

Tackling water woes

THROUGH MICRO-IRRIGATION, DRY CROP CULTIVATION, IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY OF WATERWAYS, REJUVENATION OF ALL WATER BODIES BY DE-SILTING AND RAISING BUNDS, IT COULD BE POSSIBLE TO SAVE A HUGE QUANTITY OF FRESHWATER. SHARING OF EXCESS RAINWATER WITH REGIONS THAT ARE CHRONICALLY DEFICIENT IS IMPERATIVE. THE 87.93 PER CENT OF UNUTILIZED RAINWATER, THAT DRIFTS INTO THE SEA WITHOUT STORAGE STRUCTURES, HAS TO BE HARVESTED AND SHARED IN THE MANNER SIMILAR TO THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN IN THE USA

India's major asset is its landmass. With 328 million hectares, it ranks as the seventh largest country in the world. To that can be added the long hours of sunshine, immense human resource, and groundwater. Although India is one of the wettest countries in the world with enough water and energy resources to lead a healthier life, no fewer than 20,000 villages are facing an acute shortage of water even after 69 years of independence. It is a tragedy that about 25 per cent of the people have to make do without electricity. Because of inadequate rainwater harvesting, the land and human resources are under-utilized and the net result is water scarcity.

Under-utilization of rainwater is at the root of a range of problems. An estimated 180 million people do not have access to clean water. More than 3 lakh farmers have committed suicide over the past decade. This works out to one suicide in every 30 minutes. At least 21.9 per cent of the populace or 265 million people are in poverty, earning less than Rs. 82.5 a day. Nearly 300 million people live in dark homes without power. Agricultural production remains static; the output of foodgrain has declined by 8.5 million tons in 2014-15. About 594 million people defecate in the open ~ the highest in the world ~ in the absence of toilet and water in their homes. Unmanaged floods damage 6000 million tons of fertile soil every year, resulting in distress for about 86 million people. Another 260 million people are affected by drought every year, resulting in recurrent expenditure to tackle both floods and drought. Consumption of dirty water leads to waterborne diseases.

The current spell of drought has affected an estimated 330 million people. The monsoon has been weak in ten states ~ Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Reports suggest that villagers are leaving their hearth and home. Water is being supplied by tankers and trains. There has been a 29-35 per

states seriously harvest rain without wasting, they are unlikely to suffer in the wake of drought.

The remedies are: rainwater harvesting, artificial groundwater recharge; treating and recycling of domestic and industrial wastewater; adopting micro irrigation, desalination; alternate crop cultivation in water deficient regions, improving irrigation, revamp of water bodies, and sharing of excess water.

As per the Planning Commission (now disbanded) figures (2009) of the Government of India, during the normal monsoon years 225km³/7,945.76TMC water is harvested leaving 1644.37km³/5,8070.10TMC to flow into the sea. It is programmed to harvest 359km³/12,677.91TMC. This will help major and medium projects that may be existing or are under construction. The value in terms of paddy cultivation is Rs. 26.67 lakh crore at Rs. 50 crore per TMC of water, and this quantity could supply domestic water for more than 25 years to the present population at the rate of 135 litres per capita per day as per the World Health Organization standards.

According to the Journal of Indian Water Resources Society, Vol 32, No. 3-4, July-Oct. (2012), the present per capita annual rainwater harvesting in India is 200m³, while in the USA it is 5,961m³, Australia 4,717m³, Brazil 3,388m³ and China 2,486m³. Hence, in India only about 12.07 per cent of the surface water is effectively utilized and about 87.93 per cent is discharged into the sea. In 2050, the unutilized flow to the sea is likely to be 80.73 per cent. Hence, to arrest the water woes in India, the Planning Commission had suggested harvesting of about 450km³/15891.53TMC to meet the demand of the projected population of 1.69 billion in 2050 (East Asia Forum, 2013). For the healthy life of every citizen, it is necessary to harvest

1700m³ water per annum, as per the world water resources standards. However, at least the per capita annual rainwater harvesting should be 1000m³, below which the country will face water scarcity. This water can be stored in structures with varying volumes starting from 1500m³ (in the farm ponds of farmers' land) to 1TMC, 5TMC, 10TMC, or 100TMC and above in a phased manner, depending on the availability of storage space without compromising on the existing ecology.

According to the International Journal of Research in Engineering and Technology (2014), by harvesting and harnessing the unutilized rainwater and adopting site-specific recharge strategies like check dams, percolation ponds, recharge wells etc., India could garner the advantages ~ additional irrigation potential to 35 million hectare yielding 250 to 450 million tons of foodgrain; hydropower generation of 34,000 to 40,000MW. protection to 86 million people from drought, and 260 million people and 40 million hectares from floods. The annual financial benefit accrual is Rs. 1200 crore, and an estimated 86 million people will benefit. There will also be an increase in employment potential. These measures will prevent groundwater

depletion and check seawater intrusion in coastal aquifers. Domestic and industrial sewage generated annually can



PM NATARAJAN



cent drop in sugar output. In terms of family and social life, prospective brides are said to be unwilling to marry into families in the drought-hit regions. According to the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the drought will cost the national economy about Rs. 6,50,000 crore. This is the first time that the Tirtha Baavi (holy well) of Kukke Subramanya Temple in Karnataka was compelled to suspend the sale of *tirtha*.

Judicious management of water is imperative. Among the drought prone states, Andhra Pradesh lost 300TMC of water during June 2015 from the Sir Arthur Cotton barrage in Dowleswaram. In Maharashtra, more than 12.36TMC was diverted from the Krishna-Bhima basins to the high rainfall coastal Konkan. Every year, the westward water wastage results in the diversion of 67.49TMC to the sea through the four-stage Koyna dam. The other channels of diversion are through the three Tata hydropower stations at Khopoli, Bhivpuri and Bhira. In Karnataka, the 13 west-flowing rivers allow about 1000TMC to 1400TMC water to the Arabian Sea every year during the normal monsoon. If these

be recycled for various non-domestic uses after a tertiary level standard treatment, and in this way, it is possible to conserve the required quantity of freshwater every year.

Through micro-irrigation, dry crop cultivation, irrigation efficiency of waterways, rejuvenation of all water bodies by de-silting and raising bunds, it could be possible to save a huge quantity of freshwater. Sharing of excess rainwater with regions that are chronically deficient is imperative. The 87.93 per cent of unutilized rainwater, that drifts into the sea without storage structures, has to be harvested and shared in the manner similar to the Colorado River basin in the USA.

Unless these methods are executed in India, it may not be possible to produce 450 million tons of foodgrain to the projected 1.62 to 1.69 billion people in 2050 and to provide drinking water, energy and toilet with water in every home in 2022 and doubling the farm income in five years.

THE WRITER IS MEMBER (WORKING GROUP), PLANNING COMMISSION,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

तेवर } पारा 48 के पार पहुंचा, कई शहरों में रिकॉर्ड टूटा, पहले 27 मई 1916 को रहा था 47.8 डिग्री

अहमदाबाद में गर्मी ने तोड़ा सौ साल का रिकॉर्ड

आज भी सेवियर हीटवेव की आशंका

अहमदाबाद @ पत्रिका

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प्रदेश में कहर बरपा रही गर्मी ने गुरुवार को सभी रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिए। सौ वर्ष पूर्व 27 मई 1916 को दर्ज किए गए 47.8 (मौसम विभाग का ऑल टाइम रिकॉर्ड) के मुकाबले गुरुवार को अहमदाबाद शहर में 48 डिग्री सेल्सियस से अधिक तापमान दर्ज किया गया। हालांकि विभिन्न स्रोतों के मुताबिक तो पारा 49 से 50 डि.से. तक पहुंच गया। ऐसा लग

रहा था मानो आकाश से अंगारे गिर रहे हों और त्वचा झुलस रही हो। चायों और भट्टी से तपन से लोग व्याकुल नजर आए। शुक्रवार को भी सेवियर हीट वेव की आशंका जताई गई है। मौसम विभाग के इतिहास में मई माह की यह गर्मी सबसे अधिक है। अहमदाबाद ही नहीं प्रदेश के कई स्थानों पर दशकों का रिकॉर्ड टूट गया। अहमदाबाद में गुरुवार को जिस तरह की गर्मी थी उससे लग रहा था कि पारा पचास डिग्री के भी पार पहुंच गया।

आम दिनों में धूमधामाने वाली सड़कों पर सन्नाटा था। रहत पाने को डेवरी और शीतल पेय जैसे दुकानों

प्रमुख शहरों का तापमान

शहर	अधिकतम	न्यूनतम
अहमदाबाद	48.0	30.1
डीसा	48.0	29.0
गंधीनगर	48.0	30.5
कंडल परसपेट	47.7	26.8
सुरेन्द्रनगर	47.5	26.5
इंडर	47.2	29.8

पर जरूर लोग नजर आए। अहमदाबाद ही नहीं गर्मी का इतना ही पारा ग्रीन सिटी और राजधानी गांधीनगर तथा उत्तर गुजरात के इंडर शहर में भी दर्ज किया गया। इन दिनों रिकॉर्ड तोड़ने वाली गर्मी राज्य के अधिकांश शहरों में दर्ज की गई। **पढ़ें अहमदाबाद में @ पेज 9**

सदन की गरिमा पर 'पानी' फिरा...



अहमदाबाद. देश के मेगसिटी में सुमार होने के बाद अब 'स्मार्ट सिटी' बनाने का दावे किए जाने वाले गुजरात के ऐतिहासिक शहर अहमदाबाद में लोगों की मूलभूत जरूरत पाने का पानी भी पर्याप्त मुहैया नहीं है। महानगरपालिका के पिछले सبعة छह दशक के शासन में भी पानी जैसी जरूरत भी पूरी न होने की वस्तुस्थिति यह तस्वीर बयां करती है, जिसमें आमतौर गली, मोहल्लों या मजपा के कार्यालयों के समक्ष किए जाने वाले प्रदर्शन की गुंज गुरुवार को शहर के करीब 60 लाख नागरिकों की सुविधाओं के लिए नीति-निष्पन्न-कानून निर्धारित करने वाले सामान्य सभा (मजपा बोर्ड) के सभागार तक पहुंच गई, जिसमें सभा का संचालन करने वाले अध्यक्ष मंच की फ्रिंट्रॉ के घड़ी से पट दिया गया। मंच के पीछे की दीवार पर टंगी एवं महानगरपालिका से पहले नगरपालिका के रूप में अस्तित्व में आए शहर के पूर्व नज्द अध्यक्ष सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल, गांधीजी और डॉ. अम्बेडकर की तस्वीर घड़े निहारते हुए मजने यह कहना चाहती है कि यह कैसी शासन व्यवस्था है।

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The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

Cyclone Roanu drops anchor off A.P.

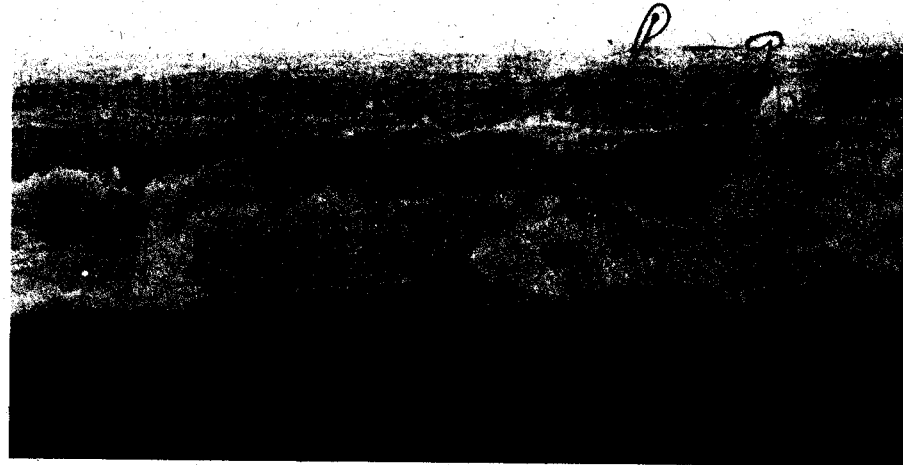
It is expected to cross the Bangladesh coast on May 21

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD: Cyclonic storm Roanu, which lay centred 80 km southeast of Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh, remained practically stationary on Thursday. It is likely to move along the Andhra Pradesh coast and, thereafter, north-eastwards. It is expected to cross the south Bangladesh coast between Khepupara and Cox's Bazaar on May 21 night as a cyclonic storm. The Met department has issued "orange" warning (cyclone warning) to the Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coasts, and "yellow" warning (cyclone alert) to the West Bengal coast.

Heavy rainfall predicted

The severe cyclonic storm could trigger winds with speeds ranging from 95 to 105 kmph in the next 36 hours. Under its influence, heavy to very heavy rainfall is forecast at a few places and extremely heavy rainfall over coastal



ROUGH SEAS: A scene at the beach in Kalingapatnam, Srikakulam, on Thursday.

Andhra Pradesh in the next 24 hours. Heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over coastal Odisha is likely to be witnessed over the next 48 hours. Isolated heavy to very heavy falls are forecast at a few places in Telangana and Rayalaseema in the next 24 hours.

The sea condition is likely to be high to very high along the Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha coasts during the next 48 hours. It is expected to be rough to very rough along the West Bengal coast in the next 48 hours. The Met department said thatched

houses could face damage and there could be minor damage to power and communication lines, in addition to major damage to kutcha roads in Andhra Pradesh in the next 48 hours.

Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea along and off the Andhra Pradesh coast in the next 48 hours, and along and off the north Tamil Nadu coast in the next 24 hours.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who reviewed the cyclone preparedness with senior officials, instructed the Collectors of coastal

districts to take up rescue and relief measures as and when necessary.

A control room has been set up at the State to monitor the situation round the clock. Control rooms have been set up in districts too.

The Chief Minister directed the officials concerned to keep stocks of essentials ready.

Five teams of the National Disaster Response Force, comprising 100 personnel each, are in a state of preparedness in the Krishna, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts. Mr. Naidu asked the

officials to monitor the rainfall situation on an hourly basis.

Skips Nellore

With 'Roanu' moving towards the Andhra Pradesh-Odisha border, people of Nellore, who are yet to recover from the bitter memories of the damages caused by the heavy floods in November and December last year, heaved a sigh of relief. The threat of heavy rains to the district has receded.

Only a few pockets felt the impact of the heavy rain that lashed the district till Wednesday night.

In all, 30 transformers and 22 electric poles were uprooted while two to three houses were partially damaged.

However, due to the impact of the cyclone in the Bay of Bengal, the coastal villages witnessed continuing gales reaching a speed of 50 to 60 kmph.

The district officials continued to impose restrictions on fishermen who were strictly asked to stay away from the sea for the next few days.

As the cyclone was yet to cross the coast, the revenue and police staff have been asked to remain on high alert to meet any eventuality.

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and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CW/C.

Unrelenting heat wave sends people scurrying for cover

Palodhi in Rajasthan simmers at 51 degrees; Ahmedabad breaks 100-year-old record

NEW DELHI: Blistering heat roasted north India with Palodhi in Rajasthan simmering at 51 degrees and the maximum in Ahmedabad shattering a century-old record.

Delhi reeled under sweltering conditions, recording the maximum at 43 degrees. The minimum the city was 28.6 degrees.

One death

Extreme heat broke 100 years old record in Ahmedabad, as the maximum temperature in the city touched 48 degrees. One person on Thursday died due to heat stroke, taking the sunstroke toll to four this summer, officials said.

"As per data, the city had recorded 47.8 degrees Celsius on May 27, 1916," said Jayanta Sarkar, Director of Meteorological Centre of IMD.

The intense heat wave scorched the northern States.

Palodhi was the hottest place in Rajasthan this season so far and the hottest in the country for the second consecutive day at 51 degrees, closely followed by Churu at 50.2, Bikaner and Barmer at 49.5, Ganganagar at 49.1, Jaisalmer at 49, Kota at 48.2 and Jaipur at 46.5 degrees.

Hisar in Haryana simmered at 46 degrees, while in the Union Territory of

Chandigarh, the mercury settled at 43.1 degrees.

Punjab's Amritsar had the maximum in the state at 43.8 degrees.

Banda hottest in U.P.

In Uttar Pradesh stifling conditions prevailed due to prevailing dry weather and intense heat wave. Banda remained the hottest place in the state for the third straight day, recording the maximum at 47.2 degrees, followed by Allahabad at 46.7, Jhansi 46.4 and Orai 46.

The district administration of Lucknow, which had a high of 44.4, has directed schools to declare summer vacations from May 23.

- PTI



BLAZING HOT: Children taking bath at a roadside water tap to escape the heat in Ahmedabad on Thursday. - PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

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Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

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

Heavy rains pound Andhra, Odisha, cyclone alert issued

SEVERE STORM Cyclone Roanu likely to continue to move northeast

Srinivasa Rao Apparasu
& Priya Ranjan Sahu

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

HYDERABAD/BHUBANESWAR:

Authorities in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha were on high alert on Thursday after the deep depression in the Bay of Bengal transformed into a cyclonic storm causing heavy rains and high-velocity winds in the two states.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said cyclonic storm Roanu is likely to continue to move northeastwards along and off Andhra Pradesh coast during next 12 hours and northeastwards after that. It is likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by Thursday night.

"The cyclonic storm is likely to head northeastward causing heavy rain in southern and northern parts of Odisha," SC Sahu, IMD's regional director in Bhubaneswar, said. It is expected to make landfall at Bangladesh in the next 48 hours.

The Cyclonic Warning Centre in Visakhapatnam said Roanu, that spared Chennai from heavy rains, is located at around 100 km off Machilipatnam coast in Andhra Pradesh's Krishna district. Coastal Andhra has been experiencing heavy rainfall at most places and isolated extremely heavy rainfall of more than 21 cm is expected over north coastal Andhra during next 48 hours.

Kakinada in East Godavari district has already witnessed a record rainfall of 17.4 cm in the last 24 hours, which is said to be the highest in the last 10 years. This is followed by Bapatla in Guntur district, which recorded 13.4 cm rainfall. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely to occur at many places along coastal Odisha during the next 24 hours.

The IMD said there could be extensive damage to thatched



■ Heavy rains lash Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh on Thursday.

HT PHOTO

huts, power and communication lines and roads over coastal Andhra during next 48 hours and over south coastal Odisha from Thursday night onwards.

STATES ON ALERT

Andhra chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu directed officials of the coastal districts that all steps be taken to minimise loss to property and see that there is no loss of life.

At least 15 fishermen, who ventured into deep sea from Nizampatnam harbour of Guntur district on Tuesday, went missing after the sea turned turbulent due to deep depression.

Efforts by their relatives to contact them did not succeed and they immediately alerted local political leaders and officials. They, in turn, informed the coast guards and marine forces, who launched a search operation to locate them.

No respite in Himachal, Una hottest at 43.4°C

Press Trust of India

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

SHIMLA/LUCKNOW: There was no respite from the scorching heat in lower hilly regions of Himachal Pradesh as dry weather prevailed in the state with Una being the hottest place in the state at 43.4 degrees Celsius.

Una in Shivalik foothills was the hottest in the state at 43.4 degrees Celsius, while Sunder Nagar and Bhuntar recorded a maximum temperature of 38 and 36.6 degrees Celsius, respectively, followed by 35.6 degrees Celsius in Nahan, 33.6 degrees Celsius in Dharamshala and 33 degrees in Solan, Kalpa recorded 25.4 degrees Celsius, the MeT Department said. Maximum

temperature in Shimla settled at 29 degrees Celsius.

SCHOOLS TO BE CLOSED IN LUCKNOW

Weather remained dry in Uttar Pradesh with Banda recording the highest temperature in the state at 47.2 degrees Celsius on Thursday, even as Lucknow district administration ordered closure of all schools from May 23.

Banda was the hottest place in the state at 47.2 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal, followed by Allahabad at 46.7 degrees Celsius, the MeT Department said here. Maximum temperatures in Jhansi settled at 46.4 degrees Celsius, 46 degrees Celsius in Orai, it said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on May 20.05.2016 in the

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CURRENT RATES OF CLIMATE CHANGE MAY TRIGGER INSTABILITY

Antarctic ice loss to raise sea-level by 3 mtrs

ST-20 - 9-13

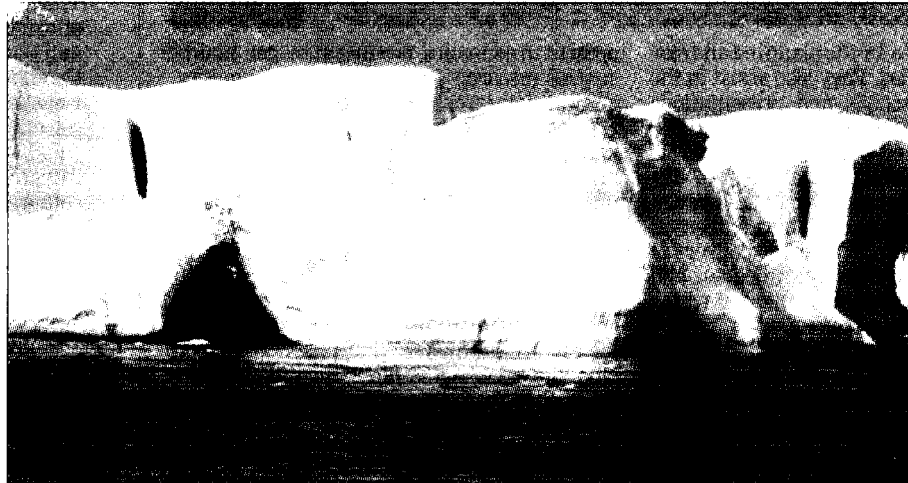
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
London, 19 May

Current rates of climate change may trigger instability in a major Antarctic glacier, ultimately leading to a sea-level rise of almost three metres, a new study has warned.

Researchers studied the Totten Glacier, a significant glacier in Antarctica. It drains one of the world's largest areas of ice on the East Antarctic Ice Sheet (EAIS).

They discovered that if climate change continues unabated, the glacier may cross a critical threshold within the next century, entering an irreversible period of rapid retreat.

This would cause it to withdraw up to 300 kilometres inland in the following centuries and release vast quantities of water, contributing up to 2.9



metres to global sea-level rise.

The EAIS is currently thought to be relatively stable in the face of global warming compared with the much smaller ice sheet in West Antarctica, but Totten Glacier is bucking the trend by losing sub-

stantial amounts of ice.

The research from Imperial College London and institutions in Australia, the US, and New Zealand shows that Totten Glacier may be even more vulnerable than previously thought.

Earlier, the team had

found that there is currently warm water circulating underneath a floating portion of the glacier that is causing more melting than might have been expected. The new research looks at the underlying geology of the glacier and shows that if it

retreats another 100-150 km, its front will be sitting on an unstable bed and this could trigger a period of rapid retreat for the glacier.

This would cause it to withdraw nearly 300 km inland from its current front at the coast.

Retreating the full 300 km inland may take several hundred years, said Martin Siegert, from the Imperial College London.

However, once the glacier crosses the threshold into the unstable region, the melting will be unstoppable - at least until it has retreated to the point where the geology becomes more stable again. "The evidence coming together is painting a picture of East Antarctica being much more vulnerable to a warming environment than we thought," Siegert said.

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51°C: Phalodi in Raj shatters India record

Phalodi, a town of 50,000 people in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan, made history on Thursday by registering a torrid 51 degrees Celsius, the highest temperature ever recorded in the country. The previous record was 50.6 degrees, recorded in Alwar in 1956.

Temperatures eased a bit in and around NCR under the influence of cyclone Roanu. However, it was hot enough for Delhi to record its highest power demand of 6,044 MW, reached at 3.36pm. **P 4 & 23**

Raj town breaks Indian heat record, hits 51°C

770-20-P-23

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Jaipur: Phalodi, a town of 50,000-odd people in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan, made history on Thursday by registering a torrid 51 degrees Celsius, the highest temperature ever recorded in the country.

The previous record was 50.6 degrees C, recorded in Alwar in 1956. Phalodi, which lies off the Bikaner-Jaisalmer highway, had come close to breaking the all-time record on Wednesday, when the mercury had hit 50.5 degrees.

Other cities in western Rajasthan too broke records as the region continued to be scorched by a particularly severe heat wave, even as temperatures dipped slightly in other parts of the northern plains under the influence of cyclonic storm Roanu, which lay off the Andhra coast and was heading northeastwards towards Bangladesh.

Churu was the second hottest place at 50.2 degrees, the highest temperature ever recorded in that city. Bikaner and Barmer recorded 49.5 degrees C, Sriganganagar 49.1, Jaisalmer 49.0, Jodhpur 48.8, Kota 48.2, Pilani 47.5, Udaipur 46.4 and Ajmer 46.2.

At 46.5 degrees, Jaipur witnessed its hottest day in 11 years. Meanwhile, the 'se-



A woman rides a scooter with her face covered as heatwave hits Jammu

Alert in Odisha as Cyclone Roanu nears

With the met office predicting Cyclone Roanu to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm, Odisha government on Thursday issued alert in at least 12 districts and asked authorities to be prepared to face eventualities.

The alert has been issued in 12 districts, Chief secretary A P Padhi said after CM Naveen Patnaik reviewed the cyclone preparedness. "Naveen Patnaik has directed all departments to remain alert to face the eventuality likely to be caused due to Cyclone Roanu. The districts have been told to keep food stuff and other essential materials ready," Padhi said. The wind speed in Odisha coast is likely to remain within 100 km per hour and 10 teams of Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) and fire service personnel have been asked to be ready for operation, he said. **PTI**

vere heat wave' warning was eased to a 'heat wave' alert in Haryana, Delhi and UP as temperatures dropped slightly. "Easterly winds have begun blowing from Bengal to Punjab under the influence of Roanu. These winds have replaced the super-hot westerlies from Pa-

kistan, bringing a slight relief to this region," said B P Yadav, director, India Meteorological Department.

"Easterlies may continue blowing till Saturday, when the cyclone makes landfall in Bangladesh. Thereafter, high heat is likely to return," Yadav said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on May-20.05.2016 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
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

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

Major quake may hit J&K: Study

T-20-Page-13

WASHINGTON, MAY 19

A major earthquake, of magnitude 8 or greater, may strike Jammu and Kashmir, endangering the lives of as many as a million people, latest geologic mapping in the Himalayan mountains of the state suggests.

Scientists have known about the Reasi fault in the state, but it was not thought to be as much as a threat as other more active fault systems.

However, following a magnitude 7.6 earthquake in 2005 on the nearby Balakot-Bagh fault in the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir — which was not considered particularly dangerous because it was not on the plate boundary — researchers began scrutinising other fault systems in the region.

They found that the Reasi fault has been building up



An Army shopping complex at Uri got totally damaged in an earthquake in October 2005. TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO: AMIN WAR

pressure for some time, suggesting that when it does release or “slip,” the resulting earthquake may be large — as much as magnitude 8.0 or greater.

“What we set out to learn was how much the fault has moved in the last tens of thousands of years, when it

moved, and how different segments of the fault move,” said Yann Gavillot, lead author on the study who did much of the work as a doctoral student at Oregon State University in the US.

“What we found was that the Reasi fault is one of the main active faults in Kash-

mir, but there is a lack of earthquakes in the more recent geologic record.

“The fault hasn’t slipped for a long time, which means the potential for a large earthquake is strong. It’s not a question of if it’s going to happen. It’s a matter of when,” said Gavillot.

There is direct evidence of some seismic activity on the fault, where the researchers could see displacement of the earth where an earthquake lifted one section of the fault five or more metres — possibly about 4,000 years ago.

Written records from local monasteries refer to strong ground shaking over the past several thousand years, researchers said.

However, they do not have much evidence as to how frequent major earthquakes occur on the fault, or when they may happen again. — PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 144-20.05.2016 in the

Hindustan Times
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M.P. Chronicle
A. a j (Hindi)
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and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

60 साल बाद राजस्थान सबसे गर्म

जयपुर, (कास): प्रदेश में गर्मी ने गुरुवार को पिछले 60 वर्षों का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया है। 51 डिग्री सैल्सियस तापमान के साथ जोधपुर जिले का फलौदी सबसे गर्म रहा। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार इससे पहले वर्ष, 1956 में अब तक का सर्वाधिक तापमान 50.6 डिग्री सैल्सियस अलवर में दर्ज किया गया था। हालांकि अन्य संस्थाओं की ओर से नापे गए तापमान में कई बार इससे अधिक की बढोतरी आ चुकी है, लेकिन मौसम विभाग का आधिकारिक आंकड़ा यही है। कई शहरों में भट्टी बनी सड़कों पर कई पानी डालकर राहत के प्रयास किए गए। इसके साथ ही अन्य शहरों का तापमान भी आसमान छू रहा है। छह बड़े शहरों में तापमान 49 डिग्री सैल्सियस से अधिक है। वहीं सबसे कम तापमान की बात करें तो वह भी 46 डिग्री से कम नहीं है। मौसम विभाग ने अगले 24 घंटों में भीषण लू का प्रकोप जारी रहने की आशंका व्यक्त की है।

पहली बार देखी ऐसी गर्मी: युवा ही क्या

तापमान	शहर
फलौदी	51
चूरू	50.2
श्रीगंगानगर	49.1
बीकानेर	49.5
जोधपुर	48.8
जैसलमेर	49
बाड़मेर	49.5
डबोके	46.4
जयपुर	46.5
अजमेर	46.2
कोटा	48.2
(तापमान डिग्री सै.)	



जयपुर में जेल एन मार्ग पर गर्मी के बीच गुरुवार को सूनसान सड़क के पास फुटपाथ पर बैठा वृद्ध।

रिकार्ड तोड़ गर्मी

सड़कों की डामर पिघली प्रचण्ड

गर्मी का कहर

अधेड़ उम्र के लोगों ने भी अपने जीवन में इस तरह की गर्मी पहले नहीं देखी। सांगानेर निवासी एडवोकेट संजय शर्मा का कहना है कि गर्मी इस हद तक पड़ सकती है, यह सोचा भी नहीं था। दोपहर के समय पंखे ही क्या कूलर चलाना भी मुश्किल हो गया। कई अधेड़ उम्र के लोगों से भी बात की तो उनका कहना भी यही था कि इस बार गर्मी असहनीय है।

राजधानी में सबसे गर्म दिन

जयपुर में तापमान 46.5 डिग्री सै. दर्ज किया गया। यह इस सीजन का सर्वाधिक तापमान है। हालांकि एक डिग्री तापमान भी अगर और अधिक होता तो शहर में पिछले 84 सालों का रिकॉर्ड टूट जाता। वर्ष, 1932 में जयपुर में सर्वाधिक 47.5 डिग्री रिकॉर्ड है।

सीमा पर तापमान 53 पार

जैसलमेर, (विमल भाटिया): भारत-पाक सीमा पर गुरुवार को तापमान 53 से 55 डिग्री सैल्सियस रहा। आसमान से बरस रही आग ने सबको झुलसा कर रख दिया। वहीं बिजली कटौती से सीमा पर तैनात जवानों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। दोपहर 12 से शाम 6 बजे तक बिजली कटौती ने जवानों को बेहाल कर दिया। बीएसएफ से मिली जानकारी अनुसार तनोट और शाहगढ़ बल्ज से सटे बॉर्डर पर तैनात जवान भीषण गर्मी से परेशान हैं। सीमा चौकी बबलियानवाला पर तापमान 53 डिग्री पहुंच गया वहीं शाहगढ़ से सटी सीमा चौकियों मुरार, सौमिया और अन्य पर पारा 55 डिग्री रहा।

दिनांक 19 मई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Rain lashes Kancheepuram; city caught in traffic snarls

Kelambakkam records the highest with 22.6 cm of rainfall

STAFF REPORTER

CHENNAI: Several towns in Kancheepuram district received very heavy rainfall on Wednesday, with Kelambakkam experiencing the highest with 22.6 cm for the 24-hour period ending 8.30 a.m. the same day.

While Mamallapuram received 14.4 cm of rainfall, Kancheepuram received 11.2 cm, Cheyyur 9.2 cm, Tambaram 9 cm and Thirukazhukundram 9.5 cm respectively.

Water-logging

While overnight down-pour flooded Velachery Main Road near Medavakkam, residents put up a barricade around a crater that developed after a portion of the road caved in near Jalladianpet to alert motorists.

There were reports of traf-



WHEEL-DEEP: A van that got stuck in water on at Race Course Road in Chennai. — PHOTO: G. KRISHNASWAMY

fic snarls due to water-logging on Medavakkam Main Road and Race Course Road near Guindy. Heavy rains in Sriperumpudur taluk resulted in copious inflows into several lakes in the area, including Sriperumpudur, Somanthalam, Amarambedu

and many water bodies that were already overflowing.

Kancheepuram district administration has set up helpline numbers for the benefit of residents. Those in need of help can call 044-27237424, 044-27237425, 044-27237107 and 044-27222000.

Hindu - 19 May - 2016

दिनांक 19 मई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

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The Tribune (Chandigarh)

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The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

The Hindu - 19 May 2016

After heavy spells, rain may relent

Chennai airport records 12 cm in a span of 24 hours

STAFF REPORTER

CHENNAI: As the depression has moved away from Tamil Nadu towards the coast of Andhra Pradesh, rainfall may decrease by Thursday noon.

However, parts of north and north coastal Tamil Nadu including Chennai, Tiruvallur, Villupuram and Cuddalore will receive heavy to very heavy rainfall on Thursday, said officials of the Regional Meteorological Department. Parts of south Tamil Nadu like Kanyakumari, Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi may receive isolated very heavy rainfall.

The depression that gave intense rains on Tuesday and Wednesday has moved in the northern direction and is at a distance of 130 km east and south east of Nellore and 230 km south of Machilipatnam. The system will continue to move in north and north east direction along Andhra Pradesh and may become a cyclonic storm, officials said.

Weather blogger Pradeep



A view of Kasimedu fishing harbour in Chennai on Wednesday. - PHOTO: B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

John said that Nannilam in Tiruvallur district recorded the highest of 14 cm on Tuesday so far this May. Last May, Kamatchipuram in Dindigul district received 20 cm of rainfall making it the highest amount recorded in 24 hours

across the country that year. In 2014, lower Papanasam had received 40 cm of rainfall in a day, he said.

Meanwhile, Chennai airport recorded 12 cm in a span of 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday and 5 cm

ending at 8.30 p.m.

Also, the widespread rainfall in the catchment areas has increased the water levels in reservoirs Poondi, Redhills, Cholavaram and Chembarambakkam reservoirs.

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

11 mdu - 19 May

Depression over Bay of Bengal to intensify: IMD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Even as officials at the India Meteorological Department have warned of searing heat waves until May 20 in several parts of North India, they said the torrential downpour in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala was due to a depression that could well bring the season's first cyclone.

The depression has moved towards the Andhra Pradesh coast and will intensify into a cyclonic storm by Thursday, after which it is likely to move towards the Northeast and off north Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coasts in the subsequent 48 hours.

Rain for two more days

"This is in line with our forecast on Sunday (May 15) where we said that a depression was forming near the Andamans and will bring rains in Kerala, Chennai and Andhra Pradesh," said DS Pai, Chief Forecaster, IMD.

Mr. Pai further said that "there may be rains for two more days and then it will reduce as (depression) will

move towards Myanmar."

The IMD's latest update says the Southwest monsoon has advanced into some parts of Southeast Bay of Bengal, entire south Andaman Sea and Nicobar Islands. The conditions were favourable for further advance of the Southwest monsoon into some more parts of south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Islands and remaining parts of north

Andaman Sea in the next three to four days.

Monsoon delayed in Kerala

"The forecast on the delay of monsoon in Kerala remains unchanged," Pai added.

The IMD has said that monsoon in Kerala would likely be on June 7 but the overall forecast of above normal rainfall was unchanged.



ANXIOUS WAIT: Fishermen wait on the shores in Visakhapatnam as they have been warned against venturing into the sea due to the depression in Bay of Bengal. — PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

दिनांक 19 मई, 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Colours of depression

The Hindu - 19 May - 2016



RESPIRE FROM HEAT: A low pressure system in the Bay of Bengal continued to bring rain to Chennai on Wednesday, providing much-needed relief from the summer temperatures. The system moved to the Andhra Pradesh coast during the course of the day and is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm. — PHOTO: R. RAGU (REPORTS ON PAGES 2, 3, 7 & 9)

दिनांक ... 19 मई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
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40 killed, 200 feared buried in Lanka rains, landslides

Colombo: Over 200 people were on Wednesday feared buried in massive landslides in Sri Lanka following three days of torrential rains, killing nearly 40 people, with rescuers racing against time to find survivors under mounds of mud.

As many as 17 bodies were recovered, with the mudslides mainly affecting two villages in Kegalle, a mountainous area northeast of Colombo, military spokesman Brigadier Jayanath Jayaweera said.

The fresh recovery of bodies takes the toll to 36 from flooding and landslides in the past three days that have marooned 3,32,254 people. Around 300 soldiers deployed for the rescue mission also saved some 180 people trapped in Aranayake village, besides recovering 13 bodies from the area.

Sha Faizal, a state official, said 1,041 people from Samsara hill in the village of Elangapitiya at Aranayake



People leave their villages after a landslide in Aranayaka. Mudslides have mainly affected two villages in Kegalle, northeast of Colombo. Around 300 soldiers have been deployed for the rescue mission

have been housed in a camp. In the other village, Bulathkohupitiya, four bodies were recovered.

President Maithripala Sirisena and PM Ranil Wickremesinghe inspected the areas and said efforts are on to assist those affected. Disaster Management Centre spokesman Pradeep Kodippili said the district was prone to landslides and many people from

had fled after the rains.

Some 220 families are feared buried under mud and rubble in three villages — Siripura, Pallegage and Elagipitiya — in Kegalle, according to the Sri Lanka Red Cross. "At least 150 people have disappeared," Elangapitiye Rathanajothi, a monk said. Incessant rains have also caused severe flooding in the capital Colombo. ■

Heavy rain in TN; cyclone alert in AP

Non-stop flow brings back dreaded memories of December deluge

CHENNAI/HYDERABAD: The heavy rain, which sparked fear of December deluge, continued to batter Tamil Nadu, especially the northern coastal areas, since Monday night.

The deep depression over Bay of Bengal is expected to turn into a cyclone and may move towards Andhra Pradesh for a landfall.

Though the downpour was not as heavy as the state witnessed during December, the non-stop flow has brought back the dreaded memories of the unprecedented floods, especially in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Cuddalore districts.

Deputy Director General of Meteorology Dr S Balachandran said the system is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm in the next 24 hours. Thereafter it is likely to move north-eastwards along and off north Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coasts during the subsequent

48 hours. "Under its influence, heavy to very heavy rainfall was expected over north coastal Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in the next 24 hours," he said.

As the sea would be very rough, the fishermen from Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh have been advised not to venture in to sea during the next two days.

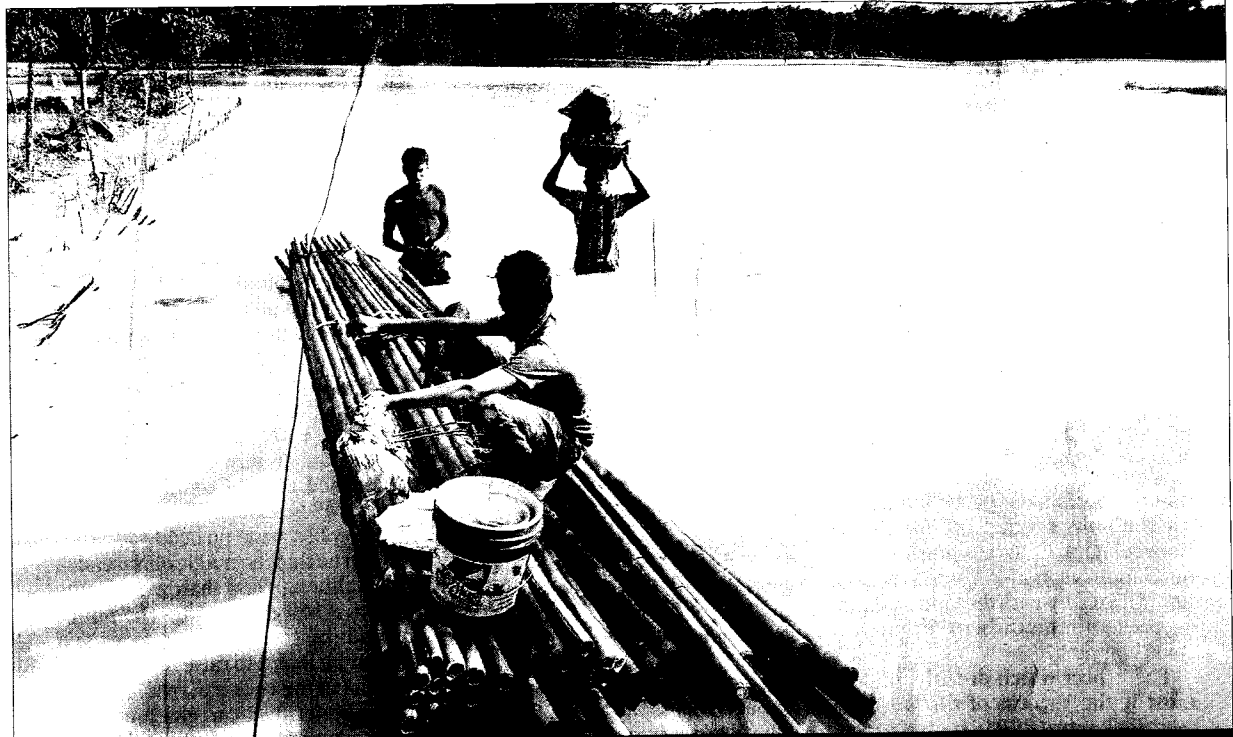
The state government on Wednesday directed the district administrations to take all precautionary measures.

The government also has set up a call centre with the telephone number 1070 to receive rainfall related grievances.

Meanwhile, two persons including a woman died due to rain-related incidents in Chennai alone.

Coastal Andhra

With heavy rains and squally winds lashing a few places across coastal Andhra Pradesh, the state government has alerted the district administrations to be prepared for any eventuality.



OFF TO SAFER ZONE: People shift to safe places from a flooded locality in Dharmanagar, North Tripura, on Wednesday. PTI



A tree uprooted due to heavy rain in Chennai on Wednesday.

DH PHOTO

While Nellore recorded a massive 18 cm of rain since Wednesday morning, Prakasam, Guntur, Tirumala, Visakhapatnam, Chittoor, Tada, Sullurpet, Kadapa, Anantapur and East Godavari districts witnessed moderate to heavy rains.

In Tirumala, devotees had a tough time as heavy rains pounded the precincts of the holy temple. Rain water entered the main entrance of the shrine. Fire tenders were summoned to pump out rain water.

With the impact of the cy-

clone running parallel to Andhra Pradesh coast, fishermen were warned not to venture in to the sea till further warning. Sea has advanced up to 20 metres in many places.

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has directed the collectors to seek NDRF's help to evacuate stranded people from low lying areas and to open control rooms by Wednesday night as IMD has warned the impact of the cyclone could last for 48 hours or even more.

DH News Service

Nature's fury kills 12 in Northeast

Torrential rains accompanied by thunderstorms lashed parts of Northeast India in the past 48 hours, killing at least 12 people and injuring several others, *DHNS* reports from Guwahati.

At least 10 people were killed in landslides in Karimganj and Hailakandi districts in Barak Valley region of Southern Assam on Wednesday. This includes five members from a family at Sonachirra of Karimganj district. In neighbouring Hailakandi district, two incidents of landslides killed four persons at Bilaipur and a six-year-old boy at Ramchandi area. Across Assam, reports of flash floods and damage of critical infrastructure has been reported. In Guwahati, most of the busy roads have been inundated with rain waters.

DH-19 May

दिनांक 19 मई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)
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Central Chronicle (Bhopal)



Mist covered the General K S Thimmaiah Circle in Madikeri on Wednesday. (Right) A waterlogged road following heavy rain in Hubballi. DH PHOTOS

DH- 19 may

Pre-monsoon rain lashes North Karnataka, Madikeri

BENGALURU: Several places in the state received heavy rainfall accompanied by strong winds and lightning on Tuesday night and Wednesday.

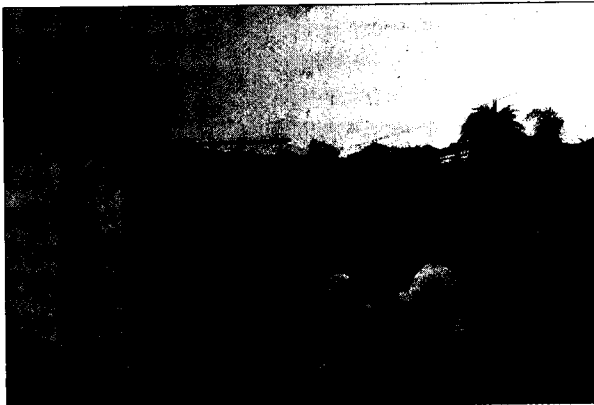
Belagavi

Parts of Belagavi district, including parched taluks like Ramdurg and Savadatti, received heavy pre-monsoon rains accompanied by winds on Wednesday.

Pre-monsoon showers accompanied by winds lashed Athani town and villages in Athani taluk. Roof tiles of a few houses were blown away and a few trees were uprooted.

One person was killed in a lightning strike at Sambal village in Ramdurg taluk while he was working at his farm. He has been identified as Shankarappa Mahadev Woli (39).

Rains lashed Saundatti town and surrounding villages in the taluk. Some of the streets in Saundatti town were flooded,



The roof of a building has been blown away due to strong wind and rain at Bisanala village of Mudhol taluk, Bagalkot district. DH PHOTO

with water gushing into a few houses. Many farmers suffered crop losses.

Belagavi city and villages in the eastern part of the taluk, Khanapur town and Chikkodi also received light to moderate showers.

Dharwad

Hubballi-Dharwad received

heavy rainfall for around half-an-hour on Wednesday evening. Heavy rains, accompanied by gusty winds and lightning lashed Hubballi city from 5.30 pm to 6 pm. Later, the rains lashed Dharwad city also for half an hour. Drizzles continued for a while longer.

Rainwater flowed on the roads, obstructing the smooth

movement of vehicles. Branches of several trees snapped due to gusty winds. Power supply was disrupted for some time in the twin cities.

Bagalkot

Heavy rain, accompanied by strong winds, thunder and lightning, lashed many places in the district for 10 minutes on Wednesday evening.

Shehzad Bi Attar, 47, died when the roof of her house collapsed at Banahatti in Bagalkot city.

Moderate rains were reported from Hungund, Ilkal and Amingad in the district. Rain accompanied by strong winds were reported from Savalagi in Jamakhandi taluk. Showers were reported at many places in Mudhol taluk.

Gadag

Heavy rain accompanied by thunder, lightning and strong winds was reported for around 20 minutes in Nargund in the afternoon and evening.

Haveri

Tin roofsheets and utensils were blown away from huts due to strong winds at Chavahal village in Savanur taluk on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday morning, people in the village were still in a state of shock, with no roofs over their heads. Uprooted trees had fallen on the roads.

Kodagu

Madikeri experienced drizzling and the sky remained overcast throughout the day. There was drizzling in Bhagamandala, Talacauvery, Napoklu and surrounding areas too.

Heavy rains lashed parts of Somwarpet taluk on Tuesday night.

A huge tree fell on the Somwarpet main road and disrupted the movement of vehicles on Wednesday morning. The damage to electricity poles disrupted power supply in the region.

DH News Service

दिनांक 19 मई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
जवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
The Telegraph (Kolkata)
हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

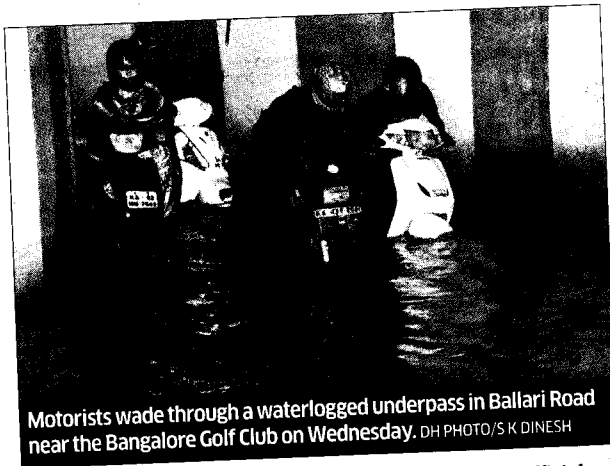
DH - 19 May

Downpour cools city, uproots trees

BENGALURU, DHNS: Wednesday's showers brought some relief to Bengaluru but the rain and strong winds also felled 21 trees and left 10 houses flooded.

The evening showers even disrupted traffic on many key roads and left most two-wheeler riders heading back home drenched.

According to details from the BBMP control room, at least 21 trees were uprooted resulting in traffic snarls. At least 10 houses were flooded in Dasarahalli, Seegehalli, Mallasandra, Yelahanka, Bommanahalli and Rajarajeshwarinagar. A building in the police quarters in Adugodi too was damaged after a tree fell on it, the control room operator told *DH* at 9 pm. BESCOT too received as many



Motorists waded through a waterlogged underpass in Ballari Road near the Bangalore Golf Club on Wednesday. *DH* PHOTO/S K DINESH

as 942 complaints between 6 pm and 9 pm.

Until 8.30 pm, the city received 28.4 mm of rainfall while the area around HAL airport

recorded 25.8 mm, officials of the Meteorological Centre, Bengaluru said. The city will continue to experience showers for the next two days. The fore-

cast would generally be cloudy skies with one or two spells of rain and thundershowers. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 27 and 20 degrees Celsius respectively on Thursday and Friday, the forecast states.

On Wednesday, there was a five-degree Celsius dip from the normal temperature. The city recorded a minimum temperature of 22 and a maximum of 28 degrees Celsius. Rainfall occurred at most places over coastal Karnataka and at a few places over interior Karnataka. This is due to a depression over south west Bay of Bengal. However, Kalaburagi recorded a maximum temperature of 42.6 degrees Celsius in the state.

Cyclone alert for AP, Page 9

18th Dec 2016

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

The Indian Express (New Delhi)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

Dagbladet (Oslo)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

Heavy rain likely to continue today

First heavy showers of the year bring back fears of the December floods

K. LAKSHMI

CHENNAI: Relentless downpour over Chennai and its neighbourhood may continue on Wednesday under the influence of depression that lies over southwest Bay of Bengal.

A torrential rain accompanied by lightning and thunder lashed several parts of the city since early hours of Tuesday with the depression lying 240 km southeast of Chennai.

Chembarambakkam received the highest volume of rainfall of 11 cm, Guindy registered 9 cm and both Meenambakkam and Nungambakkam received 7 cm till 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday.

The downpour continued through the day too throwing traffic out of gear in arterial roads such as Arcot Road, Mount Poonamallee High Road, GST Road and Jawaharlal Nehru Salai. While Nungambakkam registered 6.7 cm of rainfall, Meenambakkam received 7.1 cm till 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday. Other places like Chembarambakkam and Avadi too experienced a rainfall of 5 cm and 4 cm respectively.

The city that was sizzling under blistering heat until a day ago enjoyed pleasant weather as the day temperature dropped to 27.8 degree Celsius. As Chennai received its first heavy showers for the year, fear about the possibility of another impending flood gripped those residents who had suffered on account



INUNDATED: Sheets of water cover the Gandhi-Irwin Bridge Road in Egmore. — PHOTO: M. VEDHAN

of the deluge last year.

Savitha Sekar, a resident of Chinmaya Nagar, said, "Every time the rain gets heavy I start imagining my house getting flooded. I'm not prepared to go through something similar so soon."

Myriad tweets

In Twitter too, anxious residents started posting tweets. Dr.

Anonymous @blah_blah_mastr tweeted: "Heavy rains in Chennai reminds me of the December floods. Worried as there is only a day left in between before we leave for Ooty."

Another resident @priyanka_optom posted: "Reminds me of those days. Dark clouds, no electricity, contin-

uous pouring."

Also, there were a series of tweets wherein residents fear about the storage level at Chembarambakkam reservoir. @St Hill posted: "When it rains, Chennai's 1st reaction used to be 'Do I need an umbrella?' Now it is 'What is the level in Chembarambakkam?'"

Rainfall up to 12 cm

Meanwhile, S. Balachandran, Director, Area Cyclone Warning Centre, said many places in Tamil Nadu were likely to have rains on Wednesday too. However, rain bands would concentrate over north coastal Tamil Nadu particularly Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kancheepu-

ram on Wednesday, bringing in heavy rainfall up to 12 cm. The system was expected to move northwards along North Tamil Nadu and south Andhra Pradesh coast and intensify into deep depression by Thursday, he added. "We have warned fishermen not to venture into sea as it would be rough, and squally weather will prevail with wind blowing up to 70 km per hour," he said.

Pointing out that such a heavy downpour was uncharacteristic of May, officials noted that Chennai experienced 11 cm of rainfall in May 2010 when cyclone Laila hit the coast.

(Additional reporting by Sunitha Sekar)

'Water levels in reservoirs under control'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI: The heavy rains witnessed on Tuesday seem to have raised fears about a possible flood, among city residents. However, officials of Water Resources Department allayed residents' fears, saying storage levels were still under control.

As of Tuesday, the combined storage of four reservoirs in Red Hills, Chembarambakkam, Sholavaram and Poondiri was at 5,031 million cubic feet, which accounts for only 46 per cent of their capacity.

While Sholavaram lake is almost dry, the reservoir in Chembarambakkam has a storage of 2,374 mcf, which is 65 per cent of its capacity. Tuesday's heavy rain spell has added 46 mcf, which is equal to about 1,300 million litres to Chembarambakkam reservoir.

Unlike in December, when the reservoir received an inflow of over 35,000 cubic feet per second, the inflow was only 692 cusecs on Tuesday.

18 May 2016

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
 The Tribune (Chandigarh)
 The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Dispurahat)
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 The Telegraph (Kolkata)
 The Deccan Herald (Bangalore)

The Deccan Herald (Bangalore)
 The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)
 Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

Floods hit Sri Lanka



Hindu - 18 May

MASS DISPLACEMENT: Two days of heavy rains in Sri Lanka have killed 11 and displaced over 200,000. Another five people are missing. Picture shows some affected people in Kaduwela, near Colombo. — PHOTO: REUTERS

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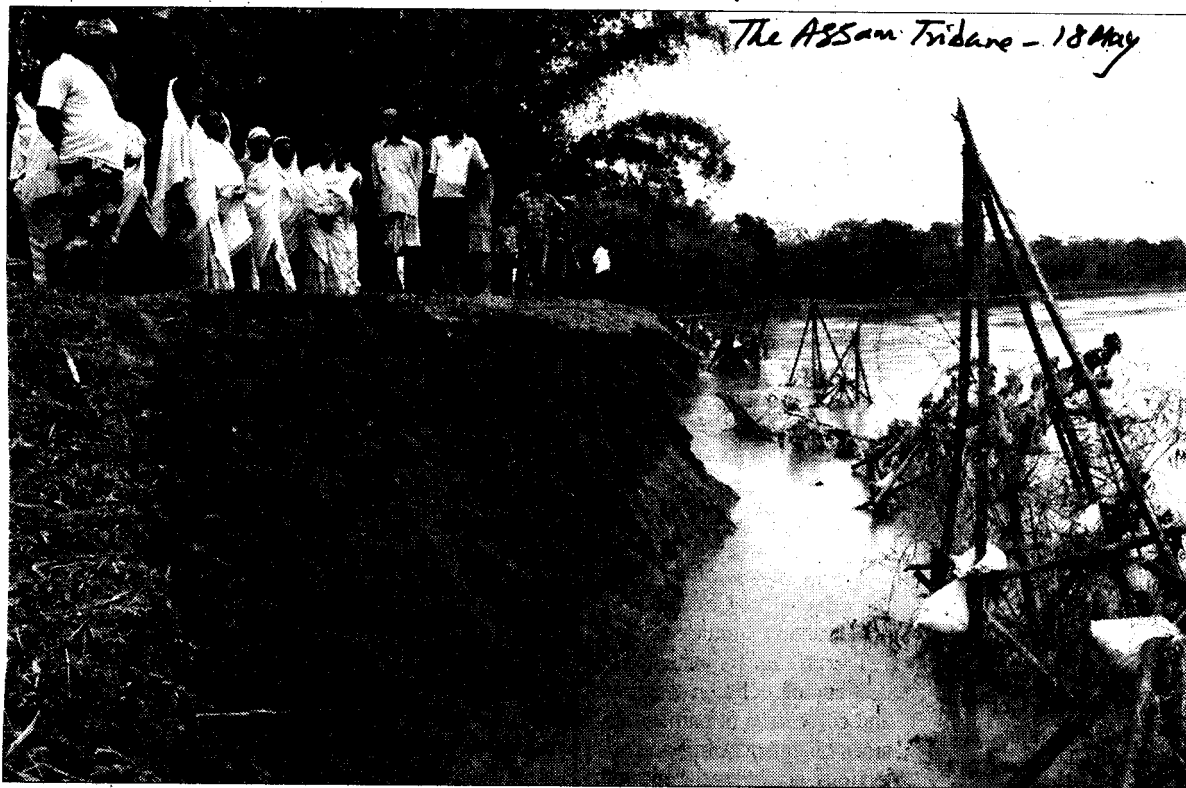
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A section of concerned villagers at an erosion-affected site along the Disang river at Bakulduba village near Demow in Sivasagar district, on Monday. – UB Photos