

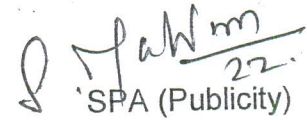
Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

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

Dated 22.6.18.

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

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Hindustan Times

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ODISHA'S DASRATH MAJHI

Man digs canal through mountain

Debabrata Mohanty
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

BHUBANESWAR: The muddy stream of water that courses through the pebble and boulder-filled stretch of Gonasika mountain for three kilometres before reaching Talabaitarani village could only have been a pipe dream for people till 2013. But one man's obsession and determination to get water to his farmlands proved that nothing is insurmountable.

Like Dasrath Majhi who moved mountains to build a road in Jharkhand, 75-year-old tribal man Daitari Nayak carved a 3-km canal through a mountain in Odisha's Keonjhar district, helping irrigate 100 acres of land in his village.

Nayak, a farmer of Talabaitarani village in Banspal block of Keonjhar district, started digging

through the Gonasika mountains in 2010 as erratic rains would repeatedly fail his crops. The only way he could get water to his barren lands was from a nearby stream from the mountains.

Armed with a hoe and a crowbar, Nayak started digging through the roads while villagers scoffed at his effort. But an undeterred Nayak carried on for a few months till he was joined by his four brothers. The villagers joined in only after the canal built by Nayak and his brothers with pebbles, mud and rocks neared their village.

The canal was finally completed in 2013 and has helped irrigate over 100 acres of land in the village, helping its residents grow paddy, maize and mustard as well as some vegetables.

"At his age he has shown determination and grit. The district

administration would surely help Nayak and villagers to make the structure a concrete one. We are also planning a permanent check dam," Keonjhar district collector Ashish Thakre said.

The district administration is also planning to felicitate Nayak for his efforts in bringing water to the village farms. Odisha Congress president Niranjan Patnaik said CM Naveen Patnaik should learn from Nayak and address irrigation problems in the state.

Earlier this year, a tribal man in Odisha's Kandhamal district shot into limelight after he built an 8km road through the mountains so that his three sons could travel to a nearby school.

Jalandhar Nayak, 45, had hammered his way through a mountain for two years as his sons found it tough to cross hills and reach their school.

New Delhi

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Monsoon revival in couple of days: IMD

VIBHA SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 21

Amid concerns over "unusual" patterns this season affecting its performance and end-of-June arrival date over the Northwest, the Southwest Monsoon is expected to revive around June 24.

While the Northern Limit of Monsoon (NLM) continues to hold on to its June 12 position, passing through Thane, Ahmednagar, Buldhana, Amravati, Gondia, Titlagarh, Cuttack, Midnapore, Goalpara and Bagdogra (exactly where it was when it entered the weak phase), the IMD is now predicting a change in

Says development of cyclonic circulations over Eastern India will strengthen easterlies over Gangetic plains, giving fresh push to rains

situation around June 24.

Predicting widespread rain along the West Coast, Northeast and East, it has also forecast fairly widespread rain with heavy rainfall at isolated places over South and Central India, isolated to scattered rainfall over Northwest and heavy rainfall in East Uttar Pradesh between June 26 and 28.

According to the latest update by India's official weather forecaster, mon-

soon circulation is likely to improve around June 24 due to "expected movement of active phase of Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) to west Equatorial Indian Ocean and adjoining Arabian Sea during next two-to-three days.

As a result, the monsoon is likely to further advance over remaining parts of Assam, some more parts of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal and

some parts of Jharkhand, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh between June 23 and 25.

Even as the country awaits monsoon revival, there are concerns over "unusual" behaviour patterns observed around the monsoon current this year. Its initial movement towards the mainland was affected by the twin cyclones in the Arabian Sea.

Later, the weather system that brought rain to Kerala around May-end moved away from the mainland to rain over central parts of the Arabian Sea. This in itself was considered unusual as largely the circulations move inland and not outward towards the sea.

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Groundwater depletion pushes Sangrur district into dark zone

Farmers reluctant to adopt direct sowing that consumes less water

PARVESH SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

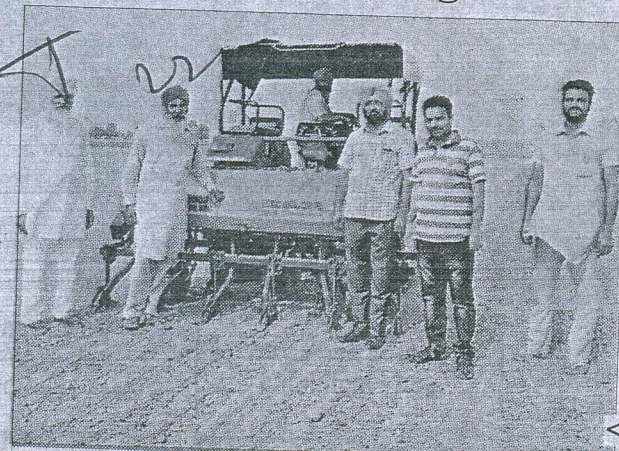
SANGRUR, JUNE 21

With farmers reluctant to go in for direct sowing of rice (DSR), which guzzles 30 per cent less water, crisis stares Sangrur in the face, with the groundwater depleting by the day.

Out of the total 2.83 lakh hectares under paddy cultivation, the DSR was done on 1,800 hectares this year.

Sources said last year, the area in the district under the DSR was 600 hectares and despite efforts of the Agriculture Department and the Sangrur administration, only 1,200 hectares has increased this year. But in a majority of villages, the damage appears to have been done as the water table has gone down to around 500-600 feet deeper, while earlier it was 200 feet.

"The situation is alarming. The Punjab Government must make the DSR mandatory to save the water table," the



WHAT IS DIRECT SOWING OF RICE

Direct sowing of rice (DSR) refers to the process of establishing a rice crop from seeds sown in the field rather than by transplanting seedlings from the nursery. It is done in a dry field after laser levelling and there is no need of standing water.

Farmers who took to direct sowing of rice in Sangrur.

PHOTO: VISHAL KUMAR

sources said. With the growing interference of various kisan unions, Punjab farmers have developed a habit of challenging measures taken by the authorities," said Kulwant Singh, a farmer from Dirba, who was sitting in the local Agriculture Department office.

Various early ripening varieties like PR-111, 115, 123 and PUSA varieties 1121, 1509 through the DSR can be sown

from June as these do not need standing water. But a majority of the farmers these days are preferring water guzzling varieties of paddy like PR-126, 124 and 127. "They are aware of the depleting groundwater, but they won't change until there is some strictness," Pawan Kumar, a farmer from Bhawanigarh, said.

Sangrur Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Jaswinderpal

Singh Grewal said they were offering help to all farmers.

"The DSR consumes 30 per cent less water. Our officers are regularly visiting villages to promote the technique as its cost is also less, but the farmers are not showing interest. Our expectations are way too high. This year has seen some improvement. We hope the DSR will cover more area next year," Grewal said.

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Experts raise red flag over Centre's Ganga development plan

CRITICISM Say dredging work of the river stretch between Allahabad and Haldia to allow commercial navigation will damage biodiversity

Malavika Vyawahare

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NEWDELHI: The frequent plying of ships and vessels in Ganga and dredging to improve navigability will cause "irreparable damage" to biodiversity, including to dolphins and turtles, according to experts at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), an autonomous body under the Union environment ministry.

The Modi government this year approved the ambitious Jal Vikas Marg project that will involve intensive development of the river stretch between Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh and Haldia in West Bengal to allow commercial navigation of large ships in the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system.

The World Bank-backed project, which will cost ₹5,369 crore, is expected to be completed by 2023. The 1,620-km waterway will pass through the Kachhua turtles sanctuary in UP's Varanasi district and Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary in Bihar.

Under the National Waterways Act passed in 2016, 106 river stretches have been earmarked for development into cargo-carrying waterways. Nitin Gadkari, minister for road transport and highways, shipping and water resources, has said that the cost of transportation by waterways is a fraction of the cost by railways or road, and that it is a greener mode compared to the other two.

The argument that waterways are a more environmentally-friendly mode of transport is challenged by environmentalists, and comments from scientists at WII appeared to support the view.

Debadityo Sinha, an environmentalist, said that the calculation is based on only the use of fossil fuel and the associated carbon emissions, not the ecological impacts.

WII scientists attributed the



The argument that waterways are a more environmentally-friendly mode of transport is challenged by environmentalists. PTIFILE

For the Gangetic dolphin, it is particularly disastrous because they navigate using noise. Turtles are slow moving creatures, so there is a high risk of being hit by vessels.

BHARAT JHUNJHUNWALA, activist

effects on wildlife to the ship wave effect that disturbs habitats, especially for juvenile fish, the noise from ships that can induce behaviour changes, and the possibility of vessel strikes that can cause death.

"For the Gangetic dolphin, it is particularly disastrous because they navigate using noise. Turtles are slow moving creatures, so there is a high risk of being hit by vessels," said Bharat Jhunjhunwala, an activist who filed a petition in the Allahabad high court against the permission granted

allowing vessels to pass through the Kachhua turtle sanctuary.

"Besides the passage of ships/vessels, frequent or intermittent dredging of the river bed (usually done to improve the navigability of the river) is also harmful as it disrupts not only the benthic and hyporheic flora and fauna but also aquatic animals that depend on riverbed and bank sediments for spawning, shelter, scavenging or other activities crucial for survival," said experts. Benthic species are those that inhabit the bottom band of a water body while hyporheic species were found where shallow groundwater and surface water mix.

The Centre is also considering a proposal to move the turtle sanctuary and has asked the WII to review the management of the sanctuary. "We are waiting for the final report of the WII," said SK Upadhyay, principal chief conservator of forests (wildlife), UP. "We have three or four options. We are waiting for the scientific study report, then we will make the decision on what is the best option," he said.

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फसलों के लिए कावेरी का पानी छोड़े अधिकारी

कोई कानूनी अड़चन या तकनीकी बाधा आई
तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी मेरी होगी

बेंगलूरु, (भाषा) : कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री एच डी कुमारस्वामी ने आज कहा है कि उन्होंने अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिया है कि वे प्रदेश के मांड्या जिले में फसलों के लिए कावेरी नदी का पानी छोड़ें। मुख्यमंत्री ने यह भी कहा कि कावेरी जल प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण के फैसलों के बिना भी कर्नाटक के किसानों को बचाना है। कुमारस्वामी ने यह इंगित किया कि पड़ोसी राज्य तमिलनाडु के लिए पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु के बीच कावेरी जल बंटवारे को लेकर विवाद है। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि उन्होंने अधिकारियों से फसलों के लिए पानी छोड़ने के लिए कहा है।



ऐसा करने से जो भी कानूनी या तकनीकी बाधा सामने आएगी तो इसकी जिम्मेदारी उनकी (कुमारस्वामी) होगी। कुमारस्वामी ने कहा कि आज सुबह मैंने खबरें देखी कि मांड्या में पानी के बगैर फसलें सूख रही हैं। इसके तुरंत बाद मैंने अधिकारियों को (पानी छोड़ने का) निर्देश दिया।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 22.06.2018 in the

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ठिठका मानसून 24 से फिर सक्रिय होगा

नई दिल्ली। पिछले दस दिनों से ठिठके मानसून को गति देने के लिए एमजेओ हवाएं आ रही हैं। मौसम विभाग का कहना है कि 24 जून के भीतर अरब सागर और बंगाल की खाड़ी की ओर एमजेओ यानी मैडेन जुलियन आमलेशन हवा बढ़ना शुरू कर देगा।

इससे मध्य और पूर्व भारत में मानसून सक्रिय हो जाएगा और तेजी से उत्तर-पश्चिम भारत की तरफ भी बढ़ेगा। मौसम वैज्ञानिक रंजीत सिंह के अनुसार इससे न सिर्फ मानसून सक्रिय होगा बल्कि अच्छी बारिश भी होगी। (वि.सं.)

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महज 45 मिनट में दो इंच बारिश

सड़कों पर पानी ही पानी, बुरहानपुर लबालब - 22

बुरहानपुर. प्रदेश में लंबे इंतजार के बाद बारिश ने जोरदार दस्तक दी है। बुरहानपुर में 4 बजे से पौने 5 बजे तक चली मूसलाधार बारिश ने पूरे शहर को प्रभावित कर दिया। 45 मिनट में दो इंच मूसलाधार बारिश हुई। बिजली गिरने से एक बच्ची की मौत हुई है। खंडवा, देवास, खरगोन, राजगढ़ में भी बारिश हुई।



बोराड़ नदी में आई बाढ़, खंडवा-बड़ौदा हाइवे पर आवागमन बाधित

खरगोन/ सेगांव. लंबे इंतजार के बाद गुरुवार को मानसून निमाड़ अंचल पर मेहरबान हुआ। अंचल में तेज-हवा आंधी के साथ जोरदार बारिश हुई। जिला मुख्यालय पर भी शाम 5 से 7 बजे के बीच जोरदार बरसात हुई। वहीं सेगांव क्षेत्र में जोरदार बारिश होने से पहाड़ी बोराड़ नदी में बाढ़ गई। ऊन के समीप दिवाली-बंयानी नदी में बाढ़ आने से खंडवा-बड़ौदा स्टेट हाइवे पर आवागमन बंद हो गया।

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ओडिशा में संकल्प की मिसाल

माझी जैसे कैनाल मैन ने पहाड़ से निकाली नहर

पत्रिका ब्यूरो

rajasthanpatrika.com

भुवनेश्वर. माउंटेनमैन दशरथ माझी की तर्ज पर अब ओडिशा को कैनाल मैन मिला है। 70 साल के दइतरी नायक ने सूख रही सौ एकड़ खेती के लिए पहाड़ खोदकर नहर बनाई है। दइतरी ने गोइनसिका नामक पहाड़ के बीच से तीन किलोमीटर तक रास्ता बनाकर कर प्यासे क्षेत्र को जलधार दी है। इसके लिए उन्हें चार साल लगे।

क्योंकि जिले के बंसपाल ब्लॉक के बैतरनी गांव के दइतरनी को बस एक धुन थी कि उनके गांव में खेती के लिए सिंचाई की ठोस

व्यवस्था हो। शुरुआत में उन्होंने पहाड़ का सीना चीरना शुरू किया, तो लोग उनका उपहार उड़ाते थे। पहाड़ की दूसरी तरफ एक नहर है जिसे इनके गांव तक लाना संभव नहीं हो पा रहा था।

दइतरी बताते हैं कि इस काम में उनके पांच भाई भी उनकी मदद करते थे। वे बताते हैं कि पहाड़ों को काटने में जुटा, तो लोगों ने खिल्ली उड़ाई। एक बार तो ऐसा भी लगा कि यह काम बहुत ज्यादा कठिन है नहीं होगा, लेकिन हमने हिम्मत नहीं हारी। भाइयों ने हिम्मत दी। कुदाली, गैती आदि से काम शुरू किया। चार साल में सफल हुए।



लोगों ने दिया नया नाम यह कहानी दशरथ माझी की याद दिलाती है जिसने बिहार में पहाड़ के बीच से सड़क निकाल दी थी। तब लोगों ने दशरथ माझी को माउंटेन मैन कहा था। इसी तर्ज पर दइतरी को भी कैनाल मैन कहा जाने लगा है। लघु सिंचाई विभाग नहर को स्थाई बनाने के लिए चेकडैम बनाएगा।



अच्छी होगी फसल

दइतरी के भाई मायाधर नायक कहते हैं कि गांव का चेहरा खिल उठा है। अब खेती अच्छी होने लगेगी। नहर तैयार है। रास्ता तो दइतरी ने दिखा दिया। इसे पक्की नहर बनाने के लिए सरकार से गुहार की जाएगी।