

The Times of India**Title : An oasis in drought-hit Maha, village sets example****Author : Radheshyam Jadhav****Location :****Hiware Bazar (Ahmednagar):****Article Date : 04/26/2016**

Amid desperate denizens scrounging for water in the drought-affected parts of Maharashtra stands a village which has not felt the need to call a single water tanker for the last 21 years! While other villages in the arid Ahmednagar district are digging borewells even up to 400 feet, the underground water table in Hiware Bazar is so good that the precious commodity is available barely 20 to 40 feet below. Though the village has banned water-guzzling cash crops like sugarcane and banana, farmers here are still far richer than their counterparts in the region. For the record, no family is below the poverty line.

Hiware Bazar, now a byword for watershed management and water conservation, had found special mention in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann ki Baat' programme on Sunday . "People in this village have done exemplary work," Modi had said. Village sarpanch Popatrao Pawar, who has been specially invited by Modi for a cup of tea, said, "We are glad that our efforts are being recognised."

The road to shaping the village to be self-sufficient has been a long and arduous one. Like any other village in the region, Hiware Bazar used to face a major water crisis each year because of the measly 200-300 mm rainfall it gets. "We kicked off our water conservation efforts in 1994-95. Various watershed management programmes and water conservation initiatives were started. But we realised that this alone was not going to help. So we decided to choose a cropping pattern," Pawar told TOI.

The village decided to shun water-intensive crops and opted for vegetables, fruits, flowers and pulses. Dairy development was encouraged. "We resolved that no borewell would be dug in the village and that every drop of water would be used cautiously .We have a water budget. The villagers meet on December 31 each year, during which a review of the rainfall and available water is taken. We then decide which crops can be grown in the next season. In fact, we decided to take a break from farming this year as there was no rain. The villagers reaped the last kharif crop and have stopped farming for the last four or five months since then," he said.

Mohan Chattar, a villager, said taking a break from farming did not affect earnings. "The daily collection of milk in the village is itself about 4,000 litres. Dairy farming brings in good money . There is also enough fodder here," he said. The village has a rule that no resident can sell his or her land to an outsider. "People from other villages migrate in search of jobs, particularly during tough times like these. However, the case is quite the opposite here. Around 40 families have returned to the village from cities over the last few years," another villager said.

The villagers are not resting on their laurels and are already chalking out a ten-year plan. "Water scarcity is going to worsen. As part of our ten-year plan, we will opt for growing pulses and oilseed crops and brand them. This will not only boost our earnings but also help save water," Pawar said.

Pawar is unwilling to blame the poor monsoon for water scarcity . "It is lack of vision and discipline that brings about scarcity and drought," he said. Politics is a strict no-no in Hiware Bazar. "There is neither politics nor liquor shops in the village. Both intoxicate and destroy development," said Chattar.



Not a single water tanker has been called in Hiware Bazar in 21 years

The Times of India

Title : WATER WARS - SYL: Sacked lawyer puts AAP on backfoot

Author : Dhananjay Mahapatra

Location :

New Delhi:

Article Date : 04/26/2016

The AAP government on Monday desperately attempted to keep under wraps the chronology of events on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal issue - its counsel informing Supreme Court about Delhi's support to Haryana on the the issue, his subsequent sacking for acting `without instructions', and filing of a fresh affidavit recording its neutrality in the inter-state dispute.

Senior advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for the Kejriwal government, said Delhi was assured of its share of water under the 1976 notification issued by the Centre. “We do not wish to take any side and not get into the controversy whether Punjab or Haryana is right. There was an affidavit suggesting that we were taking sides. We will withdraw it,” she said.

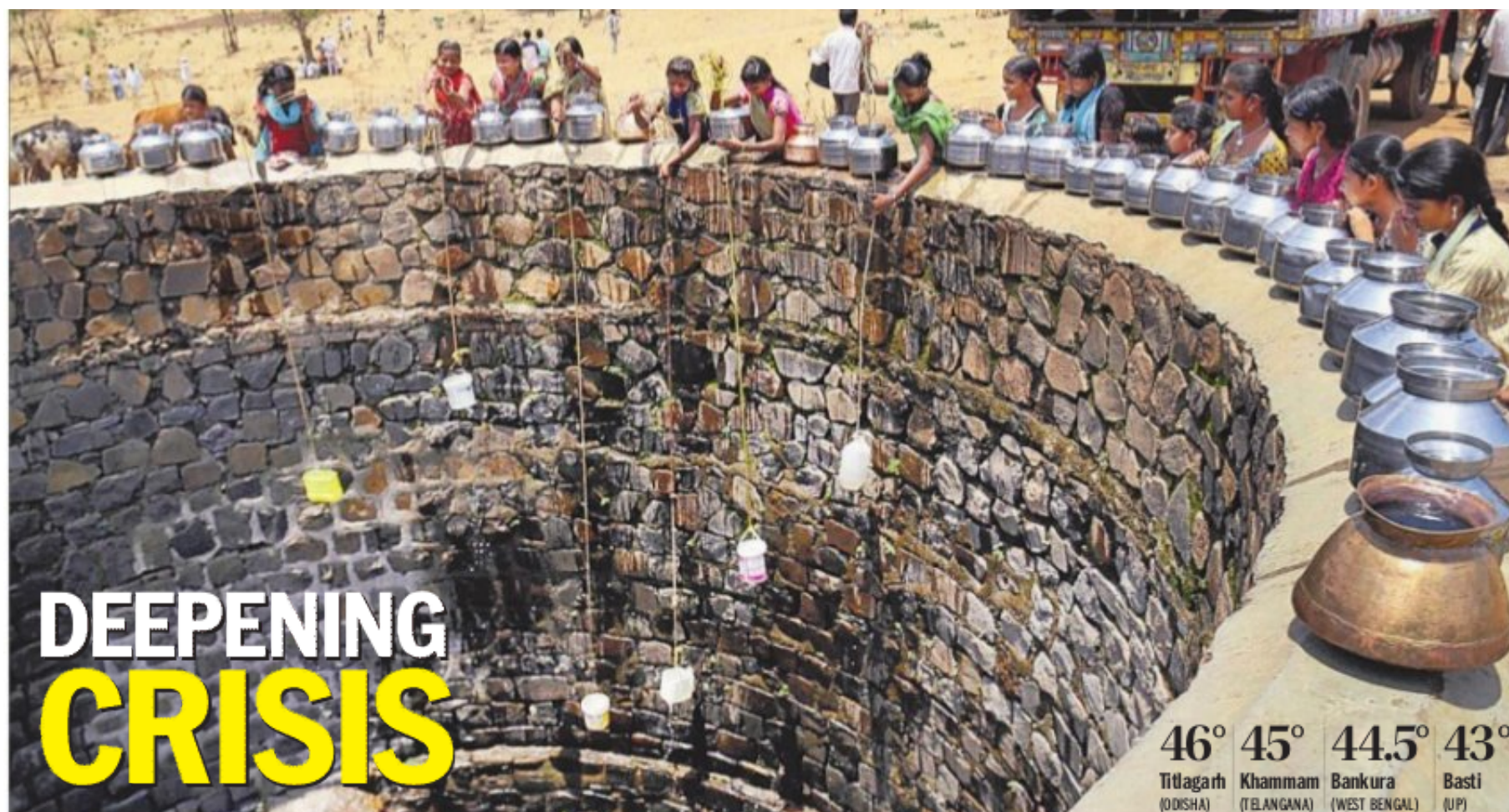
But the `sacked' lawyer, Suresh Chandra Tripathy, contested the claim in the Delhi government's fresh affidavit, which accused him of submitting the written submissions to the apex court suggesting that Haryana was right and Punjab was wrong in terminating the water agreements in 2004 in the wake of SC judgement directing Punjab to construct the SYL canal.

Tripathy's counsel, senior advocate R Basant, told the court that the Delhi government was being “very unfair” to Tripathy who had scrupulously submitted the written submissions to the DJB chairperson on April 7 before presenting it to the SC. “It is a blatant lie on the Delhi government's part to use unkind words to say that the written submissions were circulated without instructions,” Basanta said and sought permission from the court to file a counter affidavit.

Jaisingh swung into action saying the Delhi government is ready to discuss the matter with Tripathy outside the court and not make it an issue of debate during the proceedings on Presidential Reference of 2004, by which the government had sought the SC's opinion on legality of the 2004 Punjab law terminating all water sharing agreements with neighbouring states. But Tripathy stood firm on putting the records straight. A constitution bench comprising Justices A R Dave, P C Ghose, S K Singh, Adarsh Goel and Amitava Roy advised Tripathy to discuss the matter with Jaising first.

Tripathy said: “On April 1, it was decided by DJB in a meeting that its stand in the Reference was to be consistent with the affidavit filed by chief secretary of Delhi in 2006.

“On April 8 after the written sub missions were circulated before the court, at about 3pm I got a call from Delhi water minister Kapil Mishra asking me to meet him. At the meeting, member (water supply) and CEO were present. The meeting was mainly concerned with how to deal with Punjab polls and to withdraw the written submissions.” He said: “I opened his mailbox to establish that the written submissions prior to submission to the court were mailed to the member with a request to forward it to the CEO, DJB. The minister asked why it was not sent to him. I politely replied that I was not obliged to send it to him as he was only a political executive while CEO of DJB is the administrative head.”



DEEPENING CRISIS

46° 45° 44.5° 43°
Titlagarh Khammam Bankura Basti
(ODISHA) (TELANGANA) (WEST BENGAL) (UP)

Villagers gather to fetch water, after spotting a water tanker filling a well in Shahpur, Maharashtra, on Monday. P T

8,522

villages in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra severely hit by drought, with just 3% water left in 11 major dams

4,356

tankers being supplied by the Maharashtra Government daily, the maximum 3,032 for Aurangabad, followed by 831 for Nashik

14 lakh

have migrated from Mahabubnagar, Ranga Reddy, Medak, Nizamabad and Adilabad in Telangana, seeing its worst drought

Vacation declared in Odisha schools

With Odisha sizzling under a blistering heatwave, the state government, which had earlier declared school holidays till Tuesday, announced summer vacation on Monday

Tribal carnival in Delhi deferred

Excessive heat conditions in Delhi have forced postponement of a National Tribal Carnival slated to be inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi on Friday. It will now take place in winter

At 39.2°C, Bengaluru breaks 85-yr-old record

Reeling under sizzling heat, Bengaluru has recorded the highest-ever maximum temperature for April in 85 years at 39.2°C and has been hotter than Delhi during the past five days



Ministries lock horn over EPF interest rate

9 Malegaon blasts accused acquitted

U'khand issue ro

MUKESH RANJAN & SIMRAN SODHI



THE HEAT IS ON

It is a deadly walk to the well in drought-hit Beed

Ketaki Ghoge

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BEED: It was three in the afternoon on Saturday when Chabubai Khamkar lost her balance, fell into a 40-foot-deep well and died, barely 100 metres from her house in Talnewadi village in Beed district.

Chabubai's village relies on tankers for water supply, but her house is on the outskirts where the tankers don't go. There's no handpump either.

The well she fell into is the sole source of water in nearly 20 houses. She had last drawn water from the well, which is now perilously low on stock (it will run dry in the next 10 days), late on Friday night when the village got its eight-hour power supply and she could pump up the water without much difficulty. But she had some free time on Saturday and decided to draw water up manually.

"The well is not really meant for drawing water manually and we usually pump the water out. Since there was absolutely no water in the house, my mother decided to draw up a few pots for housework. It cost her life," said Ravindra Khamkar, Chabubai's 23-year-old son and a computer engineer. "She worked as a daily wage farm labourer to get me through school and college," said Khamkar.

Chabubai's is the third drought-related death in Beed in the last week. A day earlier, 11-year-old Sachin Kengar from Veeda village drowned in a well when he had gone to fetch water with his cousin. Just three days



■ Chabubai's son and husband look at the well where she slipped and fell on April 23. SATISH BATE/HT

before this, 12-year-old Yogita Desai died of dehydration after making four trips back and forth to fill water in the searing heat.

As the severity of the drought worsens in Marathwada, the scramble for water has made women and children most vulnerable to such deaths. Across the eight districts in rural areas, one sees women and children, now home on summer vacation, helping out families to fetch water.

While the administration is not tracking these deaths, local journalists have pegged the figure at around 45 to 50 in the last three months.

"The administration is not considering these deaths but they are happening almost every alternate day as getting access to water gets more difficult. Local journalists and newspapers have been keeping track of the deaths. By March end, I had reports of

nearly 38 such deaths. The figure is anywhere between 45 and 50 now," said Atul Deulgaokar, senior environmental journalist and author based in Latur and member of the Maharashtra state disaster management authority.

Deaths reported in local newspapers so far include that of 10-year-old Rajshree Kamble in Beed, Natabai Tekale in Latur, 16-year-old Komal Hande in Beed, 14-year-old Manohar Harale and Rohit Bhagat in Latur and Sahebrao Adgale in Beed.

"My daughter died because she tried to fetch water by herself from the local well that had almost run dry. She lost her balance trying to draw water up and fell. She died four days later due to the head injury, also because of apathy of doctors at the civil hospital. The village started getting tankers after she died," said Vimal Kamble, Rajshree's mother told HT.

pensed. methods such as Formula P (an vulnerable babies. We encourage

Not taking sides in SYL row, ensure Delhi's water supply, govt tells court

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi government on Monday distanced itself from the ongoing dispute between Haryana and Punjab on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link canal. Arvind Kejriwal's government submitted before the Supreme Court that it did not want to take sides but was more concerned about Delhi's water share under the project.

Appearing for the Delhi government, senior advocate Indira Jaising told a constitution bench headed by Justice AR

Dave that the court must ensure that Delhi's share of water is protected under the law. "All existing rights be protected. We insist that the allocation to us should come....," she told the bench. The government's stand came a week after it withdrew written submissions filed in SC on behalf of Delhi Jal Board (DJB), supporting Haryana. The Kejriwal government was forced to take back the submissions after the Punjab government criticised it for double speak. Kejriwal was accused of telling voters in Punjab that the

state did not have a drop of water to share with Haryana, but did exactly the opposite in the top court. On March 14, the Punjab Assembly passed a bill against construction of SYL that allowed return of land meant for the canal to farmers for agriculture. Three days later, the SC halted the move and appointed a "joint receiver" of land and other property meant for the SYL canal till further order. Punjab said it has the right to terminate the water-sharing agreement with its neighbour.

केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग



Drought pushes Bundelkhand farmers to the brink

Swathes of land lie unused; peasants migrate or take their own lives as the crippling water crisis shatters their hopes

OMAR RASHID

BUNDELKHAND: On the night on March 27, Musru Prajapati was up as usual, keeping vigil in his field at Khurhand village in Banda, Uttar Pradesh. Three consecutive droughts, with bouts of hailstorms and unseasonal rains, had dented his morale. He wanted to defend whatever little crop he managed to grow on his four-bigha land from stray animals which raided his fields in the dark.

"He had started to look tense and desperate. He even reduced his food intake," said Musru's son Mayaram.

Musru, who owed Rs 1 lakh to moneylenders and relatives, was found dead the next morning. The post-mortem report could not ascertain the actual cause of his death, but his family, villagers and local officials believe he was the latest in the list of "*sadma*" (shock) deaths that have stalked the parched landscape of Bundelkhand. In Banda itself, nine such deaths have been reported in the last two months, District Magistrate Yogesh Kumar said.

To witness the agrarian crisis, all one needs to do is drive through the parched region, past its definitive yellow and brown landscape. Swathes of land lie unused as farmers did not sow this season given the absence of irrigation facilities and crippling water crisis. Some took a chance, seduced by light showers, only to face huge losses later.

Musru's family had borrowed the seeds and fertilizer, and even leased land at

'PM should have visited Marathwada'

STAFF REPORTER

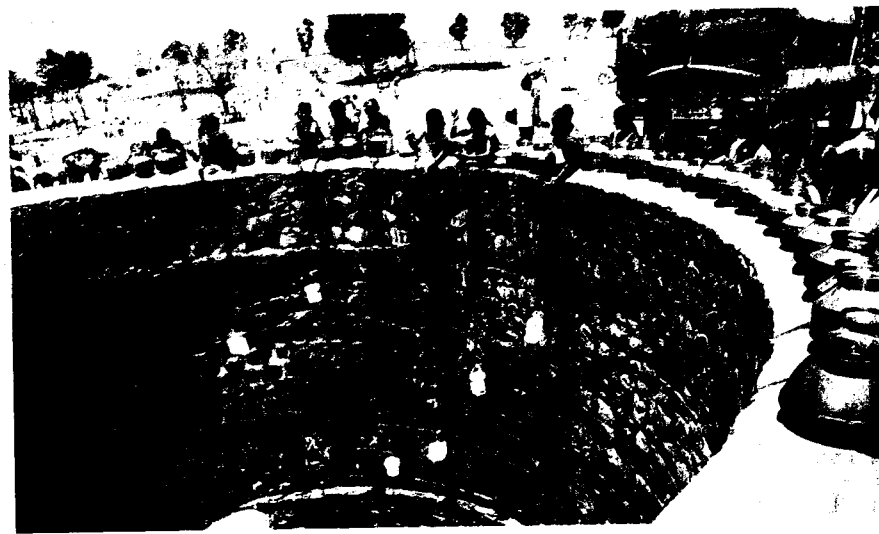
MUMBAI: Two days after Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union (JNUSU) president Kanhaiya Kumar questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's failure to visit drought-hit Marathwada, the Shiv Sena has said that it would have been better had the PM spared two days to visit the region.

"Even though Mr. Modi has become a world leader, it is because he is the Prime Minister of Hindustan. Therefore people of this country feel that he must stay put in his own country and work at a time when people are facing drought," said an editorial in Sena mouthpiece *Saamna* on Monday.

It taunted the Prime Minister over his busy schedule of election rallies in West Bengal and Assam.

"People of Marathwada are sad because he (Mr. Modi) hasn't been able to reach there despite their agony. That's the reason people like Mr. Kumar get a chance to speak."

The editorial reminded Mr. Modi that his unfulfilled election promises had emboldened Mr.



OPENING CRISIS. Villagers drawing water, emptied by a tanker into a well, in Shahpur, Maharashtra, on Monday. — PHOTO: PTI

Kumar to criticise him. "Mr. Kumar's speeches lack fire, though they emanate a lot of smoke... But we don't agree with his criticism of Mr. Modi... What is his locus standi... People like Mr. Kumar will come and go, then what?"

"Mr. Modi had made tall pre-elections promises... the

return of black money, creating 20 million jobs every year, 'achhe din', and other things. But after becoming the PM, he failed to deliver... So now, people like Mr. Kumar can talk of selling off Mr. Modi on OLX," the editorial said.

Frowning on the JNUSU leader's stringent criticism of the Prime Minister, the Shiv Sena

urged the BJP to do some serious 'soul-searching' on who is responsible for breathing life into the entity called Mr. Kumar.

While it was proper on Mr. Kumar's part to highlight the plight of Marathwada people, the Shiv Sena wondered who is behind him and making him talk on all these issues.

job despite a graduate degree in education and a post-graduate degree in economics.

Rising suicides

According to activist Sanjay Singh, around 18 lakh people have migrated from Bundelkhand over the years. Since 2003, 3,500 farmers are estimated to have committed

suicide in the region. The figure this year is already 174, said Mr. Singh.

While the agrarian distress has shattered the hopes of smaller peasants, even the big farmers are at a loss, many engaging in distress sale of grain and cattle. The poor quality of grain is also making it harder to sell. "The Food Corpo-

ration of India accepts six per cent 'shrinked' grain but the farmers' samples [with around 12 per cent shrinked] are failing the FCI standards. They are engaging in distress sale much below the MSP of Rs.1525 per quintal. We have requested the government to relax the norms," said Mr. Kumar.

The area under cultivation has shrunk and, consequently, the output of major crops has fallen sharply. Those relying solely on farming have been pushed to the brink.

"Farmers don't have enough to eat, forget about recovering the money for the cost of fertilizers, seeds, or selling it in the market. We were better off without sowing anything," said Munna Lal, a farmer in Hamirpur, who could only salvage two quintals of wheat after increased investment.

The figures for the Chitrakoot Division explain it all. The overall output of wheat in the mandal has halved in the past three years. If in 2012-13, the output was 23.87 quintals per hectare, in 2015, the figure plummeted to 11.28 quintals. In 2016, it is just one-third. Chana dal (chick pea) also did not fare well. Production has fallen consistently from 3.25 quintals per hectare in 2014 to a meagre 1.75 quintals in 2015. The production of peas, masur and jowar has also fallen substantially.

The total area under cultivation for the *rabi* crop in Chitrakoot division has halved in a year. In 2014-15, the cropped area was 8,90,982 hectares as against a target of 9,22,057, while 3,01,74 hectares were left uncultivated. The figures for the 2015-16 season are, however, much worse: against a target of 9,42,013 hectares, the cultivated area was a paltry 4,20,051 hectares. Significantly, 5,21,962 hectares were left uncultivated.

The *kharif* crop production has been much below the

State average. Rice output in 2014 was 16.17 quintals per hectare against the State average of 22.67, while bajra was 9.71 quintals per acre (State average was 19) and arhar dal (red gram) was only 3.85 quintals per hectare against the State average of 8.20.

To address the crisis, the Akhilesh Yadav government has allotted Rs 867 crore for the damage to crops this year. The State suspended all revenue collection till March 31, while increasing the working days under MGNREGS from 100 to 150 days. From April, it also implemented the Food Security Act, under which food grains would be distributed for free for four months, and introduced 100 per cent coverage of all eligible families under the Samajwadi Pension Scheme. The government launched the Samajwadi Drought Relief programme, under which antyodaya families would get relief material of 10 kg of wheat flour, five kg of rice, five kg of chana dal (chick pea flour), 25 kg of potatoes, five litres of mustard oil, one kg pure ghee and one kg of milk powder.

While observers have praised the State government's drought response measures, some feel the real test is in ensuring their implementation. While travelling for this story, this correspondent found that many villages were yet to even have their lists of FA beneficiaries ready. Officials blame the administrative mechanism and system of distribution for the delays and lapses.

and documented at <http://thehindu.org/india/5-Publicity-Section-01/1>

Water will continue to be scarce

A focus on minor irrigation projects and drip irrigation could go a long way in coping with frequent crises

SEEMA BATHLA
& ELUMALAI KANNAN



The incidence of drought can no longer be considered a rare event. Climate

change has quickened the occurrence of extreme events such as drought, floods and cyclones in different parts of India. It is alarming that the frequency and severity of such extreme events has increased in recent decades. India has experienced numerous drought years in the past, but the frequent recurrence after 1988 — in 1999, 2002, 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2015 — is highly worrisome. It causes enormous hardships to resource-poor farmers, who are forced to fend themselves through sale of assets and migration to urban areas. Though the impact of drought varies across regions, it invariably affects human, livestock and natural resources.

Severe drought conditions are being experienced in some parts of the country this year as well. The Union government has already declared that the country is grappling with severe drought conditions which are estimated to have affected a sizeable population, nearly 330 million people. More than 50 per cent of the districts across the country have had rainfall deficit, many in tandem with high temperatures of above 45 degrees Celsius. The most severely affected States include Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jharkhand and Telangana. Given the current scenario, the government has initiated drought relief programmes to compensate crop losses, encourage judicious use of groundwater, and has sent 'water trains' to the highly water-scarce areas besides extending financial help to the States to cope with the emerging crisis.

As much as these relief measures are essential to ease the drinking water shortage, the problem is deep-rooted and has important implications for the agricultural sector that provides livelihood to almost 75 per cent of the population directly and indirectly. Drought conditions would severely affect the production and the productivity of key crops viz. wheat and rice, which contribute substantially to India's food basket. In a situation of a continuous decline in the level of water tables and low capacity of water reservoirs, irrigation would contribute little to help in the drought conditions.

Scaling up irrigated area

Government statistics have hardly shown any increase in the total net irrigated area, which has been hovering around 63 million hectares and constitutes only 45 per cent of the total area sown in the country. Some improvement in irrigation intensity has taken place in Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan in recent years. But it appears to be insignificant in view of a massive increase in real public investment in major, medium and minor irriga-



SOLUTION: "Increased water conservation and promoting cultivation of less water-intensive crops can go a long way towards coping with the crisis." A farmer in drought-hit Ahmedabad. — PHOTO: AP

tion from Rs. 235 billion in 2004-05 to Rs. 309 billion in 2013-14. While the capital expenditure in major projects increased by 3.5 times, the investment in minor irrigation increased by 2.5 times only. A virtually stagnancy in irrigated area — especially of the area under canal irrigation — raises concerns about the efficiency of the ongoing investments and the quantum of investment that is further required to scale up area under irrigation.

A study carried out by International Food Policy Research Institute shows a sharp drop in the marginal returns from additional public investment in major and medium irrigation from 1.41 per cent during the nineties to 0.12 per cent when expenditure incurred during the 2000s is also considered. Evidence also shows that the ratio of irrigation potential created from public expenditure is higher for minor irrigation projects than medium and large irrigation projects. Unfortunately, minor irrigation projects have received only scant attention from policymakers over time. Minor irrigation structures play a significant role in recharging of wells, drought mitigation and flood control.

Long-term remedial options

While the India Meteorological Department has forecast above average rainfall during the upcoming South-West monsoon and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley expressed confidence that agriculture would withstand the ongoing drought, the situation calls for long-term solutions. Increased water conservation and promoting cultivation of less water-

intensive crops can go a long way towards coping with the crisis. The other remedial option could be to adopt drought-resistant crop varieties as has been done in some parts of Odisha for paddy/rice through the help of the International Rice Research Institute. This can maintain productivity and income of the farmers and also ensure price stability to the consumers. It is important for the government to sustain an increased investment in irrigation but at the same time gear up towards faster completion of the ongoing projects.

Micro irrigation system comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation has greater potential to improve water use efficiency in agriculture. Despite various promotional efforts undertaken by State governments, their level of adoption and spatial spread has remained low. Studies show that micro irrigation system helps save water, reduce cost of cultivation and improve crop yield. Various studies showed that the net return per inch of water supplied through drip irrigation was 60-80 per cent higher than that of conventional irrigation system. However, among others, high initial capital cost, suitability of designs to different soil conditions, problems in receiving subsidy and small holdings are reportedly affecting the adoption of this technology. Subsidy being an important factor influencing adoption decision of farmers, de-

lay in disbursement and appropriation by better-off farmers seems to have affected the vast majority of resource-poor small and marginal farmers in accessing this technology.

The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana is a good policy initiative that would accelerate public investment in both micro and macro irrigation. During

The ratio of irrigation potential created from public expenditure is higher for minor irrigation projects than large projects

the recently organised India Water Week, 2016, India has also partnered with Israel, a water-scarce country, to learn and adopt innovative strategies to harness rainwater. Small vegetable-growing farmers near Solan, Himachal Pradesh, have long adopted Israel's water-saving technology through the assistance of the Mother Dairy retail chain that procures their fresh produce. It is an opportune time to scale up technology adoption.

Finally, the shortage of drinking water can be addressed through promoting conservation and generating awareness among people to use the scarce resource with utmost care. Media reports indicate that the funds allocated by the Centre for drinking water projects have remained underutilised in many of the States hit by water scarcity. The States must act responsibly and gear up to come out of the current situation of water crisis.

Seema Bathla and Elumalai Kannan are Professor and Associate Professor at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development at JNU, New Delhi.

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The Times of India (N.D.)

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Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

Is Saraswati finding a way out as farmers strike water in Thar?

Vimal Bhatia | TNN

Jaisalmer: Seven years ago, Arshad Ali, a farmer, started digging a tube well in Charanwala village in Nachana, Jaisalmer, about 50km from the Pakistan border. At the depth of 560 feet, he struck water – so forcefully did it flow out that there was no stopping it. Today, his fields remain flooded and he has been draining water into nearby fields too.

Ali says his experience is not unique. Across a 60 sqkm area in the district, water seems to be flowing in abundance, he said. The pressure of the flow has not diminished with time. Pipes would burst if attempts were made to control the flow. A similar gush of water flowed into the fields of Ismail Khan, who lives in the same area.

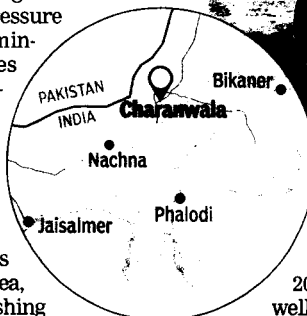
At least 10 tube wells have been dug in the area, and water has been gushing out with great force. At Poonam Nagar in Jaisalmer, villagers have decided to build a temple at the spot.

However, at a time when 33 crore people in the country reel under drought and water is enormously scarce in many parts, the government has done little to test or harness the water gushing out of such 'springs'. A year ago, former Jaisalmer DM Giriraj Singh Kushwaha had requested the state government to plan for utilisation of this water.

In October 2005, the ONGC Board had approved Rs1.7 crore for a pilot study to



SPRING IN THE DESERT: At least 10 tube wells have been dug up across the 60 sqkm area in Jaisalmer where water has been flowing in abundance



uncover the course of the Saraswati, the "mighty river" mentioned in the Rig Veda. By 2007, the ONGC had dug some wells and water was found in parts of Jaisalmer, at a depth of over 550 metres, the deepest level at which wells had been dug in this region.

While many historians and scientists contest the claims that Saraswati was never more than a mythical river, there are those who claim that the sacred texts are corroborated by imagery from Isro satellites.

Senior groundwater scientist Narayan Das Inkhia said it's likely that the water is flowing out of reserves of groundwater collected over centuries on impervious rock like gypsum that now has no other

mode of discharge. In hydrology this is called an "artesian condition", he said. The Indira Gandhi canal in the area could have caused a rise in the groundwater level in these parts, forcing water to gush out.

"Total dissolved solids are high but the water is fit to drink," Inkhia said, expressing doubt that the flow would go on endlessly. "The reserve of water underground might be huge, but it will run dry with time."

Scientist Ram Singh Mertia, formerly with the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, said only research would establish whether the water flowing out is from the Saraswati. "There is nothing at present to establish such claims," he said.

TLO-2 (With inputs from Resamma Thomas, Jaipur)

TAPPING IT IN

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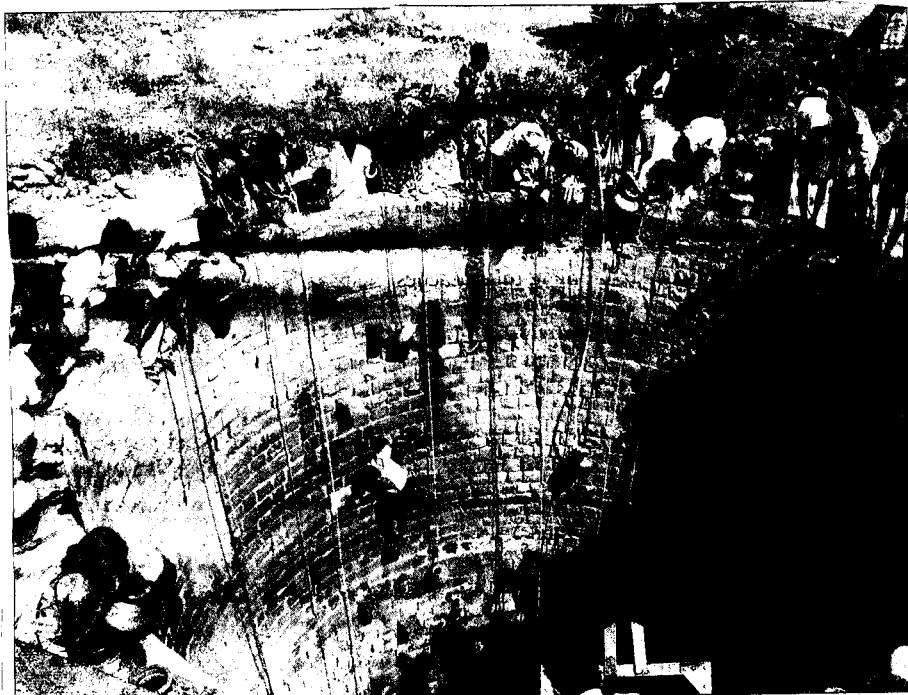
Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Ehagirath(English) & Health Section CV/C.



Residents of Kaalamandaragi village near Kamalapur Kalaburagi district risk their lives to collect a pot of water from a well. The district administration supplies water to this well from tankers. DH PHOTO/ KRISHNAKUMAR P S

Karnataka to seek special Central package for drought

CM will meet Union ministers during Delhi visit

BENGALURU: The state government will seek a special package for drought relief from the Centre in the coming days, Law Minister T B Jayachandra said on Friday.

Jayachandra told reporters in Bengaluru that the memorandum to be submitted to the Centre will be prepared after the four Cabinet sub-committees constituted to study the drought situation in each of the revenue divisions submit their reports.

He said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had set a deadline of April 29 for the committees to submit their reports. The state, especially the districts of north Karnataka, are reeling under the worst drought in the last four decades.

Siddaramaiah, who will be in New Delhi on Sunday to attend a joint conference of chief justices of the high courts and chief ministers, will also informally meet Union ministers and apprise them of the drought scene in the state, Jay-

achandra said.

The state has pooled in Rs 2,079 crore, including Rs 1,570 crore provided by the Centre, for drought relief work, the minister said. Task forces (at the taluk level) have been constituted to monitor supply of drinking water in drought-hit regions of the state.

Siddaramaiah, who had a review meeting with senior officials at his home office Krishna, said he had issued directions to the officials on the measures to be taken in the affected places.

The chief minister denied he had stated that there was no drought in the state. "I never said there is no drought. But I had stated that drought in Karnataka is not as severe as it is in Maharashtra. Yeddyurappa (BJP state president) has misinterpreted my statement," he said.

Asked about the death of Chikkaballapur farmer Anand Kumar, he said he had directed Chief Secretary Arvind Jadhav to take appropriate action after

Rs 2,060 cr from Centre

Revenue Department Principal Secretary (Rajkumar Khatri) said the Centre had released additional Rs 723 crore for the loss incurred due to failure of rabi crops. The state had sought Rs 1,416 crore from the Centre for the rabi crop loss. In all, the state has received Rs 2,060 crore from the Centre as financial aid for drought relief work, he said. This apart, the Centre has recently decided to release Rs 108 crore to the state as the first instalment under the Calamity Relief Fund in the current financial year, he said.

obtaining a report from the deputy commissioner.
DH News Service

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April 25 4.2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (K.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

A. a. J. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, CVWC.

SEEMANDHRA

Big part of Polavaram to be ready by 2018 *DC 25 p4*

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 24

Union water resources minister Uma Bharati on Sunday assured the Andhra Pradesh government that the Centre would obtain funds from the World Bank or Nabard for speedy completion of the multipurpose Polavaram project.

Ms Bharati on Sunday met AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and assured him that the Centre would take up the responsibility of

funding the project works and would complete a major portion of it by 2018.

Mr Naidu told the Union minister that as per AP Reorganisation Act it was the responsibility of the Centre to pump funds to complete the works before the 2019 elections. Current flow of funds would not be sufficient, he added.

Mr Naidu brought to the notice of the minister that the problems of the contractors working on the project had been resolved. He asked

the Centre to release outstanding amounts to the tune of ₹1,500 crore immediately.

Ms Bharati told him that the Centre had recently decided to take loans from World Bank and Nabard to complete pending projects including Polavaram. She would take up the issue of getting more funds released from the finance ministry.

The leaders told the media that the Centre was intent on completing the Polavaram project in time.

News Item/Letter/Article/Editorial published on April 26 - 4 2016 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)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

ETN

and documented at Bhadrith (English) & Publicity Section, DWC,

Amazon surprises with new reef system



DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM: The Amazon is the largest river by discharge of water in the world. — PHOTO: THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON: Scientists have discovered a new reef system at the mouth of the Amazon River, the largest river by discharge of water in the world.

As large rivers empty into the world's oceans in areas known as plumes, they typically create gaps in the reef distribution along the tropical shelves — something that makes finding a reef in the Amazon plume an unexpected discovery.

Scientists from University of Georgia in the U.S. and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil on an expedition to study the Amazon River plume looked for evidence of a reef system along the continental shelf. The Amazon plume — an area where freshwater from the river mixes with the salty Atlantic Ocean — affects a broad area of the tropical North Atlantic Ocean in terms of salinity, pH, light penetration and sedimentation, conditions that usually correlate to a major gap in Western Atlantic reefs.

"Our expedition into the Brazil Exclusive Economic Zone was primarily focused on sampling the mouth of the Amazon," said Patricia Yager, an associate professor at UGA. The team used multi-beam acoustic sampling of the ocean bottom to find the reef and then dredged up samples to confirm the discovery. We brought up the most amazing and colourful

animals I had ever seen on an expedition," Ms. Yager said.

The Amazon River plume and its effects on the global carbon budget converged with the discovery of the reef system to provide scientists a wider view of the reef community. Microorganisms thriving in the dark waters beneath the river plume may provide the trophic connection between the river and the reef. "The paper is not just about the reef itself, but about how the reef community changes as you travel north along the shelf break, in response to how much light it gets seasonally by the movement of the plume," said Ms. Yager.

Reef transitions

"In the far south, it gets more light exposure, so many of the animals are more typical reef corals and things that photosynthesise for food," she said. "But as you move north, many of those become less abundant, and the reef transitions to sponges and other reef builders that are likely growing on the food that the river plume delivers," Ms. Yager said.

However, the reefs may already be threatened. "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk from human impacts," she said. — PTI

ews item/letter/article/editorial published on 24/4/16 in the

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

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

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

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

In most states, rainwater harvesting confined to paper

HT Correspondents
• letters@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW/MUMBAI/CHANDIGARH/
AHMEDABAD: As India suffers from
drinking water crisis triggered
by depleting ground water stores,
a practical solution — rainwater
harvesting — has remained
mostly on paper in most states.

In perennially parched
Bundelkhand region of Uttar
Pradesh, rain water harvesting
was made mandatory in 2008. Six
years down the line, the ground
reality has not changed much in
the absence of an effective moni-
toring mechanism.

"Any application for sanction
of building map has to be accom-
panied by a drawing showing pro-
vision for rooftop rainwater har-
vesting (RWH)," said chief town
planner of Lucknow Development
Authority JN Reddy.

But, the reality is that once the
building plan is approved, there
is no effective check in place to
ensure compliance.

The state's ground water depart-
ment, which is responsible for car-
rying out mass awareness cam-
paign in the regard, had just been
allotted a shoestring budget of ₹
30 lakh in 2015-16. Of this too, the
department has managed to spend
just ₹4.08 lakh by January 2016.

In Maharashtra, while the
Mumbai civic body had made it
mandatory for all new construc-
tions above 300 square metre to
install rainwater harvesting sys-
tem, just 1,848 buildings out of an
estimated 5,000 new constructions
adopted the technique. Similar is
the story in one of the most planned
cities in India — Chandigarh. In
2008, RWH was made mandatory
for houses of one kanal (around 506

square metre) and above, but nearly
40% of government buildings do
not have the system.

In neighbouring Himachal
Pradesh, rain water harvesting
was made mandatory in 2013 but
it suffers from the same malaise
of poor implementation.

The silver lining is states like
Gujarat and Tamil Nadu where
rain water harvesting was imple-
mented in right earnest resulting
in improvement in ground water
situation.

News Item/Article/Editorial published on April 26 4 2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (M.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

New Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Kesari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Arjun (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

5/11/16

and documented at Bhadrachal (English) & Publicity Section, UK/IN

ऐसे होता है दिल्ली में पानी का बंटवारा

❖ **वरिष्ठ संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली :** पांच राज्यों हरियाणा, उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान, हिमाचल और दिल्ली में होता है। दिल्ली को नवंबर से फरवरी तक 68 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर, मार्च से जून तक 76 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर और जुलाई से अक्टूबर तक 580 मिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर पानी मिलता है। यानी बरसात के दिनों में यमुना को सबसे ज्यादा पानी मिलता है, लेकिन इसमें से लगभग 300 मिलियन पानी बह जाता है।

'दिल्ली के लिए चिंता की बात नहीं' : सिटीजन फ्रंट फॉर वॉटर डेमोक्रेसी के एस. ए. नकवी ने बताया कि टिहरी बांध में पानी की कमी तो हुई है, लेकिन यह दिल्ली वालों के लिए चिंता की बात नहीं है। टिहरी बांध हिमालयन रीवर से जुड़ा है, इसलिए इसमें आइस मेल्टिंग से भी पानी जमा होता है। इस गर्मी में ज्यादा बुरा हाल पठारी नदियों का है, जिसका सबसे बड़ा सोर्स बरसात का पानी ही है। इससे फिलहाल दिल्ली को ऐसी कोई परेशानी नहीं होने वाली है। उन्होंने कहा कि

इस विषय को बेवजह पैनिक नहीं बनाया जाए, जनता में गलत मैसेज नहीं देना चाहिए। हां, एक बात है कि दिल्ली की जनता अब ऐसी परिस्थितियों से निपटने के लिए भी तैयार है। पिछले दिनों जाट आंदोलन की वजह से दिल्ली में 9 में से केवल 2 प्लांट में ही पानी का प्रोडक्शन हुआ और केवल 250 एमजीडी पानी से पूरी दिल्ली की प्यास बुझाई गई और कहीं भी पैनिक वाली स्थिति नहीं बनी।

राँ वॉटर का सोर्स

गंगा नदी 500 क्यूसेक
(सोनिया विहार और भगीरथी प्लांट को राँ वॉटर मिलता है)

यमुना 440 क्यूसेक
(चंद्रावल, वजीराबाद और ओखला प्लांट को राँ वॉटर दिया जाता है)

भाखरा स्टोरेज 623 क्यूसेक
(हैदरपुर, नांगलोई, द्वारका और बवाना को राँ वॉटर मिलता है)

ग्राउंड वॉटर, बारिश और ट्यूब वेल से 160 क्यूसेक



News item/letter/article/editorial published on April - 26-4-2016 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)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

A. J. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Kal Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Phaphra (English) & Publicity Section, CWS.

भाजपाइयों ने यमुना सफाई के लिए किया श्रमदान

PK-26-P-8



फोटो : सुभाष चौपड़ा

नई दिल्ली, (दिनेश शर्मा): दिल्ली भाजपा ने अटल यमुना सफाई अभियान के अंतर्गत शाहदरा जिला के कार्यकर्ताओं ने यमुना सफाई के लिए श्रमदान किया। यमुना सफाई का यह कार्यक्रम शाहदरा जिला के अध्यक्ष डा. कंवर सेन के नेतृत्व में गीता कालोनी छठ घाट पर

चलाया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में भाजपा के पूर्व अध्यक्ष मांगेराम गर्ग, पूर्वी दिल्ली नगर निगम में सदन के नेता राम नारायण दूबे, निगम पार्षद जय गोपाल वर्मा, कल्पना जैन, मास्टर बलबीर, जिला महामंत्री राजीव गुगलानी, श्रवण दीक्षित सहित सभी मंडल अध्यक्षों के साथ लगभग

300 कार्यकर्ताओं ने श्रमदान किया। कार्यकर्ताओं को संबोधित करते हुए पूर्व प्रदेश अध्यक्ष मांगेराम गर्ग ने कहा कि यमुना तथा अन्य प्रमुख नदियों की सफाई भूतपूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी और वर्तमान प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की एक स्वप्न योजना

रही है। उन्होंने भाजपा कार्यकर्ताओं को इस अभियान को निरंतर चलाने के लिये बधाई दी। यह कार्यक्रम श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी के जन्मदिन 25 दिसंबर को शुरू किया गया और प्रत्येक मास की 25 तारीख को चलाया जाता है।

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

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

समस्या } जनवरी, फरवरी और मार्च माह में लगातार नीचे जा रहा है भूजल स्तर

मंदसौर में भूजल की स्थिति गंभीर

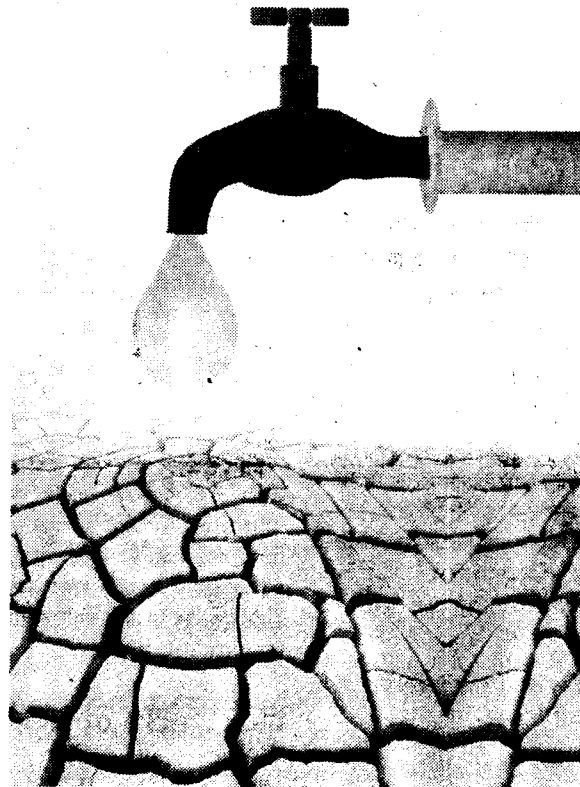
RP-26-p-8

अतिदोहित मंदसौर
विकासखंड में सबसे
ज्यादा भयानक स्थिति
के संकेत

मंदसौर @ पत्रिका. गर्मी में आमतौर पर भूजल स्तर काफी नीचे चला जाता है लेकिन इस बार की स्थिति गंभीर संकेत दे रही है। पिछले तीन माह के भूजल सर्वेक्षण विभाग के आंकड़े बताते हैं कि पिछले साल के मुकाबले इस बार जलस्तर में बहुत ज्यादा कमी आई है। जिले के पांच में से तीन विकासखंड अतिदोहित की श्रेणी में है और इसमें मंदसौर विकासखंड में भूजल साल दर साल नीचे और नीचे जा रहा है। भूजल के नीचे जाने की यही स्थिति बनी रही तो आगामी सालों में भयानक स्थिति उत्पन्न हो सकती है। उधर भूजल के गिरते स्तर ने जिलेभर में लगभग एक हजार हैंडपंपों के गले सूखा दिए हैं। अब इनसे पानी मिलना बंद हो चुका है।

100 कुओं से होती
है निगरानी

जिले में भूजलस्तर नापने के लिए चिह्नित 100 कुओं से निगरानी होती है। इन कुओं का जलस्तर हर माह जांचा जाता है और फिर औसत निकालने के बाद पता किया जाता है कि पिछले साल के मुकाबले इस साल जलस्तर कितना है। सहायक भूजलविद जीके वर्मा का कहना है कि इस बार जलस्तर काफी नीचे पहुंच गया है। आंकड़ों को देखकर हम भी हैरान हैं। जिले में तीन विकासखंड मंदसौर, सीतामऊ और मल्हारगढ़ अतिदोहित की श्रेणी में हैं। यहां ट्यूबवेलों की संख्या बहुत अधिक हो गई है और इसी दर से जमीन से पानी भी निकाला जाता है। लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग के अनुसार इस समय जिले में लगभग एक हजार हैंडपंप बंद हो चुके हैं जबकि 10 नलजल योजनाएं भी जलस्तर गिरने से बंद हो चुकी हैं।



भूजल की स्थिति मार्च 15 व 16 के बीच
तुलनात्मक (मीटर में)

विकासखंड	मार्च 2015	मार्च 2016	कम या ज्यादा
मंदसौर	11.83	12.56	-0.73
सीतामऊ	09.88	10.57	-0.69
गरोठ	10.56	11.20	-0.74
भानपुरा	08.00	08.80	-0.80
मल्हारगढ़	09.93	10.73	-0.80

जिले में हैंडपंपों की स्थिति

विकासखंड	मार्च 2015	मार्च 2016	कम या ज्यादा
मंदसौर	1525	1270	255
सीतामऊ	1380	1110	270
गरोठ	1059	984	78
भानपुरा	880	825	55
मल्हारगढ़	774	646	128

स्थिति अच्छी नहीं...

जिले में भूजलस्तर पिछले तीन माह में काफी गिरा है। जनवरी माह में ज्यादा गिरावट आई थी जो लगातार बनी हुई है। पानी का दोहन ज्यादा होने से यह स्थिति पैदा हो रही है। इसे गंभीर स्थिति भी कह सकते हैं क्योंकि जितना पानी हम जमीन से निकाल रहे हैं उतना इसमें पहुंचा नहीं रहे है। कहा जा सकता है कि आगामी सालों के लिए यह भयानक संकेत है।
-जीके वर्मा, सहायक भूजलविद

News item/letter/article/editorial published on April-26-4-2016 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)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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

and documented at Ehadrath(English)& Publicity Section, CV/C.

39.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस पहुंचा तापमान, बिहार, झारखंड और पूर्वांचल लू से बेहाल

4-26-P-14

बेंगलुरु में 85 साल का रिकॉर्ड टूटा



बेंगलुरु | एजेंसियां

गर्मी ने सोमवार को बेंगलुरु का 85 साल पुराना रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया। यहां पर अधिकतम तापमान 39.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। वहीं, ओडिशा का टिटलागढ़ देश का सबसे गर्म स्थान बना हुआ है। यहां पर सोमवार को भी अधिकतम 48.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस तापमान दर्ज किया गया।

मौसम विज्ञान क्षेत्रीय वेधशाला की निदेशक-प्रभारी गीता अग्निहोत्री ने बताया, सोमवार को हमने अप्रैल महीने में से ज्यादा अधिकतम तापमान 39.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया है। इसने 30 अप्रैल, 1931 को दर्ज 38.3 डिग्री

सेल्सियस के पुराने रिकॉर्ड को तोड़ दिया है। उन्होंने कहा, फिलहाल बेंगलुरु, दिल्ली से ज्यादा गर्म है। वहां तापमान 37 डिग्री सेल्सियस के आसपास बना हुआ है। बेंगलुरु स्थित वेधशाला वर्ष 1867 से तापमान दर्ज कर रहा है।

बिहार, झारखंड और पूर्वांचल लू से बेहाल : बिहार और झारखंड और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के बड़े हिस्से लू की चपेट में है। राज्य के कई इलाकों में अधिकतम तापमान 42 डिग्री सेल्सियस से अधिक दर्ज किया गया। मौसम विभाग के मुताबिक आने वाले 48 घंटों में यह स्थिति बनी रहेगी।

ओडिशा में 99 की मौत : ओडिशा में गर्मी का प्रकोप जारी है। लू और गर्मी से अब तक राज्य में 99 लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। गर्मी के मद्देनजर प्रशासन ने समयपूर्व गर्मी की झुट्टियां घोषित कर दी है। लोगों को घरों में रहने और मजदूरों से सुबह 11 बजे से दोपहर तीन बजे तक कान लेने का परामर्श जारी किया गया है।



तेलंगाना के पूर्वी नलगोंडा स्थित एक गांव में सोमवार को टूटी पाइप लाइन से पेयजल भरते ग्रामीण।

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Aaj (Hindi)
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पूर्वोत्तर में बाढ़

पूर्वोत्तर भारत देश के अन्य हिस्सों में व्याप्त सूखे के विपरीत बाढ़ की स्थिति का सामना कर रहा है। असम के छह जिलों जोरहाट, शिवसागर, तिनसुकिया, डिब्रूगढ़, कछार और चाररदियो जिलों में करीब एक लाख लोग बाढ़ से प्रभावित हैं। सरकार की ओर से खोले गए 40 राहत शिविरों में 7412 लोग शरण लिए हुए हैं। सरकार के मुताबिक बाढ़ से 5000 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में खड़ी फसल डूब गई है।

किसानों का पलायन बढ़ा

भीषण सूखे ने तेलंगाना से छोटे किसानों को दूसरे राज्यों में जाने के लिए विवश कर दिया है। पानी का संकट गांवों से शहरों तक और राजधानी हैदराबाद तक पहुंच चुका है। राज्य के कुल 450 मंडलों में 231 सूखे की चपेट में हैं। किसान संगठनों का कहना है कि 368 मंडल सूखे की चपेट में हैं। महबूबनगर, रंगा रेड्डी, मेडक, निजामाबाद और आदिलाबाद जिले सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित हैं, जहां से लगभग 14 लाख किसानों का पलायन हुआ है।

चेरापूंजी में मूसलाधार वर्षा मानसून का 'ट्रेलर!' P-14

नई दिल्ली। हिन्दुस्तान टीन

झमाझम 41-26

कभी सर्वाधिक बारिश वाली जगह कहे जाने वाले मेघालय के चेरापूंजी (नया नाम सोहरा) में शुक्रवार-शनिवार के दरमियान 24 घंटे में हुई 420 मिलीमीटर बारिश ने अप्रैल माह का एक दशक पुराना रिकार्ड ध्वस्त कर दिया। इसी तरह अरुणाचल प्रदेश और असम में भी मानसून पूर्व भरपूर बारिश हुई है। मानसून पूर्व हुई इस बारिश से संकेत मिल रहे हैं कि मौसम विशेषज्ञों की देश में अगले मानसून में बंपर बारिश का अनुमान सही हो सकता है।

वैसे चेरापूंजी में अप्रैल के 24 दिन में 2085.9 मिलीमीटर बरसात हो चुकी है। देखा जाए तो इस शहर में महीने की औसत से दुगुनी बारिश हो चुकी है। चेरापूंजी में माहवार वर्षा का रिकार्ड 2734.6 मिलीमीटर का है। स्काईमेट वेदर के मौसम विज्ञानी समरजीत चौधरी का कहना है कि यह मानसून पूर्व वर्षा है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस बार उत्तर पश्चिमी

- अप्रैल के 24 दिनों में 2085.9 मिलीमीटर बारिश हो चुकी
- महीने के औसत से यह दुगुनी बारिश का रिकार्ड

राज्यों विशेषकर दिल्ली, पंजाब और हरियाणा में भी अच्छी बारिश होने का अनुमान है। उल्लेखनीय है कि पिछले कुछ सालों से यहां पानी कम गिरा है।

वैसे पिछले साल अगस्त महीने में चेरापूंजी ने बारिश में 10 साल का रिकार्ड तोड़ा था। यहां 19 अगस्त 2015 को 471.7 मिलीमीटर बरसात दर्ज की गई थी। इससे पहले 21 अगस्त 2005 में 24 घंटे में 407.7 मिलीमीटर बारिश हुई थी। हालांकि 1964 में सोहरा यानी चेरापूंजी में 853 मिलीमीटर बारिश 24 घंटे में हुई थी। इसके कारण इस दुनिया की सबसे ज्यादा बारिश वाली जगह कहा गया था। कस्बे में सालाना औसत 12000 मिलीमीटर बरसात होती है।

स्पेशल कॉमिश्नर अमूल्य पटनायक के पास यह रिपोर्टिंग भेजते हुए पांच दिन के अंदर जांच पूरी करने का निर्देश दिया। पटनायक ने यह केस डीसीपी विजिलेंस आरके झा को दिया। इंस्पेक्टर रघुराज खट्टाना की टीम ने जांच शुरू की। उनकी हिदायत पर शिकायतकर्ता ने स्टिंग करने वाली डिवाइस और अन्य उपकरण उनके हवाले करते हुए बयान दर्ज कराए। शिकायतकर्ता की ओर से गवाहों ने भी बयान दर्ज कराए। पुलिस अप्सरों ने बताया कि अभी विजिलेंस जांच पूरी नहीं हुई है।

हथिनी कुंड और टिहरी डैम में पानी के लेवल में आई काफी गिरावट

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■ नई दिल्ली : भले ही हथिनी कुंड बैराज और टिहरी डैम में वॉटर लेवल में गिरावट आ गई हो लेकिन फिलहाल दिल्ली में पानी का संकट नहीं होगा। हरियाणा के सिंचाई विभाग ने कहा है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश का पालन करते हुए दिल्ली को तय मात्रा में सप्लाई होती रहेगी। हरियाणा सिंचाई विभाग के एक अफसर के मुताबिक हथिनी कुंड बैराज में इस समय 50 फीसदी पानी कम हो गया है। दिल्ली को पानी देने के लिए भाखड़ा नांगल डैम से पानी की सप्लाई की जाएगी। हरियाणा से दिल्ली को यमुना और मुनक नहर के जरिए लगभग 1100 क्यूसेक पानी आता है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट का 1996 का आदेश है कि दिल्ली को तय मात्रा में पानी मुहैया कराया जाए। गर्मी बढ़ने के कारण राजधानी में करीब 15 फीसदी पानी की डिमांड बढ़ गई है। इस कारण कई इलाकों में पानी की किल्लत शुरू हो गई है।

बर्फ न पिघलने और बारिश कम होने से उत्तराखंड और हिमाचल के ज्यादातर डैम में पानी कम हो गया है। इसी का असर हथिनी कुंड बैराज पर भी दिख रहा है। बैराज में 1200 क्यूसेक के आसपास पानी रह गया है, जबकि सामान्य स्थिति में 4000 क्यूसेक के करीब पानी रहता है। हथिनी कुंड बैराज से पानी यमुना के जरिए दिल्ली के वजीराबाद और चंद्रावल वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट

हरियाणा से दिल्ली के वजीराबाद और चंद्रावल प्लांट में उत्पादन किया जाता है।

प्लांट को सप्लाई होता है। दिल्ली को हरियाणा से यमुना और मुनक नहर के जरिए पानी की सप्लाई होती है। भाखड़ा नांगल डैम से आने वाला पानी नरवाना ब्रांच के जरिए राजपुरा क्रॉस करके अंबाला और कुरुक्षेत्र होते हुए मुनक हेड पर पहुंचता है। जहां पर यमुना और भाखड़ा डैम के

पानी को मिलाकर मुनक नहर के जरिए दिल्ली सप्लाई किया जाता है। हरियाणा के सिंचाई विभाग के अधिकारी का कहना है कि हथिनी कुंड में पानी कम होने पर डैम से ज्यादा पानी दिल्ली को मुहैया कराया जाएगा। हरियाणा से आने वाले पानी से दिल्ली के वजीराबाद, चंद्रावल, नांगलोई, हैदरपुर, द्वारका और बवाना प्लांट में उत्पादन किया जाता है।

टिहरी डैम से दिल्ली के सोनिया विहार वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट के लिए 300 क्यूसेक पानी की सप्लाई होती है। आजकल टिहरी डैम में भी पानी का लेवल काफी कम हो गया है। सामान्य दिनों में लेवल 760 मीटर रहता है लेकिन आजकल घटकर यह 743.5 पर आ गया है।

लेवल डाउन आने के कारण डैम से दिल्ली के लिए 300 की बजाय केवल 140 क्यूसेक ही पानी की सप्लाई हो रही है। दिल्ली के जल मंत्री कपिल मिश्रा का कहना है कि मुराद नगर नहर में 2000 क्यूसेक पानी होने के कारण फिलहाल दिल्ली पर कोई संकट नहीं है। मुरादनगर से सोनिया विहार के लिए पूरा 300 क्यूसेक पानी और 200 क्यूसेक पानी भागीरथी वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट के लिए मिल रहा है।



टिहरी डैम से दिल्ली के सोनिया विहार वॉटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट के लिए 300 क्यूसेक पानी की सप्लाई होती है



पानी की नहीं होगी किल्लत

SC के ऑर्डर के मुताबिक से होती रहेगी दिल्ली को सप्लाई : हरियाणा

अब दिल्ली को भाखड़ा नांगल डैम से पानी दिया जाएगा ज्यादा पानी

गनी बरस ही दिल्ली को पानी की डिमांड भी 15 फीसदी तक बढ़ी

भाखड़ा और यमुना से दिल्ली को मिलता करीब 1100 क्यूसेक पानी

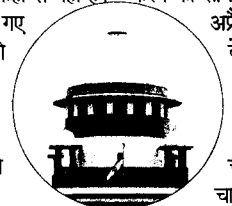
एसवाईएल केस : हटाए गए वकील ने किए नए दावे

■ विशेष संवाददाता, सुप्रीम कोर्ट

सतलज यमुना लिंक मामले की सुनवाई के दौरान दिल्ली सरकार की ओर से सुप्रीम कोर्ट को बताया गया कि वह इस मामले में न तो हरियाणा के साथ है और न ही पंजाब के साथ वह इस मामले में कहीं से नहीं है। वहीं दिल्ली सरकार के पैल से हटाए गए वकील सुरेश त्रिपाठी ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट को बताया कि उनके द्वारा दाखिल किया गया हलफनामा निर्देश के मुताबिक था। ऐसा कहना गलत और बेबुनियाद है कि हलफनामे के लिए सरकार से अनुमति नहीं ली गई थी।

दिल्ली सरकार की ओर से पेश सीनियर एडवोकेट इंदिरा जय सिंह ने मामले की सुनवाई के दौरान कहा कि दिल्ली सरकार का पंजाब या फिर हरियाणा से इस मामले पर कोई मतलब नहीं है। गौरतलब है कि एडवोकेट सुरेश त्रिपाठी की ओर से दाखिल जवाब में कहा गया था कि दिल्ली सरकार

पंजाब के उस कानून का विरोध करता है जिसके तहत पंजाब ने 2004 में एक बनाकर अपने पड़ोसी राज्यों के साथ हुए जल बंटवारे के तमाम एग्रीमेंट को रद्द कर दिया था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में दिए जवाब में कहा गया था कि इस तरह से एकतरफा कानून बनाकर एग्रीमेंट रद्द करने की संविधान इजाजत नहीं देता। इसके बाद 18



अप्रैल को एसवाईएल मामले की सुनवाई के दौरान दिल्ली सरकार ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट में यू टर्न ले लिया था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में दिल्ली सरकार की ओर से कहा गया कि वो अपना पुराना जवाब वापस लेना चाहती है और नया जवाब दाखिल करना चाहती है। दिल्ली सरकार ने कोर्ट को

बताया कि पहले जो दिल्ली सरकार की ओर से एडवोकेट ने जवाब दाखिल किया था उसके लिए एडवोकेट ने संबंधित अर्थोर्टी से इजाजत नहीं ली थी ऐसे में सरकार अपना वह जवाब वापस लेना चाहती है। अब उस एडवोकेट ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सामने नया दावा पेश किया है।