "We found ourselves stranded after the sudden increase in snowfall, which left the road too slippery to allow vehicle movement in the area."

Another tourist, Naveen Thareja, said he was enjoying the snow with his family when, slowly, it dawned on him that there was

An icy challenge

Kamini, 23, a pregnant resident of Bhont village in Shimla, started having labour pain at around 5.30pm on January 9. It was not possible for the ambulance to reach her as the roads were blocked due to heavy snowfall. Kamini and her mother Sarla had lost hope of reaching the hospital when six Shimla policemen came to their rescue. They walked in the snow for three and a half hours with Kamini on a cot on their shoulders and reached hospital at 9.30pm after covering a distance of 10 km. TNN

too much of it for comfort. "The dream rapidly turned into a nightmare, till a local family came to our rescue," Thareja said.

But not everyone was so lucky. Many stranded tourists were also fleeced by taxi owners and others. In the heavy snowfall, taxi drivers charged Rs 15,000 from tourists to take them to Manali from Patli-kuhl, a new tourist destination just 16-odd kilometres from Manali. On normal days, the fare is not more than Rs 700.

In Shimla district, around 230 tourists stranded between Faggu and Kufri on January 9 were rescued by Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) personnel. As if getting stuck was not enough, tourists also found themselves devoid of water and electricity. Generally, they cannot adapt to such a situation in inclement weather.

Hotel and Restaurant Owners Association (North India) president Sanjay Sood said, "Shimla and neighbouring areas faced a weeklong blackout after the recent spell of snow. Phone batteries gave out and houses turned into cold prisons without heating arrangements. Shopkeepers had to close shops early and faced losses."

At least tourists who find their dream of playing in the snow soured have the option of leaving. But area residents can only wait for the sun to shine.

Suman Thakur, a resident of Jakhu, said they have been melting snow for around a week as frozen water pipes have stopped water supply. "Each winter, the snow causes problems. But we have to live with it," she said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January - 14/2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

A a j (Hindi)

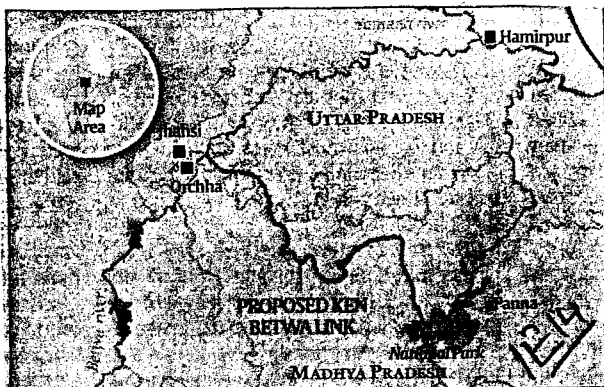
Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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



Ken-Betwa project on linking rivers cleared for environmental nod

But SC panel still studying measures to deal with impact on tiger reserve

JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE RS 10,000-crore Ken-Betwa river-linking project has got the go-ahead for environment clearance. The nod comes even as the project is being examined by the Supreme Court's Central Empowered Committee (CEC) for adequacy of mitigative measures against its adverse impact on the Panna tiger reserve in Madhya Pradesh.

The ambitious project requires diversion of 5,258 hectares of forest land, including 4,141 hectares of the Panna reserve, and was cleared by the standing committee of the

National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) last August. On December 30, the Environment Ministry's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for river valley and hydel projects recommended the project for environment clearance.

The CEC, meanwhile, had informed the Ministry in a letter on December 2 that it "would like to examine this (Ken-Betwa) proposal from the point of adequacy of mitigative measures

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

against the adverse impacts of the project on the ecological integrity of Panna Tiger Reserve and particularly the riverine ecosystem".

The Ministry responded to the CEC's request to make available relevant papers and reports related to the project only last week, after the project was cleared by the EAC. The CEC can approach the Supreme Court, if it feels aggrieved by a decision of the the NBWL panel.

The minutes of the December 30 EAC

Ken-Betwa project cleared for nod

meeting note that the "consensus" at an internal meeting of the ministry on November 30 was to delink the landscape management plan (LMP) for the project-affected tiger habitat from the perspective of environmental clearance.

Last year, the EAC had called for the

LMP and decided to reconsider the project only after obtaining a second opinion from an external expert.

Soon after the Ken-Betwa project was recommended for wildlife clearance, Union Water Resources Minister Uma Bharti had said that she was confident about an early environmental clearance. Last month, she claimed that "the last hurdle" was cleared and the project would be launched as soon as the funding pattern was finalised.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 16, 2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.) ✓

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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Notifications on wetlands baffle green activists

Jayashree Nandi | TNN

New Delhi: Two notifications on wetlands issued by the Union environment ministry on December 14 have puzzled legal activists who have been campaigning for protection of wetlands. One of these notifications is to announce the constitution of Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority (CWRA) — the nodal agency for identification, conservation and protection of wetlands — for a term of just two months.

The other notification omits two clauses in the Wetland Rules 2010 on the constitution and term of the CWRA. This notification states that the authority will be constituted under the Environment Protection Act instead of under the Wetland Rules. Under the 2010 rules, the term of CWRA was for 3 years.

These developments are significant because the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is hearing an application seeking directions to the government to identify all wetlands in the country as specified in the Wetlands Rules (Conservation and Management) 2010.

Environmentalists had filed two separate applications in NGT following a draft notification issued by the Union environment ministry in March 2016 on Wetlands Rules 2016 — a much watered down version of Wetland Rules 2010.

In July 2016, NGT, while hearing the environmentalists' plea, had directed that the CWRA hold meetings with all states and UTs every month to identify and notify all wetlands in the country. Before this order, CWRA had met only



One notification relates to cutting down the term of the wetland regulatory authority from three years to just two months. The other controversial one facilitates the first notification by effecting the change under a different law

Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh and Arunachal Pradesh to discuss delineation of wetlands.

"Is the ministry going to reconstitute the authority on a temporary basis from time to time? One notification has constituted the CWRA for a period of 2 months only... it seems like the ministry is paving way for finalising the diluted Wetland Rules 2016," said members of EIA Resource and Response Centre — an NGO focusing on environment impact assessment, in a statement.

"Interestingly, in the ongoing litigation in NGT, the tribunal had ordered CWRA to meet every month and submit a compliance report, along with minutes of each meeting. It also seems like a clever ploy by the ministry to manoeuvre around the tribunals orders," they added.

As per the December 14, 2016 notification, CWRA members include secretary of the ministry of environment, representatives from ministry of tourism, water

news item/letter/article/editorial published on 10/11/2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

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The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

'SYL not poll issue in Punjab'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE 9-1
Chandigarh, 13 January 14

Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar today said that the contentious issue of Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal is not a poll issue in coming Punjab Assembly elections. Speaking to reporters after inaugurating crafts exhibition as part of the 21st National Youth Festival-2017 at Rohtak today, Khattar said that the election campaign in Punjab is the party's prerogative and whoever is entrusted with this responsibility will fulfill it with complete honesty and hard work. He further said that the state of Haryana has presented its case by clarifying its stand. The Supreme Court's (SC) decision on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) has put Haryana's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress

leaders in a fix as their aggressive stand against neighboring Punjab could cost their respective parties dearly in the coming Assembly elections. Despite the political parties in Punjab have aggressively declared that the state would not share a drop of water with neighboring Haryana, both the BJP and Congress in Haryana have preferred to take soft stand on the issue. However, the main Opposition party, the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) has criticized both of these parties for their alleged dual standards on the SYL issue.

The Supreme Court on 10 November, held as unconstitutional the 2004 Punjab Termination of Agreements Act passed by Punjab State Legislative Assembly to terminate the SYL canal water sharing agreement with neighboring state.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 16, 2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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Heat, flood, cold & lightning killed 1,600 in '16

New Delhi: More than 1,600 people died due to extreme weather conditions across the country last year, with severe heat wave claiming the largest chunk of the total deaths at 40%, followed by flooding and lightning.

The IMD said 2016 was the warmest year ever recorded, globally as well as in India. Phalodi in Rajasthan recorded 51 degrees Celsius, highest ever recorded in the country.

January and February were the warmest winter months ever, according to

► **Water, power crises cut short snow romance, P 15**

IMD, which records weather patterns since 1901.

Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra topped the casualty list with the states contributing 35% of the total. They to-



UNDER THE WEATHER

gether recorded 552 deaths due to extreme weather patterns.

According to a report by India Meteorological Department (IMD), 40% of the total deaths were due to severe

heat wave, which claimed more than 700 lives in the country, with Telangana and Andhra Pradesh together recording the maximum deaths i.e more than 400.

Gujarat and Maharashtra registered 87 and 43 deaths due to heat waves respectively. Cold wave claimed 53 lives in the country.

Lightning claimed more than 415 lives and the worst hit were the eastern states of Bihar, Odisha, MP and UP.

Odisha alone recorded more than 132 deaths due to lightning while 43 deaths occurred in Maharashtra.

IMD last year started issuing summer and winter forecasts with heat wave and cold wave warnings. After two consecutive droughts, India last year had a normal monsoon, but several parts of the country witnessed heavy to very heavy rainfall, causing flooding in many areas.

More than 475 lives were lost in floods and thunderstorms. Bihar alone saw near-

ly 146 deaths due to flooding between July 25 to September 3.

2016 saw four cyclonic storms in Bay of Bengal, the major being severe cyclonic storm Vardah, which killed 18 people in Tamil Nadu.

"We have tried to minimise the loss of lives, especially in large scale events like cyclones and heavy rains. For example, accurate predictions helped minimise loss of lives during Vardah and prediction of heavy rains. But when it comes to events like lightning, it becomes difficult as at several instances it takes places in villages and hamlets."

"In such a scenario, mobile companies can play a proactive role in helping disseminate information in a particular district or hamlet by sending alerts," IMD director general K J Ramesh said. ■

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 16, 2017 in the

Hindustan Times

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Taps run dry in major parts of city

High Ammonia Levels Disrupt 2 Plants; Supply To Remain Affected Today

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Water supply was hit in several parts of the city as "dangerously high" levels of ammonia in raw water forced suspension of operations at Chandrawal and Wazirabad treatment plants on Sunday. Areas in north and central Delhi, Delhi Cantt, parts of south and southwest Delhi and those under NDMC were affected. The supply is likely to remain disrupted for a major part of Monday too.

At the same time, a breach in the Munak canal affected supply at Haiderpur and Dwarka. Officials said the problem started due to a leak in the canal on Saturday night. An official said: "Other than Yamuna, two channels bring water to Delhi from Haryana - Munak and the Delhi sub-branch. DSB's capacity is much lower than Munak's."

The canal had to be closed for repairs after the leak. "As a result, production was down 50% at Haiderpur and almost completely halted at Dwarka."

Meanwhile, the share of Delhi's water that comes via Munak was diverted to the river to be received at Wazirabad pond. "Here we encountered another problem. The water coming from Haryana is massively polluted with levels of ammonia fluctuating between 3ppm and 4ppm against a highest permissible treatable level of 1ppm. We had to shut down Wazirabad and Chandrawal because it was impossible to treat the water," added the official.

HEALTH HAZARD

1 DELHI RECEIVES ABOUT 900 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER PER DAY

2 OF THIS, HARYANA ACCOUNTS FOR OVER 500 MILLION GALLONS

Haiderpur 210 MGD: Bhakra storage and Yamuna

Munak Canal

Nangloi 40 MGD: Bhakra storage

Okhla 20 MGD: Munak Canal

Bawana 15 MGD: Munak Canal

Wazirabad 123 MGD: Yamuna

Dwarka 40 MGD:

Chandrawal 95 MGD: Yamuna

3 UP SUPPLIES ABOUT 250 MILLION GALLONS

Sonia Vihar 140 MGD: Upper Ganga Canal

Bhagirathi 100 MGD: Upper Ganga Canal

4 THE REST COMES FROM RECYLING PLANTS (40 MGD) AND RANNEY WELLS AND TUBEWELLS (80 MGD)

HOW THE CRISIS UNFOLDED

► A breach develops in Munak Canal late on Monday

► To repair canal, water flow is stopped and diverted to the main river channel and Delhi sub-branch

► Delhi sub-branch capacity is much lower than Munak, affecting production at

Haiderpur and Dwarka WTPs

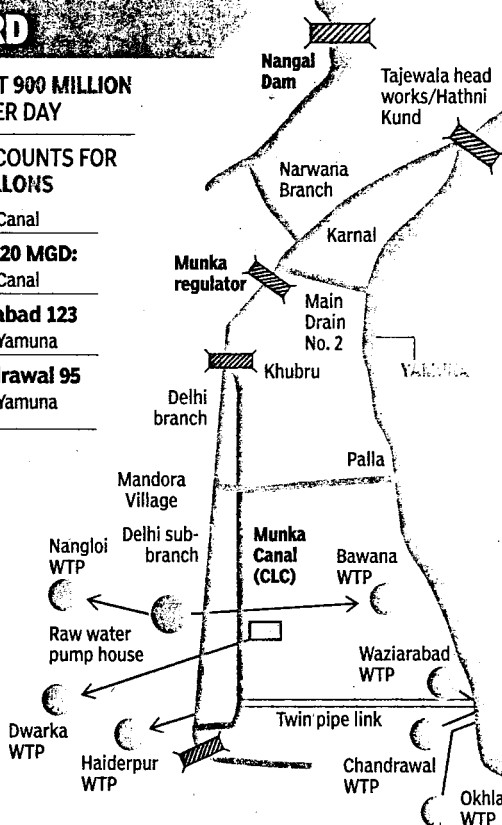
► Water travelling through river channel polluted in Sonapat and Panipat districts

► Ammonia level in raw water ranges from 3ppm to 4ppm against a maximum treatable limit of 1ppm, affecting supply to Chandrawal

and Wazirabad WTPs

► Supply to Haiderpur and Dwarka WTPs may resume by Monday

► No information on resumption of supply to Chandrawal and Wazirabad plants as level of ammonia in raw water needs to come down



Usually, water production starts getting curtailed if ammonia levels cross 0.5 ppm. In March 2016, an ammonia neutraliser plant was set up at Wazirabad, which, officials said, could work only for 1-1.5 hours and for levels as high as 1.5 ppm.

"Treatment of raw water needs to be suspended as ammonia, with the treating agent chlorine, gives rise to trihalomethane, which is carcinogenic in nature," said the official.

A team from Central Pollution Control Board picked up samples of Yamuna water from 10 locations. High levels of ammonia in raw water have led to shutting down or partial closure of WTPs on numerous occasions. In 2016, after three such closures, DJB chairman Kapil Mishra had written to water resources minister Uma Bharti, complaining about the frequent disruptions in water supply. However, no steps have been taken till now to rectify the problem.

"Haryana has agreed to release 600 cusec water for Delhi through the DSB by Monday. Additionally, we are expecting the Munak canal to be repaired by Sunday night. Haryana will start releasing water through it from Monday morning. We hope to be able to resume supply in Dwarka and south and southwest Delhi by the evening. For other areas fed by Chandrawal and Wazirabad plants, we will have to wait for the ammonia levels to drop and cannot say how long that will take," said another official.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 16, 2017 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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M.P.Chronicle
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Water supply hit as ammonia levels rise

North, north-west and central Delhi affected, Delhi Jal Board says situation to improve today

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI: Water supply in north, north-west and central Delhi was affected due to high ammonia levels in the raw water supply on Sunday. Operations had to be suspended in Chandrawal and Wazirabad treatment plants, which supply water to the affected areas.

By evening, however, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) officials said that the water supply will be restored by Monday morning.

The worst affected areas are old Delhi, Karol Bagh, Punjabi Bagh, Rajouri Garden, Tilak Nagar, Burari and other adjoining areas. Lutyens Delhi will be partially affected as water from the Sonia Vihar treatment plant is being supplied there.

Raw water

Operations at the plants had to be suspended on Sunday morning due to leakage in the carrier lined channel (CLC) that brings water from Haryana to Delhi.

To plug the leakage, the water supply in the CLC has been diverted to the Yamuna river, the water of which is extremely contaminated with levels of ammonia ranging between 3.5 ppm and 4 ppm.

Carrier lined channel

"The CLC is leaked in Haryana. We get raw water through CLC. Haryana is repairing it so we need to shut CLC. Now water coming through main river course where ammonia is dangerously high. So production from two plants stopped temporarily. No compromise on water quality. Supply to be affected for one day in areas covered by Chandrawal and Wazirabad plants. I am personally monitoring the situation and we are in constant touch with authorities in Haryana," DJB chief Kapil Mishra said in a series of tweets.

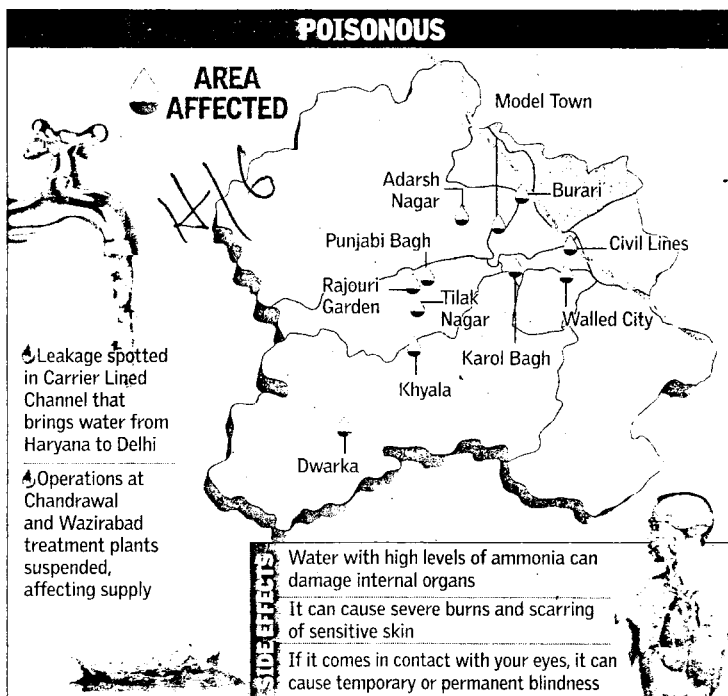
Mr. Mishra later tweeted: "Supply to be affected for one day in areas covered by chandrawal and wazirabad

plants. Repair of CLC will be completed by 9 pm tonight (Sunday). Supply to be restored by tomorrow (Monday) morning 7 am in most parts [sic]."

The DJB plants treat around 900 million gallons of water a day (MGD), of which Wazirabad and Chandrawal plants account for about 220 MGD. Water tankers are being provided in the affected areas. The DJB has also asked the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to check the quality of raw water samples.

Toxic

Mr. Mishra told the media that the ammonia treatment plant, which was inaugurated by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal last year, cannot treat anything beyond 1-2 ppm. The water with very high ammonia levels cannot be treated with agents like chlorine as after coming in contact with ammonia it will produce trihalomethane, which is carcinogenic in nature.



News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-16-1-2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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Fresh snowfall in Himachal areas

No let-up in the intense cold wave conditions in North

SHIMLA: High altitude tribal areas and mountain passes received another spell of light snowfall on Sunday while the piercing cold wave sweeping most parts of Himachal Pradesh continued with some places shivering with mercury staying between minus 17 and 22 degree Celsius.

The local MeT had warned of heavy rain or snow at isolated places in mid and higher hills on Sunday and Monday due to a fresh western disturbance but no report of heavy snowfall or rain has so far been received from any part of the State.

Kalpa in tribal Kinnaur district recorded 2 cm of fresh snow till Sunday evening while Nehru Kund near Manali and Rohtang Pass received 2 cm and 5 cm of snow.

The sky remained heavily overcast and strong velocity icy winds swept Shimla and surrounding areas but there was no rain or snowfall.

The high altitude tribal and other peaks shivered under freezing cold wave conditions with mercury staying between minus 17 and minus 22 degree C while Keylong and Kalpa in tribal Lahaul and Spiti and Kinnaur district recorded a low of minus 11.6 degree and minus 2.8 degree against minus 13.9 degree and minus 6 degree on Saturday.

Similarly Manali was warmer at 1 degree against minus 6.8 degree on Saturday, a rise of 7.8 degree, followed by Bunter zero degree, Manali Shimla 1.6 degree, Solan 1.8 degree, Sundernagar 2.4 degree, Dharamsala 6.2 degree, Una 6.4 degree and Nahan 7.4 degree Celsius.

New Delhi: A fresh western disturbance led to a rise in the minimum temperature in



LIFE GOES ON: A shepherd carries a lamb as he walks on a snow-covered mountain ridge near Gund, about 80 km north of Srinagar on Sunday. PHOTO: NISSAR AHMAD

Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and the national Capital though there was no let-up in the intense cold elsewhere. The weatherman has warned of rain or snow in Jammu and Kashmir.

26 trains delayed

The chill kept up its intensity in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. Twenty-six trains were delayed and six rescheduled due to fog. Flight operations though continued uninterrupted.

The onset of a western disturbance took the minimum temperature in the national Capital a notch above the season's average at 8.6 degrees Celsius. The maximum temperature upped by four notches to settle at 24 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Kupwara and many areas in higher reaches of Kashmir witnessed a fresh bout of snow though intense cold abated due to an overcast sky.

The forecast of more precipitation in the next three

days has prompted authorities to put in place a mechanism to respond quickly to any exigency arising out of it.

Leh town in Ladakh region was the coldest place in Jammu and Kashmir at minus 13.7, while Srinagar had a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius.

Kargil town gauged a minimum of minus 10, Gulmarg 10.5, Pahalgam minus 4.6, Kokernag minus 4.7, Kupwara town 2.8 and Qazigund 4.6 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, in a respite for residents in Rajasthan, a "slight" increase was recorded in the minimum temperature across the state though Alwar continued to be in the grip of chill at 1.4 degree Celsius.

The weatherman said the minimum temperature rose by 1 to 3 degrees Celsius.

Mount Abu had a low of 2 degrees Celsius, Banasthali 2.7, Chhittorgarh 3.2, Dabok 4, Sriganganagar 4.3, Pilani 4.5, Jaipur 5, Bundi 5.5, Swai Madhopur 5.8, Kota 6.8 and Ajmer 8.5 degree Celsius.-PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-14-1-2017 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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जल मंथन -3 सम्मेलन में बोलीं उमा भारती ..

14-RP

जल क्रांति को जन क्रांति बनाने की जरूरत

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क
rajasthanpatrika.com

नई दिल्ली. केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री



उमा भारती ने कहा है कि जल क्रांति को 'जन क्रांति' बनाने की जरूरत है। भारती शुक्रवार को नई दिल्ली में जल मंथन-3 का उद्घाटन

करने के बाद सम्मेलन को संबोधित कर रही थीं। उन्होंने कहा कि पानी बचाने की जिम्मेदारी अकेले सरकारी तंत्र की नहीं हो सकती बल्कि इस कार्य के लिए

जन भागीदारी व गैर सरकारी संगठनों का सहयोग भी जरूरी है।

गंगा संरक्षण पर कानून लाने का विचार

जल को बचाने के लिए नवाचारों का जिक्र करते हुए भारती ने कहा कि उनका मंत्रालय जल के प्रयोग एवं गंगा संरक्षण पर नया कानून लाने पर विचार कर रहा है। जल को समवर्ती सूची का विषय बनाये जाने पर उन्होंने कहा राज्यसभा और लोकसभा में जल को समवर्ती सूची में लाने की मांग उठी है। इस विषय पर राज्यों के साथ बातचीत कर रहे हैं। केन-बेतवा परियोजना में आ रही बाधाओं एवं उनके समाधान का जिक्र करते हुए मंत्री

ने कहा केन-बेतवा परियोजना पर तेजी से काम चल रहा है। उन्होंने विश्वास व्यक्त किया कि इस परियोजना पर 2017 के प्रारंभ में ही काम शुरू हो जाएगा एवं इसे सात साल के अंदर पूरा कर लिया जाएगा।

महानदी-गोदावरी नदी जोड़ो परियोजना पर हो रही राजनीति का जिक्र करते हुए भारती ने कहा कि मानस-संकोष-तीस्ता-गंगा-महानदी-गोदावरी देश की नदी जोड़ो परियोजनाओं का मंदर लिंक है। उन्होंने कहा, इस पर जो विरोध है वह राजनीतिक है। इस परियोजना से ओडिशा, बिहार एवं बंगाल की बाढ़ की समस्याओं का समाधान होगा।

मंत्री ने पार-तापी नर्मदा एवं

दमनगंगा पिंजल नदी जोड़ो परियोजनाओं से होने वाले लाभों का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि दमनगंगा पिंजल मुम्बई के लिए 206 0 तक पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था करेगी और पार-तापी नर्मदा महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात के उन आदिवासियों की प्यास बुझाएगी जो वर्षों से पानी की समस्या से जूझ रहे हैं।

सात सौ लोगों ने भाग लिया

सम्मेलन में राज्यों एवं संघ शासित प्रदेशों के सिंचाई व जल संसाधन मंत्रियों जल प्रबंधन क्षेत्र के विशेषज्ञों व गैर सरकारी संगठनों के प्रतिनिधि ने भाग लिया।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 14-1-2017 in the

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Statesman
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Indian Express
Tribune
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पारे का टॉर्चर, चार साल का रिकार्ड टूटा

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क

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भोपाल. सर्द हवा के थपेड़ों ने राजधानीवासियों को बेहाल कर दिया। पूरे प्रदेश को चपेट में ले चुकी सर्दी ने गुरुवार को राजधानी में चार साल का रिकार्ड तोड़ दिया। भोपाल में न्यूनतम तापमान लगभग 03 डिग्री सेल्सियस लुढ़ककर 4.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस पर पहुंच गया। 2012 में 21 जनवरी को पारा 4.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस पर पहुंचा था। सर्दी का सबसे बुरा असर नौनिहालों के स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ रहा है।

कड़के की इस ठंड में सुबह-सुबह, छोटे-छोटे बच्चों को स्कूल भेजने में परिजनों का कलेजा कांप रहा है। 10 से 12 किमी प्रतिघंटा की रफ्तार चल रही बर्फीली हवा ऐसी महसूस होती है मानो खाल को चीरती हुए शरीर के अंदर घुस रही हों। इधर, मौसम विभाग ने भोपाल संभाग में शीत लहर चलने की चेतावनी जारी की है।

ऐसे में अंचल में सुबह से ही बर्फीली सर्दी ओढ़े हवाएं चलेगी। हवाओं की दिशा उत्तरी है ऐसे में जम्मू, कश्मीर, शिमला में हुई बर्फबारी का सीधा असर इन हवाओं में है। गुरुवार को अधिकतम तापमान 19.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस और न्यूनतम 4.9 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया। दोनों

2012 में
21 जनवरी को
4.9 पर पहुंचा
था पारा

तेज सर्दी के चलते शाम होते ही शहर की सड़कें सुनसान हो गईं।

ही सामान्य से छह डिग्री सेल्सियस कम रहे।

खतरनाक होती जा रही ठंड को देखते हुए जिला प्रशासन ने स्कूलों के समय में परिवर्तन के आदेश जारी किए हैं। राजधानी में संचालित सभी शासकीय एवं निजी विद्यालय सुबह 08:30 बजे के बाद ही संचालित होंगे। जिला शिक्षाधिकारी धर्मेन्द्र शर्मा के अनुसार कलेक्टर निशांत वरवडे ने इस आदेश का अनुमोदन किया है।

दो लोगों की मौत

भोपाल. सर्दी के चलते तलैया और सिंघी कॉलोनी में दो लोगों की मौत हो गई। तलैया थाना पुलिस के अनुसार इतवार के फुटपाथ पर एक वृद्ध का शव बरामद हुआ। मृतक की शिनाख्त नहीं हो सकी है। वहीं सिंघी कॉलोनी चौराहे के पास मजदूरी करने वाले मंडला निवासी 35 वर्षीय संतोष आदिवासी की मौत हो गई। प्राथमिक पड़ताल में सामने आया है कि दोनों ही मौत सर्दी के चलते हुई।

4.9° पर पहुंचा
राजधानी का
न्यूनतम तापमान

यह रही सुबह से शाम तक पारे की चाल

समय	तापमान
सुबह	
05.30 बजे	06.4°
08.30 बजे	08.0°
दोहपहर	
11.30 बजे	16.2°
02.30 बजे	18.0°
शाम	
05.30 बजे	16.0°

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 15.1.2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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...उधर ठिठुरा देश

कुल्लू में जम गई झील, श्रीनगर में पारा -6.8 डिग्री

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क 15-1-2017 **सर्दी का सितम**

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नई दिल्ली. उत्तर भारत में सर्दी का कहर जारी है। शीतलहर के कारण आम जन-जीवन प्रभावित हो रहा है। हिमाचल, उत्तराखंड और जम्मू-कश्मीर में कई जगह पर तापमान शून्य से नीचे आ गया है। श्रीनगर में पारा शून्य से 6.8 डिग्री नीचे चला गया है। उत्तराखंड में पानी जमने से पाइपलाइनें फटनें लग गई हैं। हिमाचल में बर्फबारी से बिजली-पानी का संकट गहरा गया है। कुल्लू की सरेयोलसर झील जम गई है।

हिमाचल : मौसम विभाग ने 15 व 16 जनवरी को भारी हिमपात की चेतावनी दी है। सरकार ने अलर्ट जारी किया है।
जम्मू-कश्मीर: श्रीनगर में तापमान -6.8 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया है। जो पांच वर्षों में जनवरी का सबसे कम है।
यूपी : अब तक 27 लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। सहरनपुर में पारा -1 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया। अगले दो दिन बारिश के आसार हैं।
बिहार : बिहार में सर्दी ने 55 साल का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया। मुजफ्फरपुर में पारा 1.5 डिग्री रहा।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-15/2017 in the

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

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बर्फोली हवाओं का कहर, अभी कड़ाके की सर्दी से राहत नहीं

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लखनऊ. राजधानी समेत यूपी के कई जिलों कानपुर, सीतापुर, फैजाबाद, झांसी, अमेठी आदि जिलों में कड़ाके की ठंड जारी है। यहां गुरुवार की रात का तापमान 0.1 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा तो शुक्रवार की रात 3 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। वहीं कानपुर में शुक्रवार का न्यूनतम तापमान 1.4 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

इसके बावजूद शनिवार सुबह मकर संक्रांति स्नान को लेकर लोग उत्साहित दिखे। इस भीषण ठंड में भी लोगों ने स्नान-दान किया और



सूर्य को अर्घ्य दिया। हालांकि शनिवार सुबह से मौसम साफ रहा। धूप खिली रही। लोग धूप सेंकते नजर आए। इससे लोगों को सर्दी से राहत मिली। वहीं शाम होते होते ठंड ने अपना रूप दिखाना शुरू कर दिया। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि पहाड़ों पर हो रही लगातार

पशुआ हवाओं की दिशा बदलते ही मिलेगी राहत

अभी सर्दी से राहत मिलती नहीं दिख रही है। आने वाले सप्ताह में सर्दी का सितम जारी रहेगा। वहीं वरिष्ठ मौसम वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि पशुआ हवाओं की दिशा बदलते ही सर्दी से राहत मिलेगी। बर्फोली हवाओं के चलते खेतों में खड़ी फसल में जबरदस्त प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। आलू, मटर, सरसों और घना पाले के चलते बर्बाद हो रहे हैं। वैज्ञानिकों का मानना है कि अगर इसी तरह की सर्दी जारी रही तो फसलें चौपट हो सकती हैं।

बर्फबारी का असर यूपी में भी दिखेगा। ठंड के चलते पारा अपने सबाब पर है। भीषण गलन से लोगों के हाथ-पैर सूज रहे हैं, दांत किटकिटाने लगे हैं। सूबे में ठंड के चलते करीब बीस लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। वहीं तमाम रैनबसेरों में स्थानीय लोग कब्जा किए हैं तो

कईयों में ताले लटक रहे हैं। इसके चलते बाहर से आए मजदूर, रिक्शा चालक और अस्पताल में मरीजों के साथ आए तीमारदार खुले में रात बिताने को विवश हैं। 7.2 किमी प्रति घंटा रफतार से चलने वाली बर्फोली हवाओं ने सर्दी के सारे रिकार्ड तोड़ दिए हैं।

20 तक जारी रहेगा सर्दी का सितम ^{RP-15}

उत्तराखंड में बर्फबारी का जबरदस्त असर मैदानी क्षेत्रों पर पड़ रहा है। लखनऊ समेत सूबे के अधिकतर जिले भीषण सर्दी की चपेट में हैं। वहीं कानपुर में शुक्रवार को न्यूनतम पारा सामान्य से करीब 10 डिग्री सेल्सियस नीचे चला गया। जो पारा 11.4 डिग्री होना चाहिए था, वह 1.4 पर आ गया। जबरदस्त गलन के कारण जनजीवन अस्त-व्यस्त रहा। लोग अपने घरों में दुबके नजर आए। वहीं अधिकतम पारा 17.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस रिकार्ड किया गया, जो सामान्य से करीब 3 डिग्री कम है। सामान्य पारा 20.6 डिग्री होता है। वरिष्ठ मौसम विज्ञानी डॉ.

अनिरुद्ध दुबे ने बताया कि 20 जनवरी तक सर्दी का सितम जारी रहेगा। रात की सर्दी और बढ़ सकती है। उन्होंने बताया कि वातावरण में सुबह की नमी 90 फीसदी और दोपहर की नमी 41 फीसदी रही। वहीं पशुआ हवाओं की गति सामान्य से दो किमी प्रतिघंटा ज्यादा रही। उन्होंने कहा कि हवा की सामान्य गति एक किलोमीटर प्रतिघंटा होनी चाहिए। इसी वजह से कानपुर नगर और कानपुर देहात सहित सेंट्रल यूपी के अन्य जिलों में गलन महसूस की गई। रात में कंपकंपी छूटी, हाथ-पैर सुन्न से हो गए।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January 15, 2017 in the

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बर्फोली हवाओं का सितम जारी, दिल्ली समेत पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में आज कुछ स्थानों पर हो सकती है बारिश

उत्तर भारत सर्द हवाओं की चपेट में

नई दिल्ली/लखनऊ | हिटी

उत्तर भारत सर्द हवाओं से कंपकंपा रहा है। कई राज्यों में शनिवार को पारा शून्य से नीचे रहा। उत्तर बिहार में ठंड ने 55 साल का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया, जबकि पश्चिम यूपी में सहारनपुर का तापमान 0.4 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया। लखनऊ में न्यूनतम तापमान 1 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया।

मौसम विभाग ने अगले 24 घंटों में दिल्ली समेत पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में कुछ स्थानों पर छिटपुट बारिश होने का अनुमान जताया है।

दिल्ली में साल की सबसे ठंडी सुबह : दिल्ली में शनिवार की सुबह साल की सबसे ठंडी सुबह रही। सुबह न्यूनतम तापमान 3.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। यह सामान्य से चार डिग्री सेल्सियस कम है। इससे पहले 12 जनवरी को

कहां कितना पारा	दिल्ली	गुवाहाटी	लखनऊ
	3.2°	2.9°	1°
(तापमान न्यूनतम में)	जोधपुर	श्रीनगर	नागपुरी
	4°	-6.8	2°

दिल्ली और एनसीआर में कोहरा बढ़ेगा

मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार, रविवार को दिल्ली-एनसीआर में कोहरा और बढ़ेगा। वहीं, सुबह से ही आसमान में बादल छाए रहेंगे। इसके चलते न्यूनतम तापमान में दो गुने तक की वृद्धि होगी। न्यूनतम तापमान 7 डिग्री करीब रह सकता है।

न्यूनतम तापमान 3.4 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा था। पिछले पांच वर्षों में 14 जनवरी को कभी इतना कम न्यूनतम तापमान नहीं रहा।

बिहार में सबौर सबसे ठंडा रहा : बिहार में सबौर सबसे ठंडा रहा। यहां न्यूनतम तापमान 0.4 दर्ज किया गया।

वहीं, मुजफ्फरपुर और समस्तीपुर का न्यूनतम तापमान 1.5 डिग्री रहा। जो इस साल का सबसे ठंडा दिन रहा।

श्रीनगर में पांच साल का रिकॉर्ड टूटा : श्रीनगर में ठंड ने पांच साल का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया। शनिवार को घाटी में पारा -6.8 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया। वर्ष

पहाड़ों पर आज भारी बर्फबारी

मौसम विभाग ने अलर्ट जारी किया है कि जम्मू-कश्मीर की तरफ एक ताकतवर पश्चिम विक्षोभ के चलते अगले दो दिन यानी 15 और 16 जनवरी को हिमाचल और उत्तराखंड के कई इलाकों में बारिश-बर्फबारी हो सकती है। पहाड़ों की बर्फबारी का असर पंजाब, हरियाणा समेत पूरे दिल्ली-एनसीआर में भी देखने को मिलेगा। यहां बादल छाए रह सकते हैं।

2012 में यहां तापमान -7.8 रिकॉर्ड किया गया था।

घासों पर बर्फ जमी : झारखंड में शीतलहर चरम पर है। शनिवार को मैक्सलुस्कीगंज का न्यूनतम तापमान शून्य डिग्री रिकॉर्ड किया गया। यहां घासों पर बर्फ जम गई।



मसूरी के बुरांसखंडा में शनिवार को ठंड के चलते पानी जम गया। • हिन्दुस्तान

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-16-19017 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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शीतलहर से राहत नहीं

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के चलते जम्मू-कश्मीर, राजस्थान और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में न्यूनतम तापमान में वृद्धि दर्ज की गई है। हालांकि दूसरी जगहों पर तेज शीतलहर से लोगों को कोई राहत नहीं मिली है।

मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने इस पश्चिमी विक्षोभ की वजह से हिमाचल प्रदेश और जम्मू-कश्मीर में बारिश या बर्फबारी की चेतावनी दी है। सुबह में कोहरे की वजह से 26 ट्रेनों में विलंब हुआ और छह ट्रेनों के समय में बदलाव किया गया। हालांकि उड़ानों का परिचालन निर्बाध गति से जारी रहा।

गुलमर्ग, पहलगाम, कुपवाड़ा और कश्मीर के कई अन्य ऊंचाई वाले इलाकों में फिर से बर्फबारी हुई। हालांकि बादल रहने के चलते लोगों को शीतलहर से थोड़ी राहत मिली। जम्मू-कश्मीर में लेह सबसे

ठंडा स्थान रहा जहां का न्यूनतम तापमान शून्य से नीचे 13.7 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा, जबकि श्रीनगर का तापमान शून्य से नीचे 2.3 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। कारगिल में न्यूनतम तापमान शून्य से नीचे 10 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

पंजाब और हरियाणा में ठंड कायम रही और कल यहां बारिश होने की संभावना है। नारनौल सबसे ठंडा स्थान रहा जहां का तापमान 3.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। मौसम विभाग के कार्यालय ने कहा-मध्य पाकिस्तान और इसके पड़ोस के ऊपर वायु चक्रवाती रुख बना हुआ है। चंडीगढ़ सहित पंजाब और हरियाणा में कल तक बारिश होने की संभावना है।

हरियाणा में हिसार का तापमान 4.6 और करनाल का 4.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। वहीं पंजाब में लुधियाना का तापमान 5.7 डिग्री,

जबकि पटियाला का 6.1 डिग्री, आदमपुर का 5.8, चंडीगढ़ और अमृतसर का 7 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

इस बीच, राजस्थान में लोगों को ठंड से थोड़ी राहत मिली और पूरे राज्य में न्यूनतम तापमान में 'मामूली' बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई। हालांकि अलवर में भयंकर ठंड रही और वहां का तापमान 1.4 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने कहा कि राजस्थान में न्यूनतम तापमान में एक से तीन डिग्री सेल्सियस की बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई।

माउंट आबू का न्यूनतम तापमान 2 डिग्री सेल्सियस, जबकि वनस्थली का 2.7, चित्तौड़गढ़ का 3.2, डबोक का 4, श्रीगंगानगर का 4.3, पिलानी का 4.5, जयपुर का 5, बूंदी का 5.5, सवाई माधोपुर का 5.8, कोटा का 6.8 और अजमेर का न्यूनतम तापमान 8.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-15-1967 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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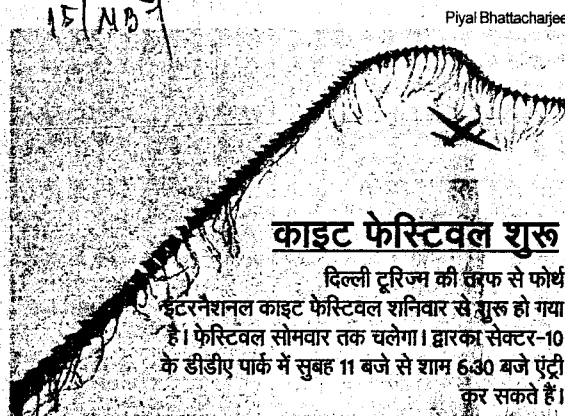
आज और कल हो सकती है बारिश

■ नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने कहा कि नमी वाली हवाएं उत्तर दिशा से मैदानी इलाकों में पहुंचेंगी। इस वजह से अगले दो दिनों में हल्की बारिश होने की उम्मीद है। दिन भर बादल छाए रह सकते हैं, हालांकि अब तापमान के ज्यादा गिरने के चांस कम हैं। इसका कारण है कि हवाओं की दिशा में बदलाव आएगा। साथ ही थोड़ी कम रफ्तार से भी हवाएं चलेंगी।

शनिवार को सफदरजंग स्टेशन में न्यूनतम तापमान 3.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज हुआ, जो नॉर्मल से चार डिग्री कम है। सफदरजंग में यह सीजन का सबसे कम न्यूनतम तापमान है। कई अन्य जगहों पर भी तापमान 4 डिग्री से कम रहा। सुबह 8:30 बजे न्यूनतम तापमान जाफरपुर में 2.5 डिग्री, लोदी रोड में 3.6 डिग्री, आयानगर में 3.6 डिग्री, मुंगेशपुर में 3.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज हुआ।

मौसम विभाग ने अपने बुलेटिन में कहा कि रविवार और सोमवार को बादल छाए रह सकते हैं। इस दौरान हल्की बारिश होने की संभावना है। शनिवार की सुबह कोहरा छा सकता



Piyal Bhattacharjee

काइट फेस्टिवल शुरू

दिल्ली टूरिज्म की तरफ से फोर्थ इंटरनेशनल काइट फेस्टिवल शनिवार से शुरू हो गया है। फेस्टिवल सोमवार तक चलेगा। द्वारका सेक्टर-10 के डीडीए पार्क में सुबह 11 बजे से शाम 6:30 बजे एंट्री कर सकते हैं।

है। सोमवार को घना कोहरा छाने की आशंका है। रविवार को अधिकतम तापमान 20 डिग्री और न्यूनतम तापमान 7 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है। शनिवार को अधिकतम नमी का स्तर 100 पर्सेंट दर्ज हुआ।

स्काइमेट के मौसम वैज्ञानिक महेश पलावत ने कहा कि पिछले दो-तीन साल की तुलना में पहली बार जनवरी में लगातार एक हफ्ते तक शीत लहर चली है। मंगलवार से शनिवार तक शीत लहर चली, जिसकी वजह से तापमान नॉर्मल से तीन-चार डिग्री सेल्सियस कम दर्ज हुआ। अब 17 जनवरी के बाद

एक और नया वेस्टर्न डिस्टर्बेंस उत्तर भारत में दस्तक देगा, जिससे हवा की दिशा बदलेगी। बीते एक हफ्ते के दौरान आसमान में बादल नहीं आए थे, जिससे तापमान नॉर्मल से काफी कम दर्ज हो रहा था। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने कहा कि आने वाले दिनों में जनवरी में एक के बाद एक वेस्टर्न डिस्टर्बेंस आएंगे, जिससे पहाड़ी इलाकों में बर्फबारी हो सकती है। हालांकि 20 जनवरी तक अधिकतम तापमान 19-20 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहने का अनुमान है। न्यूनतम तापमान 6 से 8 डिग्री सेल्सियस तक रहने का अनुमान है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-15-1-2017 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
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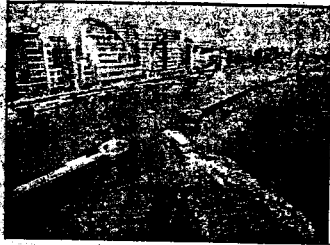
समुद्र में एक मीटर जलस्तर बढ़ते ही डूब जाएगा मालदीव

जलवायु परिवर्तन

वाशिंगटन | एजेंडिया

अगर समुद्र का जलस्तर महज एक मीटर बढ़ेगा है तो पर्यटकों का स्वर्ग माना जाने वाला मालदीव डूब जाएगा। अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी नासा की अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेटरी की रिपोर्ट में यह अंदेशा जताया गया है।

मालदीव दुनिया के उन देशों में से है, जिनके वजूद पर जलवायु परिवर्तन से उपजे खतरे के कारण बड़ा संकट मंडरा रहा है। यह वास्तव में एक द्वीप समूह है जो 1,190 प्रवाल द्वीपों से बना है। ये प्रवाल द्वीप 26 एटॉल में बंटे हैं। एटॉल उन द्वीपों को कहते हैं जो आंशिक रूप



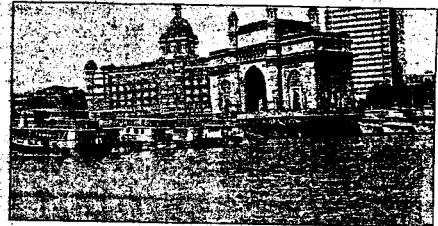
बर्फ तेजी से पिघल रही

वातावरण में ग्रीन हाउस गैसों के बढ़ते उत्सर्जन से तापमान बढ़ रहा है। इससे पृथ्वी पर मौजूद बर्फ अनुमान से कहीं अधिक तेजी से पिघल रही है। यह समुद्र के जलस्तर में बढ़ोतरी का एक अहम कारण है।

से या पूरी तरह किसी लगून या झील को घेरे रहते हैं। पर्यटन मालदीव की अर्थव्यवस्था का मूल आधार है। इसके 80 द्वीपों पर सैरगाह हैं। खूबसूरत समुद्र तट से करीबी इसके लिए वरदान रही है। लेकिन अब यहीं नजदीकी उसके लिए खतरे का कारण बन सकती है।

मालदीव उन देशों में से है जिनके जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों से सबसे पहले प्रभावित होने की आशंका है। साल 2009 में इसके तत्कालीन राष्ट्रपति मोहम्मद नशीद ने पानी के अंदर मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक कर दुनिया का ध्यान इस मुद्दे की ओर आकर्षित किया था।

मुंबई पर भी मंडरा रहा जलमग्न का खतरा



03 फीट तक बढ़ सकता है जलस्तर सदी के अंत तक

● यदि ऐसा हुआ तो सदी के अंत तक मुंबई, न्यूयॉर्क और टोक्यो समुद्र में समा सकते हैं

08 इंच बढ़ा था जलस्तर 20वीं शताब्दी की शुरुआत में

● दुनिया के 15 सबसे बड़े शहरों में समुद्र के किनारे बसे 11 शहरों पर है अधिक खतरा

(नासा के अगस्त 2015 में ब्रिज आकलन के अनुसार)

News item/letter/article/editorial published on Emergency-14/1/2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

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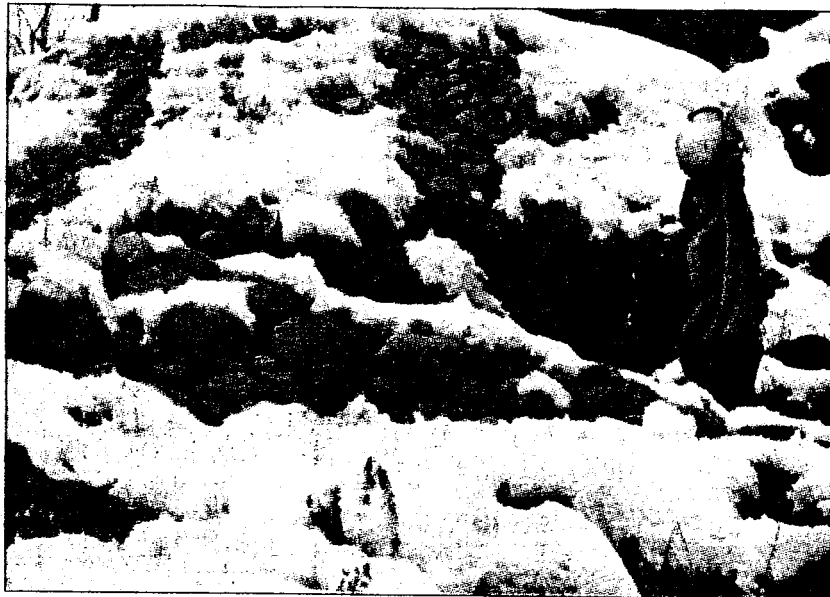
Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

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भारी हिमपात के बाद बर्फ से ढकी कश्मीर की श्रीनगर घाटी में पानी का घड़ा लेकर अपने घर की ओर जाती एक महिला। (छाया: प्रेटर)

14 PR

सावधान : और चलेगी शीत लहर

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): उत्तर और मध्य भारत अगले दो से तीन दिन में शीत लहर की चपेट में आ सकता है जो 15 जनवरी को तीव्र होगा। भारतीय मौसम विभाग के मुताबिक, एक हफ्ते तक सर्दी से ग्रहत मिलने की संभावना नहीं है क्योंकि 21 जनवरी तक देश के ज्यादातर हिस्सों में न्यूनतम तापमान सामान्य से कम ही रहेगा। मौसम विभाग ने अगले दो हफ्ते के अपने अनुमान में बताया कि तापमान में गिरावट का प्रमुख कारण पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के साथ ही पश्चिमी हिमालयन क्षेत्र (जम्मू-कश्मीर, हिमाचल प्रदेश और उत्तराखंड) में बारिश या बर्फबारी को होना है जो 14 से 17 जनवरी तक जारी रह सकती है और इससे लगे हुए मैदानी इलाकों में 15 से 17 जनवरी के दौरान हो सकती है। वहीं 15 जनवरी को सर्दी तीव्र होगी। विभाग ने कहा कि अगले दो से तीन दिन में पंजाब, हरियाणा, चंडीगढ़, दिल्ली, उत्तर प्रदेश और राजस्थान के कुछ क्षेत्रों में शीत लहर से तीव्र

चेतावनी

- मौसम विभाग के अनुसार एक हफ्ते तक झेलनी होगी ठंड

शीत लहर आने की संभावना है। वहीं बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश, विदर्भ और अंडरूनी ओडिशा के कुछ हिस्सों में भी शीत लहर का प्रकोप देखा जा सकता है। अगले दो हफ्ते के दौरान सामान्य बारिश हो सकती है। विभाग ने कहा कि 21 जनवरी तक कई हिस्सों में न्यूनतम तापमान सामान्य से कम रहने की संभावना है। 22 से 26 जनवरी के बीच, उत्तर पश्चिम भारत में तापमान सामान्य या सामान्य से ज्यादा रह सकता है। विभाग ने कहा कि उत्तर पश्चिम, पूर्वी और इनसे लगते मध्य भारत के हिस्सों में 26 जनवरी तक अधिकतम तापमान सामान्य से नीचे रह सकता है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on January-14-2017 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P.Chronicle
Statesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	A a j (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Nai Duniya (Hindi)
Tribune	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A)
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

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

पहली नदी जोड़ो परियोजना 'केन-बेतवा' को मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): राजग सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी 9,393 करोड़ रुपये की केन बेतवा नदी जोड़ो परियोजना के 2017 की पहली तिमाही से शुरू होने का मार्ग प्रशस्त हो गया है और इस परियोजना को हरित पैनल और आदिवासी मामलों के मंत्रालय की मंजूरी मिल गई है। इससे 6.35 लाख हेक्टेयर भूमि की सिंचाई और बुंदेलखंड में पेयजल की समस्या से निपटने में मदद मिलने की उम्मीद है। केंद्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी

विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती ने घोषणा की जो परियोजना मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश से होकर गुजरेगी। 14 PR

इस परियोजना के पहले चरण को राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव बोर्ड, आदिवासी मामलों के मंत्रालय और पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के हरित पैनल की मंजूरी मिल गई है। हालांकि अभी वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय से इस परियोजना को अंतिम मंजूरी मिलनी बाकी है जो आमतौर पर हरित पैनल की सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखती है। उमा भारती ने कहा कि केन बेतवा नदी जोड़ो परियोजना के वित्त पोषण के प्रारूप को अंतिम रूप देने के लिए उनका मंत्रालय नीति आयोग के साथ काम कर रहा है। इसके बाद ही इसका औपचारिक निर्माण कार्य शुरू होगा।