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Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

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Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

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

J. Maheshwari
26.7.2018
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director TD Dte, & Publication Division

26/7/18

Director TD Dte

26/7

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 26/7/18 in the

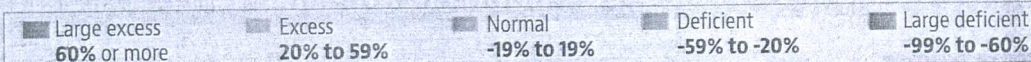
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| Hindustan Times | Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) | M.P.Chronicle |
| Statesman | Punjab Keshari (Hindi) | A a j (Hindi) |
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Tracking monsoon footprints

Most parts of the country experienced normal rainfall with Rajasthan witnessing excess rains. However, states like Tamil Nadu and Telangana received less rainfall than they had till last week

STATUS CHECK



From June 1-July 18, 2018



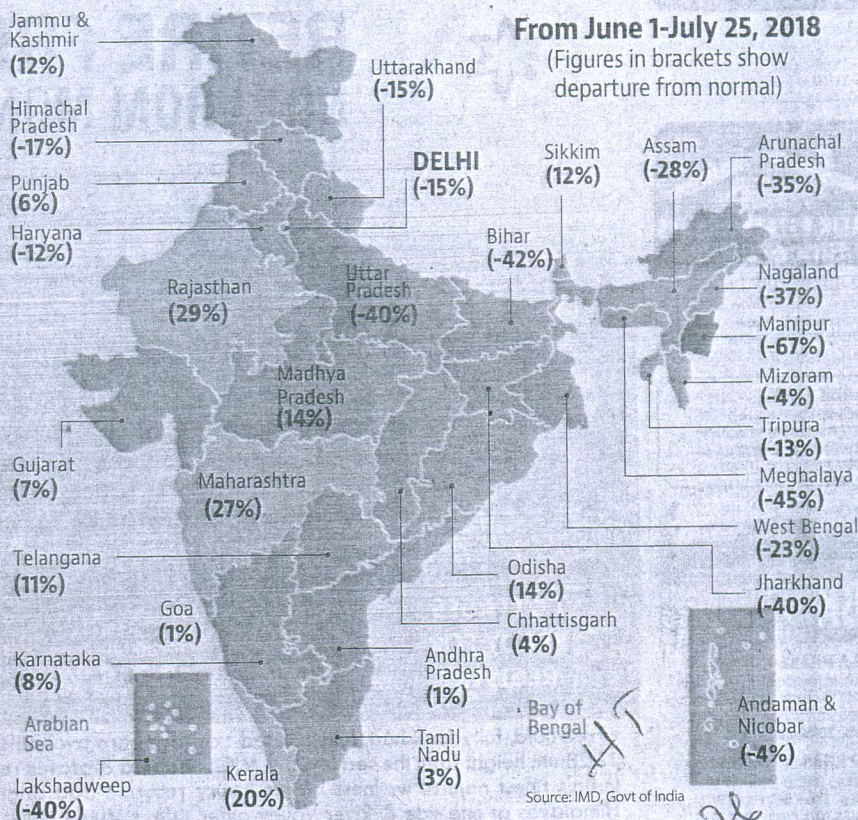
States where changes happened

| States/UT | July 18 | July 25 |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Delhi | -21% | -15% |
| Punjab | 20% | 6% |
| Rajasthan | 15% | 29% |
| Telangana | 27% | 11% |
| Tamil Nadu | 23% | 3% |
| Pondicherry | 26% | 6% |

TREND: Compared to last week, southern states of Telangana, Tamil Nadu along with Pondicherry received diminishing rainfall

From June 1-July 25, 2018

(Figures in brackets show departure from normal)



Source: IMD, Govt of India

KHARIF SOWING SLUGGISH AMID POOR RAINS

The southwest monsoon has been 3% deficient so far, affecting sowing of key crops. Until July 20, the total area under summer crops was 9.31% less than the corresponding period last year.

Large rainfall deficits in many states have led to sluggish sowing of paddy, pulses and coarse cereals, data from the agriculture ministry show. The area under rice was 12.43% below average due to sub-par rains in UP, Bihar, Bengal

Pulses acreage was down 17.63%, while that of coarse cereals lagged by 10.57%. Oilseeds acreage is near normal levels at -0.09%. Sowing of cotton has been lower by 11.09%. Sugarcane is the only major crop with a surplus area of 1.61%

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POLICY DIVE

Policy Dive picks a policy issue, traces the debate around it, the different schools of thought, and the choices involved

Do farmers need alternative to minimum support prices?



■ Farm incomes are said to be critically dependent on MSP-backed procurement programme **PI FILE**

Zia Haq

z.haq@live.com

NEW DELHI: Agriculture everywhere needs to be bankrolled because of the nature of the beast. Farm subsidies are common across economies. For instance, the US government's agriculture-support programmes cost taxpayers \$20 billion annually, according to the 2015-16 US Government Accountability Office data.

The mainly supports farmers by federally fixing minimum support prices (MSPs) for 24 crops apart from providing insurance, power and fertiliser subsidies. It then buys mainly wheat and rice at the MSP for distribution among the poor at a fraction of the buying price, which is estimated to cost ₹1.69 lakh crore in 2018-19. Economists, including those affiliated to the government, are now debating if MSPs can adequately support farm incomes in the long run.

THE ISSUE

A 2015 government think tank Niti Aayog paper titled 'Raising Agricultural Productivity and Making Farming Remunerative for Farmers' said the basic goal of price policy is to offer remunerative prices to farmers. But it said this cannot be "achieved through procurement backed MSP" because "it is neither possible nor desirable for the government to buy each commodity in each market in all regions". This triggered the debate on MSPs.

MSPs have been "inadequate", "ineffective" and "inefficient", wrote economists T Haque and PK Joshi in a recent paper in the peer-reviewed academic journal the Economic and Political Weekly.

The cost of cultivation, to which

MSPs are linked, widely varies across states. But MSPs are based on a weighted all-India average. This does not guarantee equal profits to all. The latest Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations study showed MSPs have often been set below international prices.

MSPs have also failed to keep pace with rising input costs.

For instance, taking into account comprehensive cultivation costs between 2004-05 and 2014-15, costs of growing paddy grew by 11.2% annually in Bihar and 11.9% in West Bengal, while the paddy MSP increased at the rate of 10.6% annually.

SIGNIFICANCE

Farm incomes are said to be critically dependent – at least in the case of rice and wheat – on MSP-backed procurement programme. Yet, MSPs benefit very few farmers. Only 32.2% of paddy growers and 39.2% of wheat farmers were aware of MSP, as per 70th National Sample Survey for 2012-13. Crucially, only 13.5% rice farmers and 16.2% wheat farmers were able to MSPs.

Procurement of wheat is done mostly from Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh; while rice to Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana. For majority of produce like maize, coarse cereals, soybeans and oilseeds, MSP is hardly backed by government procurement.

THE DEBATE

Regardless of whether MSPs need to go or stay and if better alternative mechanisms should be found, farmers are always going to need a federally-determined price policy. The Niti Aayog paper has argued in favour of a price deficiency payment system, under which a subsidy is given to farmers when prices fall below a certain level, possibly an average of past three-four years. "This approach would help prevent unwanted stocks and spread price incentives to producers

in all the regions and all the crops considered important for providing price support," it states.

The price deficiency model, which Madhya Pradesh experimented with, may be attractive. But it, too, has a flip side. Traders manipulated the model. They colluded to artificially pull down prices. Economists such as Haque and Mishra say price deficiency payments can potentially be a better alternative only with "necessary safeguards and corrective measures".

Hindustan Times
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HC suggests steps for rain water harvesting in Delhi

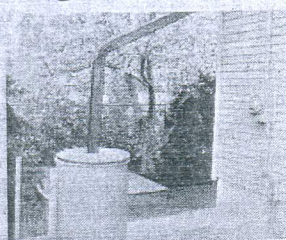
PTI

NEW DELHI, 25 JULY

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday suggested steps like use of storm water drains to promote rainwater harvesting system in the national capital, saying many parts of the city have low water tables despite waterlogging during monsoon.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and Chander Shekhar said there are many old buildings in the national capital where installing of rainwater harvesting systems would not be possible and suggested use of the drains in such areas for setting up such a mechanism.

The court asked the Delhi government and the municipal corporations to identify some colonies where water table is low and to use the drains there for setting up rainwater harvesting systems.



It sought an action taken report from the authorities by the next date of hearing on September 20.

"Take up five-seven colonies as pilot projects, where water table has really gone down. All you have to do is make a hole there. Take it up urgently, especially when we have waterlogging problem," the bench said.

The court was hearing a PIL filed by advocate R K Kapoor seeking implementation of rainwater harvesting units in the national capital, especially in government buildings and hospitals.

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Appoint suitable person to clean Yamuna: NGT

HT Correspondent

• htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Peeved with the Delhi Jal Board's (DJB) tardy efforts in cleaning the Yamuna, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Wednesday directed the water utility to put in place a 'suitable officer' who can expedite the work.

The green court criticised the DJB, saying no "meaningful progress" had been made in the last three years.

"Despite proceedings in the case in the last three years, there is no meaningful progress at the ground level. It does appear that the present in-charge may not be competent enough to handle the issue. Today, we are in a failure situation," a bench headed by

NGT Chairperson AK Goel said.

The Yamuna river flows for around 46 km in Delhi and is less than two percent of the river's entire length but the national Capital contributes to nearly 70% of the river's pollution.

The NGT had in its January 13, 2015 order laid out in detail the points where sewage treatment plants (STPs) should be set up, laying of sewer lines and upgrade of sewer systems, among others.

The NGT, however, observed that work on 14 STPs has not yet taken off despite its 2015 order on the river's rejuvenation. Two STPs at Najafgarh and Delhi Gate were supposed to bring down the river's pollution by over 60%.

The tribunal while expressing its displeasure directed the DJB's chief executive officer to put in

place an officer who can ensure work on the 14 treatment plants starts in a month. The DJB has to file an affidavit in two weeks.

"We don't want useless and incompetent people who have failed us, the people and the country," the bench observed.

"The work on the 14 STPs is yet to take off. The assembly committee had made some recommendations on the flow of the water to the STPs which we are addressing at the moment. Work would start soon," a senior official of the DJB, who didn't wish to be named, said.

The bench also directed the Haryana government to file an affidavit on what measures had been taken to ensure that no untreated effluents flow into the river.



• The green court criticised the DJB, saying no meaningful progress had been made in cleaning the Yamuna.

BURHAAN KINU/HT

Hindustan Times

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Haryana moves SC seeking early hearing in SYL case

Court had earlier granted Centre time to work out an amicable solution

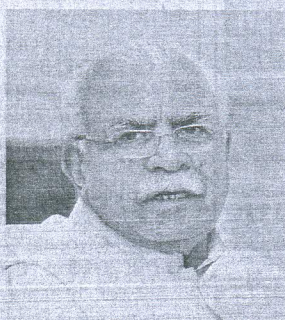
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Haryana government on Wednesday moved the Supreme Court seeking early hearing in the matter related to its row with Punjab over the Satluj-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal.

The matter was mentioned before a Bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A.M. Khanwilkar and D.Y. Chandrachud.

The Bench asked Haryana's counsel to approach the apex court registry for listing of the matter before an appropriate Bench.

The apex court had earlier granted the Centre time



Haryana Chief Minister
Manohar Lal Khattar.

to explore the possibility of an amicable solution to the SYL canal row between Punjab and Haryana.

On July 11, the apex court said it was obligatory for

Punjab and Haryana to respect and execute its orders on the SYL canal issue.

The controversial 1981 water-sharing agreement came into being after Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966. For effective allocation of water, the SYL canal link was conceptualised and both States were required to construct their portions within their territories.

Haryana constructed the portion of SYL canal in its territory. However, Punjab, after the initial phase, stopped the work, leading to a spate of litigations.

In 2004, the Congress government in the State came out with the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act

with the intention to terminate the 1981 agreement and all other pacts relating to sharing waters of the Ravi and Beas rivers.

The apex court had first decreed Haryana's suit in 2002 asking Punjab to honour its commitments with regard to water sharing in the case.

Verdict challenged

Punjab had challenged the verdict by filing an original suit that was rejected in 2004 by the Supreme Court which asked the Centre to take over the remaining infrastructure work of the SYL canal project.

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First stable liquid water body found on Mars, scientists say it will take years to verify life

WILL DUNHAM

WASHINGTON, JULY 25

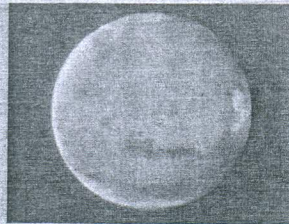
USING A radar instrument on an orbiting spacecraft, scientists have spotted what they said on Wednesday appears to be a sizable salt-laden lake under ice on the southern polar plain of Mars, a body of water they called a possible habitat for microbial life.

The reservoir they detected — roughly 12 miles (20 km) in diam-

eter, shaped like a rounded triangle and located about a mile (1.5 km) beneath the ice surface — represents the first stable body of liquid water ever found on Mars.

Whether anywhere other than Earth has harbored life is one of the supreme questions in science, and the new findings offer tantalising evidence, though no proof. Water is considered a fundamental ingredient for life.

The researchers said it could take years to verify whether



A NASA image of Mars: Radar on an orbiting spacecraft detected the lake

something is actually living in this body of water that resembles a subglacial lake on Earth, perhaps with a future mission drilling through the ice to sample the water below.

"This is the place on Mars where you have something that most resembles a habitat, a place where life could subsist," said planetary scientist Roberto Orosei of Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica in Italy, who led the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Water on Mars

research published in the journal Science.

"This kind of environment is not exactly your ideal vacation, or a place where fish would swim," Orosei added. "But there are terrestrial organisms that can survive and thrive, in fact, in similar environments. There are microorganisms on Earth that are capable of surviving even in ice."

The detection was made using data collected between May 2012 and December 2015 by an instrument aboard the European Space Agency's Mars Express spacecraft that transmits radar pulses, which penetrate the Martian surface and ice caps.

"This took us long years of data analysis and struggles to find a good method to be

sure that what we were observing was unambiguously liquid water," said study co-author Enrico Flamini, chief scientist at the Italian Space Agency during the research.

The location's radar profile resembled that of subglacial lakes found beneath Earth's Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets.

Mars long ago was warmer and wetter, possessing significant bodies of water, as evidenced by dry lake beds and river valleys on its surface. There had been some signs of liquid water currently on Mars, including disputed evidence of water activity on Martian slopes, but not stable bodies of water.

Orosei said the water in the Martian lake was below the normal freezing point but remained liquid thanks in large part to high levels of salts. Orosei estimated the water temperature at somewhere between

14 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 10 degrees Celsius) and minus 94 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 70 degrees Celsius).

It remains to be seen if more subsurface reservoirs of water will be found or whether the newly discovered one is some sort of quirk, Orosei said.

If others are detected and a network of subglacial lakes exists like on Earth, he said, that could indicate liquid water has persisted for millions of years or even dating back to 3-1/2 billion years ago when Mars was a more hospitable planet.

The question would be, Orosei added, whether any life forms that could have evolved long ago on Mars have found a way to survive until now.

"Nobody dares to propose that there could be any more complex life form," Orosei said.

—REUTERS

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Enact coastal rights law: fishworkers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The draft Coastal Regulation Zone notification of 2018 needs to be scrapped and replaced with a comprehensive Coastal Rights Act, in consultation with traditional coastal communities, says the National Fishworkers Forum.

In its current form, the draft notification would displace more than 3,800 fishing villages and over forty million fishworkers, it said.

In a meeting with parliamentarians from coastal States on Wednesday, NFF general secretary T. Peter pointed out that the earlier CRZ notifications issued in 1991 and 2011 have been amended a total of 38 times.

"Those amendments were for the benefit of industry or so-called eco-tourism. It was never for the benefit of those who actually depend on the coast for their life and livelihoods," he said, adding that the latest amendment of the CRZ 2011, notified earlier this month, aimed to bring in many of the features of the draft CRZ 2018 even while that notification is still in the stage of collecting public feedback.

Actual law

"It is time to move away from notifications that can be amended by the whims of the executive, and bring in an actual law that will take into account the needs of all stakeholders, especially fishworker communities, and be debated by our representatives in Parliament," added NFF secretary Pradip Chatterjee.

Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu promised that the government was committed to fishworkers' well-being.

Bountiful rainfall or above normal rainfall is always a matter of euphoria for Indian agriculture. Because the expectations from such bountiful rainfall are larger net sown area, increased irrigation potential, higher crop productivity, bumper harvest, higher farmer income, lower inflation and a big boost to rural and national economy.

But bountiful or above normal rainfall can be deceptive. This is because contrary to expectations, bountiful rainfall doesn't always mean water to all farms and farmers in the irrigated lands. The reality could be different due to a number of invisible factors existing in India's irrigated agriculture.

In fact, rains may not be transforming into water to all farms and farmers leading to irrigation gaps. The irrigation gaps are invisible and so are lower net sown areas, lower irrigation potential, lower crop productivity, lower farmer income and farmer suicides, all of which gets blindsided by the euphoria of higher rainfall.

According to the erstwhile Planning Commission, irrigation gap exists between irrigation potential created (IPC) and irrigation potential utilisation (IPU) in its vast irrigated lands or canal command areas (IPC means the total gross area proposed to be irrigated under different crops in a year; and IPU is the gross area actually able to be irrigated in the same year).

At the end of the Xth Plan, India's irrigation potential created (IPC) from major/medium projects stood at 41.64 mha as against the irrigation potential utilisation (IPU) of 33.74 mha with an IPC-IPU gap of 7.90 mha. This is according to the working group of the erstwhile Planning Commission. There is no data after the Xth Plan; but the gap is widening, says the Government of India. Studies conducted by four Indian Institutes of Management identified wide ranging causes for this widening irrigation gap.

Some of them are lack of operation and maintenance of the canal network by project authorities under state governments, incomplete distribution system, non-completion of command area development works, changes in cropping pattern, and diversion of irrigated land to other purposes.

Irrigation canal commands are vast and run into thousands of square kilometers. The canal network consists of main canals with higher discharge

capacity, taking off from dam head-works. The main canals alone cannot distribute water to all parts of the command area. So, there are distributaries of smaller discharge capacities that possess outlets at planned intervals along their length. From the outlets, the field irrigation channels (FICs) having lowest discharge capacity carry water to all farms in the command area. So, in any irrigation land, it is the FICs that function as arteries transporting water from the outlets of main canal/distributaries to individual farms across the command area.

The length of the canal network, including FICs, runs into thousands of kilometers with FICs possessing the longest length. The canal network in India, from the main canal to FICs is concrete-lined in order to avoid seepage of water into the ground and to maintain the design discharge so as to deliver water to the remotest corners of the command area. Generally, the canal commands in India are not criss-crossed with highways or well-laid roads or even service roads. The terrain is harsh and full of jungles. There are no proper service roads even to approach and move along the main canals or distributaries. At best, there could be earthen roads built across major canals that are rarely conducive for a four-wheeled vehicle. As far as FICs are concerned, it is difficult to even move by foot. So, it is absolutely impossible to verify every part of the canal network and validate the irrigation potential creation and irrigation potential utilisation due to spatial constraints.

Then, due to the expanse and inaccessible terrain, it is impossible to verify and validate main canals, distributaries and FICs within a span of a week or even a month. So, a visit to a project for a day or two reveals nothing

about the potential utilisation. The fact that the canal network in a vast command area is difficult to monitor due to spatial and temporal constraints gives enough room for vested interests to manipulate, evade accountability and hide the ever-widening irrigation gap and the resulting consequences on farmers' lives. These constraints serve as excellent opportunities for irrigation bureaucracies to evade scrutiny by any of the institutional checks and balances that exist at present.

Therefore, any data/statistics pertaining to IPC and IPU are suspect and any statistical blitz pertaining to success of irrigation potential utilisation by vested interests could be false. In large parts of the 41.64 mha of canal commands, the IPU may be overstated or may not exist or exist only on paper!

In the XIIth Plan (2012-2017), to stem and reverse the widening irrigation gap, Government of India revamped earlier schemes of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Program (AIBP), Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM), Watershed Management and launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) in 2016.

This scheme envisaged higher water use efficiency, Harkhet Ko Pani, "Per Drop More Crop" in the irrigated commands.

But the current policy discourse seems to rely on the false premise that the irrigation gap can be closed by "funds". That too inadequate funds!

In canal irrigation, concrete lining of the canal network, (particularly for the FICs connecting outlets to farms), is the very important engineering intervention to stop seepage of water from the sides and bed of canals. Therefore, arresting seepage is a strategy to achieve higher water use efficiency.



But, in large parts of irrigated lands, the FICs are bereft of any concrete lining precisely due to paucity of funds, lethargy of the irrigation bureaucracy and/or corruption entrenched due to lack of accountability arising out of spatial and temporal constraints to data collection and validation.

The current level of funding under various schemes is sufficient to line the FICs with concrete only up to one-third of their length, say some project authorities on condition of anonymity, and the balance two-thirds are left unlined or in excavated condition across a vast command area.

These unlined/excavated FICs disappear in just one monsoon season due to filling of soil by rains or tilling by farmers or due to their incapability to maintain them. With the disappearance of FICs as well as poor maintenance of other parts of the canal network, water use efficiency plummets and water fails to reach the majority of the farms leading to failure of Har Khet Ko Pani.

Thus, there could be bountiful monsoons in the catchment area, but this does not mean water to the irrigated lands. While policy makers find it expensive for governments to construct and maintain FICs, they wrongly assume that poor and marginal farmers possessing landholdings of less than 1 ha are fully capable to construct, line and maintain these FICs under Water user associations (WUA). In reality, farmers in India are so diverse that they do not belong to one culture, sect or tradition, or belong to one religion, caste, language and dialect even within an irrigation project. They aren't loyal to any single political affiliation. Tail-end farmers do not trust the farmers in head reaches.

So, it is naïve on the part of policy makers to expect fully functional WUAs to plug the irrigation gap, construct FICs, line the FICs with concrete, and maintain them through their own funds. Therefore, one of the oldest government schemes, namely CAD&WM makes such a flawed assumption that water users are capable enough to maintain thousands of kilometers of FICs. Lack of irrigation is attributed as one of the causes of poor agricultural performance and suicides in the farm sector. However, attention has been successfully diverted by policy makers towards rainfed areas instead of the heavily invested large canal command areas of major/medium irrigation projects.

existent irrigation infrastructure.

In fact, India's failure to deliver water in time in adequate quantities to every small landholding (< 1 hectare) belonging to marginal farmers (constituting 85 per cent of total farmers) cultivating in 43.64 million hectares (mha) of canal irrigated commands never finds mention in any of the suicide records and agriculture performance discourse.

The point is that the area under dilapidated and non-existent irrigation infrastructure within the 43.74 mha of the canal command area is never disclosed and therefore remains largely invisible to the nation.

The impact of this great Indian irrigation deceit is enormous on agriculture performance. The failure to deliver water in time, despite bountiful monsoons, leads to low water use efficiency, loss of crops, variation in crop productivity and rising costs thereby straining the financial position of the farmers and leading to distress. Indian agriculture contributes 16 per cent to GDP. With over 50 per cent of the workforce employed in agriculture sector, it supports livelihoods of 55 per cent of India's population (about 700 million). Therefore, poor agricultural performance, farmer distress and inflation, possess larger political and social ramifications, all of which can hold back the Indian economy. Bountiful monsoons don't mean bountiful water to all parts of the irrigated lands of India. This is due to the ever-widening irrigation gap precisely due to flawed assumptions of various irrigation policies, schemes and programmes, spatial and temporal constraints, lack of transparency, deficiencies and drawbacks arising out of lack of accountability in the canal command area.

The sooner governments acknowledge the deficiencies of irrigation sector, apply remedial measures to policies and schemes and make a turnaround in the canal command areas, the better it will be for farmers, agriculture sector, the Indian economy and the nation.

Therefore, unless irrigation schemes in India are conceived with honesty and transparency reflecting the ground realities, they will continue to be disastrous to the agriculture sector. Farmers and their families face distress for reasons that remain hidden from public gaze.

The writer is Director, Central Water Commission Government of India

Gujarat farmers put all their eggs in cotton basket



Farmer Dhiru Rajput in his cotton field in Chuli village of Surendranagar. Gopal Kateshiya

GOPAL KATESHIYA

SURENDRANAGAR (GUJARAT), JULY 25

"You can see these *dhefa* (sun-baked hardened lumps of soil) and understand how little it has rained. One good rain can melt them, but we are still waiting for that shower in this monsoon season," remarks Dhiru Rajput, as he surveys the swaying cotton crop on his 1.25-hectare field adjoining State Highway 7 in Chuli village of Surendranagar district's Dhrangadhra taluka.

The 32-year-old is, however, among the few lucky farmers in Surendranagar and neighbouring Morbi district having access to groundwater. It has enabled them to plant their favourite crop — cotton — despite scanty rains in July, with hardly a week left of what is normally the year's wettest month. The *dhefa* notwithstanding, Rajput believes that his late-May sown crop looks good enough to yield over 40 quintals of kapas (un-ginned seed cotton) per hectare. "There's enough water in my bore-well to irrigate this crop. I'm praying for rains only because it will reduce my electricity bill," he explains.

Rajput owns 11 hectares in all, comprising four fields including the one next to the state highway. His second plot of four hectares — which he has given to a share-cropper who retains 28 per cent of the harvested produce — also has a bore-well. "I wanted him (the share-cropper) to grow castor, but he has also ended up planting cotton on two hectares", notes Rajput, whose other two fields are rain-fed, in which he mainly cultivates jowar (sorghum) fodder for his three cows and three buffaloes.

Last year, Rajput could harvest only 30 quintals of kapas from his 1.25-hectare field, because of too much rain, in contrast to this time's. But his average realisation of Rs 5,000 per quintal was more than the Centre's minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 4,320 for

long-staple varieties. "This land is ideal for cotton. After harvesting (over three pickings from early-October to end-December), I can also take jeera (cumin seed) and onion during the winter season," he points out.

Shivraj Khachar of Gosal village in Surendranagar's Sayla taluka, too, has opted to sow cotton in his entire three-hectare holding. For him, though, there's little choice, as the 100-feet-deep open well in his field cannot supply water beyond early-November. "If I grow groundnut (which has a shorter 100-120 days duration, as against 180-200 days for cotton), there is not enough water left for a second winter crop. I can, then, only plant a single crop of cotton," he says.

Khachar was able to harvest only 40 quintals from his three hectares last year, thanks to a gulabi eyal (pink bollworm) attack late in the season. He also got an average rate of just Rs 4,250 per quintal. "I have only limited holding capacity and cannot wait for prices to rise. My hope this time is that there will be no gulabi eyal and prices, too, are better," adds the 30-year-old, who is aware that the Narendra Modi government has raised the MSP for this year's cotton crop to Rs 5,450 per quintal, but not sure about realising that price.

Gujarat — India's top cotton producing state and No. 2 in acreage behind Maharashtra — has seen 21.84 lakh hectares (1h) area being planted under the fibre crop as on July 24, compared to the 25.84 1h in the corresponding period of 2017. The Saurashtra region, which is the state's main cotton belt, has recorded a drop in sown area from 18.43 1h to 15.29 1h. Within Saurashtra, the progressive acreage has fallen sharply in Surendranagar (from 3.90 1h to 2.56 1h) and

Morbi (from 1.98 1h to 1.04 1h), while rising in Amreli (from 3.74 1h to 4.01 1h) and Bhavnagar (from 2.11 1h to 2.15 1h) and declining marginally in Rajkot (from 2.38 1h to 2.21 1h) and Botad (from 1.67 1h to 1.59 1h).

While Amreli, Bhavnagar, Rajkot and Botad districts have received very good rains in the current monsoon season, this has not been so for Surendranagar and Morbi. Dhrangadhra taluka, to which Rajput's village belongs, has received barely 10 millimeters (mm) rain since June 1 — less than two per cent of its 534 mm annual average precipitation. Likewise, Halvad and Maliya talukas of Morbi have so far recorded only 57 mm (12 per cent of average) and 77 mm (16 per cent), respectively. And these happen to be major cotton-growing areas.

The ongoing US-China trade tensions may lead to increase in demand for Indian cotton overseas. If exports go up, prices will harden in the domestic market

In many villages of Halvad and Maliya bordering the Little Rann of Kutch, where the groundwater is salty and hence not suitable for irrigation, it is only the release of the Narmada River waters from the Maliya Branch Canal about two weeks ago that has enabled farmers like Amrutlal Bhoraniya to even take up

sowing.

"We could only have gone for cotton. Last year, groundnut prices weren't good and the crop is, moreover, susceptible to raiding by nilgai (blue bull), wild boars and wild asses (for whom the Little Rann is a sanctuary). Last year, I harvested an average kapas yield of 37 quintals per hectare over three picking and also grew jeera and wheat in the winter season. This time, given the delayed sowing, I may be able to grow just a fodder crop after cotton," admits Bhoraniya, who, along with his two brothers, farms nine hectares in Dhulkot village of Halvad.

While cotton acreage may eventually reach its normal average, farmers have not been very keen to grow groundnut, the second most important cash crop of Gujarat. This, in spite of good rainfall in the main groundnut belt of Saurashtra spread across Junagadh, Gir Somnath, Porbandar, Devbhumi Dwarka, Bhavnagar and Rajkot districts. As on July 24, groundnut acreage in Gujarat was only 11.30 1h, against 16.02 1h during the same period last year. In 2017-18, the state produced a record 32 lakh tonnes crop, resulting in prices crashing well below the MSP of Rs 4,500 per quintal, inclusive of the Gujarat government's Rs 50 bonus. The oilseed is now selling at around Rs 3,500 per quintal, despite the Centre announcing a further MSP hike for the 2018-19 crop to Rs 4,890 per quintal.

According to traders, the price outlook for cotton is bullish. India produced 36.5 lakh bales (lb) of cotton in 2017-18. The Cotton Association of India has projected closing stocks for the year ended September 30, 2018 at 22 lb, lower than the previous year's level of 36.07 lb. "The carry-forward for the new season is low and the ongoing US-China trade tensions may lead to further increase in demand for Indian cotton overseas. If exports (estimated at 58.21 lb in 2016-17 and 70 lb in 2017-18) go up, prices will obviously harden in the domestic market," observes Sagar Patel, proprietor of Ambica Cotton Industries, a ginning factory in Godavari village of Surendranagar's Muli taluka.

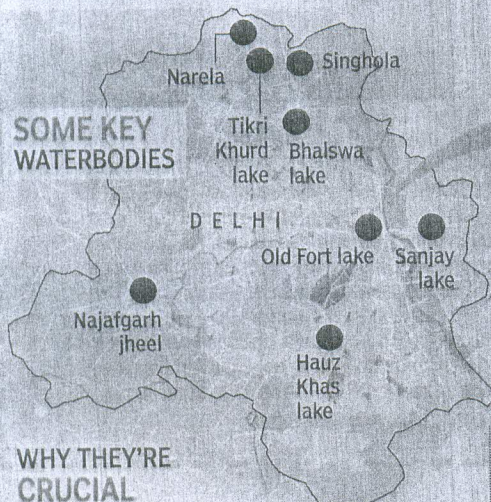
The benchmark global Cotlook 'A' Index price is currently ruling at around 97 cents per pound, more than the 84.5 cents a year ago. Anand Popat of Cotyarn Tradelink LLP, a Rajkot-based cotton brokerage firm, believes that kapas prices will range above the MSP in the coming cotton marketing year from October. That should be good news to cotton growers — and not bad at all for the ruling BJP ahead of the 2019 national elections.

Bringing city's dying lakes back to life may be a 3-idea dream

There were 607 waterbodies in Delhi in 1991

This number has come down to 480 (approx)

SOME KEY WATERBODIES



WHY THEY'RE CRUCIAL

- Naturally recharge aquifers underground and keep groundwater table area high
- Bring aquatic wildlife and migratory birds to the area, improving natural habitat and ecosystem
- Provide cooling effect



The latest victims of poor management and increasing concretisation is the Purana Qila lake, which dried out last year

WHAT DJB PLANS TO DO

- Revive 200 waterbodies in Phase-I
- In the next 4 months, the consultant, Wapcos, will make waterbody-specific plans after estimating depth, slopes and drainage condition in surrounding areas and de-silting requirements

3 MODELS TO BE USED

- 1 Redesigning of slopes and drainage network in surroundings for natural revival by rainfall
- 2 Locations surrounding the sewage treatment plants will be recharged using the treated water
- 3 Excess water from Yamuna will be pumped upstream towards outer Delhi areas to revive bodies

3 STEPS TO RECLAIM WATERBODIES

IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION

Many waterbodies that exist on ground are not included in records; hence, they have no protection status

REMOVAL OF ENCROACHMENTS

Most waterbodies in the capital are suffering from some form of encroachment, causing their area to shrink

CATCHMENT AREA MANAGEMENT

Contour planning around water bodies and identifying all stormwater drains to ensure they can provide water during rains

Paras Singh & Jasjeev Gandhiok / TNN

New Delhi: Considering the city's poor record, the ambitious project of rejuvenating 200 waterbodies across the capital seems an uphill task. The work is still in the ideation phase and may take more than two years to come to fruition.

DJB vice-chairman and MLA from Sangam Vihar, Dinesh Mohaniya, said that a consultant has been hired to make detailed plans for each of the 200 big and small waterbodies and village ponds after studying them on parameters like depth, drainage network in surrounding areas, siltation of the lake bed, etc.

"The consultant, Wapcos (earlier known as Water and Power Consultancy Services), will submit its report in the next four months. Work will be carried out in phases and the first waterbody will take at least two years to get ready," Mohaniya added.

Experts said there were 607 active large waterbodies in 1991, but now there are only 480 with more and more either drying out or getting encroached every year. This is also contributing to Delhi's water crisis. Out of the 480 waterbodies, most are located in west Delhi, while the remaining are

spread out in parts of south, southwest and north.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), in its latest submission, highlighted that around 15% of the capital has groundwater 40 metres below ground level. Experts added that preserving waterbodies may be the key to recharging groundwater levels.

Mohaniya said three models are being considered for bringing the dying lakes and ponds back to life. "Redesigning of slopes and drainage network surrounding the waterbodies will lead to natural revival by rain. For places clo-

REVIVAL PLAN

ser to sewage treatment plants (STP), pipes will be laid to bring treated water to the lakes. This will also result in groundwater recharge. Currently, water from STPs is released in drains," he added.

As per the third model, DJB is exploring at pumping excess water from Yamuna during monsoon upstream towards outer Delhi areas like Narela and Bawana to revive waterbodies there.

National Green Tribunal (NGT) had earlier directed agencies to revive 33 waterbodies in Dwarka, an area known to suffer from water

problems. Experts, however, said nothing has been done in the last two years despite repeated directions.

Many redeveloped waterbodies near Aya Nagar and Najafgarh have turned into garbage dumps. "The most important component is participation of the community surrounding the waterbody. If people aren't aware, own up and participate in rejuvenation, these waterbodies may also meet the same fate," Mohaniya admitted.

Some of the waterbodies identified by DJB for revival include village ponds in Ibrahimpur, Hastal, Nangli Poon, Babarpur, Mukand Pur, Kamruddin Nagar, Majra Buri, Kamalpur and Bhalswa and Najafgarh Lake.

Manu Bhatnagar of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (Intach), who successfully worked on reviving the Hauz Khas Lake, said Delhi requires proper planning and utilisation of STPs to revive waterbodies and maintain them.

The 15-acre lake that had gone dry around 1960 was revived by Intach using highly-treated sewage water from the Vasant Kunj STP. The revival led to return of aquatic birds and significant groundwater recharge.

"In the last 13 years, 1,500 million litres of water has been recharged by Hauz Khas Lake alone. Other waterbodies can serve the same purpose, but since natural sources of collecting water are reducing, STP water can be utilised for them," Bhatnagar said.

Other lakes have not been as lucky as the one in Hauz Khas. Bhalswa Lake — an oxbow lake on the Yamuna floodplain — is Delhi's largest surviving one. While an arm of it became a part of the Bhalswa landfill, it continues to see inflow of sewage and waste from the nearby colony. It also becomes near dry during summer.

Archaeological Survey of India, following a NGT order, has also started restoring the lake around Purana Qila by outsourcing the work to NBCC. Experts, however, are apprehensive about concretising its base.

Diwan Singh, activist and convener of Natural Heritage First, said concretisation cannot be used as an excuse by authorities as it ensures that rainwater runoff is higher. "There has been no focus on reviving stormwater drains and diverting runoff to waterbodies. Using this method, we revived two waterbodies in Dwarka that can simply survive by rainwater," he added.

THE NARENDRA Modi government may have significantly hiked the minimum support prices (MSP) for kharif crops this year, pegging them at 1.5 times their estimated paid-out cultivation costs plus the imputed value of unpaid family labour.

But the move hasn't resulted in higher plantings by farmers. The total area sown to crops in the current kharif season so far is not only 9.3 per cent lower than last year's corresponding coverage, but also below that of 2016 and 2015. This is notwithstanding a normal monsoon, with the area-weighted rainfall for the country as a whole from June 1 to July 25 being just 2.8 per cent less than the long-term average for this period.

It is true that the rains have been deficient in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam, which has, in turn, led to progressive acreage under rice falling by over 22 lakh hectares (lh). However, rice/paddy accounts for only a third of the nearly 65 lh reduction in the overall kharif crop planting reported as on July 20. The accompanying table shows that the acreages are down even for pulses, coarse cereals, oilseeds, cotton and jute. In none of these — barring jute that is primarily grown in West Bengal and Bihar — could the monsoon have been a major impeding factor this time.

So, why have farmers planted less? One reason might be that the MSP announcement came quite late, on July 4. Farmers usually make sowing decisions before the monsoon's onset, giving adequate time to arrange seeds of the particular crop/variety. For kharif MSPs to have the desired impact, the announcement should ideally be by early-June.

But a more important reason for lacklustre plantings may have to do with the low price realisations in recent marketing seasons. Having seen open market prices consistently rule below MSPs, farmers aren't probably convinced of any real turnaround in fortunes.

It explains why *arhar* (pigeon-pea) area



The total area sown in the current kharif season is 9.3% lower than last year. *Archive*

has shrunk in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh (relative to last year and even more *vis-à-vis* 2016, when prices were good). *Urad* (black gram) sowing has, likewise, been lower in MP, Rajasthan and Maharashtra. The only pulses crop whose acreage hasn't slumped is *moong* (green gram). For farmers in the main growing states of Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra and MP, its key attraction is short duration — just 65-75 days, compared to 80-90 days for *urad* 160-180 days for *arhar*.

The lack of confidence in prices is also reflected in reduced planting of groundnut, sesame seed and *bajra* (pearl-millet). On the other hand, there seems to have been a significant shift in *urad* to soyabean in MP, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Soyabean may have also gained at the expense of *moong* in Maharashtra, *arhar* in Karnataka and *bajra* in Rajasthan. Farmers are clearly seeing better price possibilities in soyabean and cotton. The prospect of the Chinese market opening up for Indian soyabean and tightening global cotton stocks should hopefully work in their favour. Farmers have also planted more maize — especially in Karnataka, MP and Maharashtra, which have had good rains — despite current market prices of around Rs 1,300 per quintal being lower than even last year's MSP of Rs 1,425, leave alone the latest Rs 1,700.

Either way, MSPs don't appear to figure in farmers' calculations.

PROGRESS OF AREA COVERAGE UNDER KHARIF CROPS (lakh hectares)

| | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Rice | 156.51 | 178.73 | 169.23 | 182.39 |
| 2. Pulses | 82.41 | 100.04 | 89.93 | 63.9 |
| a) Arhar | 28.6 | 31.87 | 36.3 | 23.43 |
| b) Urad | 22.16 | 31.16 | 21.4 | 16.43 |
| c) Moong | 23.38 | 23.8 | 24.82 | 16.06 |
| d) Others* | 8.26 | 13.21 | 7.42 | 7.98 |
| 3. Coarse cereals** | 118.84 | 132.88 | 129.19 | 126.17 |
| a) Maize | 61.32 | 61.35 | 67.93 | 62.31 |
| b) Bajra | 40.66 | 54.87 | 41.98 | 45.58 |
| c) Jowar | 12.47 | 12.28 | 14.76 | 13.49 |
| 4. Oilseeds*** | 123.59 | 123.69 | 144.74 | 142.91 |
| a) Soyabean | 93.87 | 84.64 | 102.84 | 104.79 |
| b) Groundnut | 23.01 | 29.08 | 32.79 | 27.11 |
| c) Sesamum | 5.18 | 7.4 | 7.09 | 9.24 |
| 5. Cotton | 92.7 | 104.27 | 86.86 | 99.52 |
| 6. Sugarcane | 50.52 | 49.72 | 45.22 | 47.4 |
| 7. Jute and Mesta | 6.97 | 7.03 | 7.54 | 7.72 |
| TOTAL KHARIF | 631.53 | 696.35 | 672.71 | 670.01 |

Note: Cumulative area reported as on July 20 and the corresponding date for previous years.

*Includes kulthi and other pulses; **Includes ragi and small millets;

***Includes sunflower, castor and niger

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 26/7/18 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
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M.P.Chronicle
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DISASTER SITUATIONS

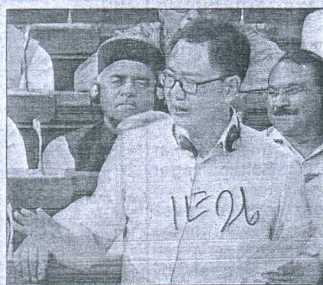
Govt assures flood-hit Kerala: No discrimination

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

THE GOVERNMENT on Wednesday said there has been a "quantum jump" in Central assistance for states to deal with disaster situations, and denied any discrimination while providing financial assistance to states.

Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju also assured Kerala, which has been reeling under one of the worst flood situations, that the Centre is sending an inter-ministerial team to assess damages there. The team, he said, will submit a report to a high-level committee, headed by the Home Minister, which will decide on further monetary assistance to the state.

Replying to a discussion on flood situation in the country, Rijiju cited the 14th Finance Commission and said that SDRF funds are allocated as per rules, and there are specific rules for relief materials. "I cannot change the relief



MoS (Home) Kiren Rijiju: There's been a quantum jump in Central aid. PTI

items...but there has been a quantum jump in Central assistance (in recommendations of the Finance panel)," he said.

Admitting that Kerala is facing an unprecedented monsoon and flood situation,

Rijiju said the government started giving Rs 4 lakh to families of the deceased and assured that the Centre will consider more funds after the central team's report.

The central team will include a joint secretary from the Home Ministry and officials from all relevant ministries and Niti Aayog.

Rijiju said he has visited the flood-hit areas and appreciated efforts taken by the district administration.

While Kerala MPs K C Venugopal and P Karunakaran said the Centre did not provide any assistance despite a visit by the central team after Okhi cyclone, Rijiju said the NDRF had released Rs 169.63 crore for the state in May. He said MPs should not be confused between relief and long-term relief works.

Rijiju said initiatives taken by the BJP-led Central government on disaster management had been appreciated by even the international community. "We will do justice to Kerala," he said.

Minister of State for Agriculture Gajendra

Shekhawat said the Centre's assistance for crop insurance has gone up.

Initiating the debate on the flood situation, CPI(M) member Karunakaran said, "Although there is a widespread effect on the state, we have witnessed severe damage in Alleppey and Kottayam districts. Other districts are also severely affected." He urged the Centre to waive norms to help Kerala, which has faced two calamities within five months.

RSP member N K Premachandran, who cited climate change as the reason for floods and drought across the country, urged the government to adopt a long-term approach, including controlling the uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources.

He said, "Some concrete political decisions have to emerge from this debate. Every year Rs 5,600 crore (worth) losses take place due to floods, one-fifth of global deaths due to flood takes place in India; 3 per cent of the GDP has been lost due to floods in the last seven decades..."

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

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

भूजल का अवैध दोहन बंद | यमुना की सफाई नहीं होने पर फटकार करे दिल्ली मेट्रो: एनजीटी

सख्ती

1

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

एनजीटी ने अवैध तरीके से भूजल दोहन किए जाने पर दिल्ली मेट्रो रेल निगम (डीएमआरसी) को बुधवार को आड़े हाथ लिया।

एनजीटी ने दिल्ली मेट्रो को तत्काल प्रभाव से अवैध रूप से संचालित बोरवेल से भूजल का दोहन बंद करने का आदेश दिया है। ट्रिब्यूनल ने

डीएमआरसी को सिर्फ उसी बोरवेल से पानी निकालने का निर्देश दिया है, जिसके लिए उसने अनुमति ले ली है।

जस्टिस रघुवेंद्र एस. राठीड़ की अध्यक्षता वाली पीठ ने यह आदेश तब दिया, जब बताया गया कि दिल्ली मेट्रो को केवल 164 बोरवेल की अनुमति है। पीठ ने डीएमआरसी को बोरवेल से पानी निकालने के लिए केंद्रीय भूजल प्राधिकरण से इजाजत लेने और इसकी जानकारी पेश करने को कहा। अधिवक्ता कुश शर्मा ने मेट्रो पर अवैध बोरवेल का आरोप लगाया था।

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

यमुना की सफाई के लिए जमीनी स्तर पर कार्य नहीं करने पर एनजीटी ने बुधवार को दिल्ली जल बोर्ड को आड़े हाथ लिया। एनजीटी ने जल बोर्ड को कड़ी फटकार लगाते हुए कहा कि तीन साल बीत जाने के बाद भी यमुना की सफाई में सार्थक प्रगति नहीं दिख रही है।

एनजीटी अध्यक्ष जस्टिस एके गोयल की अगुवाई वाली पीठ ने इस बात पर खासी नाराजगी जाहिर की कि यमुना के पुनर्जीवन के लिए 14 सीवरेंज



ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट (एसटीपी) पर अब तक काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है। पीठ ने कहा कि जनवरी 2015 के फैसले के मुताबिक, इन्हें मार्च 2017 तक पूरा हो जाना चाहिए था।

एनजीटी ने विस्तृत फैसले में कहा था कि एसटीपी लगाए जाने से यमुना में सिर्फ शोधित पानी ही नदी में जाएगा, जिससे नदी साफ रहेगी। पीठ ने बुधवार

को कहा कि पिछले तीन साल में मामले में सुनवाई के बावजूद जमीनी स्तर पर कोई सार्थक प्रगति नहीं दिखी है। ऐसा लगता है कि वर्तमान प्रभारी मुद्दे से निपटने में सक्षम नहीं हैं।

दो सप्ताह के भीतर हलफनामा दाखिल करने का आदेश : मामले पर नाराजगी जाहिर करते हुए कहा कि पीठ ने जल बोर्ड के सीईओ को निर्देश दिया कि किसी अधिकारी की नियुक्ति करें, जो सुनिश्चित कर सके कि एक महीने के अंदर 14 एसटीपी पर काम शुरू हो सके। पीठ ने इस बारे में दिल्ली जल बोर्ड के मुखिया से दो सप्ताह के भीतर इस बारे में हलफनामा दाखिल करने का आदेश दिया है।

Hindustan Times

Statesman

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

नमामि गंगे परियोजनाएं जल्द पूरी होंगी

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

निर्देश H.26

केंद्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने बिहार और झारखंड में नमामि गंगे की सभी परियोजनाओं को इस साल दिसंबर तक पूरे करने के निर्देश दिए हैं।

गडकरी ने कहा, वे और राज्यमंत्री सत्यपाल सिंह खुद सभी परियोजनाओं की निगरानी करेंगे। वे आने वाले महीनों में दोनों राज्यों और परियोजनाओं का दौरा कर प्रगति का जायजा भी लेंगे। गडकरी ने गंगा के प्रवाह क्षेत्र वाले पांच राज्यों

- गडकरी ने बिहार, झारखंड में शीघ्र काम पूरा करने का निर्देश दिया
- केंद्रीय मंत्री-राज्यमंत्री परियोजना स्थलों पर काम की निगरानी करेंगे

में से तीन राज्यों बिहार, झारखंड और पश्चिम बंगाल की परियोजनाओं से जुड़े अधिकारियों के साथ समीक्षा बैठक करते हुए निर्देश दिए हैं कि सारे कामों को तेजी से पूरा किया जाए। बिहार की समीक्षा करते हुए गडकरी ने कहा, राज्य

में 2035 तक की स्थिति में 606 एमएलडी सीवेज शोधन की क्षमताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए सीवेज शोधन संयंत्र (एसटीपी) लगाए जा रहे हैं। अभी 124 एमएलडी क्षमता वाली एसटीपी काम कर रहे हैं। 216 एमएलडी क्षमता वाले 19 एसटीपी पर काम चल रहा है। 201 एमएलडी क्षमता वाले एसटीपी परियोजनाओं की निविदा प्रक्रिया चल रही है, 112 एमएलडी क्षमता वाले एसटीपी के लिए जल्द निविदाएं होंगी। झारखंड में गंगा किनारे पर 2035 तक 16 एमएलडी सीवेज होने का अनुमान है।

26/7/18

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)
Blitz

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

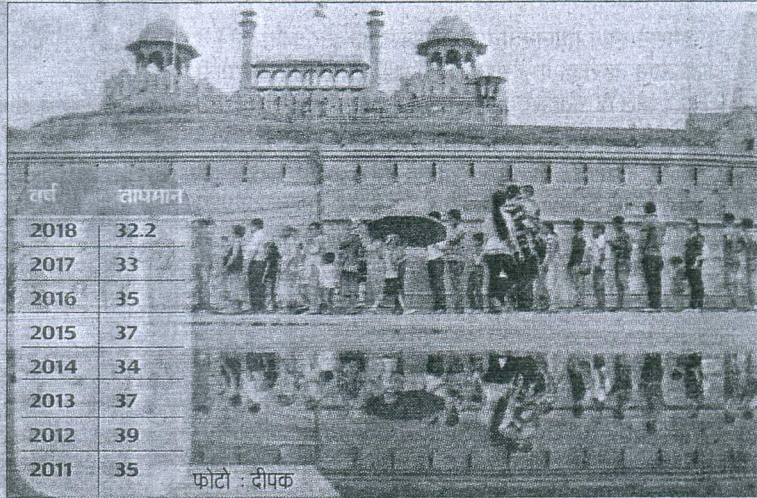
25 जुलाई से आठ वर्षों में रहा सबसे कम अधिकतम तापमान

बारिश की रहेगी पूरी संभावना

26 Pk

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): राजधानी में बुधवार को अधिकतम तापमान 32.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। 25 जुलाई का तापमान वर्ष 2011 से अभी तक का सबसे कम अधिकतम तापमान दर्ज किया गया, जो कि सामान्य से दो डिग्री कम रहा। बरसात के कारण तापमान में कमी आयी है। अनुमान है कि गुरुवार को भी दिल्ली में अच्छी बारिश हो सकती है।

दिल्ली में बुधवार को अलग-अलग इलाकों में हुई बारिश से मौसम सुहावना हो गया। हालांकि केन्द्रों पर अधिक बारिश दर्ज नहीं की गई, लेकिन शाम तक सफदरजंग केन्द्र पर 1.2 मिमी बारिश दर्ज की गई। बुधवार को न्यूनतम तापमान 28 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। अधिकतम और न्यूनतम आद्रता 88 और 56 फीसद दर्ज की गई। मौसम विभाग ने अगले दो दिनों में उत्तर पश्चिमी भारत के विभिन्न हिस्सों में हल्की से मध्यम वर्षा होने के संकेत दिए हैं। दिल्ली सहित जम्मू-कश्मीर, हिमाचल प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड, पंजाब, चंडीगढ़, हरियाणा, राजस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश में गुरुवार को भारी वर्षा हो सकती है। दिल्ली में 26 से 28 जुलाई के बीच हल्की वर्षा और फुहार जारी रहेगी। बाकी दिन भी आसमान में बादल सक्रिय रहेंगे और गर्जन वाले बादल विकसित होंगे। इस लिहाज से रविवार तक मौसम खुशनुमा बना रहेगा।



| वर्ष | तापमान |
|------|--------|
| 2018 | 32.2 |
| 2017 | 33 |
| 2016 | 35 |
| 2015 | 37 |
| 2014 | 34 |
| 2013 | 37 |
| 2012 | 39 |
| 2011 | 35 |

फोटो : दीपक

● **बरसात ने घटायी बिजली की मांग...** बरसात के कारण सुहावने हुए मौसम के चलते दिल्ली में बिजली की मांग में कमी दर्ज की गई। बुधवार को मांग का आंकड़ा 5735 मेगावाट रहा जबकि मंगलवार को बिजली की मांग 6049 मेगावाट रही। इस हिसाब से मंगलवार की तुलना में बिजली की खपत बुधवार को 314 मेगावाट कम रही। मंगलवार को खपत का आंकड़ा 6 हजार मेगावाट से ऊपर पहुंच गया जो सोमवार की तुलना में 355 मेगावाट अधिक है। हालांकि सोमवार को भी बिजली की मांग में बढ़ोतरी देखी गई थी, जिसके चलते बिजली मांग में दो बार इजाफा हुआ। सोमवार को बिजली की अधिकतम मांग दोपहर तीन बजे के आस पास 5540 मेगावाट दर्ज हुई जो रात को करीब 11 बजे दोबारा बढ़कर 5616 मेगावाट तक पहुंच गई थी। जबकि न्यूनतम मांग 3703 मेगावाट में कोई बदलावा नहीं हुआ था।

FFM Directorate

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केन्द्रीय जल आयोग
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विषय : दिनांक 26/7/2018 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

Handwritten signature
(सहायक निदेशक)

उपनिदेशक *Handwritten signature*
26/7/2018

निदेशक (बा.प.प्र.) *In meeting*

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

उप निदेशक (त.प.) *वि.प.*
निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन) *26/7/18*

Handwritten signature
26/7

दिनांक 26/7/18... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Waterlogging in M'garh, school kids have tough time

RAVINDER SAINI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NARNAUL, JULY 25

A heavy rainfall in the wee hours of Wednesday brought respite from the scorching heat, but school-children had a tough time in the morning as all railway underpasses were submerged making it difficult for buses to wade out.

One of the school buses broke down at a railway underpass near an FCI warehouse on the Bahrod road. Sources said about 15 students were on board.

As the bus was stuck, students walked in three-ft-deep water and crossed the underpass. Their uniform and bags were soaked. Later, they sat on a railway track to wait for another vehicle to return home.

"A tractor had to be called from Kozinda village to pull out the bus from the waterlogged underpass. In the meantime, another school bus reached there, but its driver did not enter the underpass. Instead, he asked the children on board to cross the railway track on foot and board another bus at the other side of the track," said Rajender, a local youth.

With no other option, students crossed the track



A school bus stuck in a submerged railway underpass in Narnaul on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

risking their lives.

"This was negligence on the part of the bus driver and the conductor. The school management should take cognisance of the irresponsible behaviour of the bus staff," Rajender said.

Social activist Anil Kaushik said Kozinda, Mandhana,

Seka and Khanpur villagers were cut off from Narnaul city.

Mahendragarh DC Garima Mittal said, "Waterlogged areas have been inspected through drones. Pump sets will be arranged to drain out rainwater. She added that the district received 107-mm rainfall on Wednesday.

Linganamakki crosses 1,800 ft 1st time in 3 yrs

Nrupathunga S K

SHIVAMOGGA, DHNS: The water level in the Linganamakki reservoir in Sagar taluk, which is considered the lifeline of hydro power in the state, is racing towards the maximum level.

It was 1803.6 feet at 8 am on July 24, just 16 feet from the brim.

Sources in the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited confirmed that this was the first time in the last three years that the water level crossed 1,800 feet. This is also the first time in the last three years that the reservoir has reached 75% of its maximum capacity in July. The level was 1777.2 feet on the same day last year. The inflow of water was 41,028 cusecs and outflow 1366.83 cusecs. In just 22 days, the level has risen by 30 feet. The water is likely to reach the maximum level by the month-end.

Ever since the Linganamakki reservoir was constructed in 1964, the dam has reached full level only 13 times and the previous occasion was in 2014.

Linganamakki reservoir provides water to the Sharavathi generating station, having an installed capacity of 1,035 MW (10 units). The Linganamakki dam powerhouse, with two units, has an installed capacity of 55 MW.

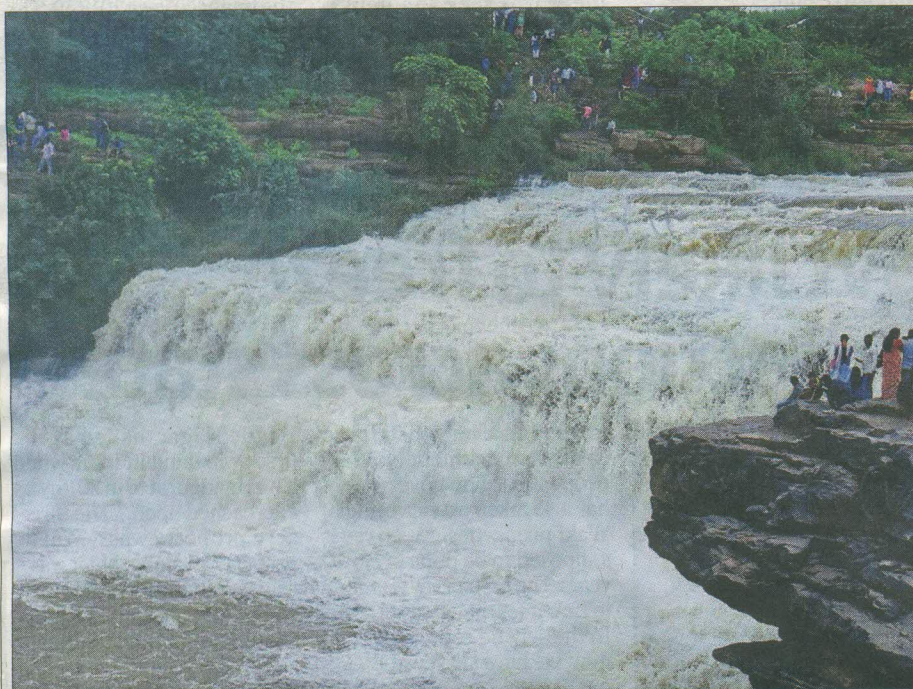
To further tap the potential of the Sharavathi river, KPCL had installed four generating units of 60 MW each, at the Gerusoppa dam.

Speaking to *DH*, KPCL chief engineer (electricity) Mohan Kumar said following the poor demand for hydro power, only seven million to eight million units of power is being generated at the Sharavathi generating station. So, the state is unlikely to face power crunch during summer.

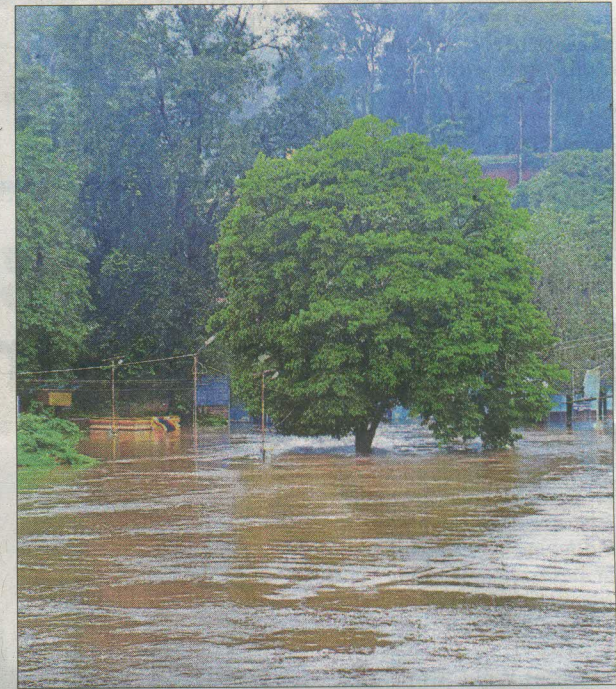


Water level in Linganamakki dam has crossed 1,800 feet for the first time in three years.

DH PHOTO / V SANTOSH KUMAR



The Godachinamalki Falls in Gokak taluk, Belagavi district flows in full force as the catchment area received incessant rainfall for the past few days. DH PHOTO/TAJUDDIN AZAD



The bathing ghat at Subrahmanya, Dakshina Kannada district, is inundated following heavy rain on Tuesday. DH PHOTO

Bridges reopen for traffic as water flow recedes

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Water inflow from Maharashtra into river Krishna and its tributaries came down considerably for the third consecutive day on Tuesday. This has resulted in four low-lying bridges in Chikkodi taluk resurfacing and reopening for road traffic. Five other bridges continue to remain under water for the third consecutive week.

Water inflow to River Krishna came down to 1.26 lakh cusecs on Tuesday. That from Rajapur barrage was 1.03

lakh and from River Doodh-ganga 23,232 cusecs. Hippa-ragi barrage had an inflow of 1.32 lakh cusecs and outflow 1.31 lakh cusecs.

Intermittent rain continued to lash Kodagu. Talacauvery, Ayyangeri, Appangala and Suntikoppa received heavy rain. The water level in Triveni Sangama, Bhagamandala, has increased slightly. The inflow of water to Harangi reservoir has increased to 12,086 cusecs.

Water in Bhadra dam, situated at Lakkavalli in Tarik-

ere taluk of Chikkamagaluru district, was released through four crest gates of the reservoir. The officials concerned had intimated the farmers on the release of water at 1.30 pm. Thousands of people gathered at the dam to witness the rare scene.

The maximum level of the dam is 186 feet. The level was 183.8 feet, before the release of water on Tuesday. About 6,200 cusecs water was released on Tuesday. There is an inflow of 23,000 cusecs to the

dam, officials said.

Incessant rain continued to lash the Malnad region. Hosanagar, Thirthahalli and Sagar taluks of Shivamogga district received good spell of rain throughout the day. Heavy rains lashed Shivamogga and Bhadravathi in the morning.

The branch canal of the Al-matti left bank canal breached on Tuesday at Lotageri village near Nalatwad in Vijayapura district, inundating hundreds of acres of agriculture fields.

Reservoir levels

| Name of the Reservoir | Full level* | Present level* |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Linganamakki | 1819.00 | 1800.15 |
| Supa | 1849.92 | 1802.03 |
| Harangi | 2859.00 | 2857.01 |
| Hemavathi | 2922.00 | 2919.83 |
| KRS | 124.80 | 124.35 |
| Kabini | 2284.00 | 2283.76 |
| Tungabhadra | 1633.00 | 1631.23 |
| Malaprabha | 2079.50 | 2057.80 |
| Almatti | 1704.81 | 1701.98 |

*In feet Source: KSNDMC website