

Central Water Commission  
Water System Engineer  
Bhagirath (English) & Publicity Section  
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West Block II, wing No- 5  
R K Puram, New Delhi-66  
Dated 17.10.2018.

*Subject: Submission of News Clippings*

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission, the soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As stated above.

*P. J. Jadhav*  
17.10.18  
SPA (Publicity)

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

*N*  
17/10

Director, WSE Dte.

*H*  
17/10

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at [www.cwc.nic.in](http://www.cwc.nic.in)

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# Groundwater crisis

The shortage of groundwater has already resulted in ecological damage, depleting water in rivers, deteriorating water quality and subsiding land. Groundwater levels do not respond to changes in weather as rapidly as lakes, streams, and rivers do. So when groundwater is pumped for irrigation or other uses, recharge to the original levels can take months or years. Last summer, Sonbhadra district on the Sone river basin of eastern UP faced a severe drinking water crisis due to depletion of the groundwater level. This clearly indicates that the groundwater crisis is not restricted to north-western India, it is gradually spreading across the country



It is a well known fact that India, with 4 per cent of the world's fresh water resources, meets the needs of 18 per cent of the world's population. Both the government and civil society have failed to address the water crisis. The recent NITI Aayog report states that around 60 crore Indians face very high water stress and every year 2 lakh people die due to scarcity of safe water. It also mentions two very important facts - 1) 70 per cent of our fresh water is contaminated; and 2) groundwater, which accounts for 40 per cent of our water supply, is getting depleted at unsustainable rates. A large number of people in Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu are facing an acute scarcity of water. The crisis, post the Green Revolution, is becoming acute in northern India as well. Climate change and population growth are expected to intensify the problem.

An estimated 85 per cent of drinking water needs are dependent on groundwater. At present India withdraws the highest quantity of groundwater in the world, with estimated annual withdrawals exceeding 230 cubic km which is more than the USA's and China's put together. However, groundwater supplies in the Indian subcontinent are difficult to quantify because of complex hydrogeological conditions and equally complex tectonic framework, besides variations in climate, rainfall and hydrochemical conditions. In addition, India's increasing population and rapid industrial and economic growth have placed

regions of the country and there is no comprehensive action plan at the central or state level for sustainable groundwater management.

The twin satellites of the US and Germany named Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment or GRACE had launched in 2002 a specially designed mission which could observe changes in water in the continents from space and are revealing hidden secrets of the water cycle. The use of GRACE data in groundwater estimation is showing a new direction to scientists when very little accurate field data are available. Studies using GRACE data have calibrated global groundwater losses; 13 of the planet's 37 largest aquifers surveyed between 2003 and 2013 are being depleted as they are receiving little or no recharge. The research team found that the Indus Basin aquifer of north-western India and Pakistan is the second-most over-stressed aquifer after the Arabian Aquifer System which is the most over-stressed in the world. The Ganga Brahmaputra basin is also a highly stressed aquifer. These regions rely much more heavily on groundwater during the dry season and drought. Use of GRACE data for small aquifer estimation may not yield the required results. It can be used with Indian remote sensing data like ENVISAT in tandem with more observation data to estimate spatial and tem-

20 years show that groundwater is being depleted at an alarming rate from the groundwater reserves of Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana. More than 109 cubic km of groundwater disappeared between 2002 and 2008. This is double the capacity of India's largest surface water reservoir, the Upper Wainganga. A latest study published in 2018 shows that in north-western India the depletion rate is around 40 to 48 mm per year and in the large North Indian Ganga basin it is depleting at an average rate of 20mm per year. Both the regions are major foodgrain producing regions. The scientists also found that northern India's subsurface water is being pumped primarily to irrigate cropland. This depletion is affecting the densely populated areas of north India and the fertile, irrigated agricultural fields of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and western UP.

The shortage of groundwater has already resulted in ecological damage, depleting water in rivers, deteriorating water quality and subsiding land. Groundwater levels do not respond to changes in weather as rapidly as lakes, streams, and rivers do. So when groundwater is pumped for irrigation or other uses, recharge to the original levels can take months or years. Last summer, Sonbhadra district on the Sone river basin of eastern UP faced a severe drinking water crisis due to depletion of the groundwater level. This clearly indicates that the groundwater crisis is not restricted to north-western India, it is gradually spreading across the country.

A large country with over one billion population, India can no longer accept this level of uncertainty for availability of water.

Indian agriculture is one of the most 'water expensive' operations. Around 80 to 85 per cent of our total water consumption is for agriculture. India has all the ingredients that militate against any attempt to tackle the severe groundwater crisis - staggering population growth, rapid economic development and water-hungry agricultural fields, which account for about 60 per cent of groundwater use in the country. NITI Aayog is trying to identify and address the crisis at the state level, which may not be a very effective water management strategy. NITI Aayog's observation indicating that our groundwater use exceeds natural replenishment. The country requires a sustainable groundwater management policy across the country. Immediate measures need to be taken to ensure sustainable groundwater usage at block or river catchment level; otherwise its consequences will be severe including the collapse of agricultural output and severe shortage of drinking water. Considering the magnitude of the problem and its importance a number of studies, based on modern reliable technology, is necessary on peninsular India and Gangetic North India to assess the availability of total fresh water and its future prospects.

The fresh water availability and the condition of groundwater needs to be estimated at the river catchment level. This will also help finalise the National



**SUJIT CHOUDHURY**

The writer is Executive Director, PAN Network Pvt. Ltd, Kolkata. He may be reached at [mnervacal123@gmail.com](mailto:mnervacal123@gmail.com)



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## Chemical fertilisers behind rise in cancer: Minister

**SANJEEV KUMAR**

SHIMLA, 16 OCTOBER

The use of chemical fertilisers in farming activities in Himachal Pradesh is resulting in an annual increase of 25-30 per cent cancer patients in the state, Agriculture minister Ram Lal Markanda said on Tuesday.

Markanda cited the study of Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC), Shimla and said natural farming could help in reducing the number of cancer patients in the state.

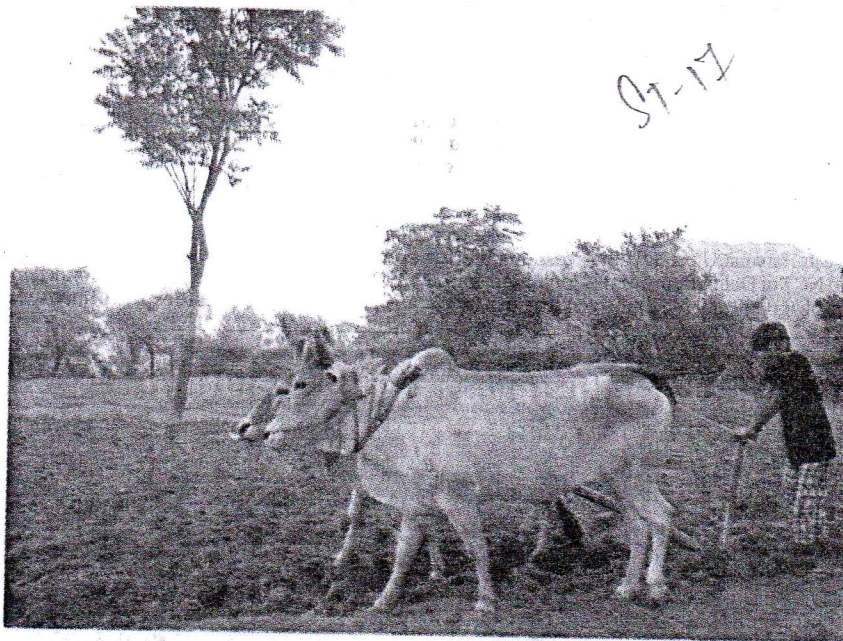
"The excessive use of chemical fertilisers has not only caused degradation of soil but it is also impacting human health," he said.

He said the government is promoting natural farming in a big way in the state and recently, two training programmes were held for farmers to adopt it.

"Around 900 farmers participated in the training camp at Palampur in Kangra district, while 787 farmers were trained in such a camp in Kufri in Shimla which concluded on Tuesday," he said.

These farmers have been asked to inspire 10 farmers in their respective areas to adopt natural farming.

The government would also start certification of farmers who have taken up natural farming in the state so that they could get better



## Agriculture sector suffers loss worth ₹121 crore in monsoon rains

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
SHIMLA, 16 OCTOBER

The heavy rains in the monsoon season this year had caused damage worth Rs 121 crore to agriculture sector in Himachal Pradesh.

Informing about this, Agriculture minister Ram Lal Markanda said an area

of 53,909 hectare was affected in the heavy rains and subsequent landslides in the state.

The worst affected district in Shimla wherein a loss Rs 28.15 crore was reported and it was followed by Kangra at Rs 22.12 crore, Lahaul Spiti at Rs 17.71 crore and Chamba at Rs 15.83 crore.

He said the crops in 47,462 hectare land suffered losses less than 33 percent while the crop loss in 6447 hectare was more than 33 percent.

While cultivated area in 605 hectares suffered damages in landslides and 1603 hectare area was washed in flash floods across the state, he added.

**Agriculture minister Ram Lal Markanda cites ICMC study on cancer patients and says adopting natural farming could be a solution in reducing the numbers**

prices of the produce, he added.

For the certification of farmers, the Agriculture department would soon launch a mechanism to benefit them while selling their produce in the market.

In addition, the Agriculture department in coordination with Animal Husbandry department would provide subsidy for procuring indigenous breed of cows.

This scheme would run concurrently with natural farming project and under this, a subsidy of Rs 53,000 would be provided to SC/STs while general category would be provided with Rs 45,000 subsidy for buying desi cows.

"The government would provide indigenous breed of cows to farmers and these could be procured from other states as Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat," Markanda said.

The scheme would be funded by NABARD under 'Doodh Ganga Yojna', he added.



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# Titli casts a pall of gloom

## Kharif crop over 2,13,801 ha affected, houses damaged

STAFF REPORTER

BHUBANESWAR

The devastation wrought by the cyclonic storm Titli and the resultant heavy rain has cast a shadow on Dussehra festivities across Odisha, especially for farmers.

Hundreds of puja pandals in the State — where Durga Puja got under way on Tuesday — are witnessing low turnout as people are yet to recover from the shock of the cyclone.

After toiling for six months and investing hard-earned savings, farmers were anticipating a healthy harvest in the next two months. However, cyclone and heavy rain damaged the standing crop at many places.

The kharif crop has been affected over an area of 2,13,801 hectares (paddy 1,48,681 ha and non-paddy 65,120 ha) in nine districts — Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj, Cuttack, Khordha, Balasore and Puri.

The damage has been severe in Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada and Kandhamal. Although all is not lost in districts like Kendrapara, Jagat-



An aerial view of the flood-affected Ganjam district.

■ FILE PHOTO

singhpur and Jajpur, farmers fear that there would be a drop in harvest.

"Multi-department assessment of crop damage is under progress and the final report is expected within a week," said Bishnupada Sethi, Special Relief Commissioner.

The SRC has also directed District Collectors to provide ex-gratia to the next of kin of those who died in the cyclone and the resultant floods within three days. The Odisha government had earlier announced an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased.

As per a report of the Directorate of Animal Husband-

ry and Veterinary Services, livestock loss has been severe. Fishermen were also not spared, with 300 boats fully damaged and 265 partially damaged. Moreover, 607 fish ponds covering 428.97 ha and 69 private fish seed farms in an area of 47,250 ha have been damaged.

"Who is thinking of any Dussehra festivities? The first priority is to repair damaged houses as winter is fast approaching. This Dussehra has turned into a black one for us," said Haribandhu Karji, former sarpanch of Ganga-bada panchayat of Gajapati district, which was worst-hit by the disaster.

(With PTI inputs)



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## Air worse than a day before

Of 35 stations that now monitor air quality in NCR, 25 showed the AQI as hazardous, 7 very unhealthy and 3 unhealthy on Tuesday. Exact readings varied widely

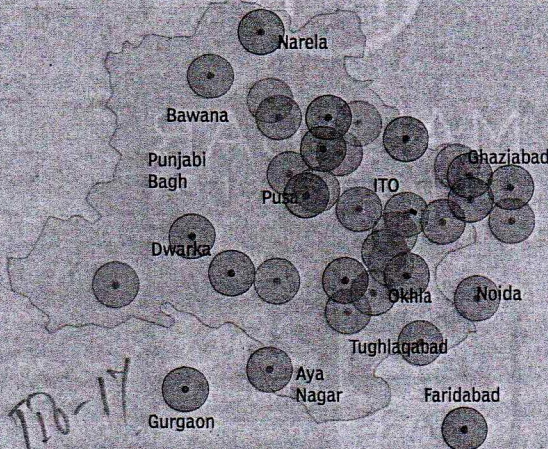
- Good (<50)
- Moderate (50-100)
- Unhealthy (100-200)
- Very Unhealthy (200-300)
- Hazardous (>300)

### Least Polluted

Nazafgarh	265
Aurobindo Marg	223
IGI Airport T3	218

### Most Polluted

Anand Vihar	526
Bawana	494
Dwarka	455



### DELHI vs OTHER CITIES

Delhi	Mumbai	Kolkata	Hyderabad	Bengaluru
291	164.2	95.6	90.7	83.6

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# दिल्ली-एनसीआर के 15 निगरानी केंद्रों में हवा की गुणवत्ता बेहद खराब श्रेणी की रही, पराली जलाने की घटनाओं में इजाफा से परेशानी बढ़ी राजधानी में सात गुना तक जहरीली हुई हवा

आफत

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

दिल्ली में मंगलवार को प्रदूषण के चलते हवा और 'जहरीली' हो गई। दिल्ली-एनसीआर के 15 निगरानी केंद्रों में मंगलवार को हवा की गुणवत्ता बेहद खराब श्रेणी की रही। आनंद विहार में पीएम-10 का स्तर मानक से सात गुना अधिक पहुंच गया। मौसम विशेषज्ञों के मुताबिक, पड़ोसी राज्यों में पराली जलाने और स्थानीय कारकों से प्रदूषण में बढ़ोतरी हुई है।

दिल्ली में समग्र तौर पर वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक 297 है। लेकिन, दिल्ली-एनसीआर के 15 केंद्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक 300 के पार हो चुका है। आनंद विहार में वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक सबसे ज्यादा यानी 398 के स्तर पहुंच गया है। द्वारका सेक्टर-8 में यह 396 तक पहुंच गया है।

गुरुवार को बृद्धावृद्धि के आसार: मौसम विभाग का अनुमान है कि गुरुवार को पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के कारण हवा के रुख में बदलाव हो सकता है। गुरुवार और शुक्रवार को दिल्ली में कुछ जगहों पर बृद्धावृद्धि हो सकती है। इससे हवा में घुला प्रदूषण कुछ हद तक नीचे बैठ सकता है। मंगलवार दिन में भी कई हिस्सों में बदलाव छाए रहे। दिन भर का अधिकतम तापमान 34 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम तापमान 19 डिग्री सेल्सियस रिकॉर्ड किया गया।

अक्षरधाम प्लाईओवर  
सोमवार रात 10:00 बजे



अक्षरधाम प्लाईओवर के पास सोमवार रात को किसी ने कचरा जला दिया। इससे भी प्रदूषण बढ़ता है। • मोहम्मद जाकिर



तिलक मार्ग चौक

मंगलवार सुबह 10:00 बजे

तिलकमार्ग चौक पर मंगलवार सुबह प्रदूषण से बचने के लिए मुंह पर रुमाल रखकर जाती युवती। • राज के राज

## रिहायशी इलाकों में अब भी चल रहे पांच हजार कारखाने

नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

दिल्ली के रिहायशी इलाकों में अभी पांच हजार से अधिक कारखाने चल रहे हैं। निगरानी समिति की एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, रिहायशी इलाकों में चलने वाले कारखानों पर पूरी तरह से लगातार नहीं लगाया जा सका है।

कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में यह भी कहा गया है कि अगस्त तक रिहायशी इलाकों में

चल रहे 15,888 कारखानों को बंद किया जा चुका है। दक्षिणी निगम के फैक्टरी व लाइसेंसिंग विभाग के अनुसार डीएसआईआईडीसी ने दक्षिणी निगम क्षेत्र के चारों ओर के रिहायशी इलाकों में चल रहे 10,000 कारखानों को लिस्ट दी थी।

इसमें से साउथ जोन में 800, सेंट्रल जोन में 1800, नजफगढ़ जोन में 800 और सबसे अधिक वेस्ट जोन में करीब

### दक्षिणी जोन के रिहायशी क्षेत्रों में सबसे अधिक फैक्टरियां

दक्षिणी जोन के रिहायशी इलाकों में सबसे अधिक कारखाने चल रहे हैं। यहां दक्षिणी निगम क्षेत्र में 10,000 कारखानों में से अकेले 5500 कारखाने इसी जोन में हैं। नजफगढ़ जोन में रिहायशी इलाकों में 800 कारखाने चल रहे हैं। सेंट्रल जोन में 250 फैक्टरियां में 28 फैक्टरी रिहायशी इलाकों में चल रही हैं।

5500 से अधिक फैक्टरियां शामिल थीं। इस लिस्ट के हिसाब से एमसीडी के अलग-अलग जोन में सर्वे किया,

लेकिन इसमें साउथ जोन में 800 में से 350 फैक्टरियां ही पाई गईं। इसमें से 8 फैक्टरियां ही चल रही थी।

### प्रदूषण कम करने के उपाय

- दिल्ली में प्रदूषण को रोकथाम के लिए बदरपुर बिजलीघर को बंद कर दिया गया
- पंजाब, हरियाणा में किसानों को फसलों के अवशेषों का निपटान करने के लिए मशीनें दी गई हैं
- 30 नवंबर तक 427 सीएनजी और इलेक्ट्रिक बसें आएंगी
- दिल्ली-एनसीआर में 722 ईट-भट्टों को नई तकनीक से जोड़ा गया है
- सड़कों की सफाई करने वाली गाड़ियों की संख्या 52 से बढ़कर 64 हो जाएगी



### प्रदूषण मीटर

वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक	16 अक्टूबर	17 अक्टूबर
	297	309
खराब		बेहद खराब

कल कितनी जहरीली रही हवा

जगह	पीएम10	पीएम 2.5
आनंद विहार	721	177
वजीरपुर	484	155
नोएडा	274	295
मथुरा रोड	265	312
आया नगर	263	218

(पीएम 2.5 की मात्रा हवा में 60 था पीएम 10 की मात्रा 100 माइक्रोग्राम प्रति घन्यूबिक मीटर से ज्यादा नहीं होनी चाहिए)

### हवा के मानक

0 से 50	अच्छा
51 से 100	संतोषजनक
101 से 200	माध्यम
201 से 300	खराब
301 से 400	बेहद खराब
401 से 500	गंभीर

(हवा में प्रदूषक कणों के स्तर से वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक (एयवआई) तैयार किया जाता है। दिल्ली में हवा की गुणवत्ता मापने के 15 केंद्र हैं।)



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# प्रदूषण रोकने में सरकार फेल तो लगाया 50 करोड़ जुर्माना

■ प्रमुख संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

राजधानी में प्रदूषण को रोकने में नाकाम रहने पर नेशनल ग्रीन ट्राइब्यूनल (एनजीटी) ने दिल्ली सरकार पर 50 करोड़ रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है। एनजीटी ने दिल्ली सरकार, दिल्ली स्टेट इंडस्ट्रियल एंड इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर डवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन और दिल्ली सरकार में इंडस्ट्रीज के स्पेशल सेक्रेटरी को कड़ी फटकार लगाते हुए यहाँ तक कह दिया कि हमारे बार-बार दिए आदेशों का पालन अब तक नहीं किया गया है। क्या हम डीपीसीसी के चेयरमैन को गिरफ्तार करने के आदेश दें, तब ऐक्शन होगा?

दिल्ली में स्टील का काम कर रही इंडस्ट्रीज के चलते हवा और जल प्रदूषण काफी बढ़ा है। ऐसे में एनजीटी ने नॉर्थ दिल्ली के वजीरपुर, बादली इलाके में



दिल्ली में एयर इंडेक्स बेहद खराब स्थिति में पहुंच गया है।

कई इलाके में प्रदूषक तत्व पीएम 10 7 गुना तक हो गया।

पीएम 2.5 का स्तर भी दो गुना तक दर्ज किया गया है।

वैज्ञानिकों के मुताबिक, अगले दो दिनों में प्रदूषण और बढ़ेगा।

अवैध रूप से चल रही स्टील पिकलिंग इंडस्ट्रीज को बंद करने का आदेश दिया था। ये इकाइयाँ रिहायशी इलाके में चल रही हैं, जो मास्टर प्लान 2021 के मुताबिक सही नहीं हैं। एनजीटी ने तत्काल प्रभाव से इन इकाइयों को बंद किए जाने

का आदेश देते हुए दिल्ली सरकार के चीफ सेक्रेटरी को निर्देश दिया कि वह तीन सदस्यों वाली एक कमेटी का गठन कर अधिकारियों की जिम्मेदारी तय करें और रिपोर्ट ट्राइब्यूनल को सौंपें। इसी मामले पर मंगलवार को सुनवाई हुई थी। ▶▶ पेज 5