

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

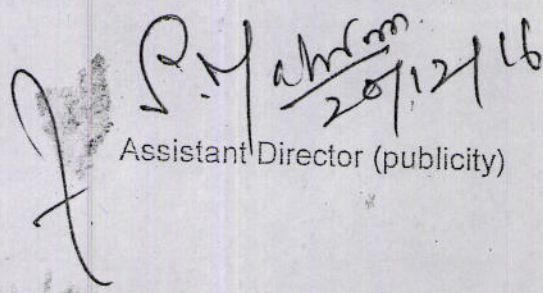
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Dated 20/12/16

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.


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Editor, Bhagirath (English) & Publicity

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For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 20/12/16 in the

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Statesman

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The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

Monday was coldest at 6 degrees

HT Correspondent

■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Capital on Monday witnessed the coldest day of the season so far with the mercury dipping to 6.6 degrees Celsius, a notch below the season's average.

Foggy conditions were witnessed in the morning which resulted in delay of 40 trains, according to a senior railway official.

"The minimum temperature which was recorded at Safdarjung observatory, considered the official for Delhi, was down from Sunday's minimum of 7.2 degrees Celsius," a MeT official said.

The minimum temperature at Lodhi Road observatory was 5.4 degrees Celsius even as Palam registered 7.6 degrees. In Ridge and Ayanagar, the minimum temperature was 9.5 and 7.5 degrees respectively.

However, the temperature is not expected to dip further in the coming few days. "The minimum temperature will decrease further but not in the next few days, according to forecasts. In the next couple of days, the minimum temperature will slightly rise," the official said.

Visibility was recorded at 1,800 metres at 5.30am both at Safdarjung and Palam at 5.30am. It dropped to 400

metres at 8.30am in both the places before improving to 1,000 metres three hours later, the official said.

The relative humidity remained between 40 and 97%.

The Met department has predicted mainly clear skies for Tuesday with the likelihood of some mist and shallow fog.

Maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be around 23 and 9 degrees Celsius respectively.

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Tamil Nadu CM pitches for relief package

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam on Monday sought Rs. 22,573 crore from the Centre for undertaking relief and restoration work in the aftermath of Cyclone Vardah.

He also sought conferring of Bharat Ratna posthumously on former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, besides installing a life-size bronze statue of hers in the Parliament complex.

Presenting a memorandum to Mr. Modi, he reiterated the request for release of Rs. 1,000 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund immediately, according to a press release from the State government. Briefing the PM of the damage that Chennai and neighbouring districts suffered due to the cyclone and the steps taken by the State government, the CM also re-



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam at a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday. — PHOTO: PTI

quested Mr. Modi to ensure the early sanction of funds under Central schemes. Among 29 issues highlighted in the memorandum was the early constitution of the Cauvery Management

Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee. Referring to the Centre's change of stand in the Supreme Court on the issue, the memorandum stated that "...in no case was the

constitution of the implementation machinery [CMB] for implementation of awards of [water disputes] tribunals placed before Parliament by the government of India. Hence, it appears neither appropriate nor fair for the [Union] Ministry of Water Resources to now take a different stand."

It also highlighted the State's concerns on the Mekedatu scheme proposed by the Karnataka government; the restoration of water level of the Mullaperiyar dam to the full level of 152 ft; and sanction of funds for the Athikadavu-Avinashi drinking water supply scheme.

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Kashmir braces for 'Chillai Kalan'

PEERZADA ASHIQ

SRINAGAR: As Kashmir braces for Chillai Kalan, the harshest 40-day spell of winter, the fast dipping sub-zero temperature has slowed down the pace of daily life here.

Srinagar recorded a minimum of minus 4.2 degree Celsius on Sunday night, a minus-three-degree Celsius departure from the normal. The maximum day temperature too fell to nine degree Celsius. "Most shops open after 10 a.m. in Srinagar to avoid the morning cold wave," said Reyaz Ahmad, a shopkeeper at Lal Chowk.

Chillai Kalan usually brings with it several spells of snowfall. According to the meteorological department, the next 24 hours will see a further dip in minimum temperature to minus five degree Celsius, which could freeze



BITING COLD: Pieces of ice floating on the frozen Dal Lake in Srinagar on Monday.

PHOTO SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

water bodies and taps.

"The tourist hot-spots of Pahalgam and Gulmarg are shivering under a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degree Celsius and minus 3.5 degree Celsius respectively," said the met department.

Leh witnessed the most

severe cold wave, as minimum temperatures hovered around minus 17 degree Celsius.

Haji Anayat Ali, Chairman, J&K Legislative Council, and Sham Lal Choudhary, Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Irrigation &

Flood Control, directed officials on Monday to make water available in the Ladakh region where most taps have frozen. "All sources of water freeze in Kargil and Zaskar during the winter. We need more tankers for water supply," said Mr. Ali.

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IMD tracked Vardah since 3 Dec

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 19 December

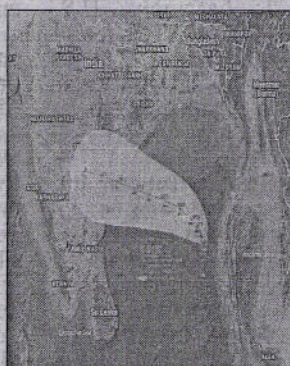
A small dot marked on the screens of weathermen at the IMD signalled to them that a very severe cyclonic storm was building up in the South Andaman Sea, nine days ahead of the landfall of *Vardah* that ravaged coastal Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The dot on the screen signified pressure movement over a particular area, which had the potential of snowballing into a cyclone.

Weathermen at the IMD's Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre (RSMC) here, who monitor any slight change in weather patterns around India especially in the cyclone-prone Bay of Bengal, realised on 3 December that a low pressure area was being formed near the South Andaman Sea.

The pressure belt had traversed from the South China Sea, flowing over Thailand and Vietnam which had reduced its speed considerably due to its contact with the land.

"So, as soon as it reached the South Andaman Sea, it again got traction. The warm water in the Indian Ocean and the South Andaman Sea gave it momentum and



then started the process of forming a low pressure area.

"We realised that there was an anti-clockwise pattern, the wind speed around it had increased more than other parts of the sea," said M Mohapatra, additional director general (services) with the India Meteorological Department, who has been in the business of forecasting cyclones. He was also the head of Cyclone Warning Division during *Phailin* and *Hudhud*.

Realising that the low pressure area was developing into something stronger, the officials started gathering more data, pressing into service IMD's two doppler radars at Chennai and Machilipatnam, coastal automatic weather stations and manned observatories, besides its buoys in the sea.

*8T-201-
'We realised that there was an anti-clockwise pattern, the wind speed around it had increased more than other parts of the sea'*

Satellite images from INSAT-3D and Met services of Thailand and Malaysia were also used.

With constant hourly updates, the data gathered was then coalesced. After analysis and clearance from senior meteorologists, a small dot was marked to track its path. On 6 December, it turned into a depression and graduated to deep depression the very next day. Since then there was daily monitoring and alert reports being sent to the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, and state governments of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Puducherry and Kerala. It was declared a cyclonic storm on the morning of 8 December and became a severe cyclonic storm on the midnight of 9 December. *Vardah* was finally declared a very severe cyclonic storm on the evening of 10 December.

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Grappling with water disputes

A permanent tribunal to adjudicate river water disputes between States will undoubtedly be a vast improvement over the present system of setting up *ad hoc* tribunals. The Union Cabinet's proposal to have a permanent tribunal that will subsume existing tribunals is expected to provide for speedier adjudication. But whether this will resolve the problem of protracted proceedings is doubtful. Given the number of ongoing inter-State disputes and those likely to arise in future, it may be difficult for a single institution with a former Supreme Court judge as its chairperson to give its ruling within three years. Secondly, its interlocutory orders as well as final award are likely to be challenged in the Supreme Court. This month, in a landmark verdict, the Supreme Court said it had unfettered power to hear an appeal arising from a river water dispute tribunal under Article 136 of the Constitution. It has interpreted the ouster clause in the Inter-State Water Disputes Act as one that merely bars the court from entertaining an original complaint or suit on its own, but not its power to hear appeals against a tribunal's decisions. Thus, finality and enforcement of a tribunal's award may remain elusive. The idea of a Dispute Resolution Committee, an expert body that will seek to resolve inter-State differences before a tribunal is approached, will prove to be another disincentive for needless litigation.

A positive feature of the proposed changes is that there will be an expert agency to collect data on rainfall, irrigation and surface water flows. This acquires importance because party-States have a tendency to fiercely question data provided by the other side. A permanent forum having reliable data in its hands sounds like an ideal mechanism to apportion water. However, a confusing aspect is that benches of the permanent tribunal are going to be created to look into disputes as and when they arise. It is not clear in what way these temporary benches would be different from the present tribunals. A larger and more significant downside to any adjudicatory framework is the refusal or reluctance of parties to abide by judicial orders. Having an institutional mechanism is one thing, but infusing a sense of responsibility in those helming State governments is quite another. What is at stake is not merely a set of competing claims over riparian rights. Water disputes have humanitarian dimensions, including agrarian problems worsened by drought and monsoon failures. Adjudication, by whatever mechanism, should not be at the mercy of partisan leaders who turn claims into dangerously emotive issues. Institutional mechanisms should be backed by the political will to make them work.

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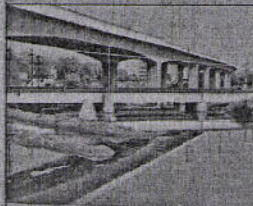
India, Holland tie up to clean drain to Yamuna

India and the Netherlands have joined hands to clean the Barapullah drain, responsible for nearly one-third of the waste dumped into the Yamuna. The project, which is expected to be finished in three to five years, also aims at generating safe water from sewage streams for reuse in agriculture. P2

India, Holland tie up to clean Barapullah drain

WAR ON FILTH

India, the Netherlands join hands for cleaning Barapullah drain



- This 12.5km-long drain is responsible for about 30% of pollution in the Yamuna river
- Mainly domestic sewage

and waste from small industry are discharged into it

- The Netherlands has committed €1,470,000 towards the project, India will contribute matching amount
- A pilot sewage treatment plant will be set up and operated along the drain
- Technologies used for the sewage treatment plant will be further developed to generate safe water for reuse

(Source: Department of biotechnology, ministry of science and technology)

Vishwa.Mohan
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New Delhi: In what could be the first real proof that reviving the Yamuna in Delhi is possible, India and Netherlands have joined hands for cleaning of the Barapullah drain, responsible for nearly one-third of the waste that is dumped into the river which courses through the capital. Not just that, The focus will also be on generating safe water from sewage streams for reuse in areas like agriculture, relieving somewhat the water scarcity that dogs the city.

The idea is to make the project functional in three years. It is expected the project will reach its full capacity within five years when it will also be able to produce bio-gas and generate water for agriculture use. Under the project, a pilot sewage treatment plant (STP) will be set up and operated along the drain near Sarai Kale Khan with the support of the Dutch and the Indian consortium.

Scientists from IIT, Delhi will be part of the project.

The practical expertise generated through this pilot plant will focus on finding cost effective local solutions and adapt state-of-the-art Dutch technology to Indian conditions for the cleaning of the drain. The technologies will further be developed to gene-

rate safe water for reuse. "This is a very ambitious project and I am really hopeful that this will reap good results in a very short time", said K Vijay Raghavan, secretary of the department of biotechnology (DBT), ministry of science and technology.

He said, "What we are experimenting with is to use a decentralised approach towards sewage treatment plants as well as implement new technologies".

The project is part of a collaboration between the DBT and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research and Technology Foundation. Scientists from both the countries already had a two-day workshop on the project here recently when they discussed the time-line and logistics. The estimated cost of the project is around Rs 21 crore.

Focus on the Barapullah drain through such joint venture is, however, just a component of a larger plan to clean the river Yamuna by the government. There are 21 major wastewater drains in the capital. Eighteen out of the 21 empty their waste into the Yamuna while the remaining three join the Agra/Gurgaon canal.

Najafgarh and Shahadara are the other two other big drains which open into the Yamuna in Delhi where the river traverses a distance of about 46 kilometres.

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Hydel plant on SYL canal: Return our land too, demand farmers

RAJMEET SINGH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 19

After the political move by the government to "give back" land acquired for the SYL canal project to the farmers through mutations, the chorus for returning the land for a defunct project linked to the canal is gaining momentum.

Marginal farmers — whose 300 acres were acquired for a 20 MW hydel power plant at Malikpur — of over a dozen villages near Anandpur Sahib have joined hands to demand their land back that was acquired for "peanuts" in the late 80s and early 90s.

"The machinery in a part of the land for the project is lying defunct. The Punjab State Power Corporation

Limited (PSPCL) has been trying to sell off the machines as scrap. A large part of land along the Malikpur road is lying unutilised," said Darshan Singh, whose 4.5 acres had been acquired in 1990 for the project.

The villagers' demand has gained momentum after the Revenue Department undertook a mammoth exercise to transfer back 4,261 acres acquired for the SYL canal in 202 villages of Mohali, Patiala, Fatehgarh Sahib and Ropar districts to 21,511 farmers following a Cabinet decision.

Much to the anguish of the farmers, the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) had transferred 87 acres to the Forest Department for compensatory afforestation three years ago.

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Water warrior Mishra dies

Environmentalist Anupam Mishra, whose work on water conservation fired the imagination of the common man and ecology warriors alike, passed away on Monday at the age of 68. **P 11**

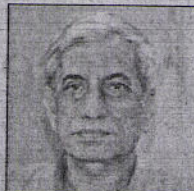
Eco-activist Anupam Mishra passes away

Avijit.Ghosh@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Environmentalist Anupam Mishra, whose seminal work on water conservation, Aaj Bhi Khare Hain Talab (roughly, the ponds are still good as gold), fired the imagination of common people and ecology warriors alike and gave wings to India's indigenous wisdom on the subject, passed away at AIIMS on Monday morning. He was 68 and suffering from cancer for the past 10 months.

Mishra believed that India had been a water-literate society in the past and sought to harness traditional knowledge to improve the present. Born out of his involvement with the drought in Rajasthan in 1987, Aaj Bhi... demonstrated how ponds nourished people living in the hinterland and towns for centuries and explained why their preservation was imperative.

By any standards, Aaj Bhi... is an unusual book. There is no author's name on the cover and no copyright. Anybody could publish it for



Mishra sought to harness traditional knowledge to improve water conservation methods. He was one of the first chroniclers of the Chipko movement

free. First published in 1993, the book, at a wiry 120 pages, has seen 40 editions in about 10 languages, including a Braille edition, says a long-time associate. It has also sold a staggering 200,000 odd copies. "About 5,000 small and large ponds, tanks and lakes were revived by people inspired by the book," says a personal profile issued by an associate. Reports said that villages applying methods from Mishra's book had fecund waterbodies in drought-stricken Bundelkhand in 2014.

Mishra mentored a generation of activists, too. Lapodia, a sun-kissed hamlet about 80 kms from Jaipur, has been feted for its innovative water harvesting techniques.

Laxman Singh, who steered that project, says Mishra visited Lapodia twice ev-

ery year for 30 years. "He was our guide and guru. Pehle woh insaan taiyyar karte they, phir dharti (First he readied people, then the land)," Laxman told TOI. Adds water conservationist Rajendra Singh, "His efforts to preserve water and nature are incomparable. He showed all of us how to create bonds between people and nature."

Born in Wardha, Maharashtra, Mishra started as a writer-activist with the Gandhi Peace Foundation in 1969. His first assignment was being part of a team negotiating the surrender of the dacoits of Chambal. "He was among the earliest chroniclers of the Chipko movement," the profile says. Mishra was a Gandhian by thought and action.

"He left too early," says Rajendra Singh.

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5.4 डिग्री पर पारा, अभी रहेगा कोहरे का असर

नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली : दिल्ली में सोमवार सीजन का सबसे ठंडा दिन रहा। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के मुताबिक अगले दो दिनों तक मौसम की स्थिति इसी तरह रह सकती है। तापमान नॉर्मल से कम रहने की संभावना है। सोमवार को लोदी रोड में न्यूनतम तापमान 5.4 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

मौसम का निजाज



आज सुबह छा सकता है कोहरा, न्यूनतम तापमान 9 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान

चार दिनों से उत्तर की ठंडी हवाएं दिल्ली की तरफ आ रही हैं

5 डिग्री न्यूनतम तापमान दर्ज हुआ था 19 दिसंबर 2011 को

समय तापमान नॉर्मल से कम दर्ज हुआ। अब आने वाले दिनों में सुबह और रात के समय कड़ाके की ठंड पड़ सकती है। वहीं दिल्ली में सोमवार को कई जगहों पर न्यूनतम तापमान 8 डिग्री से कम दर्ज हुआ।

मौसम विभाग के सफदरजंग स्टेशन में न्यूनतम तापमान नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री कम के साथ 6.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज हुआ। यह इस सीजन में सबसे कम न्यूनतम तापमान रहा। न्यूनतम तापमान ने बीते चार सालों का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया है। सफदरजंग में 19 दिसंबर 2011 को न्यूनतम तापमान 5 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ था। साल 2012 से 2015 तक 19 दिसंबर को न्यूनतम तापमान 7 डिग्री से ज्यादा दर्ज हुआ था।

मौसम विभाग ने अपने बुलेटिन में कहा कि मंगलवार को सुबह कोहरा छा सकता है। अधिकतम तापमान 23 डिग्री और न्यूनतम तापमान 9 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है। दिल्ली समेत आसपास के मैदानी इलाकों में अगले दो दिनों तक तापमान सामान्य रह सकता है। 22 दिसंबर से मौसम में फिर बदलाव हो सकता है। उसके बाद से 27 दिसंबर तक कोहरा छा सकता है। दिल्ली में चार दिनों से लगातार उत्तर की ठंडी हवाएं दिल्ली की तरफ आ रही हैं, जिससे सुबह के