

Central Water Commission
Water System Engineer
Bhagirath (English) & Publicity Section

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

Encl: As stated above.

P. Maheshwari
23.10.2018
SPA (Publicity)

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

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23/10/18

o/c

Director, WSE Dte.

- in meeting with

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

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 23.10.2018 in the

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THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Financial Express Delhi

Financial Express, Delhi

Tuesday, 23rd October 2018; Page: 12

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No flood threat now in Arunachal, Assam: China

CHINA ON MONDAY said the flood situation in Yarlung Tsangpo river has "returned to normal" after it posed a threat to India's northeastern states following the formation of an artificial lake created by a landslide in Tibet.

China also said it will continue to share the flood data with India. People living along the banks of Siang river in Arunachal Pradesh were moved to safer places after China informed India about the landslide, which occurred on October 17, blocking Yarlung Tsangpo river in Tibet leading to the formation of the artificial lake. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Saturday had also directed authorities in districts bordering Arunachal Pradesh to "remain alert" for possible flash flood and take all possible steps to prevent any major catastrophe. The Yarlung Tsangpo river is known as the Siang after it enters India at Arunachal Pradesh from the Tibetan region and is called the Brahmaputra once it reaches Assam.

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Mahadayi: Centre declines Goa plea for ASG to fight its case

PANAJI: The Centre has declined a request from the Goa government to have Additional Solicitor General Atmaram Nadkarni appear on the latter's behalf before the Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal.

The tribunal is currently hearing a dispute between Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra on sharing the Mahadayi (Mandovi in Goa) water.

Goa government had, in August, filed a disobedience application against Karnataka before the tribunal for injunction against the latter diverting Mahadayi water to the Malaprabha basin.

Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar had then written to the Centre for the appointment of Nadkarni to fight the state's case.

In a communication, dated October 19, to the Goa government, Union Minister for Water Resources Nitin Gadkari said, "It is to state that the Central government is a neutral party to the river water disputes among the party states and, therefore, it would be inappropriate for the Central government to permit Additional Solicitor General to represent a particular state for inter-state river disputes."

Nadkarni has been representing Goa before the tribunal since 2012.

PTI

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'In urban U.P., 87% of waste from toilets goes to rivers, farmlands'

Study by Centre for Science and Environment says if more toilets and septic tanks are built without sewer systems, it will swamp the State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

While urban Uttar Pradesh has an 80% coverage of toilets, inefficient sanitation systems ensure that almost 87% of the excreta being generated by these toilets is being dumped in waterbodies or agricultural lands, according to a new analysis of 30 cities by the Centre for Science and Environment.

"With 2019 just round the corner, the number of toilets and onsite sanitation systems being built in the State are all set to increase exponentially – if not managed scientifically and sustainably, the amount of faecal sludge that these new toilets will generate will swamp the State," said Suresh Rohilla, programme director of waste and wastewater management at the CSE.

The report, released on

Monday, argues that building more toilets will only worsen the environmental, sanitation and manual scavenging situation, unless sewerage connections increase from the current 28% of households in the 30 cities studied. Onsite sanitation systems – such as septic tanks or pit latrines – are far more prevalent, and are used by 47% of households.

Manual scavengers

Without a sewerage system, the effluent from the septic tank, along with greywater from the kitchen and bathroom flows out into stormwater drains and open drains or nullahs. The faecal sludge, on the other hand, has to be periodically emptied from the septic tank, either manually or mechanically using vacuum trucks or tankers. CSE's analysis found

that half of all emptying work in these cities is done manually, despite the legal prohibition of the employment of manual scavengers.

"As there is no designated site for disposal, the emptied faecal sludge ends up in open drains/nullahs/open fields, which eventually lead to polluting the Ganga and other rivers and surface water bodies," said the report.

Over a six month period, researchers mapped excreta flow diagrams for 30 cities divided into four clusters by population.

In cities with a population over 10 lakh, such as Lucknow, Kanpur and Agra, the sewerage system covers 44% of the population. However, only 28% of that wastewater is safely treated. A third of the population is dependent on septic tanks connected to open drains, while 4% of the

population still defecate in the open. Overall, 44% of the waste generated is safely treated and managed.

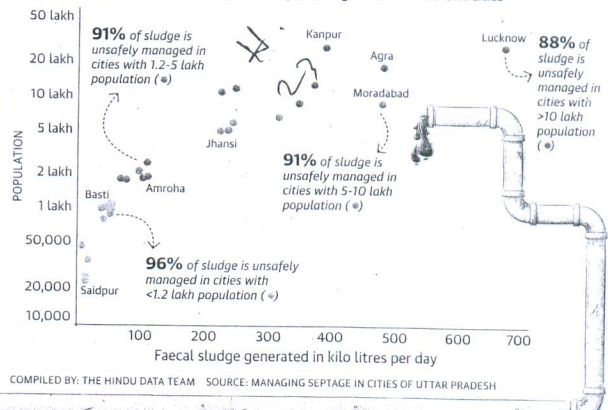
Worse in small cities

The situation is much worse in smaller cities. In cities with a population between five and 10 lakh, more than 70% of the population is dependent on tanks connected to open drains, and only half of them would actually qualify as septic tanks. Of the five cities in this cluster, only Jhansi has a designated disposal site. Overall, only 18% of waste and sludge is safely managed.

In cities with a population between 1.2 lakh and five lakh, only 9% of waste and sludge are safely managed, while in the fourth cluster of cities whose populations are less than 1.2 lakh, that figure drops to a mere 4%.

Untreated sludge

A very high percentage of faecal sludge is disposed of without treatment in various cities in Uttar Pradesh, an analysis by Centre for Science and Environment shows. Graphs plot the amount of faecal sludge generated and the percentage treated in 30 U.P. cities



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●PAGE ONE ANCHOR

VILLAGE LOST 15 IN CYCLONE, ASKS: WHY DIDN'T GOVT WARN US?

SAMPAD PATNAIK
GAJAPATI, OCTOBER 22

"A MOUNTAIN collapsed on me last week," says Pramila Behera, 45. Running a few feet behind her husband and five-year-old son who, like many others from the village, had taken shelter in a mountain cave as they fled Cyclone Titli, she saw the cave collapse as soon as they entered, instantly burying them.

Close to two weeks after Cyclone Titli ravaged southern Odisha and north coastal Andhra Pradesh, Baraghara village, in Gangabada panchayat in the

state's Gajapati district, remains in shock. On the night of October 10, 15 people, including three children, were buried alive in the cave as the cyclone triggered a landslide. The death toll across the state stood at 52.

In Manikapatna, a mere six kilometers down the mountain village of Baraghara, are privately owned pucca houses and community buildings, including a building of the Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project, a primary school and a church. Yet, villagers say, none from the government alerted them of the cyclone or moved them to these places from their kutchra houses



Cyclone Titli claimed 52 lives in Odisha earlier this month

that stood no chance against the cyclone.

"We didn't know a cyclone would hit us. Nobody told us," weeps Jagabandhu, a 64-year-old villager. "Why did no one from the district administration warn us?"

The wind that day, he says, was like a "cruel God". "As it grew fiercer, it started tearing down houses. My wife and I used a rope to tie ourselves to a broken wall and prayed through the night," says Jagabandhu, adding he was thankful that his son was in Bhubaneswar when the cyclone hit.

In 2013, the BJD government

led by Naveen Patnaik had received praise from the United Nations and World Bank for evacuating nearly 10 lakh people just before Cyclone Phailin hit the state. This time, the state's Special Relief Commissioner declared immediately after the cyclone had dissipated that the government had achieved "Mission Zero Casualty". But as reports of death began coming in from the state's southern coastal districts, with the Baraghara incident sending shockwaves, the state government came under fire from the BJP and the Congress.

While the Gajapati district administration was not available

for comment, a high-ranking official from the Office of the Special Relief Commissioner, Odisha's highest disaster management authority, conceded that the state should have prepared a vulnerability map on populated areas that are likely to experience landslides. "While there are Government of India guidelines on mapping landslides, we did not prepare such a map because Baraghara-like incidents have never happened before in the state," he said, requesting anonymity.

According to the Home Ministry's National Disaster
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Odisha village searches cyclones in Odisha, says that while

Management Authority, coastal Odisha is categorised as a 'very low hazard' zone for landslides. But disaster management officials in Odisha say the categorisation — which is based mostly on landslides triggered by melting snow, such as in the Himalayas, or areas that traditionally receive severe rainfall, such as in the Northeast — needs to be updated considering severe rainfall and cyclones are increasingly frequent in coastal Odisha.

Dr Biswanath Das of BITS Pilani, who re-

searches cyclones in Odisha, says that while the state government evacuates lakhs of people every time there is a cyclone, it doesn't necessarily "identify and safeguard vulnerable populations" while doing so.

This year, the state government evacuated 3.5 lakh people before Cyclone Titli could make landfall.

In Das's earlier research, he had pointed out that warnings about cyclones "have to go beyond attitude of scientific information dissemination to being a user-driven warning service, with social science knowledge".

Citing an example, Dash says that when the administration sends out a warning to people in "low lying areas" to evacuate, they don't take in consideration that "the vast majority of people in this country do not have any idea about the altitude at which they live".

Last Wednesday, Chief Minister Patnaik visited Gangabada panchayat and announced that the state would carry an extensive vulnerability mapping exercise "in hilly and difficult regions". He also increased the ex-gratia to those affected — from Rs 4 lakh to Rs 10 lakh.

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Artificial lake: China says no flood threat in AP, Assam

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BEIJING, 22 OCTOBER

China on Monday said the flood situation in Yarlung Tsangpo river has "returned to normal" after it posed a threat to India's north-eastern states following the formation of an artificial lake created by a landslide in Tibet.

China also said it will continue to share the flood data with India.

People living along the banks of Siang river in Arunachal Pradesh were moved to safer places after China informed India about the landslide, which occurred on October 17, blocking Yarlung Tsangpo river in Tibet leading to the formation of the artificial lake.

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Saturday had also directed authorities in districts bordering Arunachal Pradesh to "remain alert" for possible flash flood and take all possible steps to prevent any major catastrophe.

The Yarlung Tsangpo river is known as the Siang after it enters India at Arunachal Pradesh from the Tibetan region and is called the Brahmaputra once it reaches Assam.

"By October 20, the river section of the barrier lake has returned to normal. We will keep close monitoring of the landslide situation and maintain close communication and cooperation with the Indian side through the existing channels," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing here.

She said the Chinese hydrological department had informed India about the situation immediately after the landslide and also launched the emergency reporting mechanism.

"Up to October 22, we have provided seven bits of hydrological information and 110 bits of statistics.

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Where Ganga meets the Bay of Pollution

SHIV SAHAY SINGH

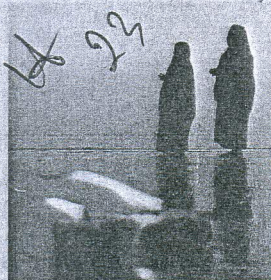
KOLKATA

An exponential increase in the number of pilgrims coming to the Ganga Sagar Mela, which takes place at the Sagar Island every year during Makar Sankranti, has been responsible for the worsening water pollution, prompting scientists to raise serious concerns about the likely outbreak of several diseases.

The number of pilgrims descending on the Sagar Island to take a dip at the place where the Ganga meets the Bay of Bengal, has risen from 2 lakh in 1990 to 20 lakh in 2018.

Health concerns

"A health survey was conducted with the local people... it found that diseases like cholera, dysentery, and skin disease were predominant in the post-Ganga Sagar Mela period," observed a paper titled 'Pollution and its consequences at Ganga Sagar mass bathing in India', published recently in the journal *Environment, Development and*



Pilgrims praying after a dip at Gangasagar in West Bengal. ■ REUTERS

Sustainability.

The study noted a sharp deterioration in water quality parameters between the pre-mela and post-mela period.

One of the authors of the paper, Tuhin Ghosh from the School of Oceanographic Studies at Kolkata's Jadavpur University, said the focus of the administration is mostly on managing the mela, and that it should also manage the pollution with sustainable strategies.

Several studies have shown that the island is at the frontline of climate change, facing serious erosion due to rising sea level and tidal surges.

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Overseas Indians contributed less than 2% to Clean Ganga Fund, 86% from govt entities

SHYAMLAL YADAV
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

TE-23 YOUR RIGHT
TO KNOW

AN EXPRESS RTI
APPLICATION

OVER 86 PER CENT of contributions to the Clean Ganga Fund (CGF) since 2015, totalling Rs 189.17 crore, were made by government entities while those from NRIs and PIOs were less than two per cent, according to records obtained by *The Indian Express* under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

According to records provided by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, under the RTI Act, contributions from
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Fund is managed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga

Clean Ganga Fund

TE-23
"government departments, government organisations, public sector undertakings" received during 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (till September 30) added up to Rs 163.49 crore, or 86.42 per cent, of the total contribution.

The records show that "private organisations" contributed Rs 19.54 crore, or 10.32 per

cent of the total, during this period while NRIs and PIOs donated Rs 3.76 crore. Contributions under the "individual" category totalled Rs 2.37 crore, or 1.25 per cent of the total.

According to RTI records, Rs 234.98 crore is available at present in the CGF.

The CGF was cleared by the Union Cabinet on September 24, 2014, and constituted in January 2015. It is managed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga under the

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

According to the CGF's official website, the fund is "open to all – domestic as well as international (NRI & PIO)". When the CGF was established, the Ministry had said that it would be set up "with voluntary contributions from residents of the country and NRIs/PIOs and others to harness their enthusiasm to contribute towards the conservation of the river Ganga."

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सीवरेज शोधन संयंत्रों के लिए भी एचएएम मॉडल का प्रयोग होगा : गडकरी

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): नए हाइब्रिड एन्यूटी मोड (एचएएम) से राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं को फिर खड़ा करने के बाद अब इस मॉडल का इस्तेमाल गंदे जल के शोधन संयंत्रों के लिए करने की तैयारी है। इस तरह की 16 परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी से प्रदूषण नियंत्रण तथा गंगा की सफाई में मदद मिलेगी। नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने सोमवार को यह जानकारी दी। गडकरी ने कहा कि राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं में तेजी लाने, सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी (पीपीपी) मॉडल को फिर शुरू करने और क्षेत्र में अधिक निवेश आकर्षित करने के मकसद से सरकार ने एचएएम की मंजूरी दी



● प्रदूषण के मुद्दे से निपटने और गंगा सफाई कार्यक्रम में तेजी लाने की तैयारी

थी। इसके तहत सरकार कंपनी को परियोजना लागत का 40 प्रतिशत देती है जिससे वह काम शुरू कर सके। शेष निवेश कंपनी को करना होता है। ये 16 परियोजनाएं वाराणसी, हरिद्वार और मथुरा में पहले ही शुरू हो चुकी तीन एचएएम परियोजनाओं के अतिरिक्त हैं। गडकरी ने कहा, "प्रदूषण के मुद्दे से निपटने और गंगा सफाई कार्यक्रम

में तेजी लाने के लिए हमने उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल में 16 सीवरेज शोधन संयंत्र (एसटीपी) परियोजनाओं की मंजूरी दी है। इनमें से छह परियोजनाएं उत्तर प्रदेश में, तीन बिहार में और सात पश्चिम बंगाल में हैं। ये परियोजनाएं वाराणसी, हरिद्वार और मथुरा में 20 करोड़ लीटर प्रतिदिन शोधन की परियोजनाओं के अतिरिक्त हैं। अब मंजूरी की गई परियोजनाएं करीब 72.5 करोड़ लीटर क्षमता की हैं। हाइब्रिड एन्यूटी मोड में 40 प्रतिशत पूंजी लागत निर्माण की अवधि के दौरान दी जाती है। शेष 60 प्रतिशत का भुगतान 15 साल के दौरान तिमाही एन्यूटी के रूप में किया जाता है। यह एसटीपी के प्रदर्शन से जुड़ा होता है।