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

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Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

SPA (Publicity)

for

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director (Publication)

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

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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05.2018

Hindustan Times Statesman The Times of India (N.D.) Indian Express Tribune Hindustan (Hindi) Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Punjab Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu

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Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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Modi, Hasina to discuss Teesta, Rohingya issues at May 25 meet

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA KOLKATA, MAY 22 TE - 23

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi would on Friday meet his Bangladeshi counterpart, Sheikh Hasina, on the sidelines of Visva Bharati's convocation. The two are likely to discuss issues like Teesta waters sharing, cross-border terrorism and exodus of Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar to Bangladesh.

Bangladesh information minister Hasanul Haq Inu said enhancing cultural co-operation is the prime agenda of Hasina's visit.

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee is yet to agree to sharing of Teesta waters with Bangladesh citing possible shortage it may cause in her state.

"I am not sure whether Mamata Banerjee would be present during the deliberations... There may be informal talks over the vital issue of Teesta waters," said former Presidency College principal Amal Mukhopadhyay.

Bangladesh has been demanding equal share of waters from the Teesta, which flows into the country via West Bengal from Sikkim. Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindl)
Punjab Keshari (Hindl)
The Hindu
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# Scientists: No major contamination in Beas

GS PAUL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

28/

#### AMRITSAR, MAY 22

Putting an end to all speculations, scientists of Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GAD-VASU), Ludhiana, have concluded that no major contamination has been found in the Beas riverwater sample and that the heavy casualty of aquatic life was due to acidic pH and low dissolved oxygen.

However, the post-mortem of fish could not be performed due to putrefied samples.

Several water, sediment and fish samples were collected by the state fisheries officials on May 17 between 9 am and 2 pm, after reports of tonnes of fish mortality surfaced following the spillage of molasses in the river due to the alleged negligence of Chadha Sugar Industries, Kiri Afgana.

The Central Equipment Laboratory College of Fisheries, GADVASU, submitted its report to Amritsar Deputy Commissioner KS Sangha on Tuesday. It has indicated that the samples collected by scientists at 7 pm the same day, revealed low dissolved oxygenand high biological oxygen.

#### PPCB PROBE REPORT SUBMITTED

- Chandigarh: The three-member probe panel formed by the government to look into the reasons for the molasses' spill in the Beas on Tuesday submitted its report to Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) chairman KS Pannu.
- The panel was headed by PPCB Chief Environmental Engineer GS Majithia. Pannu said the report would be discussed at a high-level meeting to be held in Chandigarh on Wednesday.
- Official sources said the report had recommended raising the security deposit for Chadha Sugars and Industries in Kiri Afgana from ₹25 lakh to ₹1 crore, besides recovering the costs of releasing water in the Beas from the Pong and Ranjit Sagar dams to flush out the polluted water.
- The report is also learnt to have indicated that the cause of the spill was a blast in the tank, it has reportedly indicated that as the molasses flowed in the Beas, it led to an exothermic reaction that killed the fish.

There was low pH (5.61), high ammonia nitrate and phosphorous content resulting in high organic load which could be the possible reason of high fish mortality.

University dean Balbir Singh Sandhu said the tests were conducted on critical water quality parameters and there was no major contamination in water, microbiological or pesticides residue. Similarly, no pesticide was detected in fish samples which were tested for 14 pesticides. Water

and sediment samples were tested for 36 pesticides.

"Any sort of infection or disease did not appear to be the cause behind fish mortality as there were no pathological signs and bacteria," he said.

Meanwhile, the university has issued an advisory for remedial measures. It has recommended regular monitoring of the river stretch every 10-15 km downstream as the dead fish should be removed at the earliest to avoid further damage to river ecology.

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### Easy flows the disaster

Beas exposes govt incompetence, indifference

A S it turns out, the Punjab Government was caught by surprise when the polluted Beas water reached downstream Malwa and Rajasthan areas by way of canals. Drinking water reservoirs were allowed to be polluted. This is not only shocking in terms of apathy of the government machinery, but in a way also explains why the Kiri Afghana sugar mill disaster may have happened in the first place. That water will flow down the river, and reach the areas fed by it, would appear to be common sense; and it does not take biotech expertise to realise that the untold quantities of dead fish in a river will wreak havoc. Yet, no authority took any steps to prevent the obvious.

The location of the sugar mill — not far from the river, and right next to a natural drain leading down to the river — combined with the voluminous quantities of foul liquid such industries hold, was a disaster waiting to happen. Reports of improper disposal of effluents by industries are common, but rarely is any particular instance nailed by competent authorities, and all such suspicions are allowed to remain just that. It would not be a great stretch of imagination if one were to draw a connection between successive governments turning a blind eye to the reckless attitude towards effluent management and the fact that owners of nearly all sugar mills and distilleries are politically connected moneybags.

The ham-handedness displayed by the government following the incident has exposed the system's complete lack of competence to comprehend the enormity of the disaster, and also to take any measures beyond issuing statements, mostly aimed at containing panic rather than the fallout. The limitations of the legal provisions to deal with the situation may also be revealed over the coming days as ridiculously low fines and penalties may be imposed on the mill owners. Water pollution, whether in the rivers or natural drains and ponds, or even in the ground, has been a cause of concern in the state for decades now. It is time the government demonstrated it is aware of that.

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### Cauvery cauldron boils

he Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal gave its final verdict in February 2007. It is binding on the three riparian States of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puduchery. Because of the intransigent attitude of Karnataka, abetted by successive Union governments on political considerations, and the attitude of the Supreme Court, the Tribunal's final verdict, by no stretch of imagination favourable to Tamil Nadu, could not be implemented till now. The sticking point is the constitution of a Cauvery Management Board on the lines of the Bhakra-Beas Management Board involving the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Chandigarh. Karnataka is not a stranger to such boards. The Tungabhadra Board, the first of its kind after independence, regulating water sharing between Andhra Pradesh, including Telangana, and Karnataka, has been functioning since 1953 without any hitch. The Supreme Court muddled the waters by admitting a spate of Special Leave Petitions against the Tribunal's final order without any discussion of the bar on the jurisdiction of the courts provided for under Article 262 of the Constitution and enacted by Parliament in the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956. After admitting the SLPs, the Supreme Court went into hibernation for the next seven years. By itself, the apex court lacks technical competence to adjudicate river water disputes. Nevertheless, the SLPs were admitted, taking recourse to Article 136(1) of the Constitution.

After many a fitful hearing, the Supreme Court on 18 May brought the curtain down by directing the Union government to notify in the Gazette the constitution of a 10-member Cauvery Water Management Authority and give effect to the authority with promptitude and before the onset of the south-west monsoon. The Bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices AM Kanwilkar and DY Chandrachud which passed this order noted there was a distress situation in Tamil Nadu due to scarcity of water which could be remedied to some extent by effective implementation of the 'scheme'. Full details of the 'scheme' have not been divulged. According to the draft scheme, the Cauvery Management Authority will not take over operation and maintenance of the dams in the Cauvery system, but will regulate the release of water in accordance with the final award of the Tribunal subject to availability of water. The Authority is supposed to take care of interests of all the States in a fair manner. The Authority has been divested of independent powers enjoyed by the Bhakra-Beas Management Board. A section-by-section comparison of the final award and the draft scheme shows that Tamil Nadu's interests have been compromised.

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### Delhi records hottest day of season



A woman protects herself from the sun with an umbrella on a hot day in the Capital on

The national capital today recorded its hottest day of the season with the mercury soaring to 46 degrees Celsius in some parts of the city.

The Safdarjung observatory, whose recording is considered official, registered a maximum temperature of 44 degrees Celsius, four notches above the season's average, a Met department official said.

It was the hottest day of the season so far, the offi-

Areas under Palam, Lodhi Road, Ridge and Ayanagar observatories recorded maximum temperatures of 46, 43.3, 44.3 and 44.7 degrees Celsius, respectively.

The minimum temperature settled at 26.2 degrees Celsius, normal for this time of the year, the official said.

The humidity level oscillated between 45 and 15

The Met office has forecast partly cloudy skies with the possibility of thundery developments for tomor-

"The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to hover at 44 and 26 degrees respectively," the official said.

Yesterday, the minimum and maximum temperatures were recorded at 25.5 and 26.4 degrees and 41.8 degrees Celsius, respec-

### Strong winds expected in Delhi today

PTI NEW DELHI, 22 MAY

Strong surface winds are expected to sweep Delhi today and the temperature may soar up to 43 degrees

"The wind speed will be around 20-25 kms/hr and after this there will be mainly clear sky with temperature soaring up to 43 degrees celsius," a MÉT official said.

The national capital recorded the hottest day of the season yesterday with the mercury touching 44.2 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal, as record ed in the Palam observator The minimum tempera ture recorded in the mo ing was 26.2 degrees ( sius, according to the

Partly cloudy sky with possibility of thunder and lightning has been forecast for tomorrow.

News item/letter/arpicle/editorial published on

23.05.2018

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# Yamuna board to hear water dispute between Haryana and Delhi today 4.7-23

**HT Correspondent** 

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB), which regulates the share of Yamuna's water among five beneficiary states, would meet on Wednesday to settle the water-sharing dispute between Delhi and Haryana.

Hindustan Times

Indian Express

Hindustan (Hindi)

The Times of India (N.D.)

Statesman

Tribune

The board is expected to take a decision to setfle the dispute early next week. Delhi had approached the board on May 16 on the Supreme Court's directions.

"The URYB will hold a meeting tomorrow (Wednesday) to hear our case. We had approached the board on May 15 after the directions of the Supreme Court," said Dinesh Mohaniya, vice-chairman of Delhi Jal Board.



 The city is staring at a water crisis.

HT FI

The Supreme Court had on May 11 slammed the UYRB for not doing its job pertaining to distribution of river water among the beneficiary states, asking it why the court should do its work.

The DJB had initially moved the Supreme Court against Haryana.

A senior board official said a committee has been formed to hear the two states. A decision would be taken in the board's meeting likely to be held on Monday.

"On Wednesday, representatives from the two states—Delhi and Haryana—have been called. We will hear them. A decision would be taken by the board, expectedly on Monday," said a senior official of the UYRB.

A water crisis is looming over Delhi as Haryana is likely to curtail supply to the Capital from this week.

Apprehending a water crisis during peak summer and law and order problems, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had sent letters to the prime minister and the chief minister of Haryana last week. On Monday, Haryana assured that it would continue to supply water for another 10 days, providing a respite.

"As of now Haryana is giving us the amount of water we were receiving. The situation is under control," said Mohaniya.

Haryana supplies 1,133 cusecs of water to Delhi.

A Delhi Jal Board official said Delhi has been facing shortage of drinking water supply since December 30, 2017.

"Initially the problem was because of increased ammonia levels which the Wazirabad treatment plant could not handle and supply had to be curtailed. Then again from April 2, 2018, Haryana reduced supply by around 120 cusecs," said the DJB official.

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## Palam sizzles at 46°C, today could be hotter

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

SEASON'S HIGH

New Delhi: The temperature hit a peak of 46 degrees Celsius at Palam, the highest in two years for the month of May and six notches above normal, as searing northwesterly winds and clear skies made Tuesday the hottest day of the season. Wednesday could be even hotter with the Met office issuing a "heat wave" warning over the capital.

The maximum temperature recorded at the city's main weather station, Safdarjung, was 44 degrees C on Tuesday, the season's highest. The regional Met office said Wednesday could see a high of 45 degrees C at Safdarjung.

45 degrees C at Safdarjung. The met office said Thursday could see a slight drop in temperature with a likelihood 46°C Max temp at Palam, highest for any May day since 2016

44°C Max at Safdarjung, season's highest

- ➤ Heat wave warning issued for Wednesday. Max may hit 45°C at Safdarjung
- Thursday could see slight relief, with dust storm likely

of a dust storm. "The maximum may fall to 42 degrees on Thursday due to thunderstorm and dust storm activity. Following that, temperatures will rise once again and reach 45 degrees," said the official.

▶Continued on P7

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05,2018

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# Temp 4-6° Cabove normal, lack of wind adding to discomfort





THE COST OF DEVELOPMENT? Every day, sisters Arti (left) and Kajal walk nearly a kilometre from their makeshift home near Akshardham to fetch drinking water for their family. Ever since their shanties at Samaspur village in east Delhi were demolished to make way for the Delhi-Meerut Expressway, the two kids have been lending a helping hand to their family, which includes their baby brother, Ganesh

#### ▶ Continued from P1

ther weather stations in Delhi recorded similar highs on Tuesday, with Ayanagar and Ridge registering 44.7 and 44.3 degrees Celsius, respectively

"The normal for this time of the season is around 40 degrees Celsius but we were four to six degrees above normal at places in Delhi today. Both Palam and Safdarjung recorded seasonal highs and it could hotter on Wednesday. We have issued a heat wave warning in Delhi, parts of Uttar Pradesh and north India

for Wednesday," said a senior

Delhi had recorded a maximum of 41.8 degrees Celsius at Safdarjung on Monday while four degrees above normal.

Met officials attributed the rise in temperatures to a lack of moisture in the air, with easterly winds no longer

A 'heat wave' is declared when temperatures are above 40°C and more than four degrees above normal. Airport Met officials said such high temperatures were affecting operations, especially cargo flights during the afternoon

Palam saw the maximum touch 44.2 degrees Celsius.

A 'heat wave' is declared when temperatures are above 40 degrees C and more than

blowing towards There is no western disturbance affecting Delhi at the moment and the clear skies are helping the maximum shoot fairly high. Earlier, we were getting moisture through easterly winds but they have also changed direction and there is very little moisture at this moment," said an official.

Airport Met officials said such high temperatures were affecting operations, especially cargo flights during the afternoon. "Between 1.30pm to 5pm, the temperature was 45-46 degrees at the runway. The air at such temperatures is very hot and less dense. This doesn't provide the lift that aircraft normally get while operate in the morning or night," said the official.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05, 2018 in the

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### In Kishanganga dam security, more than Pak shelling, sabotage a



Location of the dam

India's confidence in

Recent infiltration is

structure's security

close to LoC underlines

handling the challenge.

the cause for review of



NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN

CHANDIGARH, MAY 22

IN NOVEMBER 2016, as India-Pakistan tensions escalated in the weeks after the attack in Uri and India's much publicised strikeback, workers at the Kishanganga Hydel Electricity Project in Gurez in North Kashmir experienced for the the first time the dangers of the Line of Control. In all, 18 shells fell from across the LoC, just a kilometre away over the hills, on both sides of the dam, which was then close to completion.

"All of us just left whatever we were doing and ran into the tunnel," said Sanjay Kumar, an employee of the construction company building the dam.

The tunnel, completed in June 2014, is an integral part of the KHEP—it takes the water from the Kishanganga River in Gurez Valley to an underground power station at Bandipora in the Kashmir Valley. Back then, there was no water in it. According to dam officials, along with the workers, a large number of villagers too, rushed into the tunnel for shelter, and demanded to be evacuated.

"We had to call the Army for help," a dam official said.



A breach in the dam will likely flood PoK villages downstream. Neeraj Priyadarshi

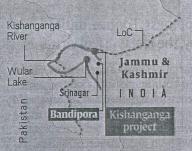
"But that was the first and last time this happened in all my years here," said Kumar, who joined the project in November 2009.

On Monday, following intelligence reports of cross-LoC infiltration bids in Gurez, the government decided to review security at KHEP. Hundreds of CISF personnel currently guard the dam. An Army camp deployed on the LoC is nearby, providing an added layer of overall defence for the dam. During a recent visit by this correspondent, a row of artillery guns inside the camp was visible from the road, their

barrels trained at the mountain.

If India decided to locate the project there despite the evident dangers of the LoC, it could not have been without the confidence that it could handle this challenge, dam officials who did not wish to be named, told *The Indian Express*.

The biggest defence, said the officials, is that any act to destroy the dam would actually pose the greatest danger to Pakistan—the maximum impact would be felt downstream, across the LoC, in Pakistan



Occupied Kashmir. As the Kishanganga flows, the LoC is only about 10 km from the dam, and habitation begins almost immediately. The first village in PoK, along the banks of the Neelum, as the river is known across the LoC, is Tawbal.

Of the 27 villages in Gurez, only six are located downstream along the banks of the Kishanganga, and all have been shifted uphill due to the dam.

However, even assuming that the dam is targeted, shelling from across the LoC does not pose a real danger, officials said. The dam is located in a gorge, and is not in the direct line of fire. In the event that a shell does

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#### **NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN**

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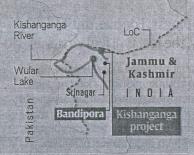
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hit it, the dam, one official said. "is a heavy structure, and can withstand shelling".

A more serious concern is sabotage by an individual or groups, said the official. But that too would pose the same dangers of flooding downstream. The river is wide enough to cause flooding at a discharge of about 2,000 cumec (cubic metres per second). The Kishanganga dam has a pondage of about 7 million cubic metres, but how this will translate into water flow will depend on the extent of damage to the dam, and consequently, the time it would take for it to flow out.

The people who live in the villages near the dam site are also thought of as another layer of security. In Kashmir, the people of Gurez are considered pro-India. Many are directly or indirectly employed by the Army.

As for the other parts of the project, the tunnel is bored deep in the mountains, and transports the water of the Kishanganga to an underground power station in Bandipora in the Kashmir Valley. Officials say that these However, even assuming that the dam is portions of the dam are inaccessible, and would be difficult if not outright impossible to target.

nirupama.subramanian@expressindia.com

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Statesman
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## Rivers, the soul of Punjab, ar

An enquiry into the spill of molasses in the Beas from a distillery and reasons why regularly way is merited. Such cases must be tracked till time-bound remediation happens, failing

GUNBIR SINGH

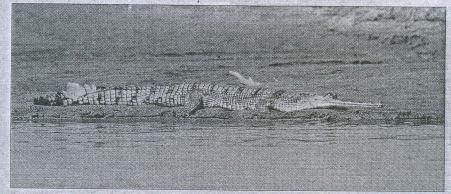
Chairman WWF-India (Punjab)

E Punjabis lose the right to call ourselves by the name if we cannot keep the rivers of Punj-Aab pristine. Industrial pollutants, untreated municipal wastes and farm chemical runoffs are an unholy cocktail being added to our river waters every single day. And yet our regulatory procrastination knows no end.

In singular instances, we lose millions of aquatic lives, cause irreparable damage to our ecosystems, and put at risk innumerable lives. These are the waters that irrigate our fields, provide food for the population and quench the thirst of humanity inside the state and beyond.

The release of molasses by the distiller at Kiri Afghana village, even if accidental, only confirms its access to the river flows. Further, its history of toxic waste release is well known in the area, and so is the browbeating of those who poke concern. More worrisome is the fact that hundreds of such access points, into the rivers and waterways of Punjab, exist right under the noses of the relevant authorities, which continue to run havoc on ecology.

This present incident has not just liquidated the aquatic populations of the area, but also depleted the water of oxygen, raised the PH levels and added a massive dose of toxins. The repercussions shall be to the environment and the populations downstream. A thorough enquiry into the present case thus is indeed merited, including earlier history of the pollutant, and reasons as to why the regulators have been looking the other way. Such cases require to be tracked till time-bound



SPILL-HIT: (From L) Gharial and Indus river dolphins in Dhunda and in the Beas. TRIBUNE PHOTOS

remediation happens, failing which units are sealed for good.

More so is the crying need for a monitoring the Task Force which spots, documents, and is empowered to warn polluters and recommended action. This requires to be of the nature of an empowered advisory, overseeing woefully uninspired regulators of the present. An advisory of non-political watchdogs of society, community and ecological torchbearers, in service of natural assets of public import is needed.

Early last year also the sudden stoppage of water flows for desilting operations had killed lakhs of water species. The present incident and other lurking possibilities endanger the dolphins and gharials as well, which are under global watch. A census conducted at the beginning of this month by the state government in collaboration with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) confirmed the sightings of dolphin calves which showcased a growing population of this unique sub species of the blind Indus dolphin called *Platanista Gangetica Minor*.

This species was first spotted by the con-

joined WWF and Forest Dept teams in 2007, though they were known to have gone extinct in the region many decades ago. The Punjab Government has been avidly promoting the introduction of gharials as well in order to improve the biodiversity of the wetlands. In three tranches, nearly 50 gharials have already been introduced and are being monitored regularly. All these efforts and the wealth could have come to naught due to the negligence of individual corporate and state regulators. Thus, evidence of survival may be sweet relief, but exemplary reprimand is merited and a whole-hog policy rehash imperative.

Holistically speaking, even the groundwater levels in the state are precariously low due to overdrawing and feeding thirsty crops. It is these river water sources that will be the sustainable supply of tomorrow. The need is, therefore, acute to refresh our surface water resources not just for the aquatic species, but also for sustenance of the human population of the state. It is also worthy of mention that these river systems - the Beas and the Sutlej downstream at Harik that the stark reality of lej blends with the bro Beas. These blended v ue onwards to feed the western Punjab and R

Degraded and deplet are a grave challenge much has been throw for too long. Even a pro (Prevention of Attrit Nature Initiative) pre this author to the ther Punjab evinced intere The negative elements but snowballed into tra of which is being witne More will ensue unles make corrections, mo vigil. The colossal loss time is evident, reperd tions may surface with

Today cleaning up of attracting hundreds of ment in the country. It lished on 23.05.2018 in the

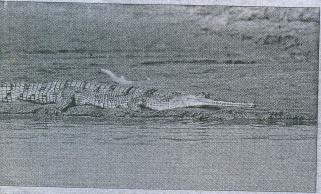
av Bharat Times (Hindi) unjab Keshari (Hindi) ne Hindu ujasthan Patrika (Hindi) eccan Chronicle eccan Herald M.P. Chronicle

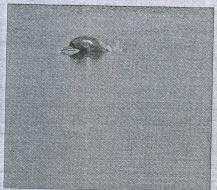
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Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

sh)& Publicity Section, CWC

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in the Beas from a distillery and reasons why regulators have been looking the other tracked till time-bound remediation happens, failing which units are sealed for good.







arial and Indus river dolphins in Dhunda and in the Beas. TRIBUNE PHOTOS

failing which units

meed for a monitorwhich spots, docued to warn polluters on. This requires to apowered advisory, inspired regulators ory of non-political ammunity and ecoservice of natural s needed.

e sudden stoppage ng operations had ecies. The present king possibilities and gharials as well, watch. A census hing of this month at in collaboration of dolphin calves ring population of the blind Indus Gangetica Minor.

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Holistically speaking, even the ground-water levels in the state are precariously low due to overdrawing and feeding thirsty crops. It is these river water sources that will be the sustainable supply of tomorrow. The need is, therefore, acute to refresh our surface water resources not just for the aquatic species, but also for sustenance of the human population of the state. It is also worthy of mention that these river systems - the

Beas and the Sutlej — eventually meet downstream at Harike Patan. It is here that the stark reality of a black putrid Sutlej blends with the brown waters of River Beas. These blended waters then continue onwards to feed the requirements of western Punjab and Rajasthan.

Degraded and depleting water resources are a grave challenge to the state. Too much has been thrown under the carpet for too long. Even a proposal called PAANI (Prevention of Attrition to Assets in Nature Initiative) presented in 2008 by this author to the then Chief Minister of Punjab evinced interest, but little action. The negative elements since then have all but snowballed into tragic situations, one of which is being witnessed by us all today. More will ensue unless action is taken to make corrections, monitor and sustain vigil. The colossal loss of fish species this time is evident, repercussions to populations may surface with time.

Today cleaning up of river systems is attracting hundreds of crores in investment in the country. It is, therefore, oppor-

tune to take the plunge for cleaner surface and groundwater resources. The state has over the decades all but failed in rectifying gaps, in creating effective sewage treatment processes, hard waste management and disposal, air pollution improvements or even in checking flows of effluents into freshwater systems. Let us remember that the tragedy this time is aquatic, but tomorrow it may be human, and therefore kneejerk one-time action will not suffice.

On the one hand is the slumber of the regulatory authorities. On the other is the adept machinery of connivance and impropriety built into the system over the decades. And yet again, most shameful of all is our inherent attitude of being participant in these processes or equally so looking the other way while natural assets are compromised with impunity.

Punjab has for centuries prided itself as the land of five rivers. It has already lost two to the partition of the subcontinent. It is time that we rethink our right to the name if we cannot therefore keep the remaining rivers and their sources clean. News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05.2018. 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)
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### सिंधु जल संधि मामले में पाक ने की भारत की शिकायत

वाशिंगटन, (भाषा): पाकिस्तानी प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने विश्व बैंक के समक्ष सिंधु जल संधि में भारत के कथित उल्लंघन का मामला उठाया है। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा जम्म -कश्मीर में 330 मेगावाट किशनगंगा जलविद्युत परियोजना का उद्घाटन करने के कुछ दिनों बाद इस मामले पर बैठक हुई। पाकिस्तान की आपत्ति है कि उसके देश में बहकर आने वाली नदी पर परियोजना शुरू करने से पानी की आपूर्ति बाधित होगी। विश्व बैंक के प्रवक्ता ने कहा, " सिंधु जल संधि एक बेहद महत्वपूर्ण अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समझौता है , जो भारत - पाकिस्तान को मानवीय जरूरतों को पूरा करने और विकास के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रभावी जल प्रबंधन की वर्तमान एवं भावी चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए एक आवश्यक सहकारी ढांचा प्रदान करता है। '' बैठकों में पाकिस्तानी प्रतिनिधिमंडलों द्वारा उठाई गई चिंताओं और संधि के तहत मैत्रीपूर्ण समाधानों के अवसर तलाशने पर चर्चा की जा रही है। है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05.2018 in the

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### सामान्य से कम रही मानसून पूर्व बारिश 🗠 🥕

बदलते जलवायु के चलते इस साल मानसून पूर्व बारिश में कमी आई है। हर साल मार्च से मई के दौरान होने वाली मानसून पूर्व बारिश का स्तर करीब 14 राज्यों में सामान्य से भी कम रहा है। इसमें सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित सूबा गुजरात रहा है।

गर्मी के प्रकोप से राहत और खरीफ की फसल को बेहतर बनाने के लिए मानसून पूर्व बारिश का बहुत महत्व है। मौसम विभाग के इस साल एक मार्च से 16 मई तक के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, बारिश का स्तर पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के अलावा बिहार, हिरयाणा, पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश, राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और जम्मू कश्मीर में सामान्य से कम रहा। इस दौरान पूरे देश में मानसून पूर्व बारिश में 11 प्रतिशत की कमी दर्ज की गई है। विभाग के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि साल 2014 के बाद देश में मानसून पूर्व बारिश का यह न्यूनतम स्तर है। उन्होंने कहा कि मानसून पूर्व बारिश दो लिहाज से बेहद अहम होती है। पहला मैदानी इलाकों में प्रचंड गर्मी से राहत दिलाती है और दूसरा फसलों को नुकसान होने से बचाती है।

News item/letter/arficle/editorial published on

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and documented at Bhagarath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

### 'गंगा सफाई अभियान में लोगों की भूमिका अहम'

नई दिल्ली एजेंसियां

जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने गंगा सफाई अभियान में स्थानीय लोगों की भूमिका को अहम बताया।

उन्होंने मंगलवार को कहा कि यह चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य है और इससे गंगा तट पर बसे लोगों के लिए रोजगार के नए अवसर सृजित करके निपटा जा सकता है। गडकरी ने गंगा सफाई को लेकर आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि गंगा तट के इलाकों

### गडकरी बोले

- नदी की सफाई को लेकर स्थानीय लोगों को भागीदार बनाया जाएगा
- तटवर्ती इलाकों में रोजगार सृजन से प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा

में ऐसी गतिविधियां चलाई जानी चाहिए जिससे न सिर्फ रोजगार का सूजन हो बल्कि जैव-विविधता का संरक्षण भी सुनिश्चित किया जा सके। इससे गंगा प्रहरी और गंगा मित्र के रूप में स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन से जुड़े लोग लाभान्वित होंगे। 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. Chronide Azj (Hindi) Indian Nation Nai Duniya (Hindi) The Times of India (A)

and documented at Bhadirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

### गंगा सफाई न होने पर लोग मोदी को उहरायेंगे जिम्मेदार

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने आज कहा कि अगर गंगा की सफाई का काम परा नहीं हुआ तब लोग इसका दोष नौकरशाहों पर नहीं डालेंगे बल्कि वे यही कहेंगे कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कर पाये। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री ने

लालफीताशाही में संलग्न अधिकारी पसंद नहीं हैं और अगर अधिकारी काम नहीं करते हैं तब उनकी विश्वसनीयता प्रभावित होती है।गडकरी इससे पहले भी नकारात्मक सोच और ढीला रवैया अपनाने वाले नौकरशाहों को लेकर इस तरह की बातें कह

उन्होंने कहा, ''मैं ऐसे लोगों को पसंद नहीं करता जिनका झुकाव लालफीताशाही की ओर है। मैं ऐसे लोगों को पसंद करता हं जो काम पुरा करते हैं। मुझे अपने किसी निर्णय पर कोई आपत्ति नहीं है लेकिन लोग वर्षो



में रिपोर्ट तैयार करते हैं और कोई काम नहीं होता और तब आपकी विश्वसनीयता प्रभावित होती है।' उन्होंने कहा कि जो रिपोर्ट तैयार होती हैं, उन पर अमल होना चाहिए । गडकरी ने कहा कि अगर काम पुरा नहीं होगा तब कोई नौकरशाहों को दोष नहीं देगा। लोग यही कहेंगे कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कर पाये, नितिन गडकरी ने कुछ नहीं किया । केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि उन्होंने नौकरशाहों के फैसले में कभी हस्तक्षेप नहीं किया लेकिन चाहते हैं कि काम तत्काल शरू हो जाएं।

### गंगा साफ नहीं हुई तो अफसरों को नहीं, मोदी को घेरेंगे लोग'

**भाषा, नई दिल्ली** 

केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि अगर गंगा की सफाई का काम पूरा नहीं हुआ तब लोग इसका दोष नकारात्मक सोच और के काम में दखल नहीं दूंगा, नौकरशाहों पर नहीं डालेंगे, बल्क ढीला रवैया अपनाने यही कहेंगे कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र वाले नौकरशाहों को मोदी कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कर पाए । जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री ने कहा कि उन्हें

प्रभावित होती है।

गडकरी इससे पहले भी

लेकर इस तरह की बातें

पसंद नहीं हैं। अगर अफसर काम लालफीताशाही की ओर है। मैं ऐसे

गडकरी ने कहा, अफसरों पर गंगा सफाई का काम आपत्ति नहीं है, जल्द शुरू हो

पूरा करते हैं। मुझे अपने किसी फैसले पर कोई लेकिन लोग वर्षो

उन्होंने कहा, "मैं ऐसे लोगों को कोई काम नहीं होता। तब आपकी चाहते हैं कि काम तत्काल शरू हो लालफीताशाही में शामिल अफसर पसंद नहीं करता जिनका झुकाव विश्वसनीयता प्रभावित होती है।'

उन्होंने कहा कि जो रिपोर्ट तैयार नहीं करते तो उनकी विश्वसनीयता लोगों को पसंद करता हूं, जो काम होती हैं, उन पर अमल होना चाहिए। अगर काम पूरा नहीं होगा तब कोई नौकरशाहों को दोष नहीं देगा। लोग यही कहेंगे कि प्रधानमंत्री मोदी कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कर पाए, नितिन गडकरी ने कुछ नहीं किया। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा में रिपोर्ट तैयार कि उन्होंने नौकरशाहों के फैसले में करते हैं और कभी हस्तक्षेप नहीं किया, लेकिन जाएं।



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• मौसम में बदलाव के कारण लोग बेहाल

H-13

### उत्तर भारत के कई शहरों में पारा 45 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब



दिल्ली में मंगलवार को भीषण गर्मी के बीच बच्चों को बचाने की कोशिश करती माताएं।

#### नर्ड दिल्ली | हिटी

उत्तर भारत में गर्मी अपने चरम पर है और कई शहरों में पारा 45 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब पहुंच गया है। पंजाब, हरियाण उत्तरप्रदेश,राजस्थान, महाराष्ट्र का विदर्भ गर्मी से सबसे अधिक प्रभावित है और यहां लू चल रही है।

उत्तरप्रदेश के कई इलाकों में मंगलवार को सूरज लोगों को जलाने की इरादे से निकला। कानपुर, इलाहाबाद, बांदा, उर्र्ड में अधिकतम तापमान 46 डिग्री सेल्सियस के आसपास रहा। हरियाणा और पंजाब के अधिकांश हिस्से भी मंगलवार को भयानक लू की चपेट में रहे, और यहां कई स्थानों परपारा 44-45 डिग्री सेल्सियस पहुंच गया। यही हाल राजस्थान में भी रहा, यहां सोमवार के मुकाबले मंगलवार को अधिकतम तापमान में एक से दो डिग्री सेल्सियस की वृद्धि दर्ज की गई। मध्य प्रदेश की राजधानी भोपाल सहित राज्य के अन्य हिस्सों में भी मंगलवार को मौसम का मिजाज तल्ख रहा। खरगोन में अधिकतम तापमान 46 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। महाराष्ट्र के नागपुर में भी पार 45 डिग्री पर दर्ज किया

श्योपुर सबसे गर्म स्थानः मध्यप्रदेश का श्योपुर देश का सबसे गर्म स्थान रहा। यहां पर अधिकतम तापमान 46. 6 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। वहीं इलाहाबाद में 46.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस के साथ उत्तरप्रदेश का सबसे गर्म स्थान रहा। इलाहाबाद विश्व विद्यालय के प्रोफेसर एसएस ओझा ने कहा कि शहर में भीष्ण गर्मी पड़ने का कारण कर्क रेखा से नजदीकी और गंगा-यमुना की रेत है।

#### ं आसमानी आफत

		NO.
शहर	तापमान 🛕	
बांदा	46.2	
सतना	44.5	
बीकानेर	45.2	-
खंडवा	44.5	

(नोट: आंकड़ें डिग्री सेल्सियस में)

### पूर्वोत्तर, दक्षिण में बारिश

दक्षिण भारत के कई इलाके और पूर्वोत्तर भारत मानसून पूर्व बारिश से सराबोर है। मोसम विभाग के मुताबिक बुधवार को भी यह सिलसिला जारी रहेगा। अरुणावल प्रदेश, असम, मेघालय, नगालैंड, मणिपुर, मिजोरम और त्रिपुरा के कई इलाकों में भारी बारिश की संभावना जताई गई है। वहीं दक्षिण में दक्षिण आंतरिक कर्नाटक, तमिलनाडु, पुडुचेरी और केरल में भी मानसून पूर्व की बारिश होगी।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.05.20/8

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Рипјав Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) Deccan Chronicle Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle A a i (Hindi) Indian Nation Nai Duniya (Hindi) The Times of India (A)

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

**ं आफत**ः राजस्थान की ओर से आ रही लू हवा की नमी सोख रही, बुजुर्गों-बच्चों पर बीमारियों का संकट

नई दिल्ली | कार्यालय संवाददाता

राजधानी दिल्ली मंगलवार को राजस्थान के जैसलमेर से भी ज्यादा गरम रही। दिल्ली के पालम इलाके में अधिकतम तापमान 46 डिग्री सेल्सियस तक जा पहुंचा जबकि जैसलमेर में अधिकतम तापमान 43 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। इसके पहले 24 मई को 2013 में सफदरजंग इलाके में पारा 46 डिग्री सेल्सियस तक पहुंचा था।

लू चलेगी : मौसम वैज्ञानिक कुलदीप श्रीवास्तव ने बताया कि बुधवार को भी लू की स्थिति बनी रहेगी। हालांकि 24 मई को पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के प्रभाव से दिल्ली में तेज हवाओं के साथ हल्की बारिश हो सकती है। ऐसे में तापमान दो से तीन डिग्री सेल्सियस तक कम हो सकता है। गर्मी से ये राहत

**जै**सलमेर

सकता है।

ज्यादा दिन नहीं रहेगी। सप्ताह के अंत

तक फिर तापमान में बढ़ोतरी होगी और

यह 45 डिग्री सेल्सियस तक पहुंच

हवा में नमी घटीः राजस्थान की

ओर से आने वाली उत्तर पश्चिमी गर्म

हवाओं ने दिल्ली की हवा में मौजूद नमी

को लगभग खत्म कर दिया है। मंगलवार



राजस्थान के ब्यावर में गर्मी से बेहाल महिला। • प्रेट्र

राजस्थान का बूंदी देश में सबसे ज्यादा गर्म रहा। वहां अधिकतम तापमान ४७ डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा को आया नगर में न्यूनतम आद्रता का स्तर नौ फीसदी पर पहुंच गया। वहीं

इलाके

हिसार

कानपुर

इलाहाबाद

श्रीगंगानगर

बूंदी सबसे गर्म

11 फीसदी रहा। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार हवा में नमी कम होने से गर्मी अधिक महसूस हो रही है। गर्म हवाएं लू का रूप ले रही हैं। दोपहर के समय लू लगने की

सफदरजंग में सुबह 11.30 बजे यह

संभावना काफी अधिक है। बुधवार को अधिकतम तापमान 44 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम 26 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहने की संभावना है।

मंगलवार को तापमान

अधिकतम

44.3

44.5

46.5

मौसम विभाग के मुताबिक अगले पांच दिन तक उत्तर प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान और हरियाणा में तापमान 44 डिग्री के ऊपर ही बने रहने का अनुमान ऐसे करें बचाव

आज का अनुमान • गर्मी से हीटस्ट्रोक की संभावना है। सीघे धूप में निकलने से बचें।

• अधिक से अधिक तरल पदार्थ जैसे रसीले फल, जूस और पानी आदि लें।

• चक्कर आए, बुखार हो या थकान महसूस हो तो डॉक्टर से मिलें।

है। सामान्य से ज्यादा तापमान की वजह ग्लोबल वॉर्मिंग हो सकता है।

विभाग के अनुसार उत्तर और पूर्वी भारत में अधिकतम तापमान सामान्य के करीब रह सकता है, जो आसमान में बादल और क्षेत्र में प्री-मॉनसून बारिश का संकेत है।

**)** देश में अकाल मौत पेज 11

Government of India केन्द्रीय जल आयोग

Central Water Commission वाढ़ पूर्वानुमान प्रवाधन निंदशालय

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Room No. 208(S), Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.

21 4 22 hd May 2018

विपय : दिनाकं 🙌 🕫 🧸 🧸 🧀 🎺 🎁 रामाचार की कतरन ( News Clippings ) प्रस्तृत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ राम्बन्धी सनाचारीं की कतरन ( News Clippings ) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

सलंबन : उपरोक्तानुसार

सप निदेशक (बा.प.प.) कियुपी में 2315/18 निदेशक (बा.प.प.) 2/05/12/18

कृपया केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेब साईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें।

५ निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन )

### हिनाकं ..../5/18 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi ) नवभारत टाईम्स ( दिल्ली )

The Tribune ( Chandigarh )

The Hindu ( Chennai )

The Assam Tribune ( Guwahati ) The Times of India ( Mumbai ) The Telegraph ( Kolkata ) हिन्दूस्तान ( पटना ) The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

# 3,000 families marooned in Tripura floods

6 dead in landslips due to heavy rain in past four days

SYED SAJJAD ALI AGARTALA

Flash floods marooned at least 3,000 families in Tripura, where incessant rain triggered mudslides that have killed six people, including three of a family, in the past four days.

Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb declared financial assistance for the victims' families. Shelter has been provided in 36 makeshift camps.

Many areas submerged

Several localities in Agartala were submerged. Low-lying areas were the worst affected, requiring evacuation of people. Officials said the flood situation became grim owing to torrential rain in the hills of north Tripura, the source of all major rivers of the State. A portion of the Assam-Agartala National Highway was also flooded, disrupting normal traffic. Schools have been declared closed at several places.





In danger: Residents wading through flood waters at Baldakhal village in Agartala and, right, civil defence personnel rescuing people. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tripura Education Minister Ratan Lal Nath inspected some flood-affected areas. "I have instructed the authorities to provide all support to people marooned in flood water," he said.

District officials on Monday said the National Disaster Response Force, fire services, defence personnel and volunteers were jointly working to help the affected people.

Water receding

Officials said that the flood waters had started receding in West Tripura, Gomati, Khowai and Sipahijala districts of the State.

The two major rivers of

Tripura, Gomati and Haora, were also flowing below the danger level, they said.

However, around 17,480 people were still housed in relief camps in the four districts, State Disaster Management Authority officer Sarat Das said.

"There was no report of any fresh flood from any part

of the State and the river Haora is flowing at 9.48 m, well below its danger level of 10.50 m. River Gomati is flowing at 19.80 m, while its danger level is 21.50 m," Mr. Das said.

"Many people have returned to their homes. But, flood waters have not receded entirely from their houses

and living conditions are yet to be restored," District Magistrate of West Tripura, Sandeep Namedo Mahatme said.

Meanwhile, the local meteorological department said rainfall and thunderstorms were likely to occur in all districts of the State during the next 24 hours.

(With PTI inputs)

Hindustan Times ( Delhi ) नवभारत टाईम्स ( दिल्ली ) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Times of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru) The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad) Central Chronical (Bhopal)

### Preventing flood flow will destroy Kaziranga ecology

#### Erosion problem in park not acute, feel conservationists

SIVASISH THAKUR

GUWAHATI, May 20: Erosion has been a long-drawn problem for Kaziranga National Park but conservationists are undecided over whether to adopt artificial anti-erosion methods to protect the famed park's landmass.

Some conservationists believe that the problem of erosion in Kaziranga is not acute, more so in view of the fact that the loss of land from erosion is compensated by accretion due to sediment deposition on another side through a natural

According to a study, the period from 1912 to 2008 saw the loss of a total land area of 150.04 sq km due to erosion by the Brahmaputra. At the same time, total landmass of 61.86 sq km got added, resulting in overall loss of 88.188 sq km land.

"The present level of ero-

sion cannot be termed as alarming. While some land has been lost to erosion, new areas have also come up. It is a natural process and we do not think intervention in the form of antierosion measure is needed as yet," Rohini Ballav Saikia, Divisional Forest Officer, Kaziranga told The Assam Tribune.

Saikia said that any structure in the form of raised embankment would spell doom for Kaziranga's ecosystem which is intrinsically linked to the annual floods that inundate the park and sustain its floodplain habitat.

"Kaziranga's wetlands and its overall floodplains get replenished by the floodwaters. Preventing the flood flow will destroy its ecology," he said, adding that the State Water Resource Department was also studying the problem of erosion.

A conservationist well-versed (See page 7)

#### Preventing ...

(Contd from page 1) with Kaziranga's land'scape said that checking erosion through unraised barriers like stone spurs could be tried if the erosion worsens further. "It is wise not to tinker with natural systems but if the erosion gets worse, some preventive steps would be necessary," he said.

According to the conservationist, erosion along the northern boundary of the park from Agaratoli to Arimura should be a matter of concern. "In any case, a loss of 88 sq km land from the park's prime area of 430 sq km cannot be dismissed as totally irrelevant," he said.

The study was divided into periods - 1912-1916 to 1972, 1972 to 1998, and 1998 to 2008. The total area eroded during 1912-1916 to 1972 was 84.87 sq km as compared to accretion of 24.49 sq km due to sediment deposition. The total area eroded during 1972-1998 was 44.769 sq km as against the addition of 29.47 sq km, and the total area eroded during 1998-2008 was 20.41 sq km as compared to accretion of 7.89 sq km.

The rates of erosion during 1912-1916 to 1972, 1972 to 1998, and 1998 to 2008 were 1.46 sq km, 1.59 sq and 1.021 sq km per year, respectively.

The study also hinted that in the future, deposition was likely to be more in the upstream or eastern part of Kaziranga and erosion in middle part of Kaziranga.

### दिनाकं 21/5/2018 को निम्निखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi ) ਜਕभਾरत टाईम्स ( ਫਿल्ली ) The Tribune ( Chandigarh ) The Hindu ( Chennai ) Fife Assam Tribune ( Guwahati ) The Times of India ( Mumbai ) The Telegraph ( Kolkata ) हिन्दुस्तान ( ਧਟना ) The Deccan Hearld ( Bengluru )
The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad )
Central Chronical ( Bhopal )

### 2 more die in Tripura landslips, flood situation worsens



Civil defence personnel rescuing villagers on a rubber boat at a flood-affected village after heavy downpour in Agartala on Sunday. – PTI

#### CORRESPONDENT

AGARTALA, May 20: The flood situation in Tripura continues to remain grim with two more villagers killed in landslides. About 3,041 families have been rendered homeless in the State, official sources said on Sunday.

Heavy downpour was reported in the State's hilly areas over the past 24 hours triggering flood in the downstream areas including the capital town and its adjacent areas.

Water level in major rivers – Gomati, Deo, Manu and Howrah was swelling with every passing hour posing flood threat in the capital town. The State Government has already alerted the district administrations to keep a close eye on the situation and do the needful for the marooned people.

Bishurani Rupini (60) died in a

landslip at Belbari in Jirania subdivision while her husband Bhaktaram Rupini suffered multiple injuries. Another death was reported from Pulku area of Gomati district. With two fresh deaths, the death toll due to landslides and cyclonic storm in the ongoing phase of Norwester.

At least 59 relief camps were set up where a total 13,775 persons have taken shelter after their homes got submerged by the flood waters.

Since Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb was out of station to attend the North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA) meeting in Guwahati, Law Minister Ratan Nath on Sunday visited some flood-affected areas of Sadar subdivision. He asked the administration to provide all possible help to the marooned people.

In Sadar subdivision of West Tripura district, a total of 12 relief camps were

set up and over 550 families were evacuated to safer places.

According to SDM (Sadar) Tapan Kumar Das, "The situation is worsening in the adjoining areas of river Howrah. But, there is no need to panic".

The NDRF, TSR, civil defence volunteers along with disaster management teams are on high alert and currently rescue operation is on in all adjoining areas of river Howrah, he said.

An alert has been sounded in the entire Gomati district as the State's biggest river Gomati has been flooding new areas. "Due to heavy shower in the upstream areas, water level in rive Gomati has been rising alarmingly. Administration of Amarpur subdivision has been alerted to remain prepared to meet any consequence", said a senior official of Gomati district.