

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

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi - 66.

Dated

20.11.17

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.

P. Mahlon
20.11.17
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director (Publication)

(on leave)

Director TD

Sub- 20/11

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

O/C

दिनांक 18.11.2017 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)

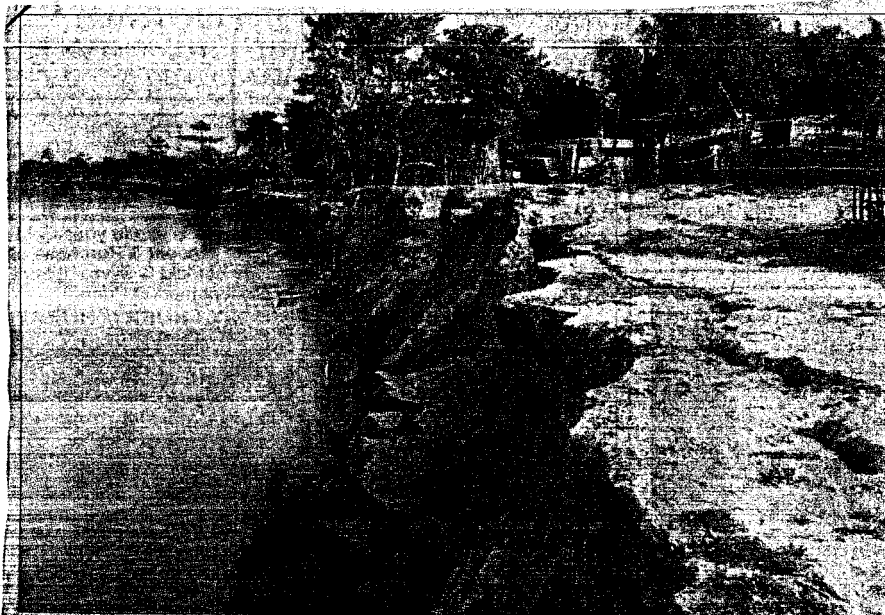
The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)



Erosion by Brahmaputra river at Bindhakata village in Tangabari near Chabua in Dibrugarh district on Friday. - UB Photos

AT-18

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 18/11/17 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 Bhadrath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

Pollution dips further as Capital gets traces of rain

HT Correspondent

• htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Pollution levels dipped further on Friday as traces of rain hit some parts of Delhi. Met experts at the regional weather forecasting centre said the city could receive another spell of drizzle on Saturday.

"Isolated parts of Delhi received traces of rain on Friday. We are expecting more such drizzles on Saturday too," said an official of the met department.

A western disturbance had triggered rain in most of the states in north-west India on Wednesday. Delhi, however, didn't receive any rain.

On Friday, another western disturbance—second in the season—triggered rain in Delhi.

The average Air Quality Index of Delhi, which was 363 on Thursday, dropped to 310 on Friday. An AQI value between 301 and 400 is considered as 'very poor' category of pollution.

"The first ever implementation of GRAP has resulted in up to 15% - 20% reduction in pollution according to SAFAR," Bhure Lal, chairman of Supreme Court-appointed panel, wrote in a letter.

Levels of particulate matter dropped throughout the day in Delhi-NCR after registering a marginal increase on Thursday.

"PM10 levels have dropped to moderate, PM2.5 levels were still in the very poor category," said D. Saha, head of the air quality monitoring laboratory at CPCB.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

18/11/17

In the

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Documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

24 sites to have sensors under hydro project

VIJAY MOHAN

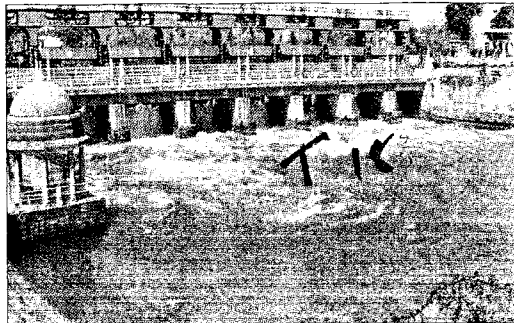
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 17

Nineteen sites have been identified for setting up a system to monitor water discharge in rivers and streams of Punjab under the National Hydrology Project (NHP), besides five sites where automatic weather stations (AWS) would be installed.

It is envisaged that the NHP will improve reservoir operations by providing optimal dam filling and release schedules through timely and reliable data acquisition, storage, collation and management of water resources. This would result in releasing greater quantities of water for hydroelectric power generation, irrigation, drinking and industrial supply.

According to studies,



A sensor-based system would be set up to monitor the discharge in rivers and streams of Punjab. FILE PHOTO

additional hydroelectric power generation from the NHP in Punjab is expected to be around 40 MW, resulting in an annual incremental benefit of ₹11.8 crore. The additional availability of water for irrigation, drinking and industrial production is assumed to be 4.7, 0.5 and 5.1 million

cubic metres, respectively, with a combined annual incremental benefit of over ₹24.2 crore.

At the national level, the expected hydroelectric power generation is 825 MW, with a yearly benefit of ₹247.6 crore, while the combined additional water availability has been

assumed to be 325 million cubic metres.

The NHP was cleared for implementation by the Union Cabinet last year with an outlay of ₹3,679.76 crore. This includes ₹3,640 crore for the NHP and ₹39.76 crore for the National Water Informatics Centre. The World Bank approved funding for the project earlier this year. The NHP is being implemented in several states.

In Punjab, eight discharge monitoring sites will be set up on the Ravi, Sutlej, Beas, Ghaggar and Chakki rivers in Pathankot, Ludhiana, Ferozepur, Patiala and Gurdaspur districts and the rest would be on various choes or rivulets in Hoshiarpur and Mohali districts. The AWS would come up at Pathankot, Khanna, Mansa, Gidderba-

ha and Abohar. Several monitoring sites and weather stations in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are also being set up by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB).

These sites would provide real-time information on hydro-meteorological parameters such as the quantum of rain or snow in the catchments of rivers, the rate of melt, speed of water flow, silt level and time and quantity of water expected to reach the reservoirs. This data is expected to help in flood control.

The NHP is a nationwide version of two successful smaller and independent projects, Hydrology Project-I and II, that covered the Krishna and Sutlej-Beas basins to provide real-time weather forecast and flood warnings.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 18/11/78 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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The Times of India (A)
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC

Odisha battles rain, drought

Six coastal districts brace for rain; drought widens in Sundergarh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BHUBANESWAR

Odisha is witnessing a curious coexistence of rain and drought. The India Meteorological Department office here said on Friday that at least six coastal districts of the State are likely to experience heavy rainfall in the next 24 hours. This, on a day the Odisha government added four more blocks of Sundergarh district to the list of drought-affected areas in the State.

The Naveen Pattnaik government had earlier declared 70 blocks across 15 districts as drought-hit and announced a special package for the farmers



A farmer working in his paddy field at the outskirts of

Bhubaneswar on Friday.

BISWARANJAN ROUT

suffering from crop loss.

Heavy rainfall likely to occur at places in the districts of Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara and the neighbourhood during the

next 24 hours, the IMD said. The sea conditions would be moderate to rough along and off the Odisha coast; fishermen have been cautioned not to venture into the sea.

The State has been experiencing rainfall since November 13 due to a low pressure formation, which later intensified into a depression over the Bay of Bengal.

Sources in the Special Relief Commissioner's office said the State received an average rainfall of 7.6 mm on Friday.

Only three of the 30 districts did not receive any rainfall during last 24 hours - Jharsuguda, Malkangiri and Nuapada.

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Solang gets snow on second day

OUR CORRESPONDENT

MANALI, NOVEMBER 19

The inclement weather conditions in the upper Manali region worsened again today as the entire higher reaches, including Rohtang, Marhi, Gulaba and Solang valley, received a fresh spell of snow, while the lower areas were lashed with rain.

After the season's first snowfall in the upper Manali areas, the Solang valley, 13 km from here, has become the biggest attraction with a large number of

tourists thronging it to enjoy the snow.

The valley is not only famous for its scenic beauty and one of the most spectacular ski slopes in the western Himalayas, but also has attained popularity for paragliding, trekking, camping and other adventure-related activities. It also becomes a big draw for paragliding both in summer and winter.

The Manali-Rohtang road was closed for vehicular traffic due to heavy snow in the region.

With the season's first snowfall in the upper areas of the Manali region, hundreds of small shops have come up at different places on the Rohtang road at Kachmikoot, Bahang, Nehrukund, Kulang, Palchan, Solang valley and Kothi, offering woollen garments, snow dresses and snow shoes for tourists.

A number of local women of the surrounding villages are also renting Kullu dresses to tourists at the Solang valley. This has also become a source of livelihood for hundreds of locals.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

28/11/12 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

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Mercury dips across Valley; Leh coldest

Srinagar-Leh Highway continues to remain closed to traffic

4-20

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR

Leh in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir experienced the coldest night of the season as the mercury there settled about eight degrees below the freezing point, even as the Srinagar-Leh Highway continued to remain closed for traffic.

Leh recorded the minimum temperature of minus 7.9 degrees Celsius on Saturday night - further down from minus 6.4 degrees Celsius the previous night,

an official of the Meteorological Department here said.

He said it was the lowest night temperature of the season there. The nearby Kargil town recorded a low of minus 5.8 degrees, compared to minus 6 degrees Celsius the previous night.

The twin resorts of Pahalgam and Gulmarg were the other places in Kashmir division where the mercury settled below freezing point.

Pahalgam, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra,

recorded the minimum of 0.5 degrees, while the mercury at the famous ski-resort of Gulmarg settled at a low of minus 4.6 degrees, the official said.

Srinagar, the summer capital of the State, recorded the minimum temperature of 2.9 degrees.

He said Qazigund and Kokernag towns in south Kashmir registered the minimum of 2.2 degrees and 0.4 degrees respectively, while the north Kashmir town of Kupwara recorded a low of

0.8 degrees.

The Meteorological Department has forecast cloudy sky with light rainfall at few places in the valley over the next 24 hours.

Meanwhile, the Srinagar-Leh Highway remained closed for traffic as the road was rendered slippery due to snowfall on Saturday, a Traffic Control Room official said. He said the decision to allow traffic would be taken after assessing its condition once the snow clearance work is completed.

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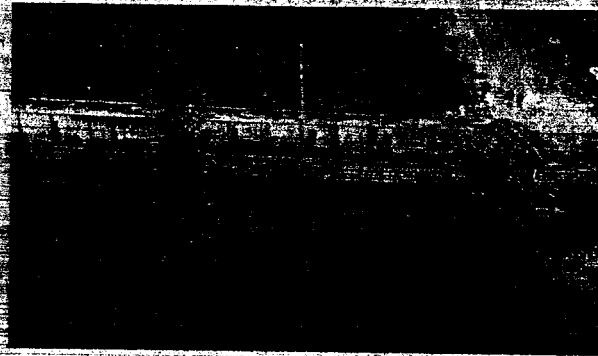
Bengaluru lakes face grave threat

A majority of them are in a deteriorated condition, reveals study

MOHIT M. RAO
BENGALURU

There was a time when Bengaluru was referred to as 'Kalyananagar' (the city of lakes) and the 'City of thousand lakes'. How much has been lost, what is the status of those present, what is causing the deterioration, and are flora and fauna thriving?

It was to ascertain these answers that the Karnataka Lake Conservation and Development Authority (KLCDA) commissioned a two-year study. The investigation through the Environmental Management & Policy Research Institute (EMPRI) reveals a graver threat to the lakes here. Until now, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB)



Poison overload: Waste found in Bengaluru lakes included

batteries and CFL bulbs. The study would monitor 67 lakes every month. During a similar period last year, KSPCB data showed that 53.8% of their monitored lakes were in grade B and the remaining in Grade D.

But, under the Water Quality Index, which lists

assumption," says the study. The EMPRI tested samples for 14 parameters in their water analysis laboratory established for the project.

Solid waste tops list

The report lists out the primary causes of pollution: whether it is direct, identifiable sources or indirect sources where the pollutant cannot be narrowed down.

Of the major direct pollutants, solid waste was found to be the most significant, affecting 44.5% of the water bodies, with burning of waste seen in 33 lakes. Distressingly, waste included batteries and CFL bulbs, which are hazardous wastes. A third of the lakes also see construction debris, which the report notes, decreases storage capacity.

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Telangana govt. to curb excess use of groundwater

Special drive to remove auto-starters on farm pumpsets

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD**

As a precursor to the implementation of uninterrupted, round-the-clock, power supply to farm sector from January 1, power utilities in Telangana have decided to launch a special drive from December 5 to remove auto-starters connected to the agriculture pump sets, to prevent over-exploitation of groundwater and wastage of energy.

Power supply worries

Uncertainty over supply of power to agriculture sector in the past has forced farmers to install auto-starters linking their pump sets to ensure wetting of their



K. Chandrasekhar Rao

standing crops as and when the supply is given.

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao announced in the Assembly recently that the special drive would be conducted for about a fortnight to educate the farmers against over-ex-

ploitation of groundwater and remove auto-starters to prevent wastage of energy.

"We are getting information that some farmers are running the pump sets round-the-clock with the help of auto-starters, leading to depletion of groundwater. It can be solved only by removing the auto starters," Chairman and Managing Director of TS-Genco and Transco D. Prabhakar Rao said asking farmers to remove them voluntarily. Uninterrupted power supply has no purpose if the groundwater is depleted due to over-exploitation. It is important to utilise both water and energy judiciously, based on genuine needs.

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NEXT DOOR NEPAL

BY YUBARAJ GHIMIRE

Whose dam is it, anyway?

Budhi Gandaki project has become a battleground for Indian, Chinese interests

16 D

THE DEBATE IN Nepal a week before the first round of elections to the provincial assemblies and federal parliament, interestingly, is centred on an administrative decision of the government, not the electoral scenario.

The cabinet recently decided to annul the 1200-MW Budhi Gandaki Hydro project contract awarded to the Chinese firm Gejuwa, citing lack of transparency in the deal made by the Pushpa Kamal Dahal-led government in May. Ironically, the Nepali Congress, which took the call to cancel the contract, was part of the Dahal government. Energy minister Kamal Thapa said the government was following the instruction of a parliamentary committee that had disapproved the deal on the ground of lack of "transparency".

The annulment of the contract three weeks prior to the formation of the new government, expectedly, has triggered a debate. The country's rich hydropower resource has, of late, attracted the Chinese, as much as the Indians, who had wanted a monopoly over it. Speculation in sections of the Indian media that the cancelled project may now go to an Indian company adds an element of mystery to the development.

India's past failures in completing hydropower projects on time has discredited its image as a reliable partner in Kathmandu. China entered Nepal's hydropower sector, challenging India's monopoly, only about a decade ago. This was after political changes in Nepal became unmanageable and chaotic and Beijing began to get suspicious about the role of New Delhi and western powers in the country's internal politics. During his second visit to Nepal as prime minister, Narendra Modi promised that projects taken up by India will be completed on time. The promise was never translated into action.

On the day the Gejuwa deal was scrapped, the investment board of the government extended the deadline for "financial closure" of two other major hydroprojects undertaken by Indian companies — the 900MW Upper Karnali undertaken by GMR and Arun Three undertaken by Sutlej Jal Vidhyut Ltd. Given that Nepal's major electoral contestants bear pro-India and pro-China tags — the Nepali Congress of Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba is perceived to be pro-India while the left alliance is seen as pro-China — the decisions on hydro projects have given credence

to the alleged influence of external forces in decision-making in Kathmandu. K.P. Oli, the prime ministerial candidate of the left alliance, which includes the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist and the CPN (Maoist Centre), said the decision on Gejuwa would be reversed if the alliance was elected to office. Clearly, the competing interests of its giant neighbours will continue to cast their shadow over Nepal's future politics and development.

China has not yet reacted to the cancellation of the Budhi Gandaki deal, but it seems unfazed. Less than a week after the government decision, China's Three Gorges International Corporation signed a deal with the Nepal Electricity Authority to form a joint venture company to develop the 750MW West Seti Project in a time-bound manner. In the current scenario of default, one country's failure becomes a success for another while Nepal reels in the dark. The much-talked about Mahakali project that was signed between Nepal and India way back in 1996 has not moved an inch as the two sides are still to finalise the detailed project report. As most projects remain in limbo, power bro-

kers and commission agents lobby on behalf of competing firms for the termination or transfer of contracts.

The delays in the execution of projects and the external interference on the country's development agenda have infuriated a section of policy makers, including some politicians, who insist that the government must undertake some projects as a means to enhance national pride and implement them in a time-bound manner. This vision has entered national planning and government policies. The impact is visible in the planning and building of highways, but it has not percolated to the hydropower sector. The fact also remains that projects are delayed because of corruption in the award of contracts, the blame for which lies with politicians.

Interestingly, none of the major parties — the Nepali Congress, CPN-UML and the Maoists — have raised the issue of corruption or the lack of transparency and accountability in government decisions in their manifestos, indicating a convergence of interest and method.

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Rainwater saved Bellandur Lake from complete ruin, say experts

Panel members want govt to stop discharge of untreated sewage

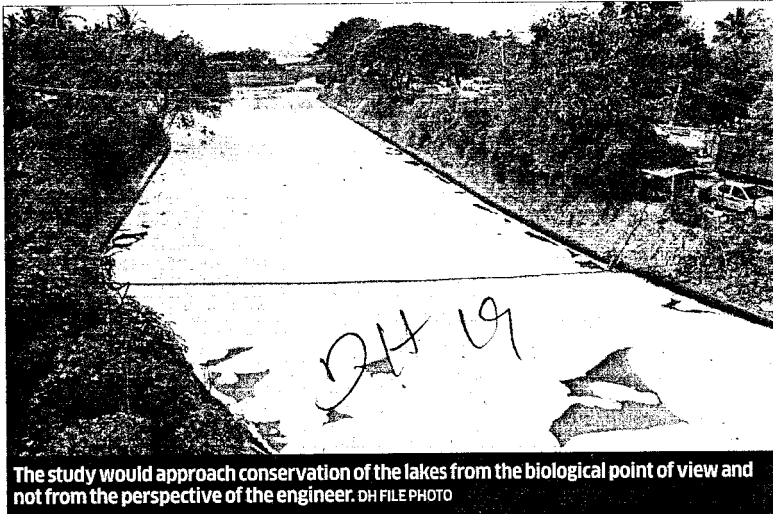
BENGALURU: Inflow of fresh water due to rains has rescued Bellandur Lake from complete ruin, members of the panel appointed to study the lakes have said.

Talking to Deccan Herald on Friday, Dr DA Venkatesh and Dr Rinku Verma also said the government is doing precious little to rejuvenate the sprawling 910-acre waterbody.

The panel members also said the prognosis for the lake's health is very bleak until the government builds the sewage treatment plants (STPs), which, authorities assure, will be ready by the year 2020.

Dr Venkatesh and Dr Verma — respectively the retired IFS officer and Assistant Professor with the University of Agriculture Sciences — are part of the three-member Governing Council Committee appointed by Karnataka Lake Conservation and Development Authority (KLCDA) to examine the lakes.

The team — also made of retired IFS officer Yusuf Perodi-



The study would approach conservation of the lakes from the biological point of view and not from the perspective of the engineer. DH FILE PHOTO

began their inspection of the cluster of lakes in Bellandur.

In the report at the end of the study — which it would submit to the government — the panel would provide inputs on the quality of water in the lakes, biodiversity, local and NGO involvement in the conservation efforts and the sta-

tus of STPs. The study would approach conservation of the lakes from the biological point of view and not from the perspective of the engineer.

On Friday, Dr Venkatesh and Dr Verma said the government and concerned departments are only taking short-term measures to please the court at

the expense of the long-standing issues affecting the lakes ecology.

"Besides clearing the weeds, nothing has been done. We have seen a few aerators, but it will not be enough," Dr Venkatesh said, pointing out that the government is yet to implement the wetland treatment

model crucial to the lake's sustenance.

Dr Verma wants to draw the government's attention to the inlet points to the Bellandur lake. Since frothing continues, the government must act quickly to stop untreated sewage from entering the lake.

They also said the government should check the STP and outlet of polluted water from the industries and residential apartments.

"In many cases, apartments and industries were unable to install STPs," they said.

They also believe imposing rules — which the government itself had failed to follow — will not work. Instead, BWSSB and KSPCB should partner with the apartments and industries to help them ensure the lake is not ruined beyond repair, they said.

The panel has so far inspected Chinnapanahalli, Kundanahalli, Kaikondanahalli, Haralur, Siddapura, Panathur and Munekolala lakes under the Bellandur series. It has two more water bodies to visit.

DH News Service

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Heavy snow Mughal Road, Leh highway shut

JAMMU/SRINAGAR, November 18
High altitude areas of Jammu and Kashmir today witnessed heavy snowfall which led to closure of the Mughal Road and the Srinagar-Leh highway for vehicular traffic.

The Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir received fresh snowfall of 2 inches last night while the day temperature in Jammu yesterday dipped by 6°C below normal.

Many high altitude areas of Kashmir witnessed fresh snowfall and the region's plains were lashed by rains. Officials in Jammu said around 2 feet of snow had accumulated on the ground between Peer Ki Gali and Pishana a 20 km stretch along the Mughal Road connecting Poonch district with south Kashmir's Shopian district.

The road, the alternative link between Kashmir and the rest of the country, was closed after the season's first heavy snowfall in the Jammu region.

No vehicle was allowed either from Poonch or Shopian this morning," DSP Traffic, Mohammad Aslam said, adding that if the weather



A girl plays with a snow ball in Bafiaz Dera Ki Gali in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday. (PII)

permits, the operation to clear the road would be carried out later today.

The 300-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway, the all-weather road between Kashmir and the rest of the country, is open, but commuters have been asked to avoid night travel due to threat of landslides and shooting of stones.

Simthan Top, along the Kishtwar-Anantnag road, recorded

over 3 feet of snow since November 15, the day the over two-month-long dry spell ended in Jammu and Kashmir.

The areas in Kashmir region which received snowfall include Sonamarg, Zojila and Razdan Pass. The highest rainfall (8.9 mm) was recorded in north Kashmir's Kupwara. Owing to the fresh snowfall and rains, the Srinagar-Leh highway was also closed for traffic.

Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of 2.9°C, and Leh minus 1.4°C. Kargil recorded a low of minus 6°C.

Gulmarg, which recorded the season's lowest of minus 5.6°C last night, saw temperatures drop to minus 3.8°C today. Temperature at the resort town of Pahalgam, a base camp for the Amarnath pilgrims, settled at a low of minus 0.6°C. — PII

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पहाड़ों पर बर्फबारी, मैदानों में बड़ी सर्दी

बढ़ीनाथ : पहली बर्फबारी

पहाड़ों पर बड़ीनाथ में शुक्रवार देर रात पहली बर्फबारी हुई। सोनिवार सुबह तक लगभग एक फीट बर्फबारी हो चुकी थी। सोनिवार शाम 7 बजेकर 28 मिनट पर बड़ीनाथ के कपाट छह घंटे के लिए बंद हो जायेंगे।

जयपुर समेत दिल्ली-एनसीआर में बारिश

पहाड़ी इलाकों में बर्फबारी का असर देश के दूसरे इलाकों में दिखने लगा है। सोनिवार को जयपुर समेत दिल्ली-एनसीआर में धुंध के कहर के बीच शुक्रवार देर रात हुई हल्की बारिश ने मौसम का मिजाज बदल दिया।

शेष जयपुर @ पेज 02



बर्फबारी के बाद बड़ीनाथ और परिसर में जमी बर्फ।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

19/11/12

in the

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Tribune
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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, CWC

पहली बार भूकंप का केंद्र जोधपुर तिब्बत में भूकंप से अरावली शील्ड में भी आई दरार

राजस्थान की
ढाल के कमजोर
होने से वैज्ञानिक
चितित
सुबह भारत-चीन
सीमा पर आए
भूकंप ने
एवटवेट किया
जोधपुर की नीचे
की चट्टानों को

जोधपुर @ पत्रिका व्यूरो. सबसे अधिक स्थाई
माने जाने वाली राजस्थान की भू-पर्पटी यानी
अरावली क्रेटोन शनिवार दोपहर को हिल गया
जोधपुर के नीचे 10 किलोमीटर अरावली क्रेटोन
में दबाव रिलीज होने से भूकंप के झटके आए।
करीब 4 से 5 सेकंड तक धरती धुजी। भू
वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि जोधपुर में पहली बार
भूकंप का अभिकेंद्र बना। जोधपुर के नीचे से
धरती हिलने से वैज्ञानिक चिंतित हो गए।
वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि अरावली शील्ड में कहीं
दरार आ गई है। जोधपुर में भूकंप का केंद्र रहना
अब यहां नीचे स्थित चट्टानों के स्थायित्व पर
प्रश्नचिन्ह खड़ा करता है। पढ़ें तिब्बत @ पेज 02

पत्रिका - 19-11-12

20/11/17

Hindustan Times
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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
✓ Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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घाटी में पारा लुढ़कने लगा, लेह सबसे ठंडा

पटना-20-11-17

● श्रीनगर-लेह हाइवे लगातार तीसरे दिन बंद और पारा माइनस 8

श्रीनगर (वार्ता): जम्मू-कश्मीर के लद्दाख क्षेत्र के लेह में बीती रात इस मौसम की सबसे ठंडी रात थी और वहां तापमान शून्य से आठ डिग्री सेल्सियस नीचे दर्ज किया गया। श्रीनगर-लेह राजमार्ग यातायात के लिए अभी भी बंद है।

मौसम विभाग के अधिकारी ने यहां बताया कि लेह में बीती रात का तापमान शून्य से 7.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस नीचे दर्ज किया गया। उन्होंने बताया कि इस मौसम की यह सबसे ठंडी रात रही। नजदीकी कार्गिल शहर में तापमान शून्य से 5.8 डिग्री सेल्सियस नीचे दर्ज किया गया। कश्मीर में पहलगाम और मुलपथ सहित कुछ अन्य जगहों में भी तापमान शून्य से नीचे चला गया। अधिकारी ने बताया कि मुलपथ और लाथ यात्रा में आधार शिविर के रूप में इस्तेमाल होने वाले पहलगाम



श्रीनगर में बर्फ से ढकी हुई पहाड़ियां (रिखावा - 1.1.17)

में न्यूनतम तापमान 0.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। वहीं स्को के लिए मशहूर गुलमर्ग में तापमान शून्य से नीचे 4.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। वहीं श्रीधरमालीन राजधानी श्रीनगर में न्यूनतम तापमान 2.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। दक्षिण कश्मीर के कानोपुद में न्यूनतम तापमान 2.2 डिग्री और कोन्सर्ग में 0.4 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया जबकि डहरा कश्मीर के कुपवाड में न्यूनतम तापमान 0.8 डिग्री रहा। मौसम विभाग ने घाटी के कुछ स्थानों

में अगले 24 घंटे के दौरान हल्की बारिश होने और आसमान में बादल छाए रहने की संभावना बताई है। यातायात नियंत्रण कक्ष के अधिकारी ने बताया कि श्रीनगर-लेह राजमार्ग यातायात के लिए बंद रहेगा क्योंकि कुल बर्फबारी की वजह से रास्ता फिसलन भरा हो गया था। उन्होंने बताया कि इस मार्ग पर यातायात बहाल करने के लिए बर्फ को रास्ते से हटाने के बाद की स्थिति के आकलन के आधार पर लिया जाएगा।

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20/11/17 in the

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नहर प्रबंधन की अनदेखी

राजस्थान के मरुस्थलीय इलाके में इंदिरा गांधी नहर जीवनदायी है। पीढ़ियों से पानी को तरसते प्यासे लोगों को पेयजल इसी नहर के कारण नसीब हुआ है। वहीं इलाके में जिस तरह से कृषि के क्षेत्र में तरक्की हुई है उसका पूरे देश के सकल कृषि उत्पादन में बड़ा योगदान है। नहर ने इलाके की आर्थिक, सामाजिक और पारिस्थितिकीय तस्वीर बदल दी है। लाखों लोगों को कृषि से प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार मिला है। भरपूर कृषि उत्पादन से राज्य में आर्थिक समृद्धि आई है। इतना सब कुछ होने के बावजूद राजस्थान के लिए खरदान बनी यह नहर प्रबंधन की खामियों से झुझ रही है। नहरों में पानी की वरीयता, राजस्थान के हिस्से का पूरा पानी नहीं मिलने, नहर जर्जर होने, ठीक से रख-रखाव नहीं होने तथा नहरों पानी का समुचित उपयोग नहीं होने जैसे ऐसे कई कारक हैं जो इस नहर से होने वाले उत्पादन एवं मिलने वाले लाभ को कम करती हैं। राजस्थान के नहर क्षेत्र में मर्याप्त कृषि भूमि है। देखा जाए तो नहरों पानी का समुचित उपयोग कर इस भूमि से कृषि

उत्पादन और बढ़ाया जा सकता है। लेकिन पहली प्रेशानी यह है कि पंजाब राजस्थान के हिस्से का दशमलव 6 एमएफ पानी नहीं दे रहा है। बांधों के पानी पर पंजाब का नियंत्रण होने राजस्थान को पानी देने में पंजाब मनमानी करता है। तिस पर प्रेशानी यह है कि पंजाब के क्षेत्र में इंदिरा गांधी नहर जर्जर है। हैरत की बात यह है कि राज्य सरकार ने इसके रख-रखाव के लिए पंजाब सरकार को पैसे दे रखे हैं फिर भी पंजाब नहर को मरम्मत नहीं करता है। यह कहकर राजस्थान को कृष पानी दिया जाता है कि ज्यादा पानी छोड़ने से नहर टूट जाएगी। राजस्थान में नहर के प्रथम चरण और द्वितीय चरण में पानी को लेकर पक्षपात के आरोप लगते रहे हैं। नहरों की टेल पर पानी नहीं पहुंच पा रहा है। वहीं लिफ्ट नहरों की जमीनें असिंचित पड़ी हैं। नहर का समुचित प्रबंधन करके राजस्थान में कृषि उत्पादन एवं कृषि आधारित रोजगार बढ़ाया जा सकता है। यह होगा तभी जब सरकार नहर के प्रबंधन को लेकर गंभीरता बरते। सरकार और नहर विभाग में ऐसी इच्छाशक्ति दिखाई नहीं दे रही है।

पत्रिका-20-11-17