

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

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Dated 24.7.2018

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.

P. Maheshwari
24.7.18
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24/7/18

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24/7

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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The Hindu

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Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

A a j (Hindi)

Indian Nation

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The Times of India (A)

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Flood fears ease as rain stops

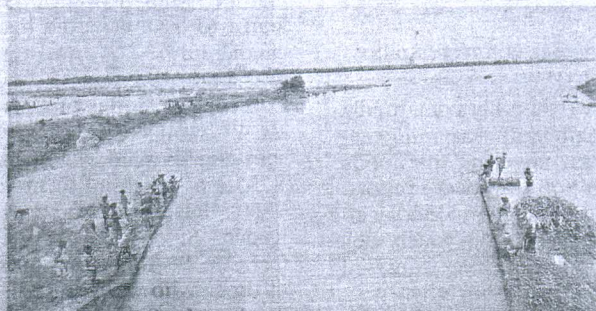
Six Odisha districts told to take precautionary measures

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR

11-24
The Odisha disaster management authorities are gearing up to tackle small and medium-level floods in the State after the rain eased on Monday, abating fears of massive floods in the Mahanadi river system.

However, six district administrations have been asked to take precautionary measures by mobilising disaster response teams and stocking relief material at strategic points.

"We are apprehending small or medium floods in the Mahanadi river system. It is hoped that the floodwaters will flow down to the sea through different water channels. If any flood situation arises, the district administrations are ready to evacuate people to safer places," said Bishnupada Sethi, Ma-



Residents look at a spillway point of the river Kuakhai, a branch of the Mahanadi river, outside Bhubaneswar.

BISWARANJAN ROUT

naging Director of the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority.

The authorities are keeping their fingers crossed and hoping for improved weather on Tuesday which would help them to manage the floods at dams and barrages.

"We are planning to discharge three lakh cusecs of water downstream of the

Mahanadi from the Hirakud dam on Tuesday. We will run the sluice gate operations in such a way that by the time the water reaches the Naraj barrage, the floodwaters received from Tel and other tributaries would already have been discharged into the sea," said State Water Resources secretary Pradip Jena.

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
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Govt: 60 crore face high to extreme water crisis

Demand to be twice the supply by 2030

NEW DELHI, JULY 23 9-29

Sixty crore people in India face high to extreme water crisis and its demand is projected to be twice the availability supply by 2030, the Lok Sabha was informed on Monday.

Answering a question in the Lok Sabha on a study conducted by the NITI Aayog on the water crisis in the country, Minister of State for Drinking Water and Sanitation Ramesh Chandappa

Jigajinagi said there was an imminent need to deepen understanding of water resources and their usage.

"As per the latest report by the NITI Aayog on Composite Water Management Index, 60 crore population faces high to

extreme water stress," he said.

The country's water demand is projected to be twice the availability by 2030, he said, quoting the report. The minister said his ministry through Centrally-sponsored



schemes like the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) was providing technical and financial assistance to states for providing safe drinking water in rural areas.

Adopting best practices related to groundwater management, efficient irrigation management and rainwater harvesting would considerably help in mitigating the water crisis, he said. — PTI

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50-foot breach in canal, crops submerged in 500 acres Fr 29

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PANIPAT, JULY 23

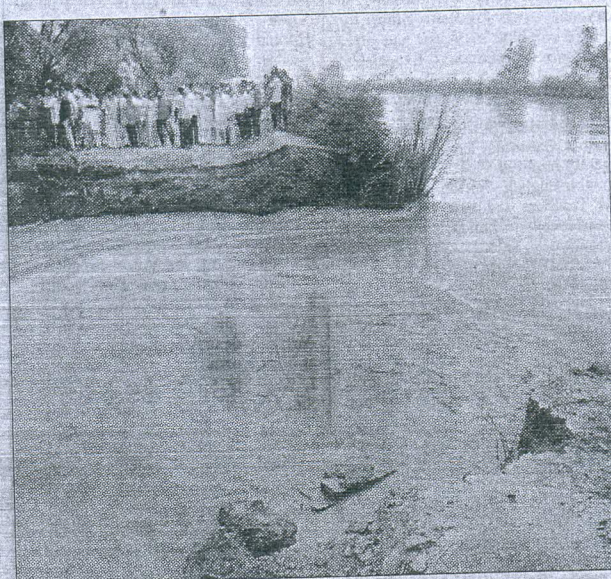
A 50-foot-wide breach in the Hansi Branch canal near Anta head on Monday submerged paddy crop spread over 500 acres in Kawi, Joshi and Ahmadpur Majra villages of the district.

A team of officials of the Irrigation Department from Safidon in Jind and the district administration reached the spot.

The breach was witnessed by villagers at around 5.30 pm today and they immediately informed the Irrigation Department about this.

Officials of the Irrigation Department, led by XEN KS Mahla from Safidon in Jind district, reached the spot, while SDM Vivek Chaudhary, along with other officials from Panipat, also reached the spot.

Sumer Singh, sarpanch of a village, said the breach widened gradually and the canal water submerged



A breach in the Hansi canal in Panipat on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

around 300 to 400 acre paddy crop. It seemed it could submerge more than 1,000 acres of crop at night and could also enter Joshi village. Sumer Singh said the breach could not be plugged at night due to the speed of the water.

The sarpanch alleged that the breach was due to rats' holes in the canal and farmers had informed about this to officials of Irrigation department many times, but to no avail.

Hindustan Times ✓
Statesman ✓
The Times of India (N.D.)
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Bihar 'drought-hit' tag: Opp disrupts Assembly

Assembly gets adjourned till 2 p.m. as Opposition raises rainfall-deficit issue

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PATNA, 23 JULY

ST-24
The Bihar Assembly was today adjourned till 2 p.m. as Opposition members created a ruckus, demanding a "drought-hit tag" for the state in view of deficient rainfall.

The Nitish Kumar government yesterday hiked subsidy on diesel by ₹ 10 a litre to ₹ 50 for irrigation purposes as the delayed onset of monsoon in Bihar has led to a 48 per cent rainfall deficit.

As the House met for the day at 11 a.m., the RJD, the Congress and CPI(M) members served an adjournment motion notice for a debate on the situation of farmers in the "drought-like condition" but Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary ruled that the issue could be raised only after Question Hour.

After the Question Hour, the Speaker discarded the



As farmers are in a deep trouble and on the verge of committing suicide, we decided to move adjournment motion for holding a discussion on the crucial issue

TEJASHWI YADAV
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

notice for adjournment motion by Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav on the ground that it did not follow rules.

Consequently, Opposition members, including RJD MLA Abdul Bari Siddiqui and Congress leader Sadanand Singh, asserted that the reasons behind its rejection be explained to them.

Paddy could not be sown in 86 per cent of agricultural land because of the drought-like situation, he said, adding that the state government failed to handle the crisis.

"The state announced diesel subsidy of ₹ 50 per litre

for irrigation only in the last week of July. The announcement should have been made earlier, when the state recorded 19 per cent deficient rainfall in May and June," he claimed. The government should declare Bihar a "drought hit" state and waive off farmers' loans, Tejashwi said.

"As farmers are in a deep trouble and on the verge of committing suicide, we decided to move adjournment motion for holding a discussion on the crucial issue," he stated.

Deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi said the

government was ready to hold a discussion on the issue.

He suggested that the matter could be taken up for discussion during the first supplementary Budget debate.

The CM has convened three meetings, including the one held yesterday, to assess the situation arising out of deficient rainfall, he said.

Besides hiking the diesel subsidy for irrigation purpose, the state government has also reduced the power tariff rate for farmers, he said.

Not satisfied with Sushil Modi's reply, Tejashwi said "This (state govt) is a *jungle-baaj* government which will do nothing for farmers."

The Opposition members raised anti-government slogans, forcing the Speaker to adjourn the House till 2 p.m. Chief secretary Deepak Kumar said CM has assured the officials that there was no paucity of funds and the disaster victims have the first right over the state's coffers.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 24.7.2018 in the

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Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
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Nangal industry polluting Una groundwater

High levels of sodium, chloride found in six villages of the district | Report sent to Punjab

RAJESH SHARMA

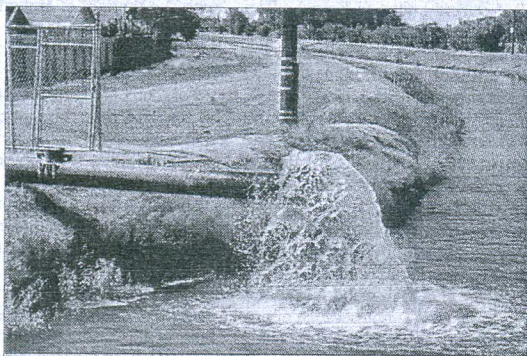
UNA, JULY 23

The Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (HPSPCB) has found the presence of high concentrations of sodium and raised levels of chloride in the groundwater of six southern panchayats of Una district located on the Punjab border.

Punjab Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd (PACL), a unit owned by the Punjab Government in Nangal, a few km from here, is reported to be the main source of pollution.

The matter came to light when villagers from the Binewal, Poona, Ajauli, Malukpur, Sanoli and Majara panchayats reported stunted crop growth and wilting of vegetation irrigated by private sources. The HPSPCB immediately swung into action.

Set up in 1984, the PACL manufactures caustic soda, liquid chlorine, hydrochloric



Relatives visiting us would often complain of health issues after consuming water. In due course of time, crops also started showing the decreased yield. The production of wheat, which was nearly two quintal per kanal about a decade ago, failed to exceed 60 kg per kanal in the last season.

Farmers from Malukpur village

Cause for concern

- The matter came to light when villagers from the Binewal, Poona, Ajauli, Malukpur, Sanoli and Majara panchayats reported stunted crop growth and wilting of vegetation.
- The issue was brought to the notice of the Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, which drew four water samples and sent it for testing.
- The reports of all the samples confirmed the presence of sodium concentration ranging from 56.76 to 111 milligram per litre, which is much beyond the permissible limit of 20 milligram per litre.
- The concentration of chloride, ranging from 139.2 to 271.2 milligram per litre, is also on the higher side.

acid, sodium hypochlorite and hydrogen gas. Environmental Engineer, Una Pollution Control Board, SK Dhiman said the matter regarding the contamina-

tion of groundwater, allegedly because of effluents from the PACL, was brought to the notice of his office by the Una Zila Parishad in March. He said following the

reports, four water samples were taken from the area and sent for testing to the HPSPCB's regional laboratory in Dari village, near Dharamsala.

He said the reports of the samples confirmed the presence of sodium concentration ranging from 56.76 to 111 milligram per litre, which was much beyond the permissible limit of 20 milligram per litre. The concentration of chloride, ranging from 139.2 to 271.2 milligrams per litre, was also on the higher side, he added.

He said while two water samples were taken from Malukpur village, the other two were drawn from Binewa village.

Harpreet Singh and Pritam Singh, farmers from Malukpur village, said relatives visiting them would often complain of health issues after consuming water. They said in the due course of time, crops also started showing decreased yield. The production of wheat, which was nearly two quintal per kanal about a decade ago, fell around 60 kg per kanal in the last season, they added.

Dhiman, while denying the contamination of drinking or irrigation water being supplied by the IPH Department, said while shallow water table could be contaminated, drinking water being supplied to the area was being drawn from deep underground aquifers.

He added that the quality of piped water was good and was regularly monitored. Dhiman, however, admitted that there were some water quality issues in one of the old drinking water tubewells in the area, which had been closed by the department.

He further said the matter had been brought to the notice of the Member Secretary of the HPSPCB. The Punjab and Central pollution control board Authorities had also been informed.

He said the residents of these villages had been advised against using water from private shallow sources for human or animal consumption.

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चार साल में गंगा सफाई पर खर्च हुए 3,867 करोड़

PR-24

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा) : सरकार ने बताया कि वर्ष 2014 से जून 2018 तक गंगा नदी की सफाई के लिए 3,867 करोड़



रुपये से अधिक राशि खर्च की जा चुकी है। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण राज्य मंत्री डॉ सत्यपाल

सिंह ने राज्यसभा को यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी) राज्य सरकारों को वित्तीय सहायता दे कर गंगा की सफाई में राज्यों के प्रयासों में सहयोग करता है। एनएमसीजी ने नदी की सफाई और गंगा संरक्षण के लिए 17484.97 करोड़ रुपये की

अनुमानित लागत से गंगा की घाटी वाले राज्यों में 105 परियोजनाएं मंजूर की हैं। सिंह ने बताया कि सीवरेज अवसंरचना संबंधी इन परियोजनाओं में से 26 पूरी हो चुकी हैं। शेष

परियोजनाएं कार्यान्वयन के विभिन्न चरणों में हैं। कुल मिला कर वर्ष 2014 से जून 2018 तक गंगा नदी की सफाई के लिए 3,867 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक राशि खर्च की जा चुकी है। उन्होंने पी

एल पुनिया के प्रश्न के लिखित जवाब में बताया कि वर्ष 2017 में नदी जल गुणवत्ता की निगरानी से वर्ष 2016 की तुलना में जल गुणवत्ता में सुधार के संकेत मिले हैं।



In June 2017, farmers in Maharashtra organised an amazing movement. They decided to stop sending their produce to cities. As a result, an overwhelming majority of Agriculture Produce Marketing Cooperatives did not receive any produce. The state's Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis, worked out a deal with the leaders of one section of farmers. The agreement was rejected by most farmers' organisations. They organised a statewide bandh in Maharashtra on June 5. The strike spread to many districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Certain developments had ignited the protest. Crop prices had crashed because of a bumper crop. Pulses were particularly affected. Following a shortage of pulses in the country, the Central government had enhanced the MSP for *tur* from Rs 4,500 to a little over Rs 5,000 per quintal. This was packaged as a major step to promote higher production of pulses. The farmers obliged, cultivation and production went up, but the government failed to fulfil its part of the promise. State agencies failed to procure much of the production at the assured price. Instead of getting Rs 5,000 a quintal, the farmers were forced to sell *tur* at Rs 3,000. The soyabean farmers of Madhya Pradesh and chilli farmers in Telengana faced a similar predicament. There were reports that tomato and potato growers in different parts of the country preferred to discard their produce rather than sell it for a ridiculous price in the *mandi*.

Moreover, a spurt in the import of pulses from Myanmar, Tanzania, Mozambique and Malawi led to a fall in the price of *tur* from Rs 11,000 per quintal to Rs 3,800 to Rs 4,000 per quintal since December 2016. Agricultural policies have previously boosted the production of crops in short supply, but the government has fixed low prices for the commodities. This shows that rising production on its own cannot lead to fair prices for

farmers.

Because of the high cost of these factors of production, the prices at which farmers sell their produce often fall lower than than the amount they spend. Paddy in Madhya Pradesh was once sold at a price that was 15 per cent less than the cost of production, while wheat was fetching them just a 2 per cent profit.

The issue of 'loan waiver' is arguably the most politicised in terms of agriculture. By writing off loans availed of by farmers in Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi Adityanath government raised similar demands in other states like Maharashtra. An atmosphere is created where the farmers lose the incentive to repay their loans. It has been argued by several Opposition leaders like Rahul Gandhi that "Narendra Modi could waive loans worth Rs 1.50 lakh crore of the richest people in India, but can't pay heed to the plight of farmers".

If basic problems like low prices and high cost of production are not addressed, loan waivers can at best be a temporary relief rather than an enduring solution. The BJP has opened a Pandora's box by announcing a loan-waiver for farmers in UP before the state assembly elections. The party did not consider the pros and cons of this decision which has led to violence almost throughout the country. It had set a wrong precedent to win the elections because banks cannot recover loans. This will almost certainly increase the bad debts of banks. In turn, the banks might be compelled to stop all loans to farmers. According to a report of the Comptroller and Auditor General, 13.5 per cent of loan accounts were denied the waiver though they were eligible for the same, while as much as Rs 20.5 crore was spent on waiv-

ing debts of non-eligible farmers. Worse, many of them had taken loans for non-agricultural purposes. Debt waiver receipts were not issued, records were tampered with in over 2,000 cases, with claims totaling Rs 8.6 crore.

One major reason for the decline of farming is that the farms in the country are now among the world's smallest. While the global average of land-holding is 5.5 hectares, the per capita availability of land in India from 1951 to 2011 declined by 70 per cent, from 0.5 hectares to 0.15 hectares. Small and marginal landholdings constitute 85 per cent of the number of operational farms. Small farms make it difficult for farmers to use modern machinery because such farmers are too poor to afford such equipment. Manual labour costs also increase. And the small size and output make it difficult for the farmers to obtain loans and institutional credit.

The demonetisation of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes did not help most farmers generally. Tomato farmers in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and onion farmers in Maharashtra and Gujarat were the worst hit, as their prices fell by 60 per cent to 85 per cent.

Moreover, the purchase of agricultural products by government agencies has flopped all over the country due to massive corruption. Farmers all over the country are facing similar problems. The situation will take ugly turn if the BJP government at the Centre fails to address the issue.

The farmers' strike in Maharashtra in 2017 spread to Madhya Pradesh and various other states. The Fadnavis government had alleged that the strike was the handiwork of its political opponents, mainly, the Shiv Sena and the NCP. Facts deny this

claim. While the Opposition parties certainly extended covert support, the organisations and leaders involved in bringing the farmers together were not affiliated to any of the major parties. In fact, the Congress and the NCP are yet to recover from the shock defeat in the municipal elections across the state.

The farmers' strike in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and other parts of India is not a localised, seasonal, crop-specific or calamity-driven distress. This protest is linked directly to the crisis of Indian agriculture, a crisis that has now assumed three forms - there is an ecological crisis. Modern agricultural practices are unsustainable. Resource and water-intensive fertilisers and pesticide-heavy farming have now reached a dead-end. Second, the agrarian productivity is not in keeping with the country's requirement and the availability of land and resources. The third is the existential crisis of the farmer. Farming is an unviable proposition. The price of agricultural commodities has not kept pace with input costs and consumption expenditure of the farmer. The farmers barely manage to survive in a "good year" and find themselves in a debt-trap in any adversity. The phenomenon of farmers' suicide is related to this crisis.

The strike in Maharashtra has sought to address this fundamental crisis. The farmers have not demanded any immediate or localised relief. Instead, they have raised the fundamental issue of crop prices. They have demanded the implementation of structural reforms, as suggested by the Swaminathan Commission. They have demanded a loan-waiver for all farmers. These are some of the long-standing demands of the movement that no party is willing to address.

The farmers in Maharashtra have shown the path. Farmers in the rest of the country will now have to hold the baton and take this struggle to its logical conclusion.



TAPAN KUMAR BANERJEE

The writer is a Retired Head of the Department, Political Science, Asutosh College, Kolkata

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n Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P.Chronicle
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e of a dirty Delhi drain, an Indo-Dutch hunt for a cleaning solution

HARIKRISHNAN NAIR

NEW DELHI, JULY 23

NEXT TO Delhi's foul Barapullah drain, under the flyover that bears the name of the *nullah*, a unique project is under way — one that has the potential to change how sewage is treated in India.

LOTUS HR — Local Treatment of Urban Sewage Streams for Healthy Reuse — is a joint effort by top Indian and Dutch institutions to test technologies that target, apart from conventional contaminant parameters like biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), pH value, etc., "contaminants of emerging concern" such as pharmaceutical and personal care products (PPCPs), the effects of which were until recently only

poorly understood.

LOTUS HR is funded by the Department of Biotechnology and NWO, the Dutch science agency. The foundation stone for the project was laid a year ago by Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan and the then Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, Bert Koenders.

Personal care, general fallout

The US Environment Protection Agency defines PPCPs as "any product used by individuals for personal health or cosmetic reasons or used by agribusiness to enhance growth or health of livestock". Untreated sewage and improper disposal of leftover medication are its prime sources, besides poor sanitation.

"Things that you use every day contribute

to this, and its effects are not vepparent.

There are around 3 lakh cheral compounds that fall under this catery," said Shaikh Z Ahammad, assistant prissor, IIT-Delhi, which is leading the Indiaaram that includes The Energy and Resournd Institute (TERI) and the National Envinmental Engineering Research Institute (NERI).

Even a few nanogrammes of PCPs per litre can disrupt the endocrine stems of animals and plants. It can also irzease resistance of certain microbes, and culd even be carcinogenic. "A UK study shwed oestrogen in rivers that could have cme from birth control pills, could have cotributed to the feminisation of certain aqtatic animals," Prof Ahammad said.

India does not currently have protocols and treatment standards for emerging con-

taminants.

The Barapullah experiment

An on-site lab and pilot plant has been set up on a 200 sq m plot by the drain, close to the Sun Dial park. "This is one of the most polluted canals, containing waste from both urban and rural areas, and industrial effluents as well," Dr Pushap Chawla, senior project coordinator, IIT-Delhi, said. "We believe that if we can successfully treat the water here, we can replicate it according to need in other areas too."

The lab has six sets of biomechanical filters, with the water passing through agitated algae, a soil of sponge-like cubical blocks, and a sealed section in which microbes worked anaerobically (in the absence oxygen). The lab is currently able to

treat only around 100 litres a day, but the aim is to build, within two years, a viable treatment plant that could process 10,000 litres daily, before offering it to industry to be scaled up.

"We have chosen bio-mechanical methods to keep the cost down, keeping in mind Indian requirements," said Prof Ahammad. "Much of the sewage in India is untreated. The new systems will be modular, and once tested and proven, can be put in place as a cheaper alternative to retrofitting and upgrading existing systems." A government release last year had underlined the potential of the project to "produce clean water that can be reused... while simultaneously recovering nutrients and energy from the urban waste water, thus converting drains into profitable mines".

भारत सरकार
Government of India
केन्द्रीय जल आयोग
Central Water Commission
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Room No. 5th Floor(S), Sewa Bhawan,
R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.

विषय : दिनांक 24/7/2018 की समाचार की कतरन (News Clippings) प्रस्तुत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचारों की कतरन (News Clippings) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

L. S. Das
24/7/18
(सहायक निदेशक)

उपनिदेशक

24/7/2018

निदेशक (बा.पू.प्र.)

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

उपनिदेशक (त.पू.) विवेक

निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन)

24/7

दिनांक .२५.७.१८ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
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The Telegraph (Kolkata)
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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Expect heavy rain over next two days, warns Met

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NEW DELHI: The depression over Bay of Bengal, which had been triggering a wet spell over West Bengal and Odisha since Saturday, is likely to reach northwest India and cause heavy rain in isolated parts of Delhi and the national capital region (NCR) over the next two days, the India Meteorological Department warned on Monday.

The national Capital has already received around 36% excess rain than it usually receives till July 23.

Going by the IMD's parlance, however, only around one-fourth of the NCR would receive this heavy spell of rain. 'Isolated' areas means that less than 25% of the stations would get rain. Other areas would also receive rain, but the intensity might be milder.

Safdarjung recorded around 18mm of rain between Sunday morning and Monday morning, which is considered as 'moderate' according to IMD. Palam received around 70mm of rain which is considered 'heavy' rain.

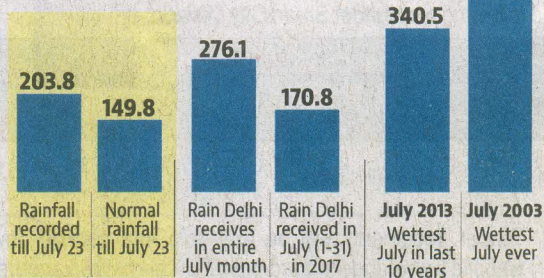
"We are expecting more rain in Delhi and NCR on Tuesday and Wednesday. In some areas the rain could be intense," said BP Yadav, deputy director general of IMD.

Rain alert in Delhi-NCR

IMD has predicted heavy rains could hit isolated parts of Delhi and NCR over the next two days

36% Excess rain Delhi has already registered since July 1, 2018

■ Rainfall received in mm



While on the one hand a cyclonic circulation has developed over south Haryana, a well-marked low pressure area, which is presently located over Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh, is expected to reach northwest India in the next two days. These two systems could result in heavy rain in some parts of Delhi and NCR, the weather scientists said.

"The depression over the sea that had been triggering heavy rain in West Bengal and Odisha. It is now located over Jharkhand

and Madhya Pradesh as a well-marked low pressure. This system is expected to move towards the west and reach northwest India within a day or two," said a senior official of the IMD.

Delhi, till date, has already received 203.8 mm rain, which is at least 36% excess than what the city usually receives till July 23 every year.

In 2017, Delhi received around 170 mm of rain in entire July. Usually, the city receives around 276 mm of rain in July.