

# Haryana assembly condemns Kejriwal's stand on SYL canal

**Rajesh Moudgil**

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**CHANDIGARH:** The Haryana assembly on Wednesday passed a resolution condemning Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's statement opposing the construction of the Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) canal.

The condemnation motion, moved by agriculture minister OP Dhankar, was supported by MLAs of all parties barring Congress MLAs who have been suspended till Friday for disrupting the governor's address.

The condemnation came a day after Kejriwal, during his visit to Kapurthala (Punjab) on Tuesday, said he was against the construction of the canal as Punjab had no water to spare for other states.

Kejriwal belongs to Haryana and his party is contesting the Punjab assembly polls next year. The 212-km canal, often referred to as the lifeline of the state farmers, was planned to carry the state's share of Ravi-Beas water.

During the calling attention motion, Dhankar drew the attention of the House to Kejriwal's statement. Dhankar said Kejriwal should know that if Punjab did not give its share, Haryana would be hard-pressed to supply water to Delhi. "Now it is up to Kejriwal to decide whether or not he wants the water to be supplied," he said.

Leader of the opposition Abhay Chautala, who was not present during the motion, addressed newsmen later



■ Aam Aadmi Party national convener and Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal at a rally in Delhi. HT FILE

and condemned the Delhi chief minister's stand.

He said if BJP leaders wanted to put pressure on the Centre to safeguard the interests of Haryana, all its MPs and MLAs in Punjab and Haryana should resign.

Health minister Anil Vij slammed Kejriwal for his statement. "Kejriwal says Punjab have no water to spare for Haryana. If we say we also have no water to spare for Delhi what will Kejriwal do (sic)," he tweeted in the morning.

INLD (Indian National Lok Dal) member parliament (MP) from Hisar Dushyant Chautala criticised the Delhi CM. "If AAP is against SYL water for Haryana, the Munak canal water be given to Haryana farmers, subsequent to which Delhi would understand the plight of farmers of Haryana."

## 'ROLL BACK LEVY ON JEWELLERY'

**NEW DELHI:** CM Arvind Kejriwal has demanded a rollback of the excise duty levied on jewellery by the Centre. A delegation of traders from across India had sought his support to their agitation demanding the rollback of the 1% levy proposed in the Union Budget.

"Articles of silver jewellery are exempt from this duty. Excise duty is to be paid on monthly basis and not on each clearance," said Surender Malik, DC, Central Excise.

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Trees uprooted by JCB machines deployed to fill up the SYL canal with earth near Chunni village of Bassi Pathana block in Fatehgarh Sahib district. PHOTO: VICKY GHARU

## Green signal, wanton tree felling

Officials missing as farmers, egged on by local leaders, axe at will in bid to fill SYL land

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 16

Egged on by local leaders, farmers in Patiala and Ropar districts have started taking possession of their land acquired for the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal.

The leaders also provided equipment to the farmers to enable them to level the land.

Thousands of trees along the 25-km embankment in the Bassi Pathana block of Fatehgarh Sahib were uprooted by 150 JCB machines deployed to fill the land. There were no irrigation offi-

cials at the site.

Joyed at the unexpected bounty, local residents were only too pleased to carry away the wood on their tractor-trailers. "The government says the land belongs to those from whom it was acquired, therefore we are not stealing the wood," said an unrepentant Harjit Singh.

In Thuha village near Rajpura, residents were seen killing snakes, rabbits and partridges.

When contacted, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Kuldeep Kumar said, "It is a serious issue. We

will write to the Police Department to register cases against those who entered the restricted forest area."

A disappointed Baljinder Singh of Chunni village said had the water flown in the canal, he could have irrigated his fields. He said that excited over the government's decision to return their land, the farmers had hired JCB machines to fill up the canal and arranged *langar* for Akali workers and JCB drivers.

EDIT: CHECKMATE

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PUNJAB IN DEEP WATER P10



Akali workers fill the SYL canal at a village on the Chandigarh road near Banur on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR



Charanjit Channi, CLP Leader, joins farmers in levelling the SYL canal at Kapoori village, near Ghanour. TRIBUNE PHOTO

# Punjab in deep water

Arm-twisting no solution to the contentious SYL issue

KC SINGH

THE SYL canal controversy has reignited with the presidential reference on the constitutionality of the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act of 2004, passed by the Punjab Assembly when Capt Amarinder Singh was Chief Minister, being argued before the Supreme Court. The pro-Haryana tilt of the Solicitor-General of India, despite the BJP and the Akali Dal being allies in Punjab, raised many questions.

Matters have come full circle since the Indira Gandhi-led Congress initiated the canal idea in 1976 during the Emergency, and when Bansi Lal, a former Chief Minister of Haryana, was close to her heir-presumptive Sanjay Gandhi. Re-elected, the Congress revived the proposal and the canal's foundation was laid in 1982 following an agreement between the leaders of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. However, the Rajiv-Longowal accord of 1985, inter alia, set up the Eradi Tribunal to re-examine the issue. Rajiv was conceding that this had been one of various hurts nursed by Punjab since the 1950s when Rajasthan, a non-riparian state, was made a co-sharer of the Punjab river waters.

With Punjab elections approaching, the debate feeds into local politics. Capt Amarinder is the knight-errant, who fathered the legislation, stymieing the SYL canal's construction. Haryana's Punjabi Chief Minister ML Khattar can play farmers' champion to distract them from the Jat quota agitation. More importantly, it puts Arvind Kejriwal, harnessing AAP's support in Punjab, in a corner as he both hails from Haryana and needs Haryana's water for Delhi. In this din the national and international context of water conservation and good management of river watersheds is lost.

Similar river water disputes had persisted between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over the Kaveri waters since 1892; between Andhra and Telengana now and with other neighbouring states over the Krishna and Godavari waters since the reorganisation of states post 1956 and so on. The difference between them and Punjab's case is that Rajasthan was never a riparian state in respect of the Ravi, Beas or Sutlej, and Haryana's



Water sharing disputes can't be resolved by courts or tribunals.

case needs closer examination as abutting the Yamuna it belongs to that watershed, whereas the Indus river system runs south-west, via Pakistan to the Arabian Sea.

On the other hand, the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 with Pakistan, which left the waters of the three eastern rivers — Sutlej, Beas and Ravi — for India to use, was negotiated taking into account the needs of the entire erstwhile Punjab, giving Haryana a claim. However, the question arises whether when allotting Punjab

pore had to import water in 2015. Demand for water is expected to exceed supply by 40 per cent by 2030. Today, one quarter of the world's big cities is water stressed.

Regionally, the Chinese control of the Tibetan plateau since 1950 is the greatest challenge for South and East Asia as all major river systems originate there — Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra, Irrawaddy, Mekong, Salween, etc. Tibet is called the third pole of the world as its glaciers hold water next only to the Arctic and

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If forcing Punjab to share water with non-riparian states was a tragedy the de-notification of land acquired for the SYL canal is a farce

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waters to it, its existing share in Yamuna waters was taken into account? The lesson from Kaveri dispute is that no lasting solution to river water sharing is possible using passing political exigencies or coercion, legal or administrative.

The global context cannot be ignored either. As the world's population climbs to 9 billion before stabilising around 2050, and climate change plays havoc with weather patterns, pressure on global water resources will mount, leading to inter-state tensions, or even wars. It is estimated that by 2025, 40 countries in the Middle East and Africa will have water scarcity. Globally, agriculture accounts for 70 per cent of the water used annually. Singa-

Antarctic. With global warming they are melting at 7 per cent annually and thus would be two-thirds gone by 2050. While in the short run the flow in rivers may increase, the long term drop in the flow may be inevitable and catastrophic. The building of dams by the Chinese and unwise plans to take the water north from Tibet to augment the Yellow river are typically self-centred Chinese solutions to their own dilemmas.

The public opinion in Pakistan too is lapping up rhetoric that India steals their river waters when, in fact, India abides by the Indus Water Treaty, irrespective of war or terrorism. The problem is that population growth, excessive dependence on paddy as extra crop, soil degradation,

leaching of water aquifers with fertiliser run-off, etc. are problems besetting the entire South Asia. It is calculated that at normal rainfall of 600 mm per year in Punjab, to counter water table depletion since the 1980s, land under paddy crop will have to be reduced by 25 per cent in the Majha and Doaba regions and 35 per cent in Malwa. The same would perhaps apply to Haryana.

These are thus not issues resolvable by courts or tribunals. They need a national strategy on food security, soil preservation, sustainable water use, crop rotation, etc. Farmers need to be weaned away from this destructive cycle of the Green Revolution gone haywire. Politicians, both in Delhi and Chandigarh, need to abandon Centre-state and interstate confrontation. Punjab too should abjure arguing it would not give a drop of water to another Indian. Instead, it should seek Central financial support for the entire region, including Haryana and Rajasthan, transitioning to a model based on low-water consumption and sustainable new organic agriculture, targeting products at a richer India requiring fruits, vegetables and pulses. The new model should not pollute or deplete aquifers beyond recouping, assuming that weather pattern changes may shrink the rivers. Then the two combined may be unable to meet the food and fresh water needs, particularly of the burgeoning urban population. Desalination units can exploit Punjab-Haryana-Rajasthan brackish water aquifers. It is not unimaginable that one day desalination plants on India's coasts may pump water to a parched North.

Adapting Karl Marx on history, if arm-twisting Punjab to share water with non-riparian states was a tragedy in 1950-92, the de-notification of land acquired for the SYL canal is a farce. John Steinbeck's classic novel *The Grapes of Wrath* — a 1930s American story of arable land turned to dust bowl — is a cautionary tale for Indian political leaders to abandon political opportunism and devise a post-Green Revolution sustainable food and water conservation strategy instead of quibbling over river waters.

— The writer is a former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs

## SATLUJ-YAMUNA LINK CANAL PROJECT

# Congress, SAD rush to fill canal

## EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

FATEHGARH SAHIB, ROPAR,  
PATIALA, RAJPURA, MARCH 16

THE BATTLE to claim political credit for dismantling the Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal project has shifted from the floor of the Punjab Assembly to the land acquired for the project, with the ruling SAD and opposition Congress vying with each other to fill dug up areas and return them to farmers across a 122-km stretch of the state.

Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki is yet to take a call on the Punjab Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal Land (Transfer of Property Rights) Bill, 2016, but on the ground it is a fait accompli. Across four districts of Punjab, the administration stood back as Akali and Congress workers competed to take the lead in filling up the dry canal.

At Bhateri village in Fatehgarh, local SAD leaders arrived with JCBs. The earthmovers began filling the canal, uprooting scores of trees in the process. The SAD workers sipped tea and supervised the operations. Impromptu langars came up. Tractor trolleys carried away the felled trees. A youth driving one of the trolleys



The canal being filled up near Patiala, Wednesday. Hameet Sodhi

said he was taking the load to a gurdwara to be used as fuel.

Local SAD leader Jagdeep Cheema, who was present at the site, said land owners had "pooled money for JCB machines".

In Banur in Patiala, the Youth Akali Dal (YAD) wing arrived at the canal with two dozen JCBs. Asked about the hurry to fill up the canal, YAD leader Harpal Juneja said, "The state government has passed the Bill unanimously, and there is no use of this dry canal. It is better if the land can be used by its original owners at the earliest." He added that he and his YAD team members had arranged the JCBs as the farmers cannot afford them.

In Ropar district, villagers said they had been asked by SAD leaders to start any kind of work on their land. In Sirsa Nangal village, 10 JCBs were toiling away at different sites.

While SAD leaders ensured their presence in Ropar and Fatehgarh Sahib districts, the Congress led by Patiala MLA Preet Kaur and leader of opposition Charanjit Singh Channi dashed to Kapoori in Patiala district, the place where then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had inaugurated the canal digging on April 8, 1982.

The Aam Aadmi Party had tried to corner PPCC chief Captain Amarinder Singh by bringing up his presence at that

## Haryana CM asks Governor Solanki to withhold Bill

Chandigarh: Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar Wednesday requested Punjab Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki to withhold his assent to the Bill on SYL canal. He asked him to direct Punjab to immediately restore status quo ante on the SYL in Punjab territory as it existed on March 14, 2016. Solanki is Governor of Haryana and holds additional charge of Punjab. **ENS**

function. Amarinder's wife Preeti's presence at Kapoori today appeared to be aimed at countering AAP.

Earlier, Amarinder exhorted all Punjabis to start filling up the canal and ensure it was levelled at the earliest to save 9 lakh acres of fertile Malwa land from turning barren. "Since the Bill has been passed by the Assembly, people are filling the land with enthusiasm. After all, it has been decided by the Assembly," said Revenue Minister Bikram Singh Majithia.

SYL CANAL LEVELLING GOES FULL THROTTLE

# Forest wealth plundered; no complaint, say cops

AMAN SOOD/SANJAY  
BUMBROO/ARUN SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

RAJPURA/FATEHGARH  
SAHIB/ROPAR, MARCH 16

The sudden and illegal digging of earth along the banks of the SYL canal that continued today has caused irreparable damage to the precious flora and fauna.

A number of politicians belonging to the Akali Dal and at some places the Congress, along with farmers, were reportedly seen guiding JCB machines to level land adjoining the canal, not bothering about wild animals and reptiles being killed in the process.

Sources said police officials present at the spot were seen clearing the passage. In some cases, they even arranged the JCB machines, they alleged.

As The Tribune team visited some villages where the digging work was in progress, snakes, rabbits, lizards, partridges and blue bulls were seen running for cover. At Thuha village, farmers killed snakes and some rabbits. The Forest Department has shot off a letter to the respective deputy commissioners, urging them to provide police protection to stop plundering of the green cover.

“As per records, the area along the SYL canal is covered under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980; Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; and is also approved by the Indian government working plan. Farmers in thousands have started causing damage to this land by uprooting trees near Rajpura. Till some concrete decision is taken on the matter, the land should be protected,” reads the letter.

Kuldeep Kumar, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, said field officials had brought the matter to the notice of the local administration and “the fact that the wildlife along the SYL has been disturbed is a serious issue as it cannot be revived again. We will write to the police to register cases against violators who entered the protected area after I get the entire report,” he stated.



JCB machines level the SYL canal at a village near Banur on Wednesday; and (below) a farmer oversees canal demolition work at Doomchheri village in Ropar district. TRIBUNE PHOTOS: RAJESH SACHAR & MANOJ MAHAJAN

## STATE RETURNS ₹192 CRORE TO HARYANA

- Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal on Wednesday returned ₹191.75 crore to Haryana towards the costs incurred by it on the construction of the SYL canal
- The cheque, issued by the Treasury of Punjab, was carried by Kahan Singh Pannu, Secretary, Irrigation, to Haryana CM's office and was handed over to the Haryana CM's personal assistant Dhaminder Kumar.
- Along with the cheque, a simple DO letter has been enclosed from Badal, which reads that since his council of ministers has decided to return all funds received by Punjab from Haryana for the SYL canal, he is enclosing the cheque.
- Official sources say the amount of ₹191.75 crore, returned to Haryana, is the principle amount spent by Haryana on the project. “Since we do not know what interest Haryana would demand, we have decided to pay that part later. Once Haryana lets us know the interest it wants to charge, we will pay the amount,” said a senior government official.



More than 150 JCB machines were pressed into service to fill the canal passing through Bassi block of Fatehgarh Sahib district.

Thousands of trees along the banks of the 25-km-long canal stretch, starting from Nagawan village to Beero-majra village were uprooted. Villagers were seen taking away wood on tractor-trailers.

Ajit Kulkarni, Divisional Forest Officer, said they did not have enough staff to deal

with the situation. He said they had reported the matter to the Deputy Commissioner and SSP of Patiala.

A number of Akali workers led by senior leader Swaran Singh Chanarthar were present at the site near Chunnai vilalge. He said the farmers were excited over the government's decision and had hired JCB machines to fill the canal.

“Langar” (community kitchen food) from Fatehgarh Sahib gurdwara was arranged

for Akali workers and drivers of the JCB machines.

Local farmers, however, wanted the water to flow in the canal as the ground water level was too low. Baljinder Singh of Chunnai village of Bassi Parhana block said they were hoping to get canal water to irrigate their fields as the water level was at more than 450 ft. He said they would have to spend more than ₹5 lakh for digging a tubewell. He, however, said wild animals

would no longer damage their crops. It was free for all in Ropar district as farmers with the help of SAD leaders demolished the SYL canal at several places.

Deputy Commissioner Karnesh Sharma and SSP Varinder Paul Singh said they had received no complaint on the matter and thus, they were not able to stop people from demolishing the canal or uprooting trees.

Levelling work was on at Sarsa Nangal, Saini Majra

Dhakki, Makori, Inder Pura, Phulpur Garewal, Majri Jattan, Pathrehri Jattan, Balsandda, Shantpur, Shalapur, Salempur, Ramgarh and Doomchheri villages in Ropar.

Hundreds of trees along the banks of the canal were uprooted. Forest department officials led by range officer Hussan Chand tried to stop people from uprooting trees at Saini Majra Dhakki village, but no one paid any heed to their warnings.

## Will seek action: Forest Dept

“The fact that the wildlife along the SYL has been disturbed is a serious issue as it cannot be revived. We will write to the police to register cases against violators who entered the protected area after getting a report on the matter.”

Kuldeep Kumar, PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

“The area along the SYL canal is covered under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980; Indian Forest Act, 1927; and Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Farmers in thousands have started causing damage to this land by uprooting trees. Till some concrete decision is taken on the matter, the land should be protected.”

Forest officials, IN A LETTER TO AUTHORITIES CONCERNED

## ‘Trees on our land our property’

The uprooted trees were allegedly taken away by villagers, backed by SAD workers. “I can take this wood as the government says that the land belongs to the persons from whom it was acquired. There is nothing illegal about it,” said Harjit Singh, who was seen ferrying wood.

## Farmers can't believe their luck

Rishi Pal, a farmer from Thuha village, said: “I had got just ₹42,000 per acre compensation when my 22 acres was acquired for the project. The land now costs around ₹20 lakh per acre. I am extremely happy. I am trying to get the land levelled so that I can start cultivating it at the earliest.” Teja Singh of Nangal Sarsa said he had got ₹1.5 lakh for his 9 acres of land. “Now one acre is sold for ₹10 lakh in the village,” he said. Raunak Singh of Doomchheri village near Morinda said his two acre land was acquired for canal for ₹1.4 lakh, but now its market price was ₹20 lakh per acre.

## Politics at play

**Patiala:** A day after Akali Dal leaders led from the front to fill SYL canal bed, the Congress on Wednesday ensured a symbolic end to the canal issue by demolishing a part of it where its foundation was laid. Congress MLAs led by Leader of Opposition Charanjit Singh Channi joined farmers in levelling the SYL canal at Kapoori village where the foundation stone of the canal was laid on April 8, 1982, by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Channi said it was then Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh who terminated the river waters agreement to counter the SC directive to complete the canal. “That was the first ever concrete step taken by Punjab on the matter,” he said, adding that party workers would work overtime to make SYL land fit for cultivation in a few days. Hundreds of Akali workers, including Patiala Mayor Amrinder Bazaz, started filling the canal bed late Tuesday evening. The administration reportedly has orders from their political bosses to ensure smooth passage to the Akali workers in carrying out the work. At Thuha village in Rajpura, Akali workers pressed into service 12 JCBs to level the canal bed. “We will ensure that the canal is wiped out from Patiala area soon,” said Bazaz. — Aman Sood



## Farmers start levelling SYL Canal land for cultivation

• PTI



Farmers filling up the SYL Canal in Saini Majra village of Punjab on Wednesday. PHOTO: PTI

*Badal, Kejriwal should also join in, says Amarinder Singh*

Farmers in some villages of Patiala and Ropar districts have started taking possession of their land acquired for the construction of Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal, two days after the Punjab Assembly passed a bill providing for transfer of proprietary rights back to the land owners free of cost.

Workers of the ruling SAD and the Congress were seen exhorting farmers and providing equipment to help them to level the land lying untitled for decades.

Punjab Congress chief Amarinder Singh also appealed to farmers to fill up the canal and level it at the earliest, saying, "This is the only way to prevent 9 lakh acres of fertile land in Malwa region from turning dry and barren."

On Monday, in an attempt to prevent its neighbouring States from getting a share in river waters flowing through Punjab, the State Assembly had passed a bill against the construction of the canal, a contentious issue with neighbouring Haryana. A Presidential Reference in this regard is pending in the Supreme Court.

The Bill also provides for returning free of cost 3,928 acres acquired for its construction to the original landowners.

Punjab Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki is yet to give his assent to the Bill but farmers have already started demolishing the canal structure and filling the land.

At least 100 JCBs were on Wednesday deployed in Dhakki, Gardale, Inderpur, Saini Majra, Ladal, Ghanauli, Makauri, Kainour, Majri Jattan, Mannpur villages in Ropar and several others in Kiratpur Sahib and Morinda.

Ropar Deputy Commissioner Karnesh Sharma appealed to the farmers not to take law into their hands and said the government had not issued any notification in this regard.

Youth Akali Dal's Malwa zone's president Harpal Juneja, whose supporters arranged for equipment to level the land near the Rajpura-Banur road, said: "JCBs have been pressed into service to fill the SYL canal. The work will continue."

Patiala Municipal Corporation Mayor Amrinder Singh Bajaj, who was also present there, said Punjab has no spare water to give to neighbouring States.

Led by Congress Legislature Party leader Charanjit Singh Channi, about a dozen party legislators, including former Union Minister and Patiala MLA Preneet Kaur, reached Kami Kalan village in Patiala and filled with sand the land acquired for the construction of the canal.

Mr. Channi said the Congress has extended its support to the Bill to protect the interest of the State.

Meanwhile, Capt. Amarinder Singh said the levelling and filling up of land will not only erase the remnants of the SYL canal "but will also assert our resolve to undo the injustice that Punjab has been subjected to in terms of sharing of waters."

Capt. Singh said Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal and his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal should also join in as "it is the real chance for them to prove their loyalty and sincerity toward Punjab and Punjabis."

Alleging that the BJP-led Central government backstabbed Punjab by supporting Haryana and Mr. Badal failed to rise to the occasion, he said filling up the canal was the only way left with farmers to prevent 9 lakh acres in Malwa region from turning into a desert. PTI

# महायोजन के बाद यमुना तट पर फैली महागंध

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श्रीश्री रविशंकर की संस्था आर्ट ऑफ लिविंग के विश्व सांस्कृतिक महोत्सव के खत्म होने के बाद भी नए पेंच सामने आ रहे हैं। यमुना तट पर महाआयोजन तो हो गया। अब यहां महागंध से लोग परेशान हैं। कारण है आयोजन स्थल पर पसरा कचरा व गंदगी। इस तीन दिवसीय आयोजन में दुनिया भर के तमाम देशों से दो लाख से ज्यादा लोगों ने शिरकत की, लेकिन इसके समापन के बाद दिल्ली-नोएडा डायरेक्ट फ्लाईवे के प्रवेश द्वार से अंदर जाते ही वहां बने 15 अस्थायी शौचालयों से जमकर बदबू आ रही है।



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श्री श्री रविशंकर ने बुधवार को महोत्सव कार्यक्रम के स्थल का दौरा कर स्वच्छता अभियान का निरीक्षण किया, जहां उनके सैकड़ों अनुयायी व स्वयंसेवक सफाई कार्य में जुटे हैं। आर्ट ऑफ लिविंग के प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि स्वच्छता अभियान के पूरा होने में एक महीने का समय लगेगा।

**अभी तक जुर्माना भी तय नहीं**

पर्यावरण नियमों के उल्लंघन के लिए आर्ट ऑफ लिविंग पर लगाया जाने वाला जुर्माना भी अभी तक तय नहीं हो सका है। अब निर्णायक जुर्माना जल संसाधन सचिव शशि शेखर के नेतृत्व में तीन वैज्ञानिकों की समिति आयोजन स्थल का निरीक्षण और आकलन कर तय करेगी। गौरतलब है कि विश्व सांस्कृतिक महोत्सव को यमुना के डूब क्षेत्र में आयोजित किया गया था। इसे नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल में चुनौती भी दी गई। ट्रिब्यूनल ने आर्ट ऑफ लिविंग पर पांच करोड़ रुपए का जुर्माना भी लगा, जो अभी तक भरा नहीं गया है।



विश्व संस्कृति महोत्सव के आयोजन में इस्तेमाल अस्थायी शौचालय अब तक यहीं रखे हैं। आयोजन स्थल पर कीचड़ व गंदा पानी। (दूसरे चित्र में)

वर्ष : 11. अंक : 257, पत्रिका समाचार पत्र समूह : 8 राज्य, 37 संस्करण दिल्ली, राजस्थान, मध्यप्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, कर्नाटक, गुजरात, तमिलनाडु और पश्चिम बंगाल से प्रकाशित

पत्रिका-17-3-16

नं-17-3-16

# दिल्ली का पानी बंद करने की मांग

■ प्रस, चंडीगढ़: हरियाणा विधानसभा ने बुधवार को एक प्रस्ताव पास कर सतलुज यमुना लिंक (SYL) नहर पर दिल्ली के सीएम अरविंद केजरीवाल के बयान की कड़ी निंदा की। केजरीवाल ने कपूरथला में कहा था कि मैं एसवाईएल नहर निर्माण के खिलाफ हूं। अन्य राज्यों को देने के लिए पंजाब के पास ज्यादा पानी नहीं है, सो यह नहर कभी नहीं बननी चाहिए।



हरियाणा की सभी पार्टियों के विधायक और नेता बुधवार को इस मुद्दे पर एकजुट नजर आए। इन लोगों ने विधानसभा में कहा

पंजाब के पटियाला और रोपड़ जिलों में किसानों ने एसवाईएल नहर को पाटने का काम शुरू कर दिया है।

कि जैसा बर्ताव हरियाणा के साथ पंजाब कर रहा है, अगर वैसा ही दिल्ली के साथ किया जाए तो क्या होगा? कुछ ने दिल्ली का पानी फौरन बंद करने की मांग कर डाली।

# चंबल, बनास सहित 8 नदियां प्रदूषित घोषित

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड की रिपोर्ट

अखिल अधिनीयर्मा . नई दिल्ली

@ पत्रिका - 17-3-16



patrika.com/india

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने चंबल और बनास सहित राजस्थान की आठ नदियों को प्रदूषित घोषित किया है। इस सूची में देशभर की 302 नदियां हैं। कारण बताया है कि परिवहन व परिशोधन के पर्याप्त साधन नहीं होने के कारण मल-जल और औद्योगिक कचरे को सीधे नदी में गिराना। बोर्ड ने विस्तृत नदी संरक्षण योजना तैयार की है।

**प्रदूषण रोकने के लिए मदद**

बोर्ड ने राजस्थान सहित सभी राज्यों

ये नदियां प्रदूषित

बनास, चंबल, चप्पी, घग्गर, काली सिंध, पार्वती, जवाई व उजाद।

**कितनी नदियां प्रदूषित**

मध्यप्रदेश	21	कर्नाटक	15
छग	05	तमिलनाडु	08
दिल्ली	01	पश्चिम	
गुजरात	20	बंगाल	17

को नदियों में मल-जल या औद्योगिक कचरा नहीं गिराने के लिए दिशा निर्देश जारी किया है। इसके तहत प्रदूषण कम करने के लिए आर्थिक मदद भी मुहैया कराई जाएगी। राजस्थान को कितना पैसा मिलेगा, यह अभी तय नहीं है। 11 अन्य राज्यों के लिए घोषणा हो चुकी है। राशि निर्धारण के लिए संबंधित विभागों से रिपोर्ट मांगी है। इसके बाद राशि घोषित की जाएगी।

# आज से तीन दिन तक बारिश होगी

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

दि-17-3-16  
संभावना

मौसम विभाग के अनुसार गुरुवार से एक पश्चिमी विक्षोभ सक्रिय हो रहा है। इसके चलते पाकिस्तान व राजस्थान के उत्तर में ऊपरी हिस्से में एक कम दबाव का क्षेत्र बना है। आसमान में बादर छाए रहेंगे। इसके चलते अगले तीन दिनों तक दिल्ली व एनसीआर में तेज हवाओं के साथ बारिश दर्ज की जा सकती है।

मौसम विभाग के अनुसार गुरुवार सुबह से ही आसमान में बादल छाए रहेंगे। शाम को तेज हवाओं के साथ

- मौसम विभाग की मानें तो गुरुवार से पश्चिमी विक्षोभ सक्रिय होगा
- दिल्ली-एनसीआर में तेज हवाओं के साथ बारिश हो सकती है

हल्की बारिश दर्ज की जा सकती है। अधिकतम तापमान 30 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम तापमान 16 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब रह सकता है।

बुधवार को अधिकतम तापमान 29.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया।

यह सामान्य से एक डिग्री सेल्सियस कम है। वहीं न्यूनतम तापमान 15.1 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। हवा में आर्द्रता का अधिकतम स्तर 90 प्रतिशत तक दर्ज किया गया।

मौसम वैज्ञानिक बीपी यादव ने बुधवार को बताया कि जम्मू कश्मीर व हिमाचल प्रदेश में पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के प्रभाव के चलते बर्फबारी दर्ज की जा सकती है। वहीं, 17 व 18 मार्च को दिल्ली, चंडीगढ़, हरियाणा व पंजाब में तेज हवाओं के साथ हल्की बारिश दर्ज की जाएगी।

## एक और पश्चिमी विक्षोभ से बर्फबारी होगी

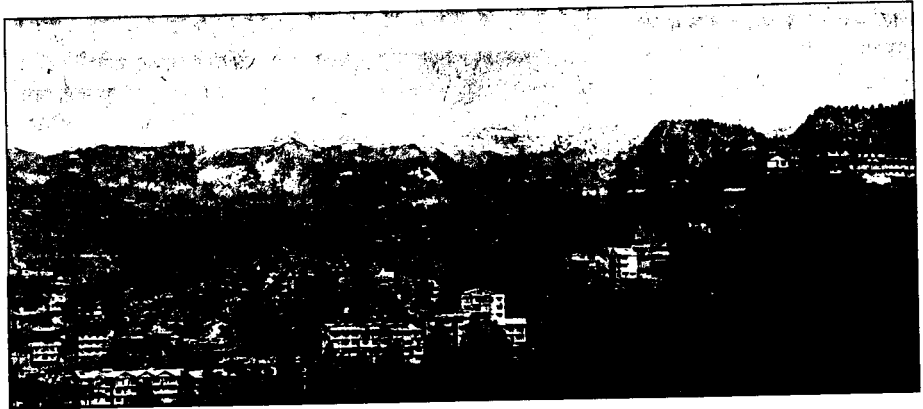


नई दिल्ली | हिन्दुस्तान टीन

एक और पश्चिमी विक्षोभ अफगानिस्तान-पाकिस्तान होते हुए पश्चिमी हिमालय पहुंच रहा है। इसके असर से तीन दिन तक पर्वतीय इलाकों में भारी वर्षा और बर्फबारी होगी।

विक्षोभ के कारण पैदा चक्रवाती सिस्टम से पंजाब और हरियाणा में बारिश हो सकती है और ओले भी गिर सकते हैं।

**आज से पहाड़ ढेरे तर-बतर:** मौसम एजेंसियों भारतीय मौसम विभाग, स्काईमैट, एक्व्यूवेदर का कहना है कि पश्चिमी विक्षोभ गुरुवार से जम्मू-कश्मीर को प्रभावित करेगा। इससे कश्मीर के अलावा हिमाचल प्रदेश और उत्तराखंड के पर्वतीय इलाकों में मूसलाधार वर्षा और हिमपात होने की संभावना है। इससे कई स्थानों पर जमीन धंसने की आशंका भी है। पिछले विक्षोभ से भी भूस्खलन



पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के कारण हो रही बर्फबारी के बाद शिमला में बुधवार को बर्फ से ढंकी ऊंची चोटियां। • प्रे

### पर्वतीय सूबों में रविवार तक बारिश

18 मार्च तक उत्तराखंड सहित सभी पर्वतीय राज्यों में अच्छी वर्षा और बर्फबारी होगी। 19 मार्च तक मैदानों में वर्षा थम जाएगी लेकिन पहाड़ों में 20 मार्च तक पानी बरसेगा। इसके बाद मौसम साफ हो जाएगा और पश्चिमी विक्षोभ पूर्वोत्तर दिशा में आगे बढ़ जाएगा।

हुआ था।

**चक्रवाती प्रणाली का मैदानों पर भी असर:** निजी मौसम एजेंसी स्काईमैट के वरिष्ठ मौसम विज्ञानी महेश पलावत ने बताया कि विक्षोभ के कारण मध्य

### एक और विक्षोभ 24 मार्च को पहुंचेगा

एक और पश्चिमी विक्षोभ 24 मार्च को पश्चिमी हिमालय पहुंचेगा। एक के बाद एक आ रहे विक्षोभों से मैदानों और पहाड़ों को कम वर्षा से उबरने का मौका मिलेगा। 2015 के मार्च महीने में भी इस तरह की मौसम प्रणाली से भारी बरसात और ओलावृष्टि हुई थी। इससे रबी की फसल को काफी नुकसान पहुंचा था।

पाकिस्तान, राजस्थान और हरियाणा के ऊपर चक्रवाती सिस्टम बनेगा। इससे पंजाब, हरियाणा और उत्तर प्रदेश के उत्तपश्चिम के कुछ हिस्सों में कहीं-कहीं गरज-चमक-आंधी के साथ बरसात

और ओलावृष्टि हो सकती है। दिल्ली/एनसीआर में भी कहीं-कहीं गरज-चमक के साथ छुटपुट बारिश मुमकिन है। उत्तर और पश्चिमी राजस्थान में भी पानी बरस सकता है।

## Yamuna clean-up will take one month, says Sri Sri

• [Bindu Shajan Perappadan](#)



Founder of the Art of Living Foundation Sri Sri Ravi Shankar visited the site to inspect the ongoing cleanliness drive on Wednesday. Photo: Special Arrangement

*Environmentalists warn against greater damage to the floodplains*

Art of Living (AoL) founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar on Wednesday said the clean-up of the Yamuna floodplains where the World Culture Festival was organised last week will take about a month.

He visited the floodplains to inspect the ongoing cleanliness drive before leaving for Bengaluru.

The Yamuna floodplains played host to his three-day cultural gala, which saw thousands of artistes performing and lakhs of visitors thronging the venue.

The event was marred by controversy with the green brigade taking AoL to court over the alleged ecological damage caused to the fragile ecosystem of the Yamuna floodplain because of the event.

In a statement released by AoL on Wednesday, the Foundation claimed a Delhi-based recycling start-up -- POM POM -- has joined them as their recycling partner and will be responsible for collecting the garbage from the venue to ensure that it gets recycled and does not end up at landfill.

"Pom Pom has already collected 22 truckloads of recyclables and a lot more is anticipated to be collected. The collected recyclables will be forwarded to factories which uses these as raw material," the AoL said.

An AoL spokesperson added that the cleanliness drive will be carried out for a month and this has got the environmentalists more worried. "It is a fact that the longer human activity happens in the fragile ecosystem the greater will be the damage. While we aren't sure of how long AoL has the permission to use this site, we also can't understand why this floodplain can't be left alone," said environmentalist Anand Arya.

The AoL explained that Mr. Ravi Shankar inspected the cleaning operations at the venue and instructed the teams on further course of action for the next one month.

According to the AoL, five agencies were assigned the task of housekeeping and cleaning, garbage collection and removal, dustbin dissemination, mobile toilets and mosquito fumigation.

Meanwhile, farmers at the Yamuna floodplains complained that garbage is being removed only from specific places at the venue and demanded that the entire site be cleaned up.