

Maha mulls law to make use of recycled water mandatory



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, 21 April

With the drought situation in Maharashtra worsening day by day and the storage in dams hitting a low, the state government is mulling bringing in a law making it mandatory for industries to use recycled water.

As part of steps to mitigate the crisis, state Industries Minister Subhash Desai has also instructed the Maharashtra Industries Development Corporation (MIDC) to study the feasibility of raising the height of dams, desilting and deepening of lakes.

A 20 per cent water cut for breweries and 10 per cent reduction in supply for other units had already been clamped in the parched Aurangabad district in Marathwada region, which has a string of water intensive sugar mills and distilleries.

"The industry department will also take up a project to raise height of dams and deepen lakes and canals to preserve drinking water," he said.

On the acute water crisis in the state, especially in Marathwada, he said there are 62 cooperative and private sugar mills in the parched region and also many liquor distilleries in Aurangabad district.

He, however, said though drinking water is of utmost importance, industries too are vital as they provide employment to lakhs of people. Out of 11 major irrigation dams in the state, seven have zero percentage of stock left.

According to Maharashtra Water Resources Department data for the week ending April 15, only three per cent of water stock is available in all the 814 major, medium and minor irrigation projects in the Marathwada region.

11-yr-old dies fetching water from well in Beed:

In the second drought fatality in a span of two days, an 11-year-old boy died while fetching water from a well in drought-hit Beed district of Marathwada today.

Sachin Gopinath Kedar of Veda village in Kejteshil was fetching water from a well, half-a-kilometre from his home, when he slipped and fell to his death, a police official said.

On Tuesday, a 12-year-old girl died due to heat stroke in Beed district. Yogita Ashok Desai, a resident of Sabalkhed village in Beed, was dehydrated after she made five attempts to fill water from a hand pump when the day's temperature was 44 degrees Celsius.



An old woman sells earthen pots on a hot day in the Capital on Thursday. ■SNS

2016 summer could be the hottest: IMD

Press Trust of India

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: With several parts of the country recording above normal temperatures, the summer of 2016 could possibly be the hottest summer, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Thursday.

"2015 was the hottest year ever recorded. Our forecast for the summer already talks of above normal temperatures. If you also look at the summer temperature until now, it looks that 2016 summer

will be hottest," said IMD director general Laxman Singh Rathore.

A reason cited for this is also the El Nino phenomenon, which is likely to neutralise in the coming months. "Strong El Nino conditions that started in 2015 over the Pacific Ocean are still continuing. However, the latest forecasts indicate those conditions are likely to weaken further and reach weaker El Nino conditions during the 2016 hot weather season," he said.

"It has been observed that during the hot weather seasons

A REASON FOR THE HEAT CONDITIONS IS ALSO THE EL NINO PHENOMENON, WHICH IS LIKELY TO NEUTRALISE IN THE COMING MONTHS

followed by El Nino years (for instance, 1973, 1995, 1998, 2003, 2010, etc. followed by the El Nino years of 1972, 1994, 1997, 2002 and 2009), above normal temperatures including moderate

to severe heat wave conditions were experienced in most parts of India," the IMD said.

The IMD has already made a forecast of a summer that will witness "above normal" temperatures, with several parts of the country expected to face heat-wave like conditions.

The United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), too, has termed March 2016 as the 'hottest March' so far.

Globally too, the year is expected to be hottest.

Only 100 metres of Asola to be eco-sensitive zone in Haryana

ENVIRONMENT A huge chunk of ecologically fragile forest will be out of protected zone in Gurgaon side, environmentalists express concern

Ipsita Pati

■ ipsita.pati@hindustantimes.com

GURGAON: Only 100 metres of the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, which spreads across Delhi and Gurgaon and is located next to the fragile Aravallis hills, will be declared as an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) in Haryana.

The protected zone will leave out a major chunk of the forest area, home to wildlife, which is under constant threat of encroachment. No construction is allowed in an eco-sensitive zone.

The state government has finalised a proposal and submitted it to the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) for approval.

The committee headed by the deputy commissioner of Gurgaon proposed the 100-metre eco-zone on the Haryana side.

"This 100 metres is in area where there is no physical structure. The committee has made the Gurgoan-Faridabad



■ Leopards, striped hyenas and jackals use the wildlife corridor between Delhi and Haryana on either side.

HT FILE PHOTO

road as the boundary of the ESZ. The district town planner suggested that the area of Gual Pahari and Faridabad be kept outside the eco-sensitive zone," said the draft.

The forest department of Haryana had proposed a one kilometre area for the eco-

zone. "We do not have any power under the Environment Protection Act to decide the eco-sensitive zone," said MD Sinha, conservator of forests.

Environmentalists Chetan Agarwal, Col Oberoi and Amina Sherwani said even one kilometre as buffer zone

is too less since it leaves out the vast Aravalli hills crucial for the of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary.

The Delhi government has been pursuing the eco-sensitive zone issue with Haryana for a long time now because the states share an important wildlife corridor.

Leopards, striped hyenas and jackals use this corridor from either side. But increasing encroachments and infrastructure projects have been eating into the area.

In 2011, the ministry of environment and forests and climate change had issued guidelines to all state governments to declare ESZs around their respective forests following a Supreme Court order.

In cases where sensitive corridors and ecologically important patches have a width even beyond 10km, these should be included in the eco-sensitive zone, say the guidelines.

Drought and entitlements

Two classic indictments of famine

S SUBRAMANIAN

EVEN as drought hits Maharashtra, and other parts of the country, one is compellingly reminded of that great scourge of our colonial past: famine. In contemporary economics, we owe it to Amartya Sen for having brought this issue back into the domain of relevant discourse through his book, published in 1981, *Poverty and Famines*. Sen provided detailed empirical accounts of the Bengal famine of 1943-44, the Chinese famine during The Great Leap Forward in the late 1950s and the early 1960s, and the famines of the 1970s in Bangladesh and in Ethiopia.

The great value of Sen's work, apart from its obvious historical and empirical significance, lies in the theoretical framework which he employed to explicate the phenomenon of a certain type of famine. My reference is to his notion of 'entitlements', which determine the final consumption of goods and services — or just 'food' in the context of relevance here — which a person is able to achieve. How much food an individual or household is able to command would depend on the individual's initial endowment of 'wealth' (including 'assets' and labour-power); on the technology of production available whereby endowments can be converted into output for self-consumption or exchange in the market; on the terms of exchange, which are mediated by prices and wages; and by the legal framework, and its implementation, that circumscribe the means of access to final output. These factors, together, define one's *entitlements*. There are circumstances in which the factors can conspire to ensure that one's entitlement to food is insufficient to escape starvation; and famines are often the consequence of generalised and large-scale entitlement-failures.

Entitlement-failure, as Sen pointed out, can happen without 'food availability decline'. That is to say, a famine is not necessarily caused by an aggregate supply deficiency of food: as Sen puts it, starvation can happen not because of there not being enough food to go around but because of some people not having adequate access to it. This could happen for a number of reasons: a sudden decline in endowments (such as loss of livestock in a pastoralist economy); or a sudden fall in wages because of deficiency of aggregate demand; or a sudden



rise in the price of foodgrains (such as happened during the Bengal Famine because of the surge in demand for foodgrains caused by the war effort). It is not just in the matter of famine, or other 'natural' disasters, but also in the ordinary run of economic vicissitudes, that 'entitlement theory' is of assistance in focusing attention on those most vulnerable to entitlement-failure, namely the poor and the dispossessed.

A free Press and parliamentary democracy have been found to be effective deterrents to large-scale famine.

Famines are often the consequence of generalised and large-scale entitlement-failures

This is easily discernible from India's pre- and post-Independence records of famine. It is also evident in the great Irish famine of 1845-50, which was foreseen more than a century earlier in Jonathan Swift's savagely satirical indictment of the British government's heartless indifference to the plight of starving Irish folk. In 1729, the author of *Gulliver's Travels* published the tract titled 'A Modest Proposal for Preventing the Children of Poor People in Ireland, from Being a Burden on their Parents or Country, and for Making Them Beneficial to the Publick' — now known simply and famously as 'A Modest Proposal'. Swift's horrifyingly modest proposal was that poor Irish parents should sell their infants, when the latter reached the age of one year, at ten shillings an infant, to landlords, in the cause of the latter's consumption of '...a most delicious, nourishing and

wholesome Food, whether Stewed, Roasted, Baked, or Boyled, [which]...will equally serve as a Fricasie, or Ragout.' Why landlords? Because 'I grant this food will be somewhat dear, and therefore very proper for Landlords, who, as they have already devoured most of the Parents, seem to have the best Title to the Children.' Swift proceeds to advance the merits of his proposal by pointing out, in the darkest of humours, that selling their children will relieve their parents of deprivation both through the proceeds

tinuous and oppressive draining of its wealth, achieved by 'plunder, not trade', that is, through punitive taxation unredeemed by British exports into India. It is worth noting that Naoroji had anticipated Sen's 'entitlement theory' of famines, as borne out by this record of a speech addressed by him in Kennington, London, in 1900:

"It might be asked were not the famines due to droughts? His answer was in the negative. India was able to grow any quantity of food. Her resources in that respect were inexhaustible, and when famines had occurred in the past before she was subjected to the continual drain of her wealth the population were able to withstand them because they had stores of grain upon which they could fall back. But nowadays they were unable to accumulate such stores. Immediately the grain was grown it had to be sold in order to provide the taxation of the country, and the people were therefore not in a position to cope with famine... [T]he difficulty of India was that the Natives had no money with which to buy food should their crops fail, and hence it was that these disastrous famines arose."

The remedy for this state of affairs was couched in equally uncompromising terms, in an address to the Plumstead Radical Club in London, in 1900:

"Considering that Britain has appropriated thousands of millions of India's wealth for building up and maintaining her British Indian Empire, and for directly drawing vast wealth to herself; that she is continuing to drain about 30,000,000 of India's wealth every year unceasingly in a variety of way; and that she has thereby reduced the bulk of the Indian population to extreme poverty, destitution, and degradation; it is therefore her bounden duty in common justice and humanity to pay from her own exchequer the costs of all famines and diseases caused by such impoverishment."

Against the passion and rigour and intelligence of Swift and Naoroji must be set the standards to which we have sunk today, as captured in an Indian state minister's obsession with selfies in a time of drought. The kindest explanation for such behaviour — even if it means risking sedition — is in terms of irredeemable idiocy.

The writer is a retired Professor of Economics

The Times of India**Title : By 2050, you may have to live on imported water****Author : Chittaranjan Tembhekar****Location :****Mumbai:****Article Date : 04/22/2016**

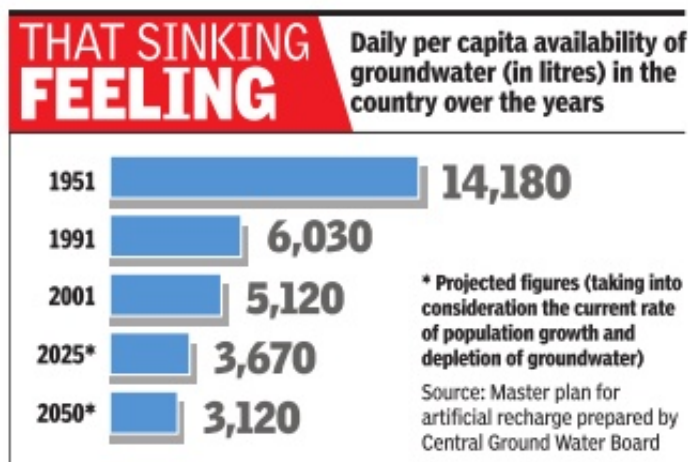
Do not be surprised if the country is forced to import drinking water by 2050, thanks to the fast-depleting groundwater stock that is expected to reduce to 3,120 litres per day a person by then. Data shows that today-going by 2001 figures -the daily per capita groundwater availability in the country has come down to 5,120 litres, about 35% of the 14,180 litres in 1951. In 1991, it was less than half of the 1951 stock. And by 2025, it is projected that the daily per capita availability will be just 25% of the base year.

And the figures from a Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) study warn of a reduction to 22% by 2050, going by the present rate of exploitation of groundwater.

The depleting water beneath your feet is an indication of vanishing rainwater harvesting with ponds, lakes and wells, poor awareness, and reduced green cover, say experts.

A CGWB master plan to artificially recharge groundwater said: "Rapid development and use of groundwater resources for varied purposes has contributed, though, in expansion of irrigated agriculture, overall economic development and in improving the quality of life in urban India, the groundwater, which is the source for more than 85 per cent of rural domestic water requirements, 50 per cent of urban water requirements and over 50 per cent of irrigation requirements of the country, is depleting fast."

Going by the fastgrowing population and their increasing demands, the day may not be far when per person availability dips to the actual use.



The Times of India

Title : Most of Guj dams may go dry by first week of May

Author : Himanshu Kaushik

Location :

Ahmedabad:

Article Date : 04/22/2016

By rough estimates, most of Gujarat's 202 dams, barring the Narmada, are set to run out of water by the first week of May.

With 468 villages being added to those declared water scarcity-hit on Tuesday , the number of such villages is already 994, and it may well cross 2,500 by mid-May.

Leaving out Narmada, the rest of the 202 dams in the state held only 4,153 MCM (million cubic meters) of water, or just 25% of their capacity on April 15. The daily demand for water on these dams is 290 MCM, and if things don't change, they are expected to run out of usable water within 15 days. Gujarat water resources minister, Vijay Rupani, said that 994 villages have been declared water scarcity-hit or semi-scarcity hit until now, and the number is likely to cross 15% of the 18,000 villages in the state as water bodies continue to dry up in rising summer heat.

The state government, however, still doesn't view the situation as alarming, banking largely on the Narmada, and other measures. Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, chairman of the committee of senior ministers, said, "We are comfortably placed and will not require water trains like in Maharashtra. We have adequate sources, and we are tapping all to ensure people get enough water."

Narmada dam reservoir may withstand the pressure longer as currently it holds 4,188 MCM of water which is 79% of its full capacity of 5,265 MCM. The state draws 55 MCM daily from the dam, which quantum may increase with rising scarcity. Rupani, however, said that the conventional criteria for declaring a region hit by water scarcity don't fit the current circumstances.

Karnataka has water for just 20 days

A major water crisis is staring at Karnataka with water levels in big reservoirs plunging to a new low. The available storage is expected to serve the state for the next 20 days. In a bid to tide over the crisis, the government has issued orders to deputy commissioners in the state's 30 districts to rent private borewells for a short duration and meet the drinking water requirements of the people. Taluk-level task forces headed by zonal MLAs will finalise the borewell-rental rate slabs, and the government will release the money. An officer said the government is likely to rent private borewells for a monthly charge of about Rs 20,000. The rate will be fixed based on the yield and other parameters. Officers said the government is likely to draw a line from borewells to the nearest pumping station so that water can be supplied to households. The first district to implement this is Kolar. Sandeep Moudgal
TNN



The Times of India

Title : Hoarders loving a good drought?

Author : Chethan Kumar

Location :

Bengaluru:

Article Date : 04/22/2016

1.35L Tonnes Of Pulses Seized In Five Months

As India stares at a second consecutive drought and prices of essentials skyrocket, the black market is hoarding essential pulses, prompting the Centre to urge state governments to remain vigilant.

From October 2015 to March 2016, the government has seized over 1.3 lakh tonnes of pulses and officials say this is only a portion of the hoarded pulses. In the same period, India, including private players, imported over 50 lakh tonnes of pulses to meet the domestic demand.

The retail prices of pulses on an average have remained in the range of Rs 90 to Rs 190. According to information accessed from the ministry of consumer affairs, food and public distribution, of the 1.35 lakh tonnes of seized pulses, Maharashtra and Karnataka account for 1.12 lakh tonnes or 84% of the pulses hoarded. All other states put together saw seizures of 21,492.64 tonnes of pulses.

While the government has conducted several raids across the country and even imposed stock limits, traders TOI spoke to from Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh said the seizures are an eyewash by the government which has failed to manage the situation. "The cost of stocking even the allowed quantity of pulses is becoming difficult. So, where is the question of hoarding?" they ask. India Pulses and Grains Association vice-chairman Association vice-chairman Bimal Kothari said: "There is definitely no hoarding of pulses by traders. There's just a huge deficit and the government cannot blame traders of hoarding only because the price is not under control."

Traders from Pune and Bengaluru too were unanimous in saying if there's any hoarding, it's being done by multinational companies that can afford to hoard pulses. A pulses association in Bengaluru has even written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi requesting the government not to "harass" traders.



DEPTH OF DISTRESS: A woman tries to collect water after descending into a well in Tarihal village near Belagavi in Karnataka. Water is poured into the well from tankers, and the place soon turns into a battlefield

The Times of India

Title : Hold sugar prices below Rs 40kg: PMO to food min

Author : Dipak Dash

Location :

New Delhi:

Article Date : 04/22/2016

Wary about the spike in sugar prices in recent months, the prime minister's office has instructed the food ministry to ask states to impose stock limit, keep vigil on traders to ensure they don't make a killing and that retail prices are held below Rs 40 a kg.

The price of loose sugar has increased by Rs 3 to Rs 10 per kg in the past four months. While in most cities the sweetener was selling at Rs 40 per kg, in certain cities it has crossed this mark. Last October the average price was around Rs 30 per kg.

Sources said the Union food ministry is writing to state government to impose stock limit on sugar that the wholesalers and retailers can keep with them at any given point of time.

“The states are being asked to crack down on hoarders. It's observed that the gap between the ex-mill price and retail price is increasing and this indicates how traders are making more profit,” an official said.

The Times of India

Title : New method to help predict monsoon weeks before IMD

Author : Vishwa Mohan

Location :

New Delhi:

Article Date : 04/22/2016

India will not have to wait till May end to determine the exact date of the onset of monsoon. A Germany-based research institute has claimed to have developed a “novel prediction method” to forecast as early as May 5 when rains will hit the country's mainland.

Though the IMD had on April 12 predicted that the monsoon this year would be “above normal”, it preferred to hold back the announcement of the exact timing while hinting that it would probably hit the Kerala coast either in the last week of May or the first week of June. It will come out with its second-stage prediction in early June.

The institute's method is based on a network analysis of regional weather data, and has been tested with previous monsoon data. It gave correct predictions for onset in more than 70% of the considered years and for withdrawal in more than 80% cases.

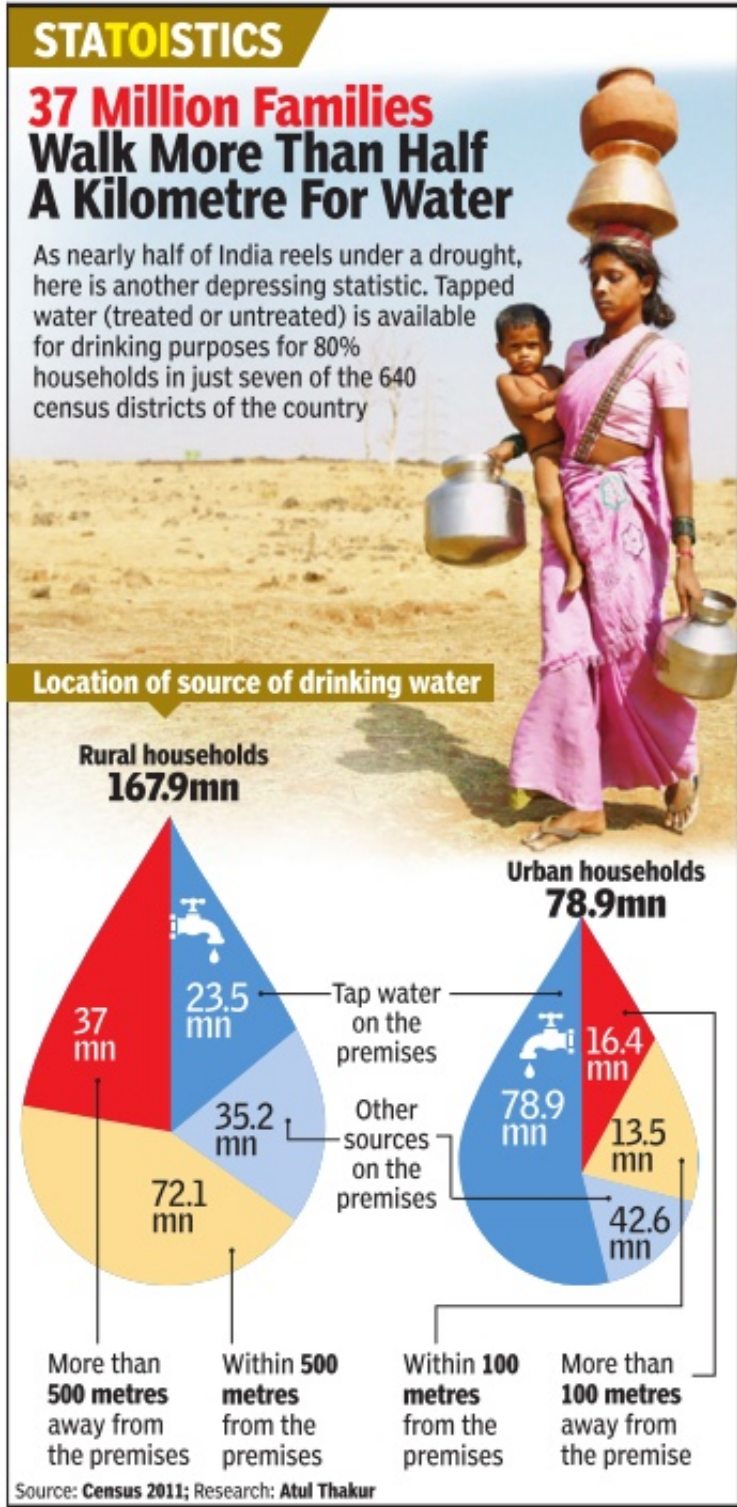
“We would be able to provide on May 5 the expected onset date of monsoon in the Eastern Ghats. We are also able to give a prediction in the middle of July for the withdrawal of monsoon (that happens in mid-late September),” said Veronika Stolbova from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and the University of Zurich.

Stolbova, lead-author of the study to be published in the Geophysical Research Letters, in an email interview to the TOI on Thursday claimed that a team at PIK had done such forecasts in the past. “On May 5 last year, we did forecast onset of the monsoon for 2015 and it arrived at the same time with the difference of just a day”.

She said the team had discussed the results of its prediction method with scientists of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) and would be happy to collaborate with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) as soon as possible.



DATE WITH RAIN: The IMD has predicted that the monsoon this year would be ‘above normal’, but did not announce the exact timing



» TODAY'S PAPER » NATIONAL

Published: April 22, 2016 00:00 IST | Updated: April 22, 2016 05:50 IST NEW DELHI, April 22, 2016

Bird hit: NGT halts Tawang hydro power project



Jacob Koshy

Green tribunal steps in to save the future of the vulnerable black-necked crane



In bird heaven: The black-necked crane is listed in the Wildlife Act as a Schedule 1 species.— Photo: special arrangement

The threat to the future of a vulnerable bird species has halted the Rs. 6,400-crore hydro power project in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has suspended the Union Environment Ministry's clearance for the project granted in 2012. The clearance, the court noted, didn't consider the impact of the hydro project — promoted by Noida-based textile-to-steel conglomerate, LNJ Bhilwara Group — on the habitat of the black-necked crane, a species that breeds on the Tibetan plateau and migrates to Tawang for the winter. The bird, most commonly found in China, is legally protected in Bhutan and India and is considered sacred to certain Buddhist traditions.

The black-necked crane is rated as 'vulnerable' in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) list of endangered species and is listed in India's Wildlife Act as a Schedule 1 species, which gives animals and birds the highest legal protection.

Other species that are found in the region include the red panda, the snow leopard and the Arunachal macaque *Macaca munzala*, a recently-described primate species in the area, according to court documents viewed by *The Hindu*. The project is planned on the Nyamjang Chhu river and is the largest of 13 hydro power projects to be built in the Tawang basin. With the NGT's order, project developers will need to revisit their environmental clearance process.

"The EC (environmental clearance) is suspended till the time the studies as directed are carried out... The EAC (Expert Appraisal Committee) shall thereupon, make fresh appraisal of the proposal for grant of EC and take appropriate decision for making recommendations to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change, who shall take decision thereupon in accordance with law," says the order signed by Justice UD Salvi and Prof. AR Yousuf on April 7. "This is probably the first time that the threat to wildlife played a key role in the court's decision to suspend environmental clearance," said Ritwick Dutta, lawyer for the Save Mon Region Federation, a social-religious group in Arunachal Pradesh, which petitioned the NGT to revoke the Environment Ministry's go-ahead for the project.

However a spokesperson for the Bhilwara group said they were unaware of the presence of the black crane when they applied for clearance. "We've been asked to undertake a more comprehensive study to estimate its impact and we will factor that in...we won't challenge this order and will comply with the directions," said O.P. Ajmera, head of Bhilwara's hydropower division.

Praveen Bhargav, Managing Trustee, Wildlife First, said the protection of species was a central plank on the basis of which project clearances were historically revoked by courts.

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PUNE, April 22, 2016

Pawar rejects charge of 'Waterman' on drought

- [Shoumojit Banerjee](#)

Nationalist Congress Party leader Sharad Pawar on Thursday rejected water conservationist Rajendra Singh's assertion that sugarcane factories were the cause of the drought in Marathwada, a rain-shadow region.

Marathwada, with less than four per cent of drip irrigation, has no fewer than 52 sugar factories, including 25 private ones, most of them owned by politicians.

"I am not a scientist to reach such a definite conclusion as Mr. Singh," Mr. Pawar said, rebuking the water activist's link between sugarcane factories and politicians owning them.

Speaking in Mumbai, Mr. Singh recommended a change in cropping patterns in Marathwada, pointing to the perennially drought-hit Rajasthan, where farmers produced three yields a year. He blamed the water crisis in Marathwada on politicians, especially the late Congress leaders Vilasrao Deshmukh and Shivraj Chakurkar for their deliberate emphasis on sugarcane farming in a region unfit for it.

Deshmukh had built dams only for his sugarcane fields, he said.

Mr. Singh said the BJP government's Jal Yukta Shivar Abhiyan, a drought-mitigation programme, had degenerated into a contractor-politician nexus.

» TODAY'S PAPER » NATIONAL

Published: April 22, 2016 00:00 IST | Updated: April 22, 2016 05:50 IST MUMBAI, April 22, 2016

Sachin to help combat crisis in Marathwada

- Special Correspondent



New innings: Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis with Sachin Tendulkar in Mumbai on Thursday.- Photo: PTI

Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar on Thursday met Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to discuss a joint initiative with soft drinks major PepsiCo to help the Maharashtra government in drought-relief measures in Marathwada.

"Delighted to meet Bharat Ratna Sachin Tendulkar. He & Pepsi are putting together a plan for drought relief in Marathwada," Mr. Fadnavis tweeted after the meeting. However, the details of the initiative are unclear.

Mr. Tendulkar will be the fourth celebrity to intervene in drought-mitigation measures in the parched Marathwada.

Actors Nana Patekar and Makarand Anaspure were the first to set up Naam Foundation a few months ago to collect and distribute funds to drought-hit villages. Actor Aamir Khan and his NGO Paani Foundation have also taken initiatives for water conservation, through which he is expected to provide relief to over 120 drought-hit villages.

Actor Akshay Kumar had donated Rs. 50 lakh to the government's Jalyukt Shivar scheme being implemented in 5,000 villages to conserve rainwater and recharge groundwater.

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NISHA NAMBIAR
PUNE, APRIL 21

AS THE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the US Thursday said that 2016 was on course to beat 2015 as the hottest year on record globally, the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) reiterated that for India too it "could be one of the warmest years of the century".

MoES Secretary and lead meteorologist, Dr M Rajeevan, said this year too, January, February and March have been warm.

"In 2015, the annual mean temperature for the country was 0.67 degree Celsius above the 1961-1990 average, thus making it the third warmest year on record since 1901. However, with the rising mercury levels this year, especially in the month of March, which is yet to be assessed, it could be one of the warmest years of the century," said Rajeevan.

The other nine warmest years on record are 2009, 2010, 2003, 2002, 2014, 1998, 2006 and 2007.

"It may be mentioned that 12 of the 15 warmest years in India were during the past 15 years (2001-2015), while the past decade was the warmest decade on record with decadal mean temperature anomaly of 0.49 degree Celsius," he said.

This year, the IMD also came out with a heat index to forecast heat waves and warn regions

prone to extremely hot days. The forecast is to be released every five days for the next 20 days.

"Last year, more than 2500 people died because of heat waves across the country. This is a calamity caused by weather and is as important as drought and flood," said scientists of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology.

Heat wave occurs when excessively hot weather, beyond a threshold temperature, extends over a prolonged period.

IMD Director General Laxman Singh Rathore said, "2015 was the hottest year ever recorded and our forecast predicts a summer with above normal temperatures, due to the El Nino effect. The impact will lessen eventually." He added that 2016 too looked like it would be among the hottest years. Globally, the reason cited for such warm temperatures was the El Nino factor, which is likely to become neutral in the coming month.

Currently, strong El Nino conditions over the Pacific Ocean that started in 2015 are still continuing, but they will weaken further by the last phase of the summer season, stated the IMD.

NOAA said that for 2016, till date, the global average temperature was 2.07 degrees Fahrenheit above the 20th century average. It added that this was the highest temperature for the period between 1880-2016, surpassing the previous record set in 2015 by 0.50 degrees Fahrenheit.



Women collect water from an almost dried-up well at a village in Surgana Taluka, near Nasik, Thursday. PTI



The handpump from which Yogita reportedly fetched water, at Sabalkhed in Beed Thursday. Pavan Khengre

'HEAT STROKE' KILLS 12-YR-OLD IN BEED

'I don't know what happened to my girl ...no water, hot weather, that's life here'

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
SABALKHED VILLAGE, BEED.
APRIL 21

THREE DAYS after 12-year-old Yogita, a resident of Sabalkhed village in Beed, died of heat stroke, the parents are still struggling to understand what went wrong.

Huddled in a corner of the family's two-room house, the mother, Manisha, said, "I do not know what happened to my little girl... Lack of water, hot weather, that's a way of life here. But my 12-year-old was so happy and excited to see her brother return for summer holidays from a school in Alandi... Only recently she had danced so well to the tune of a song from Marathi film *Lai Bhari*

at a school function." The father, Ashok Desai, said little as he sat staring at the floor.

The state health authorities have prima facie admitted that Yogita died due to heat stroke and dehydration. "There have been two deaths at Nanded, one each at Aurangabad and Beed, and now Yogita. A total of 14 patients across Nanded, Aurangabad, Beed and Chandrapur have been admitted to district hospitals due to heat-related illnesses," Dr Kanchan Jagtap, joint director, state health department told *The Indian Express*.

Relatives, however, denied reports about the girl being made to fetch water thrice from a handpump 500 m from her home, when the temperature was around 42 degree Celsius.

Manisha said both her children were playing in the house, while she was at the cattle shed, nearly 3 km away.

"There was no school on Sunday and we were playing inside," said Yogesh, a Class IX student.

"She was underweight at birth... She was malnourished, but had improved over time," said the father, Ashok.

On Sunday (April 17), he had gone to Ahmednagar, but had returned by the time Yogita complained she was feeling sick. She was admitted to Gurudutt hospital, 3 km from Sabalkhed. She died in the early hours of April 18.

Dr Hanuman Kakade, who treated her, said in his report that the girl died due to heat stroke and dehydration. "She was brought on Sunday evening (April 17)

with high fever, loose motion and headache. She had hypotension and was immediately put on fluids. But we could not save her," Dr Kakade told *The Indian Express*. The district health officer, Dr Sandeep Sangle, too said that prima facie it appeared that Yogita died of heat stroke and dehydration.

At Kunte Phal primary health centre, 10 km from Sabalkhed, medical officer Dr Vishaal Kale said that due to rising temperature and water scarcity, they were getting 10-15 cases of dehydration in the OPD every week.

Yogita's friends, Dakshata and Prateeksha, who had seen her being taken to hospital, said: "We told her to return soon... Our school will reopen after holidays, but Yogita will not be there."

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April 22 4 2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Koshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

A. a. j. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

Five years on, relining of canals yet to begin^{T-22}_{P-9}

Waterlogging in Punjab | Irrigation in Rajasthan hit

ARCHIT WATTS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, APRIL 21

Seepage of water from Rajasthan Feeder and Sirhind Feeder canals is major cause of waterlogging in the south western part of the state but the project of relining of these canals is yet to take off.

The seepage from Rajasthan Feeder canal is estimated to be 700 cusecs and that from Sirhind Feeder canal is 300 cusecs. Further, a team from the Centre led by Dr Mihir Shah had strongly recommended this project to deal with this problem in most parts of the state.

Even the Rajasthan government has time and again asked the state government to begin the relining work of Rajasthan canal so that it can mitigate the shortage of water for irrigation purposes.

Sources in the state Irrigation Department informed that in a meeting held on March 22 in Chandigarh, the representatives of the Rajasthan government had strongly expressed their concern on this issue. The process for the Rs 1,800 crore project had started in 2011, when its actual cost was estimated at Rs 1,441.26 crore.

No firms showed interest

■ The process for the ₹1,800 crore project had started in 2011, when its actual cost was estimated at ₹1,441.26 crore

■ The global tenders were first floated in financial year 2011-12. At that time, it was decided to complete the project in 2014-15

■ However, no company showed interest and the tenders were floated again in 2014 and thereafter in 2015



The global tenders were first floated in the financial year 2011-2012 and at that time it was decided to complete the project in 2014-15. However, no company had shown interest and the tenders were floated again in 2014 and thereafter in 2015.

But the tendering work is still lingering even after some relaxations were offered to companies which had shown interest in the project.

Further, three pre-bid meetings have also been held so far in this regard with M/s L&T, M/s Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) and M/s Sadbhav

Construction. The relining of both the canals has to be started from Harike headworks to Lohgarh headworks having total length of 97 km of Rajasthan Feeder canal and 100 km of Sirhind Feeder canal.

CM Parkash Singh Badal and Chief Secretary Sarvesh Kaushal are said to be personally looking into the project. KS Pannu, Secretary, Irrigation, said, "We have received three bids which are being processed. Meanwhile, the Union Ministry of Water Resources has prepared an agenda for the cabinet meeting of the Union government," he added.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April-28-4-2016 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)
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State proposes crop relief fund as option to PM Fasal Bima Yojana

ARBJIT DHALIWAL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HANDIGARH, APRIL 21

Not inclined to implement the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana as it does not suit farmers, Punjab has proposed a crop compensation fund as its alternative. After a detailed discussion, the state Agriculture Department concluded that in its existing form, the Bima Yojana was not beneficial to our farmers. Besides requesting PM Narendra Modi on a personal level to modify the scheme, M Parkash Singh Badal had also written to the Centre seeking changes in the existing format of the scheme. Following this, the PM had sent a team of senior officials to discuss the issue with the state officials concerned a few weeks ago. At the meeting, the state government had informed the Centre, including Secretaries of the Union Agriculture Department, Food Processing Department and PMA Implementation, that the crop insurance scheme envisaged by the Centre could not be implemented across



the country due to various factors, including weather variations, different cropping patterns, irrigation facilities and other ground realities. In view of these factors, the Centre should come out with state or region specific crop insurance schemes. For instance, yield level is not affected even after severe drought or deficit rain because of the available infrastructure in Punjab. In the case of hail storm or other vagaries of nature, the damage to crops is by and

large plot (field) specific and not area specific. Hence, the proposed scheme should be modified in view of the suggestions forwarded by the officials concerned. However, there is no response from the Centre to the suggestions made by the state government so far. "What we have proposed now as an alternative is the creation of the crop compensation fund. The file in this regard has been sent to CM for further action", said a senior state functionary.

Explaining the features of the alternative proposed by Punjab, the official said that the Centre wanted to cover 50 per cent farmers in the next three years. For this, the Centre would have to contribute about Rs 250 crore as premium per annum in case of Punjab. The state has proposed that instead of giving premium for the insurance scheme, the Centre should give the same amount for the proposed crop compensation fund and an equal amount would be con-

Harsimrat has written to Centre: Sukhbir

On the crop insurance scheme getting challenged in the Supreme Court, Deputy Chief Minister Sukhbir Singh Badal said his wife and Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal had written to the Union Government that the riders mentioned in the scheme might have suited other states, but these were not in Punjab's interests, so amendments should be made accordingly.

tributed by the state. Some money could be contributed by farmers, who are also supposed to pay a certain premium under the Bima Yojana. "Such a revolving fund would be enough to fully compensate farmers in case of crop damage due to hail storm or other calamities," said the official adding that such damage is not caused every year. "The damage to crop on average is never more than 10 per cent and it happens once in three or four years", the official said.

News Item/National article/editorial published on April 22 4 2016 in the

Hindustan Times
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Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
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Kai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Bhiz

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



रिश्तों की नमी का इम्तिहान ले रहा सूखा

■ ईटी ब्यूरो, मुंबई : महाराष्ट्र के कई इलाकों में लगातार चार साल तक सूखा पड़ने और इस पर राजनीतिक और नौकरशाही लापरवाही के चलते लोगों को रोजगार के लिए न सिर्फ शहरों की तरफ भागना पड़ रहा है, बल्कि इससे मानवीय संकट पैदा हो रहा है। दरअसल, लोगों को खुद की चिंता में अपने बूढ़े मां-बाप और बच्चों तक को छोड़कर पलायन करने पर मजबूर होना पड़ रहा है। लातूर के मसूडी गांव में 70 साल की बेलाबाई भालेकर अपने घर के बाहर अकेली बैठी हैं। उनका बेटा पंधरी (50 साल) अपनी पत्नी को लेकर काम की तलाश में पुणे चला गया, लिहाजा उन्हें अपनी देखभाल खुद करनी होगी। आमतौर पर यह बड़ी बात नहीं होती है, लेकिन अगर आप आधे अंधे हैं, जोड़ों के दर्द के कारण चलने से लाचार हैं और पानी लाने के लिए बरतन लेकर लंबी दूरी नापनी पड़ती हो, तो वाकई में संकट गंभीर है। बेलाबाई कहती हैं कि उन्हें खुद की आजीविका के लिए काम पर जाना पड़ता है। हालांकि, गांव के एक और निवासी अलाउद्दीन मौलाना शेख तुरंत इसका खंडन कर देते हैं। शेख ने बताया, 'गांव के खेतों में कोई काम नहीं है। वह कहां काम तलाशेंगे? वह घर पर रहती हैं और उन्हें खाना और पानी के लिए अपने पड़ोसियों की दया पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता है।' यह पूछे जाने पर कि उनका बेटा उन्हें भी पुणे क्यों नहीं ले गया, बेलाबाई ने कहा, 'वह मजदूरी करता है और किराए के घर में रहता है। मैं उसके लिए बोझ बन जाऊंगी। मैंने यहीं रहने का फैसला किया।'

बीड में सारुभाई दिसले (85 साल) की कहानी भी कुछ ऐसी ही है। उनके बेटे बापूराजजी दिसले अपनी पत्नी को साथ लेकर रोजगार के लिए शहर निकल गए। बमुश्किल से चलने वाली दिसले अब अपनी 12 साल

की पोती शारदा पर निर्भर हैं, जिसे उनकी देखभाल के लिए छोड़ा गया है। वहीं उनकी रिश्तेदार असोबा दिसले (60 साल) के साथ स्थिति उल्टी है। चूंकि उनका बेटा शिवनाथ कराड में ड्राइवर का काम करता है, लिहाजा उन्हें अपनी तीन साल की पोती दीदी की देखभाल करनी पड़ती है।

धोनी के स्विमिंग पूल पर सवाल

टीम इंडिया के कैप्टन कूल महेंद्र सिंह धोनी के घर में बना स्विमिंग पूल रांची के लोगों के लिए परेशानी का सबब बना हुआ है। शहर में पानी की तंगी से परेशान जनता ने झारखंड के राजस्व मंत्री अमर कुमार बाउरी से इसकी शिकायत भी की है। रांची के हरमू में पानी की किल्लत बढ़ गई है। लोगों को पानी के लिए तरस रहे हैं ऐसे में धोनी के स्विमिंग पूल के लिए रोज 15 हजार लीटर पानी इस्तेमाल होता है जिस पर लोगों ने सवाल खड़ा किया है। यहां खास बात यह है कि धोनी के घर में दस से ज्यादा लोग नहीं रहते हैं। लोगों को शिकायत है कि जहां पीने के लिए पानी नहीं मिल रहा, वहां धोनी के स्विमिंग पूल के लिए इतना पानी क्यों बर्बाद किया जा रहा है। (एजेंसियां, रांची)

एक सीन पर दो टैंकर पानी बर्बाद

पिछले सैंडे रणबीर कपूर और कैटरीना ने अनुराग बसु की फिल्म 'जग्गा जासूस' के लिए 12 घंटे का बारिश वाला सीक्वेंस शूट किया। फोटोग्राफर राजू शेलार ने बताया, यह मुंबई में बेहद गर्म और कड़ी धूप वाला दिन था और सेट पर पानी से भरे दो टैंकर मौजूद थे। आर्टिफिशियल बारिश के लिए उनपर यह पूरा पानी बहा दिया गया। (मुंबई मिरर)

पानी निकाल रहे बच्चे की मौत

मराठवाड़ा के सूखाग्रस्त जिले बीड में एक कुएं से पानी निकालते समय एक 11 साल के लड़के की मौत हो गई। जिले में दो दिनों में सूखे के कारण मौत की यह दूसरी घटना है। पुलिस अधिकारी ने बताया कि केज तहसील में वीडा गांव का सचिन गोपीनाथ केदार अपने घर से करीब आधा किलोमीटर दूर एक कुएं से पानी निकाल रहा था कि तभी उसका पैर फिसल गया और वह उसमें जा गिरा। मंगलवार को बीड में ही एक 12 साल लड़की की लू से मौत हो गई थी। वह सूख चुके हैंडपंप से पानी निकालने का प्रयास कर रही थी। बीड के सबलखेड़ गांव की निवासी योगिता अशोक देसाई की पानी की कमी के कारण मौत हो गई थी। इससे पहले वह एक हैंडपंप से पांच बार पानी निकालने का प्रयास कर चुकी थी। उस दिन यहां का तापमान 44 डिग्री सेल्सियस था।

7 सिंचाई बांधों का पानी खत्म

सूखा प्रभावित महाराष्ट्र के 11 बड़े सिंचाई बांधों में से 7 का जल भंडार खत्म हो चुका है। इसमें जायकावाड़ी, पूर्ण सिद्धेश्वर, मजलगांव, मांजरा, निचले तेरना, मन्नार और सिना कोलेगांव शामिल हैं।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 26/06/2016 in the

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

Nav Esharat 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)
Bikr

and documented at Chaplinth/English/6_PubliCity_Section, OWC,



पानी की परेशानी

लोगों की शिकायत, आ रहा है गंदा पानी

दिल्ली में पानी की किल्लत शुरू हो गई है। कई इलाकों में गंदे पानी और समय पर पानी के न आने की शिकायतें मिल रही हैं। लोगों का कहना है कि इस संबंध में कई बार शिकायत की जा चुकी है, इसके बावजूद पानी की क्वालिटी और सप्लाई सही नहीं होती।

■ **सुभाष नगर** : 16 ब्लॉक में पानी की काफी किल्लत है। सुबह पानी कुछ ही घंटे आता है लेकिन वह बहुत ही गंदा होता है या फिर बदबूदार। इस पानी को हम कहीं भी यूज नहीं कर पाते। आसपास में रहनेवाले लोगों की भी यही शिकायत है। - मनजीत कौर

■ **रोहिणी सेक्टर-24, पॉकेट 18** : पानी की समस्या कुछ ज्यादा ही है। यहां पानी के आने को कोई फिक्स समय नहीं है। जब भी पानी आता है

तो वह पीने लायक नहीं होता। कई बार कंप्लेंट की जा चुकी है। - अशोक सचदेवा

■ **नजफगढ़** : दीनापुर गांव में पानी के टैंक्स तो आते हैं लेकिन वह लोगों की प्यास नहीं बुझा पा रहे हैं। लोगों को कम पानी में कई दिनों तक गुजारा करना पड़ रहा है। पानी की सप्लाई कुछ देर होती है लेकिन वह काफी गंदा होता है। कई बार तो मिट्टी वाला पानी आता है। पूरे गांव को यह परेशानी झेलनी पड़ रही है। - एनबीटी रीडर

गर्मियां आ गई हैं और पानी की किल्लत भी शुरू हो गई है। कहीं पानी न आने की दिक्कत है तो कहीं पानी गंदा होने की। आप हमें बताएं कि आपके इलाके में पानी की सप्लाई कैसी है? आप इससे जुड़ी तस्वीरें भी भेज सकते हैं। मेल में अपना नाम जरूर लिखें।

ईमेल करें nbtill@gmail.com

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April 22.4.2016 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P.Chronicle
Statesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	A a j (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Nai Duniya (Hindi)
Tribune	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A)
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

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

गोदावरी नदी में प्रदूषण पर नोटिस

मुंबई। पिछले साल नासिक कुंभ के दौरान गोदावरी नदी में हुए प्रदूषण के संदर्भ में बॉम्बे हाईकोर्ट ने नासिक आयुक्त को नोटिस जारी किया है। नोटिस में राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण इंजीनियरिंग अनुसंधान संस्थान (निरि) की सिफारिशें लागू करने के निर्देश दिए हैं।

बॉम्बे हाईकोर्ट ने निरी से गोदावरी में कुंभ के शाली स्नान से हुए प्रदूषण की रिपोर्ट मांगी थी। गुरुवार को हाईकोर्ट को बताया गया कि नासिक महानगर पालिका ने कुछ सिफारिशों को ही लागू किया है। (एनएस)

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April 22.4.2016 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

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22 H. P-17

मानसून की भविष्यवाणी अब दो हफ्ते पहले संभव

नई दिल्ली/बर्लिन | एजेसी

सटीक अनुमान

भारत में मानसून आने का अनुमान अब दो हफ्ते पहले लगाया जा सकेगा। यूरोपीय वैज्ञानिकों के एक समूह ने दावा किया है कि नई पद्धति से ऐसा संभव होगा, जो भारतीय मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आईएमडी) को निशुल्क उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।

फिलहाल आईएमडी मई के आखिरी सप्ताह में मानसून का पूर्वानुमान जारी करता है और इसकी शुरुआत जून के पहले सप्ताह के आसपास होती है। वैज्ञानिकों के मुताबिक भारत के पश्चिमी घाट और उत्तरी पाकिस्तान में तापमान तथा नमी में हो रहे बदलावों का अध्ययन कर भारत में मानसून की सटीक भविष्यवाणी की जा सकती है।

यह बड़ी उपलब्धि: जर्मनी के पोद्सडेम इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर क्लाइमेट इंपैक्ट रिसर्च (पीआईके) और

- यूरोपीय वैज्ञानिकों ने किया दावा नई पद्धति से ऐसा संभव होगा
- आईएमडी मई के आखिरी सप्ताह में जारी करता है पूर्वानुमान

यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ ज्यूरिख की प्रमुख शोधकर्ता वेरोनिका स्टोलबोवा ने बताया, मानसून की शुरुआत के बारे में दो हफ्ते पहले और उसके समापन के बारे में छह सप्ताह पहले ही अनुमान लगा सकते हैं। यह बड़ी उपलब्धि है क्योंकि किसानों के लिए हर एक दिन महत्वपूर्ण है। यह पद्धति क्षेत्रीय मौसम आंकड़ों के नेटवर्क विश्लेषण पर आधारित है।

आंकड़ों को परखा: वैज्ञानिकों ने अपनी पद्धति को ऐतिहासिक मानसून आंकड़ों पर परखा। पाया कि 70-80 फीसदी सूचना सटीक निकली।

महाराष्ट्र के सात बड़े बांध सूखे

मुंबई। सूखा प्रभावित महाराष्ट्र के ग्यारह बड़े सिंचाई बांधों में से सात का जल भंडार खत्म हो चुका है। जल संसाधन विभाग के अनुसार, सूखा प्रभावित मराठवाड़ा क्षेत्र में 814 बड़ी, मध्यम और छोटी सिंचाई परियोजनाओं में केवल तीन फीसदी जल भंडार है। मराठवाड़ा के सात बड़े बांधों में जल भंडार पूरी तरह खत्म हो चुका है। इसमें जायकावाड़ी, पूर्ण सिद्धेश्वर, मजलगांव, मांजरा, निचले तेरना, मन्नार और सिना कोलेगांव है।

सूखा पीड़ितों की मदद को उतरे सचिन

मुंबई। क्रिकेटर और राज्यसभा सांसद सचिन तेंदुलकर ने सूखा पीड़ितों की मदद का बीड़ा उठाया है। मुख्यमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस ने गुरुवार को इस संबंध में सचिन के साथ एक बैठक की। फडणवीस ने ट्वीट कर बताया कि भारत रत्न सचिन तेंदुलकर और पेप्सी मराठवाड़ा में सूखा राहत के लिए मिलकर एक योजना बना रहे हैं। मराठवाड़ा राज्य में सूखा से सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में से एक है। (एजेंसी)

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The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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Indian Nation

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and documented at Embassy (English) & Publicity Section, CWG.

नर्मदा नहर से दोगुनी जलापूर्ति का निर्णय

सूखा प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में
रियायती मूल्य पर घास-
चारा

वाट्सअप से भी कर
सकेंगे पानी की किल्लत
की शिकायत



रोजगार व्यवस्था भी

गांधीनगर @ पत्रिका

राज्य सरकार ने प्रदेश में सूखे की गंभीर हो रही स्थिति को देखते हुए नर्मदा नहरों के जरिए जलापूर्ति दोगुनी करने का निर्णय किया है। सूखा समिति की गुरुवार को आयोजित समीक्षा बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसार राज्य सरकार प्रभावित इलाकों में पशुओं के लिए रियायती मूल्य पर घास चारा मुहैया कराएगी। पानी की किल्लत को लेकर लोग राज्य व जिला स्तर पर कार्यरत टेलीफोन नम्बर 079: 23220859 व 1800-200-1400 हेल्प लाइन के अलावा सोशलमीडिया वाट्सअप के जरिए भी जिला कलक्टरों के समक्ष अपनी शिकायतें भेज सकेंगे।

835 गांवों में

तत्काल व्यवस्था

राज्य के वित्त मंत्री सौरभ पटेल, नर्मदा जलसम्पदा मंत्री बाबू बोखीरिया एवं स्वास्थ्य मंत्री नितिन

सूखा प्रभावित इलाकों में जरूरत मंद लोगों को मन्रेगा अन्तर्गत रोजगार की व्यवस्था भी की गई है। इसमें पिछले सप्ताह की स्थिति के अनुसार 2128 कामों में 1.37 लाख लोग रोजगार से जुड़े हैं। समीक्षा

पटेल की उपस्थिति में गांधीनगर में आयोजित सूखा समिति की उच्चस्तरीय समीक्षा बैठक के अध्यक्ष भूपेन्द्र सिंह चुडासमा ने कहा कि प्रदेश में वर्तमान में 14 जिलों के 317 गांव-पुरवों में 252 टैंकरों के 1044 फेरों से जलापूर्ति की जा रही है।

गर्मी के अन्तिम दौर में 468 गांवों में पांच सौ और टैंकरों से पीने का पानी पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था की गई है। राज्य के पांच जिलों के 994 गांवों को अर्द्ध सूखा ग्रस्त घोषित किया गया था। जहां लोगों को पेयजल एवं पशुओं के लिए रियायती मूल्य पर 435 लाख किलोग्राम घास-चारे की व्यवस्था

बैठक में राज्य के मुख्य सचिव जी.आर अलोरिया, मुख्यमंत्री के प्रधानसचिव के. कैलाशचन्द्रन, अतिरिक्त मुख्य सचिव जे.एन सिंह, राहत आयुक्त अंजु शर्मा सहित कई उच्चाधिकारी उपस्थित थे।

की गई है। पीने के पानी की तत्काल व्यवस्था में नर्मदा नहरों से आपूर्ति किए जाने वाले की मात्रा दोगुनी करने का निर्णय किया गया है।

नर्मदा नहरों से पूर्व में रोजाना 1100 एमएलडी पानी दिया जाता था, जो बढ़ाकर अब 2000 एमएलडी (मिलियन लीटर डेली) किया गया है। इसके अलावा कडाणा, दांतीवाड़ा, धरोई एवं सीपू जैसी योजना के जरिए भी लोगों को रोजाना 1300 एमएलडी पानी पहुंचाया जा रहा है। इसके अलावा हैण्ड पंप, स्थानीय जलस्रोत, बांध-सरोवर से भी पेयजलापूर्ति की सुनियोजित व्यवस्था कर दी गई है।

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जल संकट दूर करने को जल नारी और मित्र

बई दिल्ली. पत्रिका RP-22

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सूखे को लेकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट की कई बार फटकार सुन चुकी केंद्र सरकार सजग हो रही है। गिरते भूजल स्तर की समस्या से निपटने के लिए दीर्घकालिक उपायों के साथ ही कुओं और तालाबों के संरक्षण के महत्व, सिंचाई के स्रोतों के विकास और जल स्रोतों के पुनर्जीवन के बारे में जलमित्रों के जरिए जनभागीदारी और जागरूकता फैलाई जाएगी। जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के मुताबिक, इसके तहत स्थानीय जल पेशेवरों को जल संबंधी मुद्दों के संबंध में जन जागरूकता फैलाने और जल से जुड़ी समस्याओं के निराकरण के लिए उपयुक्त प्रशिक्षण देकर उन्हें जल मित्र बनाया जाएगा। मंत्रालय के एक अधिकारी के मुताबिक, इसके तहत संबंधित महिला पंचायत सदस्यों को जल नारी बनने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाएगा। प्रत्येक जल ग्राम में सुजलम कार्ड के रूप में एक जल स्वास्थ्य कार्ड तैयार किया जाएगा जो गांव में उपलब्ध पेयजल स्रोतों की गुणवत्ता के बारे में वार्षिक सूचना प्रदान करेगा।

गांव को मिलेगा

इंडेक्स वैल्यू

जल ग्राम योजना के तहत जल ग्राम का चयन इसके कार्यान्वयन के लिए गठित जिला स्तरीय कमेटी करेगी। प्रत्येक गांव को एक इंडेक्स वैल्यू प्रदान किया जाएगा, जो जल की मांग और आपूर्ति के बीच अंतर के आधार पर तैयार होगा। सबसे अधिक इंडेक्स वैल्यू वाले गांव को जल क्रांति अभियान कार्यक्रम में शामिल किया जाएगा। 1970 के दशक में हरित क्रांति की शुरुआत के दौरान भूमिगत जल के दोहन में काफी वृद्धि हुई है जो लगातार जारी है। इससे जलस्तर घटने, खेतों में कुओं की कमी और सिंचाई स्रोतों की दीर्घकालिकता में हास के रूप में पर्यावरण पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ा।

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Titlagarh in Odisha records 47 degrees

- Staff Reporter

The State continues to reel under intense heat wave

Western Odisha continued to reel under intense heat wave with Titlagarh recording season's highest temperature of 47 degrees Celsius on Thursday.

Titlagarh, known as hottest place in the State, touched 47 degrees after a gap of 10 years. It was also the hottest place in India on Thursday. The tiny western Odisha town has crossed 46 degrees on a couple of occasions this month.

For more than a fortnight now, normal life in most western Odisha towns including Titlagarh has been badly hit. Titlagarh is followed by Sonapur where daytime temperature was recorded at 46.2 degrees. According to Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre, temperature at Sonapur has been consistently breaching 45 degrees.

In fact on Thursday, nine towns mostly in western Odisha recorded daytime temperature above 45 degrees.

The mercury hit 45.6 degrees at Hirakud and Talcher while Jharsuguda was 45.3 degrees. Angul recorded 45.1 degrees and Bhawanipatna, Sundargarh and Bolangir were at 45 degrees.

According to office of Special Relief Commissioner, reports of 66 sunstroke deaths have been received from different sources.

The SRC informed that on enquiry, death in one case has been confirmed to be due to sunstroke. While the administrations found other reasons in 17 cases, the remaining 48 cases were under enquiry.

"The heat wave situation will continue till April 23 and thereafter it may slightly drop. But temperature is likely to go up in coastal region from the weekend. The hot wind blowing from north-western direction has been impacting the situation in Odisha," said S. C. Sahu, Director of India Meteorological Centre, Odisha.

Titlagarh, known as hottest place in the State, touched 47 degrees after a gap of 10 years

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Water shortage affects electricity generation at two historic units

• [M.T. Shiva Kumar](#)



Pride of State:A view of Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer Power Station, the first in Asia to start generation, near Malavalli in Mandya district.

Acute shortage of water has severely affected power generation at two historic hydroelectric power stations in hilly regions in Shivanasamudra, near Malavalli.

While all 10 power generating units at Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer Power Station — the first hydroelectric power station in Asia to start generation — were recently shutdown, power production at one of the two units at Shimsha Hydroelectric Station was also suspended a few days back.

The Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer Power Station, with full capacity of 42 Megawatt (MW), was established in 1902, and Shivapuram (with a capacity of 17.2 MW) was established in 1939.

20,640 units generated

The power generation from both stations was in the range of 1.8 million units (MU) to 3 MU just a few months back. With 11 units being shut owing to non-availability of water, power generation has drastically dipped to around 20,640 units a day, sources at the Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd. (KPCL) said. Both the power stations depend on Cauvery water.

The KPCL has no options other than suspending power generation at 11 of the 12 power generation units as the water level in the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) reservoir is reaching dead storage, a senior officer at KPCL in Bengaluru said. He said the same situation may continue for at least two more months owing to the delay in arrival of rains. The power stations had faced a water crisis in 2015.

Therefore, the 42 MW station had produced 215 MU and the 17.2 MW station had generated 55 MU in 2015, the officer said.

The stations can generate power to the maximum capacity if they get at least 2,000 cusecs to 3,000 cusecs.

Nevertheless, the authorities concerned have been discharging water to Bengaluru from Kabini Dam near Mysuru. Hence, the quantum of water being released from the KRS is around 350 cusecs, the officer explained.

Meanwhile, in order to improve the efficiency at the power stations, the KPCL has decided to replace all turbines and other machineries at both the stations. Most of the machineries were over used and are losing efficiency, he said.

Dry run

Water scarcity halts power production at Shimsha plants

Power generation completely stopped at Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer Power Station

Two stations at Shimsha need 2,000 to 3,000 cusecs to generate power to the maximum capacity

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