Where water is safe to drink

Delhi needs a single public authority suitably empowered and responsible for the delivery of safe drinking water

CITIES AT CROSSROADS

BY ISHER JUDGE AHLUWALIA

CR Sasikumar

SAFE DRINKING WATER is critical for the safety of our health and that of our children. Even food security does not translate into nutrition security in the absence of safe water. While it is extremely important to build awareness about what needs to be done at the household level to ensure water safety, it is equally legitimate for us to demand safe drinking water from our public systems of delivery. When governments fail to provide this basic requirement, should we be surprised that our children are malnourished and water-borne diseases are on the rise? The challenges of providing safe drinking water are greater in urban settings. India is no exception. But in addressing the challenges, we seem to be focusing mostly on augmentation and much less on quality and safety of water.

It is high time we recognised that safe drinking water in our cities requires that the basic source for supplying water to the city is not only adequate but also clean, and that the city treats its used water (municipal sewage and industrial effluents) before releasing it back to the basic source. Only then can we, backed by efficient systems of delivery, reasonably expect that water availability in households will be clean and safe.

Starting close to home, the river Yamuna ought to be not only the lifeline of Delhi as a basic source of water but also its pride and beauty. Instead, it is badly polluted mainly due to the discharge of much of the sewage generated in Delhi without any treatment. We have built spectacular buildings across the Yamuna with the hope of beautifying the landscape but, sadly, successive governments have looked away from the polluted waters of the river.

Surveys of groundwater in Delhi reveal an increasing degree of microbiological contamination, which is a clear sign of contamination from sewage. Since groundwater is also used by many for drinking, mostly without any treatment, this has grave implications for the health of those dependent on groundwater.

Delhi's growth has fast outpaced its ability and willingness to extend the sewerage network and treat its sewage or wastewater. While 55 per cent of Delhi is technically connected to sewerage systems of pipes, and this is much larger than the average of 32.7 per cent for all Indian cities, this does not include thousands of unauthorised colonies or illegal slums which are not taken into account when service delivery is planned and implemented.

The sewerage networks are supposed to ensure that sewage from flushed toilets travels through underground sewer pipes until it reaches a sewage treatment plant. After primary treatment, the sewage is supposed to be preferably reused for consumption in gardening, toilet flushing, etc, or discharged into natural stormwater drains which should ultimately drain into the Yamuna.

In the absence of complete coverage of the city with a sewerage network, natural stormwater drains are being used as sewers. The result is that Delhi's very extensive natural drainage system is being eroded fast, as documented in the excellent recent reports and studies by Professor Ashvin Gosain of IIT Delhi. There are 22 natural drainage systems that outfall into the Yamuna in the Delhi stretch of the river, which is 22-km long. Besides providing a safe exit to stormwater, including floodwaters, natural drains recharge groundwater and also support biodiversity. Many of these are getting encroached on and are disappearing. Others have been converted into *nallah*s that carry untreated sewage throughout the year. Sewer pipes punctured during repairs also send sewage to stormwater drains. In Gosain's words, "If Yamuna is to be made pollution free, then these stormwater drains need to be freed of pollution first." This has the added benefit of restoring the catchment area in the city.

As regards sewage treatment, only 30 per cent of the sewage generated in Delhi is treated before discharge. Even though this again is higher than the national average of 19 per cent for all Indian cities, the installed capacity of the sewage treatment system is insufficient to take care of even the area that is covered by the sewerage network. Moreover, the capacity is underutilised for a number of reasons, including the fact that even when there is a sewage treatment plant, it is not always possible for sewage to be conveyed to the plant. As for the 45 per cent of Delhi which is unconnected, in any case, sewage travels through the natural stormwater drains to the Yamuna. The challenge is even greater in the walled city of Old Delhi, which has combined sewers, designed to carry sewage as well as storm water, a legacy that is not in line with current good engineering practice.

The Delhi Jal Board has been trying for some years to find an intermediate solution through interceptor sewers along the Najafgarh Drain, the principal hub of untreated sewage in Delhi, and also supplementary and Shahdara Drains. The idea in the case of the Najafgarh Drain, for example, is to divert untreated sewage coming from the surrounding unauthorised colonies which would otherwise flow into the Najafgarh Drain. But progress is slower than expected and an additional challenge is posed by the backflows from Gurgaon in Haryana into this drain. Most recently, the government of Delhi has committed to extending coverage of the sewerage network to around half of the unauthorised colonies. This again would need time, money and political will.

With multiple agencies present, it is not clear who is responsible for making the whole system work to respond to the enormous challenge of delivering safe water to the residents of Delhi. While drinking water and the sewerage network are the responsibility of the Delhi Jal Board, stormwater drains are under the different municipalities, the Public Works Department or the Irrigation and Flood Control Department of Delhi, depending on their size, and encroachments are to be taken care of by the Delhi Development Authority. One good development is the rise of a single regulator, the National Green Tribunal (NGT). What we need in addition is a single public authority suitably empowered and responsible for the delivery of safe water with whatever it takes. Such an entity should be accountable to the people and able to respond to the NGT in one voice.

The writer is chairperson of Icrier, Delhi, and former chairperson of the high-powered expert committee on urban infrastructure services

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8 crore in India deprived of safe drinking water: Study

The Figure Highest In World; Overuse Of Ground Water To Blame

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New Delhi: India has the world's largest number of people without access to safe water, according to a report released to mark World Water Day on Tuesday. China, Bangladesh and Pakistan are also among the top 10 countries where maximum number of people are living without uncontaminated drinking water.

According to the report "Water: At what cost?" released by WaterAid, about 7.6 crore people, which is 5% of India's total population, are deprived of safe water and the country registers around 1.4 lakh child deaths annually due to diarrhoea, a mainly water-borne disease.

The findings come at a time when there are reports of several parts of Maharashtra facing acute water crisis and even in urban areas people are often forced to use contaminated water. "Most of these people (without access to safe water) are living in around Rs 285 per day. If they have the opportunity to buy water from a tanker, it can cost 1 rupee per litre; sometimes double if supplies are scarce," the report said.

It has pointed out poor management of water resources as the biggest problem while mentioning how over-extraction of ground water has aggravated the crisis. "Aquifers provide 85% of drinking water, but levels are falling in 56% of the country. Hand pumps are exacerbating the crisis in many areas by depleting shallow aquifers. Misappropriation in planning and execution of water supply projects is another key factor," it said.

The global report said that because of this water crisis, communities fall back on a single or distant source of drinking water, often leading to disputes and increased discrimination against the main water fetchers, particularly women. The report also shows that in the developed world, a standard water bill is merely 0.1% of the income of people earning minimum wage. But in a country like India, anyone reliant on a water vendor (tanker) would end up spending around 17% of their daily income to get daily minimum supply.

WATER ACCESS

India	
China	63,166,533
Nigeria	57,757,141
Ethiopia	42,251,031
Congo	33,906,771

Maximum percentage of people living without safe water

Papua New Guinea	60
Equatorial Guinea	52
Angola	51
Chad	49
Mozambique	49

IN SAFE

Diarrhoea caused by unsafe water & poor sanitation claim 3,15,000 children's lives annually

Source: WaterAid global report

Central team visiting SYL faces protests

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROPAR, MARCH 22

A central team headed by Dalip Kumar, Joint Secretary, Union Home Ministry, today visited the district to assess the damage caused by farmers to the Sutlej-Yamuna Link canal (SYL) on March 15 and 16 after the Punjab Assembly had passed the Punjab Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal Land (Transfer of Property Rights) Bill, 2016.

On Haryana's plea, the apex court, in its interim order dated March 17, had appointed the Union Home Secretary and Punjab's Chief Secretary and Director General of Police (DGP) as 'joint receiver' of land and other SYL property till the next date of hearing on March 31.

The Central team members in Ropar district on Tuesday.

Dalip Kumar, who was accompanied by Chief Engineer of the Central Water Commission Ashok S Goyal and Punjab Irrigation Secretary KS Pannu, will submit a report to the Centre. The team visited Inederpura-Dhakki and Doomchheri villages in Ropar district.

The team members started from Kaami village in Patiala district, where they were shown black flags. Covering more villages on the Rajpura-Banur road, they reached Chunni Kalan and Badheri in Fatehgarh Sahib district in the afternoon. At Chunni Kalan, hundreds of farmers led by SAD leaders Didar Singh

CONTINUED ON P11

Central team faces protests

Bhatti, halqa chief, and Ranjit Singh Libra, SAD's district president, submitted a memorandum.

Farmers, led by local SAD leaders, staged protests at Inderpura as well as Doomchheri. At Inderpura, Ropar Municipal Council president Paramjit Singh Makkar, Ropar Municipal Council members Bawa Singh and Manjinder Dhanao, Zila Parishad member Harpreet Singh Basant, Ropar Market Committee chairman Manjit Singh Ghanauli and SAD youth leader RP Shally were among the protesters.

At Doomchheri, the protests were led by SAD constituency in charge Jagmeet Kaur Sandhu, Satwant Kaur Sandhu, former minister, Harinder Pal Singh Chandumajra, son of SAD MP Prem Singh Chandumajra, and BKU (Sidhupur) vice-president Mehar Singh.

Plantation drive across 5 states to revive Ganga

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New Delhi: Seeking to rejuvenate the Ganga through a massive plantation exercise in its riverscape, the Centre on Tuesday released a detailed project report (DPR) on the sort of intervention it plans for the river which will see five states plant trees on 83,946 sq km of identified diverse forest areas over the next five years. Timing the release of the report with World Water Day, Union water resources minister Uma Bharti stressed on planting of Himalayan species of vegetation along the river that will produce 'Brahmadrav', which she said, ensures clean river water.

The identified patches in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal had seen large scale deforestation in the past, leading to damage to the water retention capacity of the catchment area.

The project, is to be implemented during 2016-21 in its first phase with an estimated cost of over Rs 2,293 crore will be funded by the Centre under its 'Namami Gange' programme and will help in absorbing water and dealing with soil erosion. 40 types of plants with high water retention capacity, including several shrubs of medicinal value, have been identified for this purpose.

Releasing the DPR jointly with Union environment minister Prakash Javadekar, Bharti said, "I am sure such concerted efforts and initiatives of forestry interventions for Ganga will facilitate in accomplishing the Namami Gange's goals of 'Nirmal Dhara' (clean flow) and 'Aviral Dhara' (uninterrupted flow) and in restoring the glory of the river."

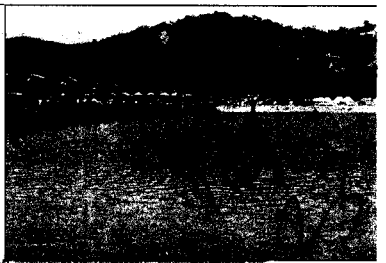
She also mentioned how vegetations with medicinal values in the catchment areas had been useful in naturally cleaning the river and making it "Brahmdrav (divine element)". "Ganga has an exclusive property called Brahmadrav, which ensures its water remains clean. Brahmadrav is not some myth or issue of faith alone. This Brahmadrav is made due to Himalayan native species of trees.," Bharti said.

Experts believe that plantation of trees, like walnut and oak, having high water retention capacity will increase the river's water level and enhance its flow in the long run.

COVER

plantation drive: Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal

Plantations will be done in the entire Ganga riverscape



Entire catchment of Bhagirathi, Alaknanda and Ganga sub-basin in Uttarakhand

Buffer of 5km on either side of the banks of Ganga's stem from Haridwar to Ganga Sagar

Buffer of 2km on either side of select tributaries of Ganga

Pollution down in Delhi thanks to strong winds

RELIEF Concentration of finer PM 2.5, which can enter and embed deep inside the human lungs, comes down, Holi likely to be cloudy

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NEW DELHI: Delhi's air quality was cleaner than usual on Tuesday, thanks to strong winds brought about by western disturbances.

Air pollution levels in the Capital had reached alarming levels last winter, with the Delhi High Court last year observing that the city had turned into a "gas chamber".

The temperature in the city also took a plunge, owing to the strong winds, with the minimum temperature falling to 17 degrees, two degrees below Monday's average, and the maximum temperature hovering around 30 degrees, one degree below normal.

According to data obtained from the monitoring stations of Central Pollution Control Board, PM2.5 reading was 38.38 µg/m3 at Punjabi Bagh, 37.15 µg/m3 at RK Puram and 27 µg/m3 at Mandir Marg. The safe limits for PM 2.5 microscopic particles — that can enter and embed deep inside the lungs and the human bloodstream — is 60 ug/m3.

Monitoring by System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR), under the ministry of earth sciences, also revealed average PM2.5 level at 78 on Tuesday for Delhi, with a forecast of shooting up to 85 on Wednesday. This air quality, according to an SAFAR health advisory, was satisfactory with air pollution posing little or no risk.

In Mumbai, the air quality remained "poor", owing to the Deonar landfill site fire, and was recorded at 222.

An AQI of 301-400 is considered very poor which may give rise to respiratory illness on prolonged exposure. When it's is between 201-300, it is regarded as poor, which may cause breathing discomfort on prolonged exposure.

The Met office, however, warned that the temperature was going to start rising from Wednesday with Delhi witnessing partly cloudy sky during Holi.

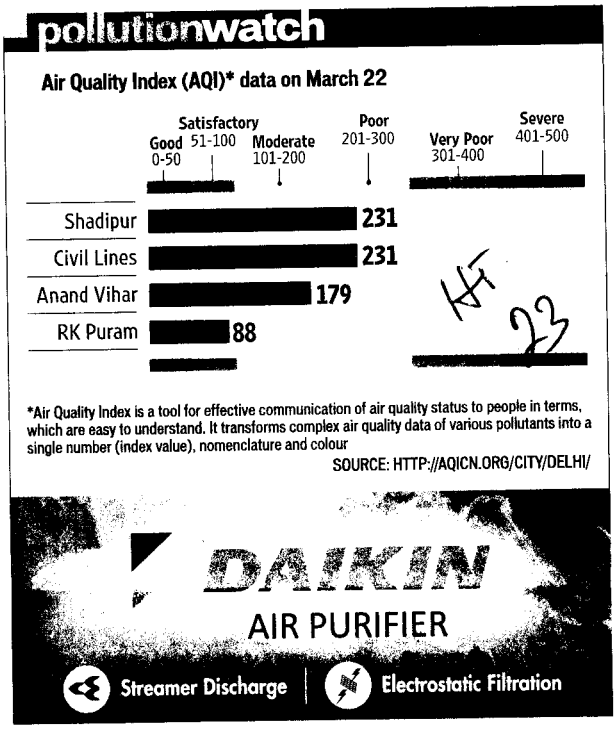
"This wind speed will come down and the temperature will go up by 1 or 2 degrees Celsius," said RK Jenamani, Director IGI Airport Met Centre.

On Wednesday, the day is expected to remain clear with mist and haze in the morning. The maximum and minimum temperature is likely to hover around 32 and 17 degrees Celsius.

Rain and thunderstorm may also occur during the weekends. On Sunday the Met office has forecast rain with thunderstorm.

WITH HTC INPUTS

■ **Strong winds, brought about by western disturbances, saw the temperatures in the city fall on Tuesday.** ARUN SHARMA/ HT PHOTO



Mahabharata over SYL

RAM VARMA

IT was a city on the river Yamuna, not very far from the present day Delhi. A blind king sat on the throne. His deceased brother's five sons wanted their share in the kingdom. But the blind king was dilly-dallying. Interceding on their behalf, a friendly king suggested in the royal assembly that the five brothers should at least be given a village each. Reacting sharply to this legitimate demand, the eldest son of the blind king stood up and said: "Five villages, did you say? We shall not give them land equal to a needle's head even!" We all know the story. It's called Mahabharata.

I had a sense of déjà vu and was thrown back into those olden times when I heard Punjab Chief Minister Badal say in the Assembly: "Punjab doesn't have any spare water. We shall not give even a drop of water to Haryana." I thought I was hearing the echoes from Mahabharata. The similarities are striking. Over 3,000 years ago Kauravas and Pandavas had inhabited these very territories and had fought the epic battle over them. Indeed, Haryana shares a Kaurava-Pandava type relationship with Punjab — it was a part and parcel of Punjab state at Independence and was carved out as a separate state in November 1966 on Punjab's reorganisation. They are siblings; their common assets, liabilities and properties were divided between them in the ratio of their population — 60:40. Now the fight is over water.

Chief Minister Badal's illustrious predecessor Amarinder Singh had shown similar arrogance in 2004 and had unilaterally abrogated Punjab's water sharing agreements with Haryana and other states, although he was among the principal cheerleaders of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi when she had laid the foundation stone of the selfsame carrier channel at Kapuri village in Punjab in 1982. That was an outrageous constitutional coup. The President of India had made a reference to the Supreme Court about it and one would have thought the matter would soon be evened out. However, no one paid it the attention it deserved and it has remained like a festering sore in the body politic of the nation. This had indeed emboldened Badal to outdo Amarinder Singh in political chicanery and indulge in saber-rattling and one-upmanship with his eyes on winning the elections which are due next year.

Badal has since passed a Bill undoing the construction of the channel meant to carry Haryana's share of water to the state. He has denotified the acquisition of land and has given a green light to the people to demolish the 120- km-long canal. But water is a matter of life and death for the people of the two states and inflaming their passions on this sensitive issue is like playing with fire.

The doting Dhritrashtra did not restrain his errant son Duryodhana. Only Bhishma, the venerable grandfather of the warring siblings, could perhaps avert the tragedy of fratricidal bloodbath. Only he could speak in the voice of authority and sanity and goad them to play fair by each other. But he too kept quiet. In the present context, it is the Supreme Court which has to restrain the power-hungry knights errant, show the light of justice and instill a sense of fair play in the people of the two sister states. The very unity of the nation is at stake.

25 और 26 को हो सकती है बारिश

नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली में होली के बाद एक बार फिर मौसम का मिजाज बदल सकता है। मौसम विभाग का कहना है कि 25 और 26 मार्च को बारिश होने की संभावना है। इस दौरान मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 33 से 34 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है। वहीं मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 19 से 20 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है।

बुधवार को आसमान साफ रह सकता है। मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 32 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 17 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान है। मंगलवार को मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री ज्यादा के साथ 30 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ। वहीं मिनिमम टेंपरेचर सामान्य के साथ 17 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ। हवा में मैक्सिमम ह्यूमिडिटी 58 पर्सेंट दर्ज हुआ। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के मुताबिक दिल्ली में अप्रैल महीने में भी थोड़ा मौसम ठंडा रहने की उम्मीद है। पिछले कुछ सालों की तुलना में इस बार मौसम की स्थिति बदल सकती है। मौजूदा मॉडल्स के मुताबिक एक के बाद एक वेस्टर्न डिस्टरबेंस आने वाले दस दिनों में आएंगे, जिससे मौसम का पैटर्न बदल सकता है।

नव-23-3-16

तो क्या अगला विश्वयुद्ध पानी के लिए होगा?

(विश्व जल दिवस पर विशेष)

ऋतुपर्ण दवे

जल के बिना जीवन की कल्पना असंभव है, लेकिन इसकी कमी के बीच जीवन कितना कष्टकर होगा यह उससे भी बड़ी जीवंत विडंबना है। देश के कई हिस्सों में अभी से जबरदस्त जल संकट गहरा गया है।

यह किसी त्रासदी से क्या कम है कि महाराष्ट्र के लातूर में पानी के लिए खूनी संघर्ष को रोकने के लिए 'विश्व जल दिवस' के दिन धारा 144 लागू है। कमोबेश यही स्थिति अभी मार्च के दूसरे पखवाड़े में ही आधे से ज्यादा देश में बनी हुई है। मार्च ही क्यों, हर साल लगभग 7-8 महीने पानी का घनघोर संकट कई प्रांतों में बना रहता है।

कई राज्य अभी से जबरदस्त सूखे की कगार पर हैं। कुएं, तालाब लगभग सूख गए हैं। बावड़ियों का अस्तित्व समाप्त प्राय: है। भूजल का स्तर बेहद नीचे जा चुका है। मशीनरी युग में और कितना नीचे तक पानी के लिए खुदाई की जाएगी, यह एक डरावनी कल्पना की हकीकत में बदलती तस्वीर है। अब लगने लगा है कि अगला विश्व युद्ध पानी के लिए ही होगा।

तेजी से जनसंख्या बढ़ने के साथ कल-कारखाने, उद्योगों और पशुपालन को बढ़ावा दिया गया, उस अनुपात में जल संरक्षण की ओर ध्यान नहीं गया, जिस कारण गिरता जल स्तर बेहद चिंता का कारण बना हुआ है।

रियो डि जेनेरियो में 1992 में आयोजित पर्यावरण तथा विकास के संयुक्त राष्ट्र सम्मेलन में 'विश्व जल दिवस' की परिकल्पना की गई थी और तभी 22 मार्च को 'विश्व जल दिवस' के रूप में यानी जल संरक्षण दिवस सुनिश्चित किया गया।

आंकड़े बताते हैं कि अभी दुनिया में करीब पौने 2 अरब लोगों को शुद्ध पानी नहीं मिल पाता। यह सोचना ही होगा कि केवल पानी को हम किसी कारखाने में नहीं बना सकते हैं इसलिए प्रकृति प्रदत्त जल का संरक्षण करना है। एक-एक बूंद जल के महत्व को समझना होना होगा। हमें वर्षाजल के संरक्षण के लिए चेतना ही होगा।

अंधाधुंध औद्योगीकरण और तेजी से फैलते कंक्रीट के जंगलों ने धरती की प्यास को बुझने से रोका है। धरती प्यासी है और जल प्रबंधन के लिए कोई ठोस प्रभावी नीति नहीं होने से, हालात बद से बदतर होते जा रहे हैं। कहने को तो धरातल पर तीन चौथाई पानी है लेकिन पीने लायक कितना, यह सर्वविदित है! रेगिस्तानी इलाकों की भयावह तस्वीर बेहद डरावनी और दु:खद है। पानी के लिए लोगों को मीलों पैदल जाना पड़ता है।

आधुनिकता से रंगे इस दौर में भी गंदा पानी पीना मजबूरी है। भले ही इससे जल जनित रोग हो जाएं और जान पर बन आए लेकिन प्यास तो बुझानी ही होगी! आंकड़े बताते हैं, पृथ्वी का 70 फीसदी हिस्सा पानी से लबालब है लेकिन इसमें पीने लायक अर्थात मीठा पानी केवल 40 घन किलोमीटर ही है।

दूसरे शब्दों में पृथ्वी पर मौजूद 97.3 प्रतिशत पानी समुद्र का है जो खारा है, केवल 2.7 प्रतिशत पानी ही मीठा है। दैनिक आवश्यकताओं की अगर बात की जाए तो अमूमन एक व्यक्ति औसतन 30-40 लीटर पानी रोजाना इस्तेमाल करता है।

उल्लेखनीय है कि 2015 में 30 नवंबर से 12 दिसम्बर तक संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन पर पेरिस में एक सम्मेलन आयोजित किया गया था। यह 1992 के संयुक्त राष्ट्र संरचना सम्मेलन (यूएनएफ सीसीसी) का 21वां और 1997 के क्योटा प्रोटोकॉल का 11वां सत्र था। इसमें भारत सहित 195 देश जुटे थे, जहां सभी ने वायुमंडल में नुक्सानदेह गैसों के उत्सर्जन और अवशोषण पर गंभीर चर्चा की लेकिन कितनी बड़ी विडम्बना थी कि भूगर्भीय जल को भूल गए। रासायनिक दृष्टि से भी देखा जाए तो पानी और हवा के संयोजन से ही जलवायु का अस्तित्व है।

हमारे वेद और उपनिषद् भी कहते हैं कि जल में ही ऊर्जा तत्व मौजूद होते हैं जो पृथ्वी के तापमान को प्रभावित करने की क्षमता रखते हैं लेकिन पेरिस सम्मेलन जल के इस गुण को याद नहीं रख सका। यहां भी जलवायु परिवर्तन के मुद्दे पर तो विकसित और विकासशील देशों के बीच खूब चर्चा हुई और मतभेद भी साफ नजर आए, लेकिन जल का संरक्षण कैसे हो, पर कुछ बात नहीं हुई।

अधिकांश देश अमूमन इस बात से सहमत थे कि सभी देशों को कार्बन उत्सर्जन पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए काम करना चाहिए।

कार्बन उत्सर्जन को ही लू, बाढ़, सूखा और समुद्र के जलस्तर में बढ़ौतरी का कारण माना जा रहा है, लेकिन इस सम्मेलन पर भूगर्भीय जल के गिरते स्तर पर गंभीर चर्चा को गैर-जरूरी समझा गया।

अब सबसे जरूरी है कि बारिश के पानी को सहेजा जाए जो कि बहुत आसान है। छोटे-छोटे प्रयासों से संभव है जैसे गहरी जड़ों, धीरे-धीरे बढ़ने वाले वृक्ष अधिक से अधिक लगाए जाएं। घरों में वर्षा जल संचयन अर्थात वाटर हार्वेस्टिंग सिस्टम बनाया जाए। 3-4 मीटर चौड़ी और 10-15 मीटर लंबी खाइयों को खाली जगहों पर बनाया जाए उसमें पत्थर, बजरी और मोटी रेत का भराव किया जाए जो पानी को सोखे और वह भूगर्भ तक पहुंचे।

इसी तर्ज पर गहरे गड्ढे बनाकर भी ऐसा किया जा सकता है जो कि पानी सोखने का काम करते हैं। छोटे-छोटे तालाब, बांध, नाले, रपटा, स्टाप डैम भी जनभागीदारी से हर मोहल्ले, गांव, कस्बे और शहर में तैयार किए जा सकते हैं जो भूगर्भीय जल संरक्षण में अहम भूमिका निभा सकते हैं।

पीने का पानी निश्चित रूप से एक बड़ी चुनौती है और इसके लिए सरकार का मुंह देखना खुद के साथ बेमानी होगी। बेहतर यही होगा कि हर किसी को इसके लिए एक-एक आहूति देनी होगी और तभी हम पानी के लिए तीसरे विश्वयुद्ध की भयावहता को न केवल टाल पाएंगे, बल्कि जल ही जीवन का नारा सार्थक कर पाएंगे।