

Water crisis: A tale of govt apathy, privilege

Short on empathy and responsibility, the Centre's neglect is rivalled only by its officials' flippancy

By Sonia Faleiro

When 2-year-old Rutuja playfully tipped over a bottle, spilling water onto the mud floor of the family's shack, her mother, Nageshwari Rathore, let loose a screech, lunging forward as though to slap the toddler. Rathore stopped herself, sinking her head into her hands. "You finished it," she whispered.

The loss wrenched at the 25-year-old. That June morning she had stood in line in the scorching heat for over an hour to collect five litres of water. A government tanker rolls up once a day to the abandoned field where she now lives.

Located in Ghatkopar, a Mumbai suburb, the field functions as a relief camp for 350 families who have left their villages in rural Maharashtra because of a drought, the worst in 100 years. Wild pigs root through the open sewer that runs alongside the Rathores' tarpaulin shack. When the monsoon arrives, possibly in the next few days, it will flood the camp and force the family out.

Over 330 million Indians - about one quarter of the country's population - have been affected by the drought. In Maharashtra, where over half the population is dependent on the rural economy, the effects are severe. An average of nearly nine farmers committed suicide every day last year, primarily over debt related to crop failure.

Rural Indians are falling behind even as urban Indians enjoy unprecedented prosperity. And the tragedies that befall the poor benefit the more affluent. Forced to migrate to the cities, displaced farmers have little option but to join the enormous, unorganised labour force that serves the urban middle class as construction and domestic workers.

Trees outside the field in Ghatkopar were festooned with political banners, suggesting that the camp was the creation of a benevolent government. In fact, politicians had to be prodded to visit, according to Abhishek Bharadwaj, a homeless-rights activist.

It was only after the media reported the squalid living conditions at the camp that Kirit Somaiya, a member of the state Parliament, came around to distribute cash and grain. Somaiya then uploaded a YouTube video depicting the camp as having abundant food and supplies.

Shau Chavan, who has been living in the camp for two months, said

that government help had increased. In previous years, a local mafia had charged 1,000 rupees a month - about 2.5 days of the migrants' daily wages - for a plot of 40 square feet. This year, Chavan said, the farmers are living rent-free, most likely as a result of government intervention.

If this is what passes for official aid in the richest state of the fastest-growing major economy in the world, then India's government is short on political will, not means. This year's drought is extreme, but severe weather is a regular occurrence in India. The authorities had time to plan.

The state government's relief measures look good on paper, Abhishek Waghmare, a policy analyst with the data website IndiaSpend, told me. The state has poured money into the Jalyukt Shivar Abhiyaan, a water-conservation programme to "make Maharashtra a drought-free state by 2019."

But the villages Waghmare has visited over the past four years still lack basic rainwater collection systems. Government efforts to rejuvenate dormant rivers and ponds are ineffective: Year after year, Waghmare said, water runs off.

Government failure stems from institutional disregard for the poor. Almost 70% of Indians live in rural areas, but the government doesn't appear to view them as essential to India's march to modernise. The spiralling number of suicides suggests that farmers' despair is not resonating with politicians.

Even after eight states declared a drought last year, the Centre failed to increase support for two programmes created to act as lifesaving buffers: The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, which promises every household 100 days of paid employment annually, and the Public Distribution System, which delivers subsidised grains and fuel to the needy.

Government investment in the employment programme has decreased since 2014, the year the BJP came to power, and fewer jobs were created than before. Because of corruption in the food programme, rations earmarked for the poor are often sold on the black market instead.

Self-sustainable initiatives

Mitigating the effects of a drought doesn't require much investment. The villagers of Hiware Bazar, in Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district, haven't required official drought assistance in over two decades.

They banned borewells to prevent the water table from falling further and now cultivate vegetables instead of water-guzzling bananas and sugar cane. If the government had only shown similar initiative, the state wouldn't be in such dire need.

In May, the Supreme Court scolded several state governments for their "ostrich-like" behaviour, and demanded the creation of a national disaster mitigation fund within three months. But nothing has happened yet, a principal adviser to the court said. The government's neglect is rivalled only by its officials' flippant attitude.

On April 15, Eknath Khadse, the revenue minister of Maharashtra at the time, visited the drought-stricken district of Latur. The water crisis was so severe then that a special train was commissioned to bring water to the area.

But Khadse went by helicopter, even though Latur is readily accessible from Mumbai - which required the construction of a temporary helipad that consumed 10,000 litres of water.

The next day, the water conservation minister, Pankaja Munde, showed up, and tweeted photographs of herself grinning in front of a parched riverbed.

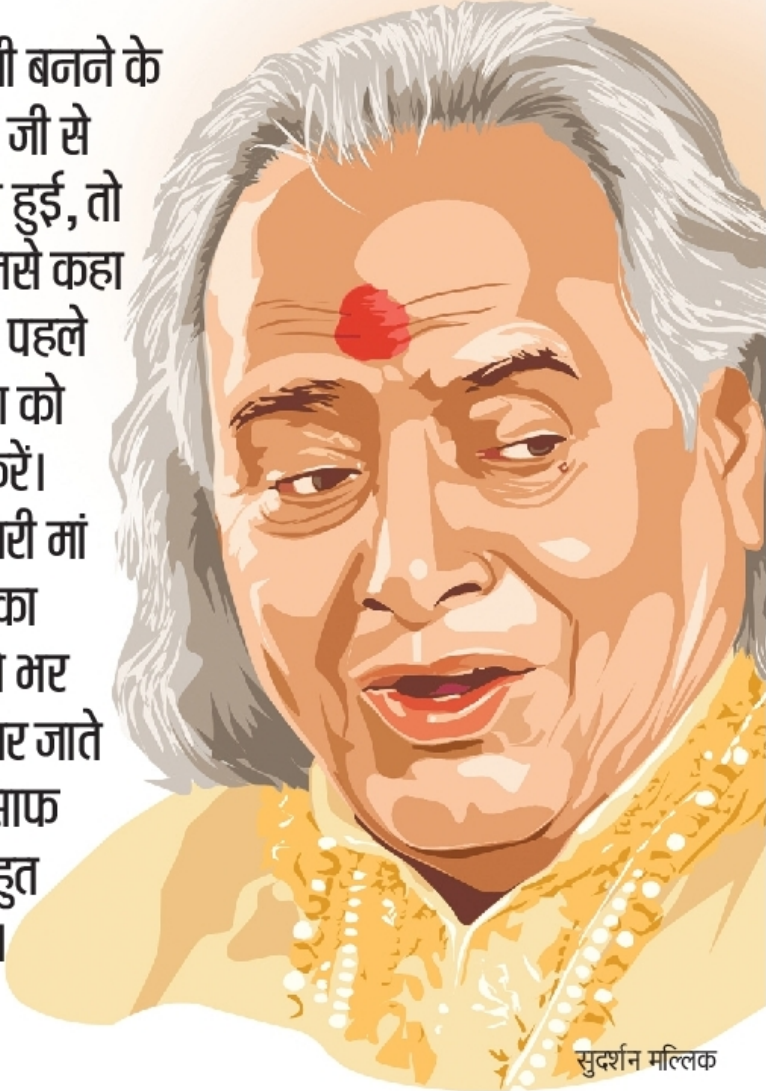
The "drought selfies," as they came to be known, drew widespread condemnation. They captured perfectly the general reaction of India's politicians to this disaster. Short on empathy and a sense of responsibility, our leaders see even grave crises only through the lens of their own privilege.

International New York Times



देखने की ख्वाहिश

प्रधानमंत्री बनने के बाद मोदी जी से मुलाकात हुई, तो हमने उनसे कहा कि सबसे पहले आप गंगा को निर्मल करें। गंगा हमारी मां है। गंगा का नाम लेने भर से लोग तर जाते हैं। उसे साफ करना बहुत जरूरी है।



सुदर्शन मल्लिक

पिछले करीब दो साल से मेरी एक और पहचान है। मैं आम चुनाव में नरेंद्र मोदी का बनारस निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में प्रस्तावक भी था। उसका किस्सा भी बड़ा दिलचस्प है। हुआ यूं कि चुनाव के पहले एक रोज बनारस के मेयर साहब मेरे पास आए और कहने लगे कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी के अध्यक्ष अमित शाह आपसे मिलना चाहते हैं। अमित शाह ने हमको बड़े सम्मान के साथ बुलाया, हमको सम्मानित किया और कहने लगे कि आप मोदी जी के प्रस्तावक बनें। हमने उनसे कहा कि भगवान कृष्ण कहते हैं कि जो उनको जिस तरह भजता है, वह उसको उसी तरह से भजते हैं। अगर आज मोदी जी को हमारी जरूरत है, तो हम उनके साथ हैं। अमित शाह ने कहा कि उन्होंने हमारी शंकर जी की आरती सुनी है, जो उनको बहुत अच्छी लगती है। हमने उनसे कहा कि किसी दिन आराम से आइए, तबले के साथ सुनाएंगे, तो मैं...

ता आर मजा आएगा। हम।कसा पाटा-पाालाटक्स स नहा जुड़ ह। हम।कसा पाटा के नहीं हैं। हम तो कलाकार हैं। हम सभी के हैं, सब मेरे हैं। इसलिए उन्होंने जब हमसे संपर्क किया, तो हमने हामी भर दी।

वैसे भी हमारा मानना था कि सभी को मौका मिला है, तो मोदी जी को भी मिलना चाहिए। हमको उनका स्वभाव, उनका विचार अच्छा लगता है। हम गुजरात भी गए हैं, हमने देखा था कि मोदी जी सभी को साथ लेकर चलते हैं। जब हम कचहरी गए, तो मोदी जी ने हमारे पैर छुए, हमको बैठने के लिए कहा, वह खुद खड़े रहे। हमको मोदी जी अच्छे लगे, तो हमने उनके प्रस्तावक बनने की हामी भर दी थी। बाद में लोगों ने घुमा-घुमाकर हमसे सवाल किए, हमारे नाम का भी राजनीतिक इस्तेमाल हुआ। लेकिन हमने बराबर कहा कि हम किसी पार्टी के नहीं हैं, मोदी जी के अलावा कोई और भी उनसे पहले आता-हमको सम्मान के साथ आग्रह करता, तो हम उसका भी साथ देते।

अब मोदी जी की सरकार को करीब दो साल हो गए हैं। बनारस को उनसे बहुत उम्मीदें हैं। उनका प्रस्तावक होने के नाते लोग मुझसे भी काफी उम्मीदें रखते हैं। प्रधानमंत्री बनने के बाद भी मोदी जी से मुलाकात का मौका मिला है। एक बार राजघाट पर भी मुलाकात हुई थी। हमने वहां भी गाया। मोदी जी ने सुना। हमने मोदी जी से कहा है कि सबसे पहले वह हमारी गंगा को निर्मल करें। गंगा हमारी माता है। गंगा का नाम लेने भर से लोग तर जाते हैं। उसको साफ करना बहुत जरूरी है। शहर की सफाई पर भी बहुत ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। लेकिन मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि साफ-सुथरा रखने की इच्छा इंसान में अंदर से आती है। हमको तो आज भी अगर कहीं गंदगी दिखती है, तो हम किसी का इंतजार किए बिना खुद ही सफाई करने में जुट जाते हैं। हमको इस बात का इंतजार नहीं करना चाहिए कि कोई दूसरा आकर सफाई करेगा। अगर गंदगी है, तो उसको मिलकर साफ करना होगा। कहने भर से कुछ नहीं होगा। सफाई की सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी लेनी होगी।

खैर, बनारस के शास्त्रीय संगीत पर वापस लौटते हैं। आज जरूरत है कि शास्त्रीय संगीत सही तरीके से आगे बढ़े। आज कलाकार ये सोचने लगे हैं कि कम समय में कैसे आगे बढ़ा जाए, वे रियाज नहीं करते और चाहते हैं कि बड़े कलाकार बन जाएं। मैं ईमानदारी के साथ बता सकता हूं कि बिना तपस्या के कुछ नहीं होता है। हम लोगों ने बचपन से शास्त्रीय संगीत की तपस्या की है। लोग आजकल 'सोर्स' लगाते हैं, कलाकारों को लगता है कि किसी ऐसे आदमी को पकड़ लो, जो उन्हें गवा दे, उनसे बजवा ले। लेकिन ऐसा करके कामयाबी एकाध बार ही मिलेगी। एक बार ही यूं जुगाड़ से आप बड़े मंच तक पहुंच सकते हैं। अब जनता को संगीत की बहुत समझ हो गई है। कलाकारों में तपस्या, त्याग और धैर्य होना चाहिए। अगर धैर्य नहीं है, तो संगीत नहीं सीख सकते। आजकल के छात्र संगीत सीखने आते हैं, तो सोचते हैं कि कैसे छह महीने में ही सब कुछ सीख लिया जाए? कैसे रेडियो आर्टिस्ट बन जाएं? कैसे उस्ताद जी से आगे निकल जाएं? बड़े ताज्जुब की बात है कि आजकल बच्चे ऐसा भी सोचने लगे हैं। शिष्य को चाहिए कि अपने स्तर को देखते हुए गाना-बजाना करें। अपने गुरु का आदर-सत्कार करें, क्योंकि जो गुरु को नहीं मानता वह आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता है। जो तपस्या करेगा वही आगे बढ़ेगा

**बनारस के मेयर साहब
आए और कहने लगे कि
भारतीय जनता पार्टी के
अध्यक्ष अमित शाह आपसे
मिलना चाहते हैं। अमित
शाह ने हमको सम्मानित
किया और कहने लगे कि
हम चुनाव में नरेंद्र मोदी
के प्रस्तावक बने।**

नम नल नलनल, नल नल नल नल नल नल नल नल नल नल नल, नल नल नल नल, चार दिन में संगीत सीखकर आगे नहीं बढ़ा जा सकता। हम लोग जो यहां तक पहुंचे, उसके पीछे की लगन-मेहनत को समझना होगा। हमको पद्म भूषण मिला। उससे बड़ी बात कि श्रोताओं का इतना प्यार मिला। एक बात जान लीजिए, किसी भी असली कलाकार के लिए सबसे बड़ा सम्मान होता है- श्रोताओं का प्यार। उस मामले में हम बहुत भाग्यशाली हैं। वह प्यार मिलता रहे बस।



दिनांक 27.06.2016 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)
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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

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

HT - 27 June

Sept 30 last date to set up rainwater harvesting system

INCENTIVE Properties on over 500 sqm area need to install unit, will get 10% rebate on water bills

Mallica Joshi

mallica.joshi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) extended the deadline given to property owners to install rainwater harvesting (RWH) systems from June 30 to September 30.

DJB officials say they want to make sure that the policy takes off not just on paper but in reality.

"The deadline was tight and almost impossible to meet. We can't ensure that everyone has a rainwater harvesting pit by force. People have to be mobilised. Penalising them will not help and hence the extension," says DJB CEO, Keshav Chandra.

For over a decade, policy makers in Delhi have tried to encourage rainwater harvesting. Policies have made the construction of RWH pits mandatory in buildings constructed on an area of more than 100 metre square. But the ground reality hasn't changed. For around five years now, Delhi has only 500 approved RWH structures.

The new dispensation wants to change this. How successful they are remains to be seen.

For starters, the government is looking at institutions instead of individual households.

"We want everyone to do it but the impact of institutions spread over a bigger area is going to be bigger. We will also move to individuals soon," Chandra said.

Properties built on an area of over 500 metre square have been mandated to install a RWH system. They will get a rebate of 10% on water bills if this is done.

In case a system is not installed, the water tariff will be increased by 1.5 times.

The Delhi government looked towards the Chennai model where the practice is mandatory to get a building licence, but is simple enough so that people are not getting permission through fraudulent measures.

In Delhi, this first meant making the process more flexible and less

WATER PURIFICATION UNIT DESIGN 2.0

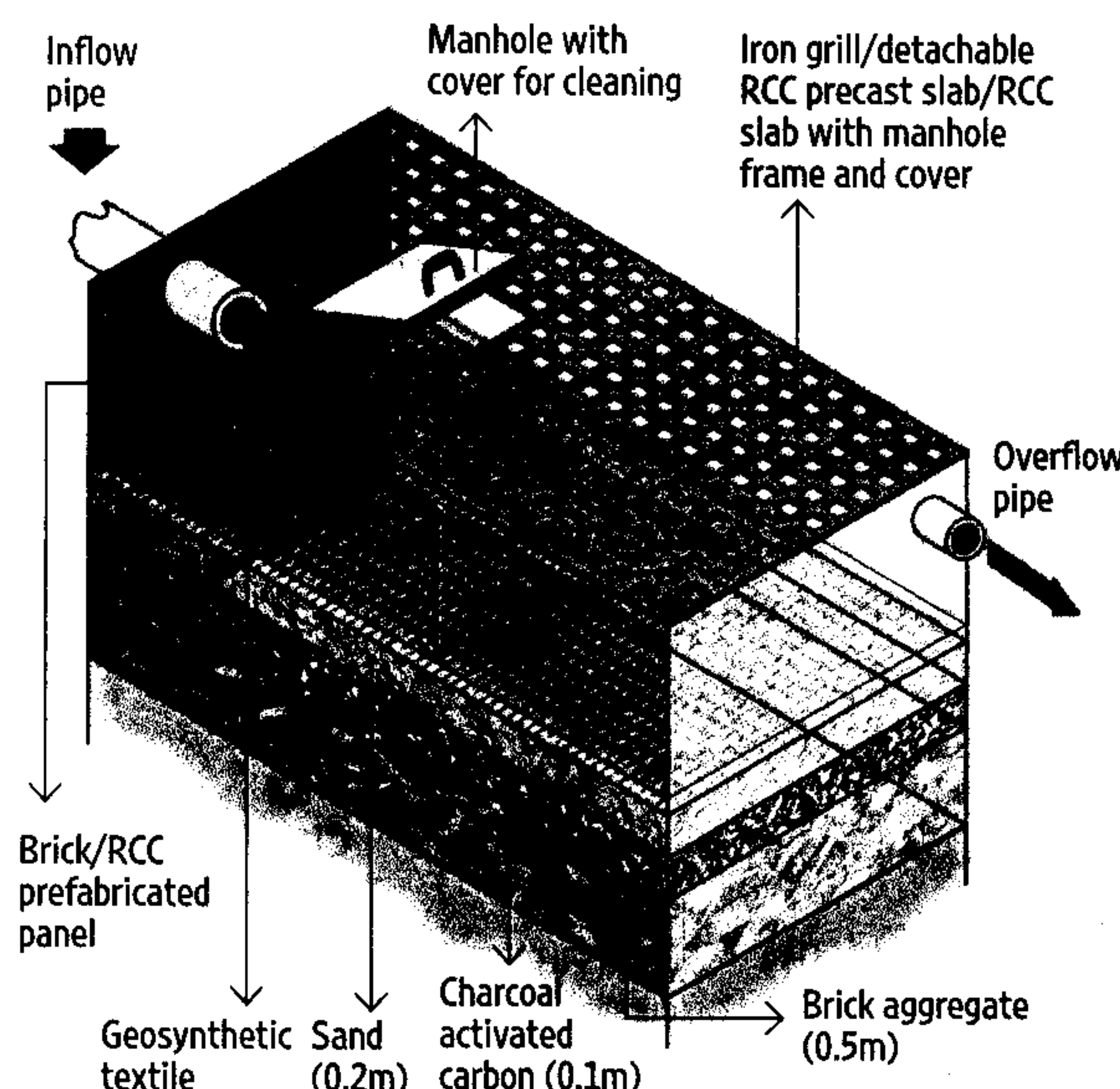
Delhi Jal Board has suggested a new design, essentially a simple pit, which doesn't require permissions

How the new system works

- Build a pit with a volume equal to rooftop area multiplied by 0.02
- Lay filtration media, where bottom layer has to be left kuchha (not cemented). Sides have to be cemented or laid with bricks

₹15,000-
₹50,000

Cost of new design for a 500 square metre plot

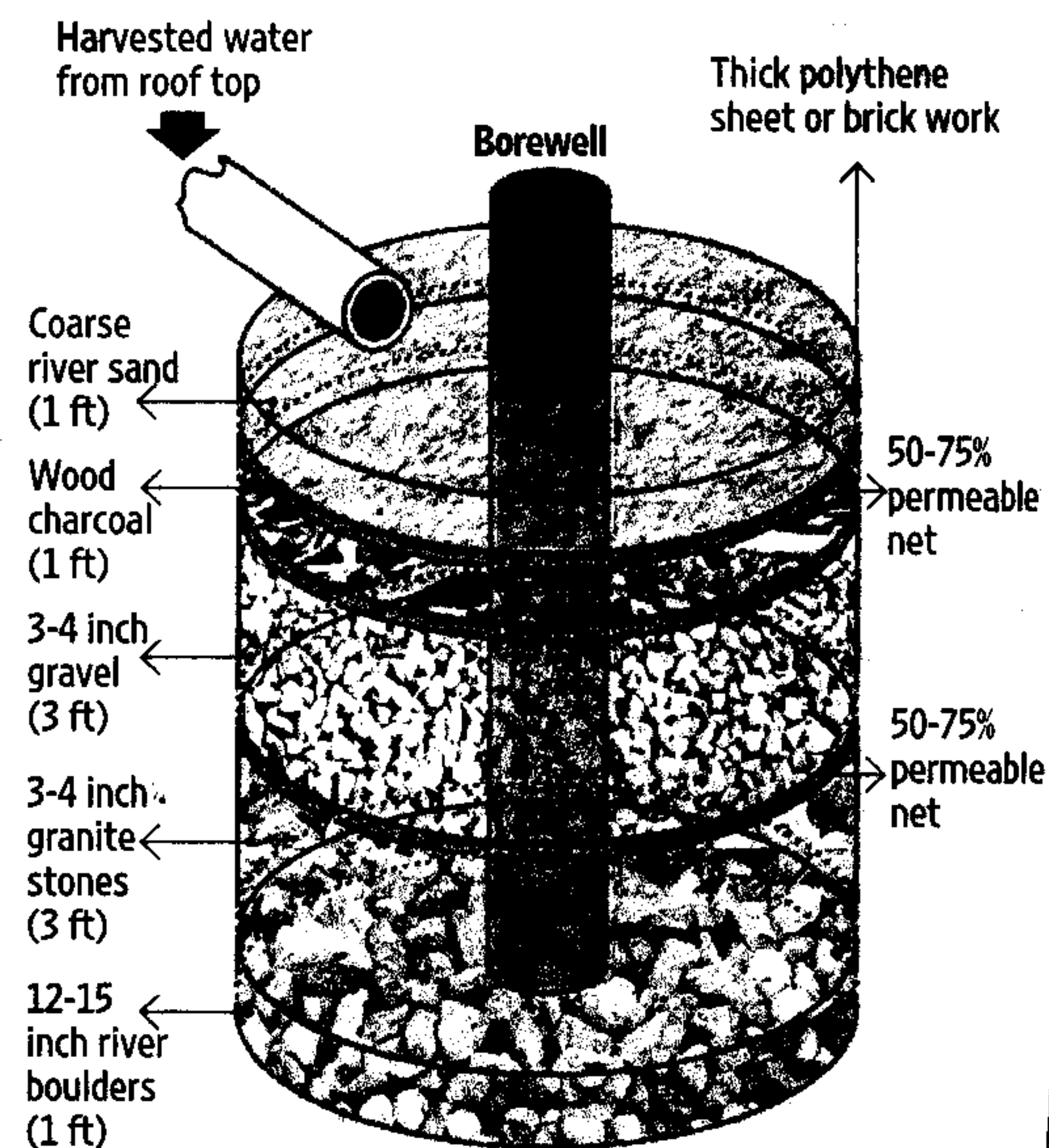


How the old system functioned

A borewell had to be dug. Filtration media was much the same, however, maintenance of borewell was tedious and costly

₹1.5-
₹2 lakh

Cost of older design for a 500 square metre plot



expensive.

According to Jyoti Sharma of the Forum for Organised Resources Conservation and Enhancement (FORCE), the current policy is better despite its shortcomings. It makes it simpler and cheaper for people to set up RWH structures.

"The idea behind the new policy is that if a lot of people will do it, it will be very beneficial for the water table. The simplicity is to make sure that more people adopt it willingly," Sharma said.

The new pit, without the borewell, can be constructed at a third of the

cost of the previous one. It can also be made cheaper if you want a basic structure.

"For filtrates, we suggest using rocks, sand, gravel and charcoal etc. If that doesn't work, even gunny bags at the bottom of the pit will do. All you have to ensure is that contaminated water is not entering the pit, and clean the pit regularly," Chandra said.

This, however, can be tricky. To make sure that only rainwater enters the pit, the supply to the pit will have to be secured and it has to be made sure that any other lines, such as a

sewer pipe, is not leaking and contaminating the water in the pit.

Maintaining and cleaning the pit and also the outlet one the roof and the downpipe are clean and unobstructed.

According to the latest groundwater survey of Delhi, south Delhi is the most parched. Water is found only at a depth of 40 metres. Only in six small pockets, three in northwest Delhi, one in north east Delhi and one in west Delhi can water be found at a two-metre depth.

On an average, water is found at a depth of 10-15 metres.

दिनांक २६ जून २०१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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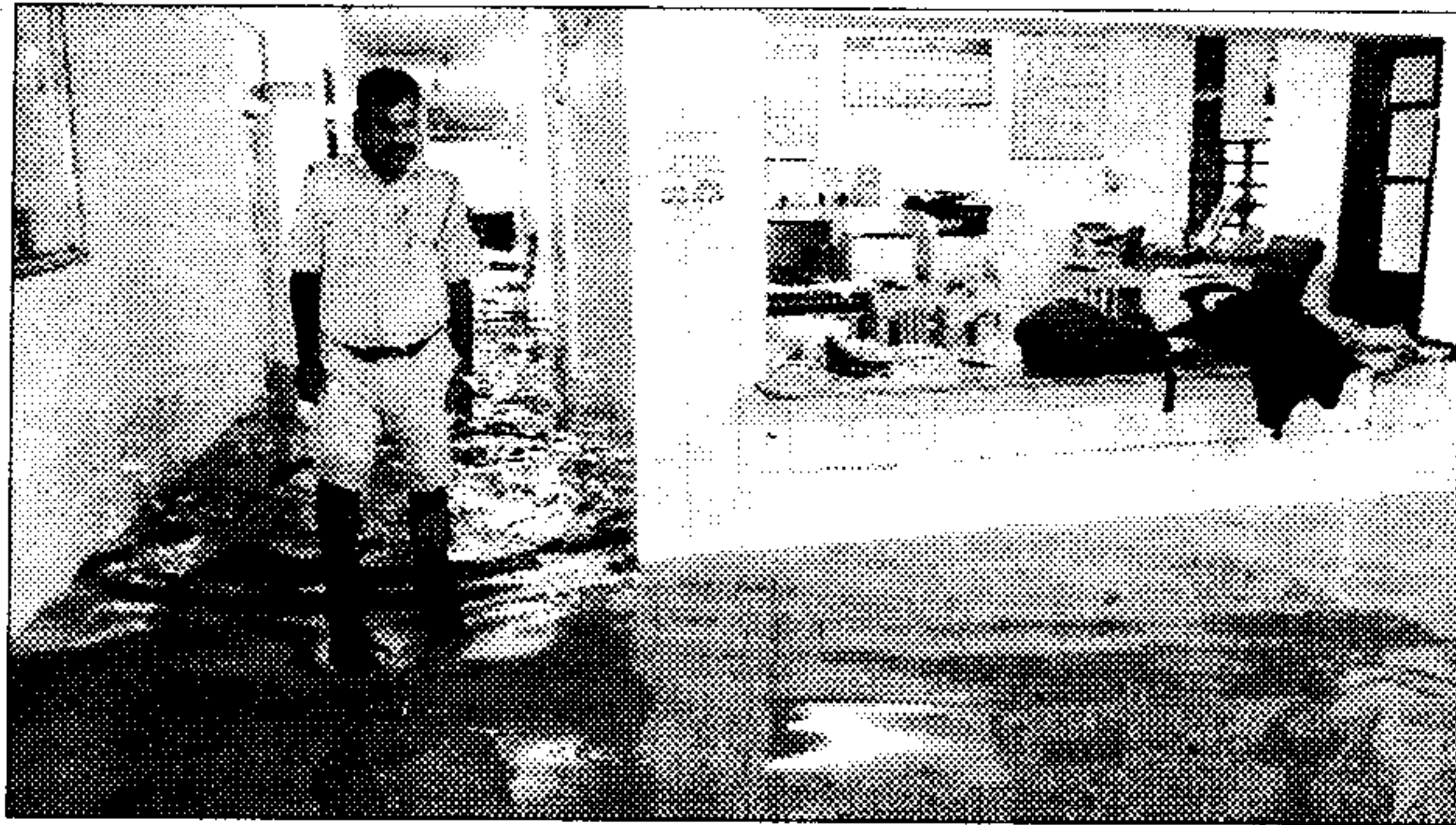
Heavy rains lash Mumbai, more in offing

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, JUNE 25

Rains continued to lash Mumbai for the third consecutive day today, slightly disrupting suburban train services, even as the Met Department predicted "heavy to very heavy rainfall" over the next two days in the Mumbai, Konkan and Goa region.

Police and fire officials said parts of Mumbai, Ratnagiri and the Konkan region saw



A cop wades through rainwater at a police station in Mumbai. PTI flooding and damage to trees. However, no casualties property caused by falling have been reported so far.

Low-lying areas in Mumbai such as Hindmata Cinema and Lower Parel were flooded as heavy rain coincided with high tides, the police said.

Trains on Central and Western Railway lines were running a few minutes behind schedule. Railway officials said maintenance personnel were on standby to clear any blockages on tracks. The rain also caused delay in flights at the Mumbai airport today.

(With agency inputs)

दिनांक 26.5.2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Deccan Herald 26/5/16
Rain havoc in Mumbai



Children waded through a waterlogged road after heavy rain in Thane on Saturday. PTI

MUMBAI, PTI: Rain continued to lash Mumbai for the third consecutive day on Saturday, disrupting suburban train services. This comes even as the Met Department predicted heavy showers over the next two days in Mumbai, Konkan and Goa region.

"This good and sustained spell of rain is thanks to the off-shore trough formed over the Arabian Sea off the Gujarat coast. There is also an upper air cyclonic circulation developing over the south of Gujarat and north Konkan," said V K Rajeev, director, India Meteorological Department, Mumbai.

On Friday, the Colaba and

Santa Cruz observatories in Mumbai recorded a rainfall of 26.8 mm and 50 mm, respectively.

The continuous downpour has affected the movement of local trains, with some running at least 15 minutes behind schedule. No cancellations have been reported so far.

However, the downpour has not caused any major flight delays or cancellations.

In Mulund, a 15-year-old boy playing near a road accidentally fell in an open gutter and drowned. He was immediately rushed to Mulund Hospital, but was declared brought dead.

Another picture, Page 9

दिनांक 26.07.2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Rain hits food, fuel supplies in Tripura

NH 8, only link to rest of the country, caves in

Ratnadip Choudhury

GUWAHATI, DHS: Tripura is facing an acute crisis of essential commodities as National Highway 8, its only link to the rest of the country, has caved in at several places in Karimganj district of Assam.

To add to the wounds, rain and water logging have severely

hit the supply of essentials, foodgrain and transport fuel.

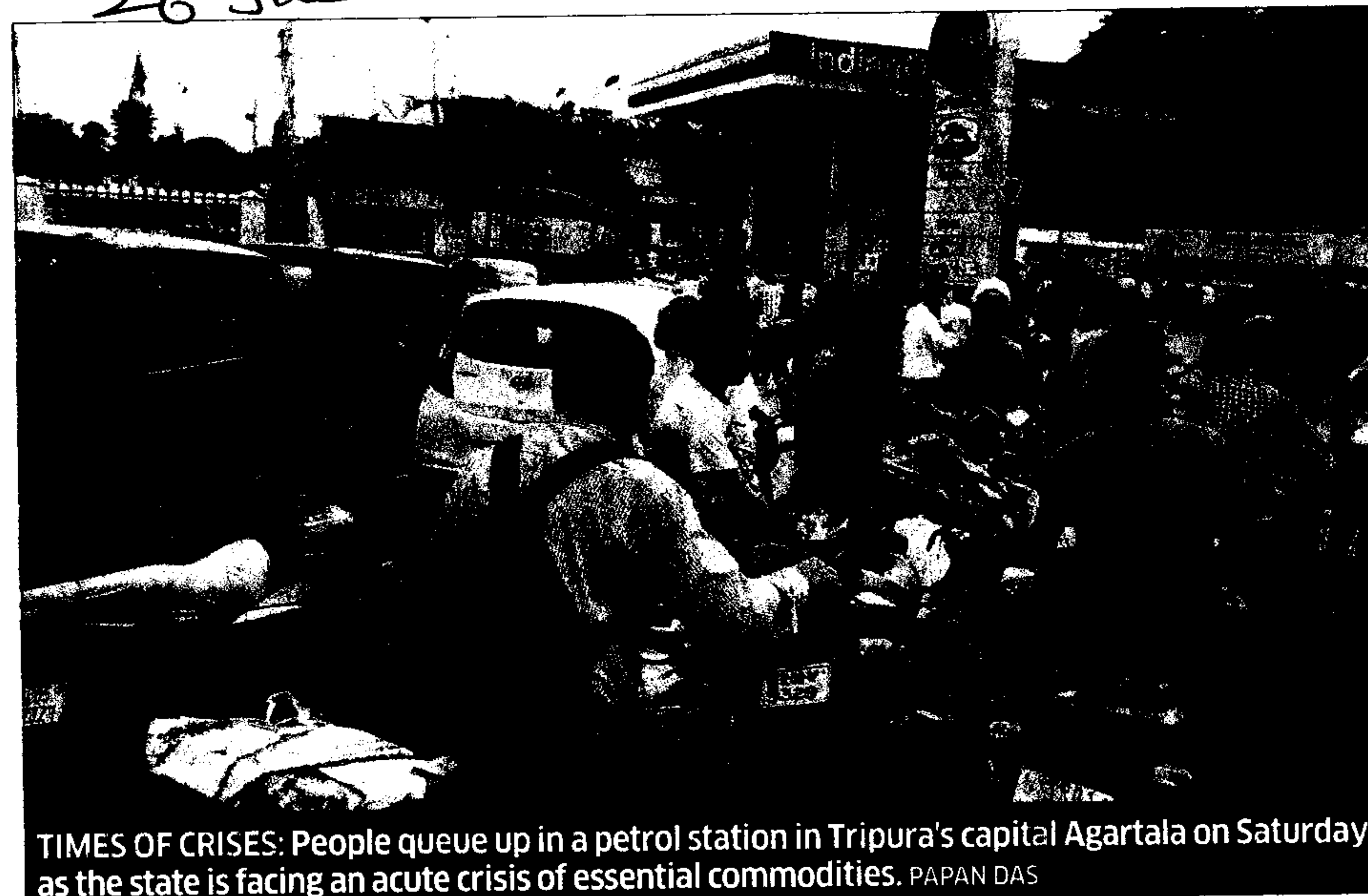
According to official sources, thousands of Tripura-bound trucks carrying petrol, fuel and other essential commodities are stranded on the Assam-Tripura border between Lowerpoah in Karimganj and Tripura Churaibari check gate.

The 20-km stretch in Assam's NH-8 has turned into a marshy field after the down-

pour, resulting in water logging and unfavourable soil condition.

This situation has led to a huge crisis of essential commodities, petrol is given out by rationing and prices in the local markets have sky rocketed, officials sources added.

Tripura, bounded by Bangladesh on three sides and by Assam and Mizoram on the northern side, is completely landlocked.



"We have been repeatedly sending missives to the Centre about the crisis that is going out of control. We have been asking for restoration of its only National Highway and taken all efforts to convince both Central and Assam governments about the dangerous position of the highway, both governments remained indifferent, this is total apathy" Tripura Transport Minister Manik Dey told DH over the phone from

state capital Agartala.

For the past two months, the state government, various civil society bodies, political parties in the state including the state unit of the BJP have sent letters and memorandums and organised protests regarding the attitude of Centre and neighbouring Assam government, but till now there is no respite.

Even the rail communication has been snapped off for the past two month due to ma-

**MANIK DEY, TRIPURA
TRANSPORT MINISTER:**
We have been repeatedly sending missives to the Centre about the crisis that is going out of control

for repair following landslides on the Lumding-Silchar section of Southern Assam. NFR sources added that the rail link to Guwahati cannot be completely restored via Lumding soon.

Over 70% fuel stock of the state is over, sources added claiming that if the Centre does not listen within a fortnight, people of Tripura might be in trouble. Tripura Governor Tathagata Roy after visiting the troubled areas also wrote to the Union Road Transport and Highway Minister seeking immediate intervention.

BJP Tripura state president Biplab Deb held a meeting with the Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Assam's Public Works Department (Roads and Highways) Minister Parimal Shuklabaidya and both of them have assured him help, but story remains the same at ground zero.

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Farming picks up pace as rains hit Dakshina Kannada district

BENGALURU: Rains continued to lash Dakshina Kannada district on Saturday, pushing up levels in water bodies.

In the last 24 hours, Bantwal and Sullia received highest of 40.9 mm rainfall followed by Belthangady—38.5 mm and Mangaluru—38 mm.

Kodagu district received moderate rainfall coupled with gusty winds. In the last 24 hours, the district recorded an average of 9.38 mm rainfall. The rain is active in Bhagamandala and Napoklu region. The water-level at Harangi reservoir has increased to 2,812.13 feet against the maximum of 2,859 feet.

Moderate to heavy rains continued to lash malnad region on Saturday.

Hosanagar, Thirthahalli and Sagar in Shivamogga district re-



A man struggles to make his way as it rains heavily in Madikeri on Saturday. (Right) Women busy transplanting paddy at Konaje on the outskirts of Mangaluru on Saturday.

DH PHOTO/ NITHISH P BYNDOR

ceived good spell of rains throughout the day. Copious rains lashed several parts of Hosanagar taluk. Intermittent rains lashed Thirthahalli, Shiv-

amogga, Bhadravathi, Shikaripur and Sorab taluks.

Rains continued to batter Uttara Kannada district also. The rains had taken a break in the

morning in Karwar, Bhatkal, Kumta and Ankola, but gained momentum towards evening.

There were reports of rains

in Khanapur taluk of Belagavi district and Srirangapatna in Mandya district.

DH News Service

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Water situation grim as state receives below normal monsoon'

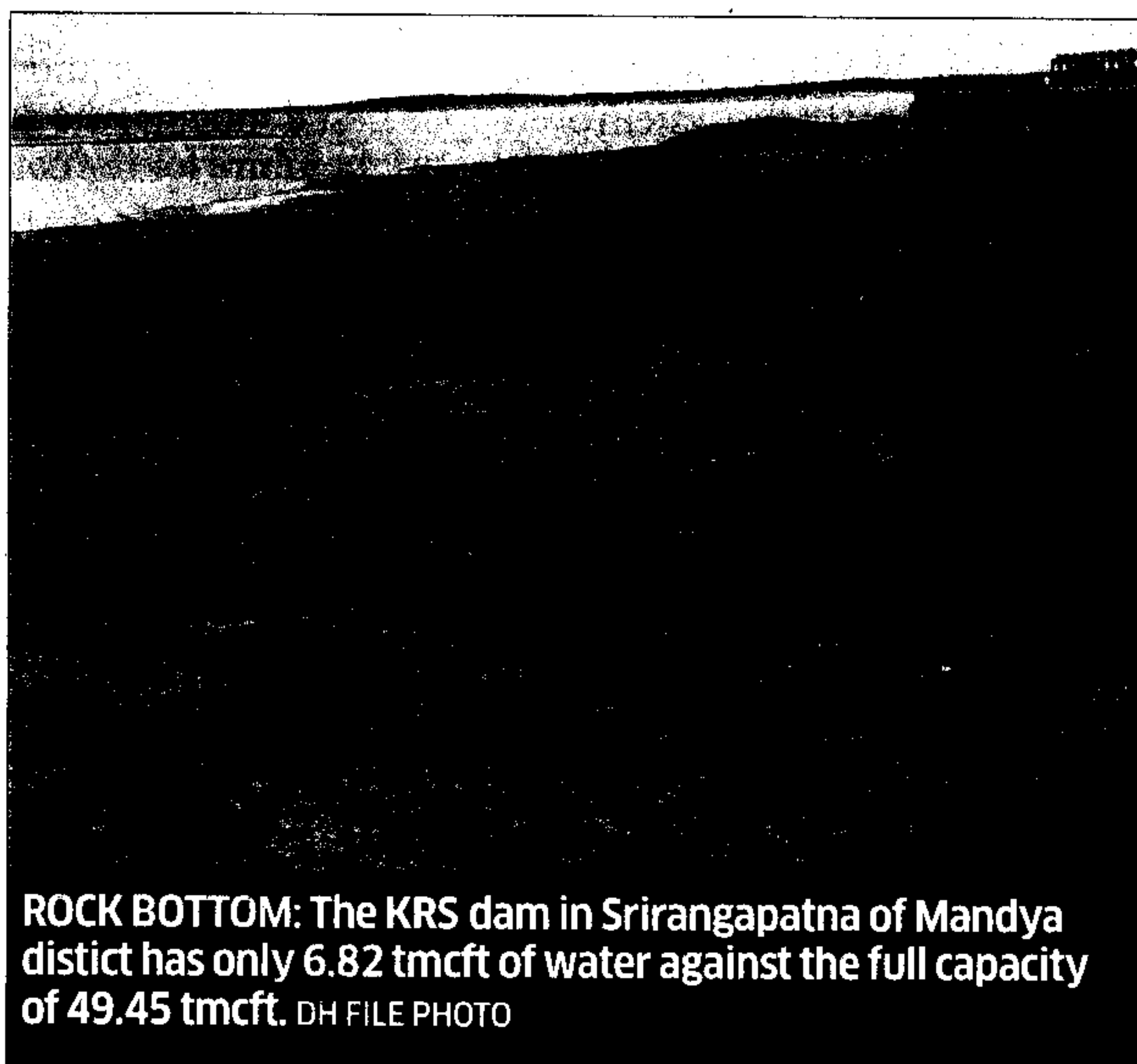
In the absence of rain, dams will run out of water in next 2 weeks

BENGALURU: Water Resources Minister M B Patil on Saturday said that the drinking water situation looked grim as reservoir levels were dipping owing to deficient rains.

Despite the onset of monsoon, the state has continued to receive below normal rains. Patil said if the state does not receive good rainfall soon, water stored in the reservoirs would run out in the next two weeks.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, he said that the reservoir levels in both Krishna and Cauvery basins had depleted dramatically. "We can manage with water stored in the KRS for the next two weeks. If it doesn't rain, then the situation will be quite serious. As reservoirs in Krishna basin too are drying out, there will be a serious crisis on hand," he said.

He said that water was stored to meet the drinking water needs only till June. "However,



ROCK BOTTOM: The KRS dam in Srirangapatna of Mandya district has only 6.82 tmcft of water against the full capacity of 49.45 tmcft. DH FILE PHOTO

we are nearing June-end, and yet we haven't received adequate rains," he added.

Water levels

Presently, only 6.82 tmc water is available in the KRS. The

reservoir, which has a capacity of 49.45 tmc, had 16.91 tmc water stored last year during the corresponding period.

The situation in Hemavathi, Harangi and Kabini too is grim. While only 4.80 tmc water is

Water levels

RESERVOIR	FULL CAPACITY	PRESENT	LAST YEAR
Linganmakki	151.75	22.37	37.05
Supa	145.33	28.17	51.13
Varahi	31.10	3.85	7.59
Harangi	8.50	2	3
Hemavathi	37.10	4.80	16.25
KRS	49.45	6.82	16.91
Kabini	19.52	2.99	14.88
Bhadra	71.53	13.56	31.19
Tungabhadra	100.86	3.64	10.50
Ghataprabha	51	2.93	5.71
Malaprabha	37.73	3.46	6.79
Almatti	123.08	13.98	31.39
Narayanpura	33.31	12.39	15.73

* Water availability as on June 25. * Unit - TMCFT

available in Hemavathi, Harangi has 2 tmc water stored, while Kabini's levels have dipped to 2.99 tmc. Likewise, Almatti, which had 31.39 tmc water stored in June last year, has only 13.98 tmc water available this

time. The dam can store up to 123.08 tmc.

Tungabhadra too has hit an all-time low. Only 3.64 tmc water is available in the dam, which can store up to 100.86 tmc.

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DN- 26 June 2016

Tracks under water



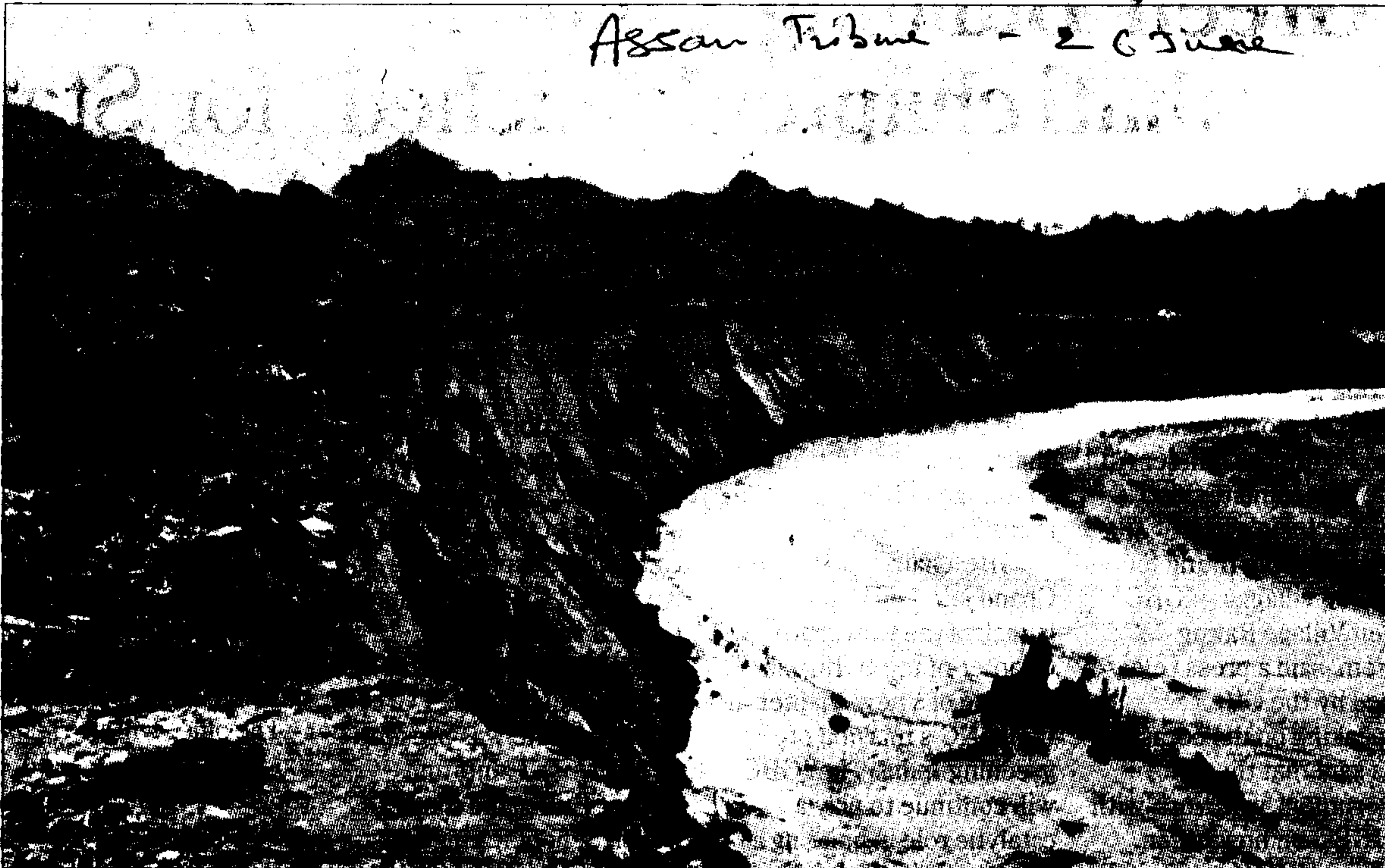
A local train on water-logged railway track in Thane on Saturday. Local train services were disrupted by one hour after heavy rainfall. PTI

दिनांक 26.5.2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Heavy erosion by Drupang river at Nepaligaon in Narayanpur, on Thursday. – UB Photos

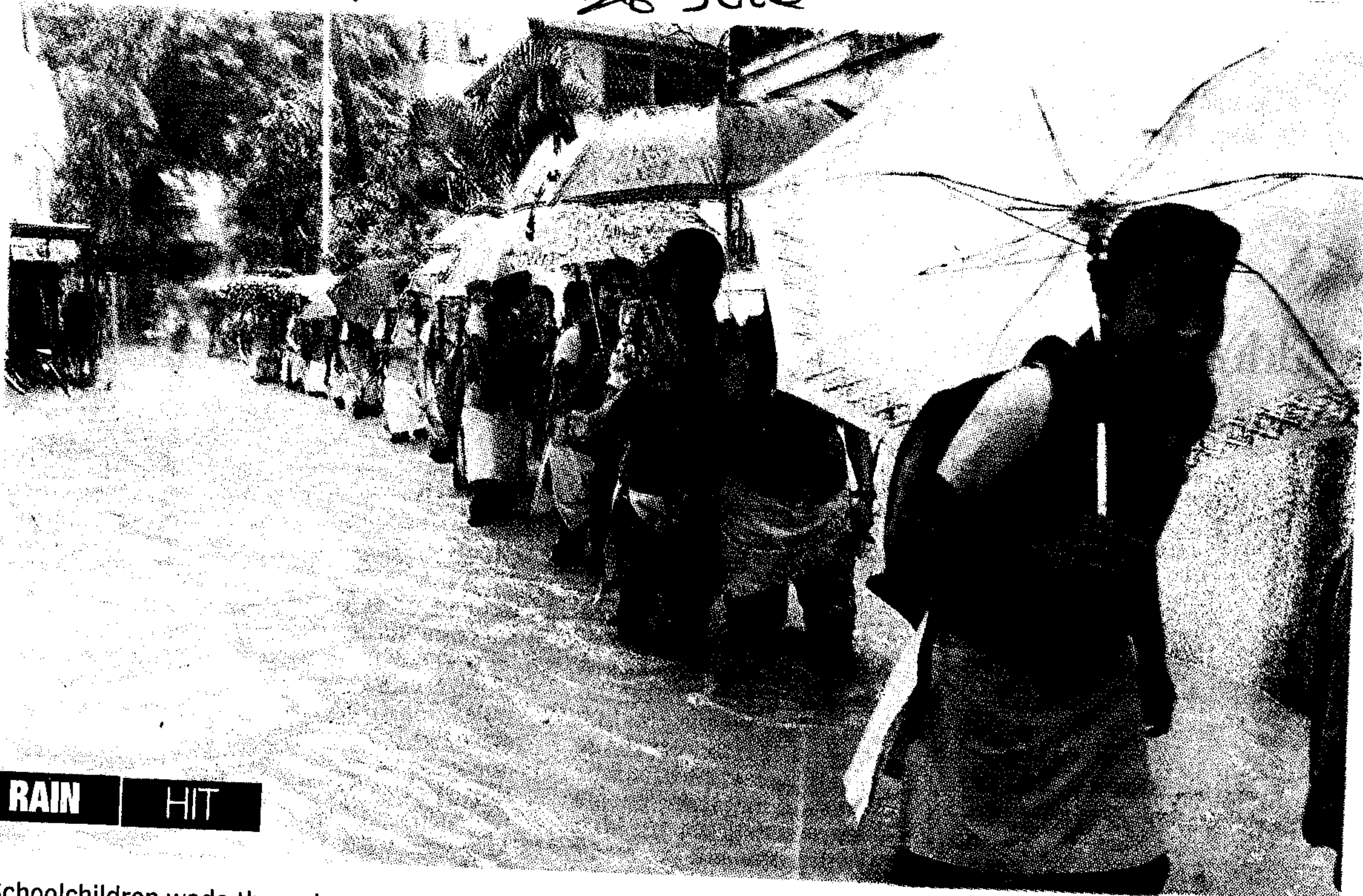
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DC - 26 June



RAIN

HIT

Schoolchildren wade through waterlogged road after heavy rains in Thane in Mumbai on Saturday. Rains continued to lash Mumbai for the third consecutive day on Saturday, slightly disrupting suburban train services, even as the Met department predicted heavy showers over the next two days in Mumbai, Konkan and Goa region. — PTI

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

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CLIMATE CHANGE

DC - 26 June 2018

Earth heating up very fast

■ Global warming may heat up Earth more than expected in future: Scientists

London, June 25: Earth could get much warmer than expected in future, say scientists who have reconstructed past global warming and carbon cycle on earth 56 million years ago.

Global warming from greenhouse gas emissions depends not only on the size of the emissions, but also on the warming effect that the extra amount of gas has on the atmosphere.

This effect, called climate sensitivity, is usually defined as the warming caused by the doubling of the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere.

Climate sensitivity depends on a number of properties of the earth's climate system, such as the composition of clouds and cloud cover.

"The research shows that climate sensitivity was higher during the past global, warm climate than in the current climate, said Gary Shaffer, professor at the University of Magallanes in Chile.

"This is bad news for humanity as greater climate sensitivity from warming will further amplify the warming," he said.

The study was based on reconstructions and climate modelling of a period of global warming 56 million years ago. The period known as the Palaeocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) was triggered by massive releases of carbon into the atmosphere and researchers have long known it as a time that could in some ways be analogous to today's global warming. — PTI

CONNECTING DOTS

SCIENTISTS STUDIED A PERIOD OF GLOBAL WARMING 56 MILLION YEARS AGO

■ The period, Palaeocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum, was triggered by massive releases of carbon into the atmosphere

■ The amount of carbon that drove the PETM warming was about the same as the current 'easily accessible' fossil fuel reserves



Hot climates up aggression

Washington, June 25: Hot climates and less variation in seasonal temperatures lead to a faster life strategy, less focus on the future and lower self-control, according to a new study that explains why some violent crime rates are higher near the equator than other parts of the world.

Researchers developed a new model that goes beyond the simple fact that hotter temperatures seem to be linked to more aggressive behaviour.

"Climate shapes how people live, it affects the culture in ways that we don't think about in our daily lives," said Brad Bushman, from the Ohio State University in the US.

"We believe our

model can help explain the impact of climate on rates of violence in different parts of the world," said Paul van Lange, from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

The researchers call the new model CLimate Aggression, and Self-control in Humans (CLASH).

Many studies have shown that levels of violence and aggression are higher in hot climates, researchers said.

The General Aggression Model suggests hot temperatures make people uncomfortable and irritated, which makes them more aggressive.

"But that doesn't explain more extreme acts, such as murder," Bushman said.

— PTI

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Central Chronical (Bhopal)

DC - 28 June 2016
**Good rain
in some
districts**

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JUNE 25

Explaining the deficit in rainfall in Hyderabad, IMD-Hyderabad director Y.K. Reddy said, "Though the monsoon has covered the state, not all regions will receive rainfall."

In the past week, Hyderabad and Medak districts have received less rain, while the rest of the state are within plus or minus 20 per cent of normal, he said. "Adilabad, Karimnagar and Nizamabad received 7 cm rainfall," he added.

A low-pressure area is forming over the Bay of Bengal which may lead to heavy rainfall in the state, but it is not yet clear if all regions will receive rain.

Regarding Saturday's rain, an IMD official said some areas that were covered by thunderclouds like Begumpet, Punjagutta, Somajiguda, Khairatabad, SD Road and Tarnaka experienced a sudden downpour. The thunderclouds then moved southeast and drenched Dilsukhnagar, Chaitanyapuri, Kothapet and nearby areas. The other areas experienced light rain.

IMD said that rain or thundershowers were very likely to occur in parts of city on Sunday. The IMD predicted heavy rainfall at isolated places in Hyderabad along with rest of the state and heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places till June 29.

The accuweather.com predicted rain or thundershowers till June 29 and maximum temperature at 35° Celsius.

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June rain is only 4.6 cm as against a normal of 11 cm


COREENA SUARES | DC
HYDERABAD, JUNE 25

More than a week after the southwest monsoon entered Hyderabad, the city experienced reasonably good rainfall on Saturday night which made up for part of the deficit for June.

The IMD said 3 cm of rain was recorded by 8.30 pm, taking the total rainfall this month to 4.6 cm. The normal for the month is 11 cm. Before Saturday, the city had received 1.6 cm

RAINFALL DATA FOR THE CITY THE AMOUNT OF RAINFALL THE CITY RECEIVED IN JUNE

- 18 - 3.2 mm
- 19 - 4.9 mm
- 20 - 1.7 mm
- 21 - 0.1 mm
- 22 - 6.0 mm
- 23 - nil
- 24 - traced
- 25 - 3 cm


Adilabad,
Karimnagar
and
Nizamabad
received 7
cm rainfall
till date

between June 18 and 25, including 6 mm on June 22. IMD-Hyderabad director Y.K. Reddy said this was

due to a phenomenon called intra-seasonal variation.

■ Another report on Pg6

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

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At 65mm, city gets heaviest rain since start of monsoon

Sanjay Hadkar

Civic Officials Told To Stay Alert Today

Richa Pinto & Nitasha Natu | TNN

Mumbai: The city got its first major rain on Friday since the onset of the monsoon on June 20. In a 12-hour period starting at 8.30am, the Santa Cruz weather station recorded 64.6mm and Colaba 35.6. The meteorological department has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall for the next 48 hours. Navi Mumbai, in a 24-hour period starting from 4pm on Thursday, received an average rainfall of 73.75.

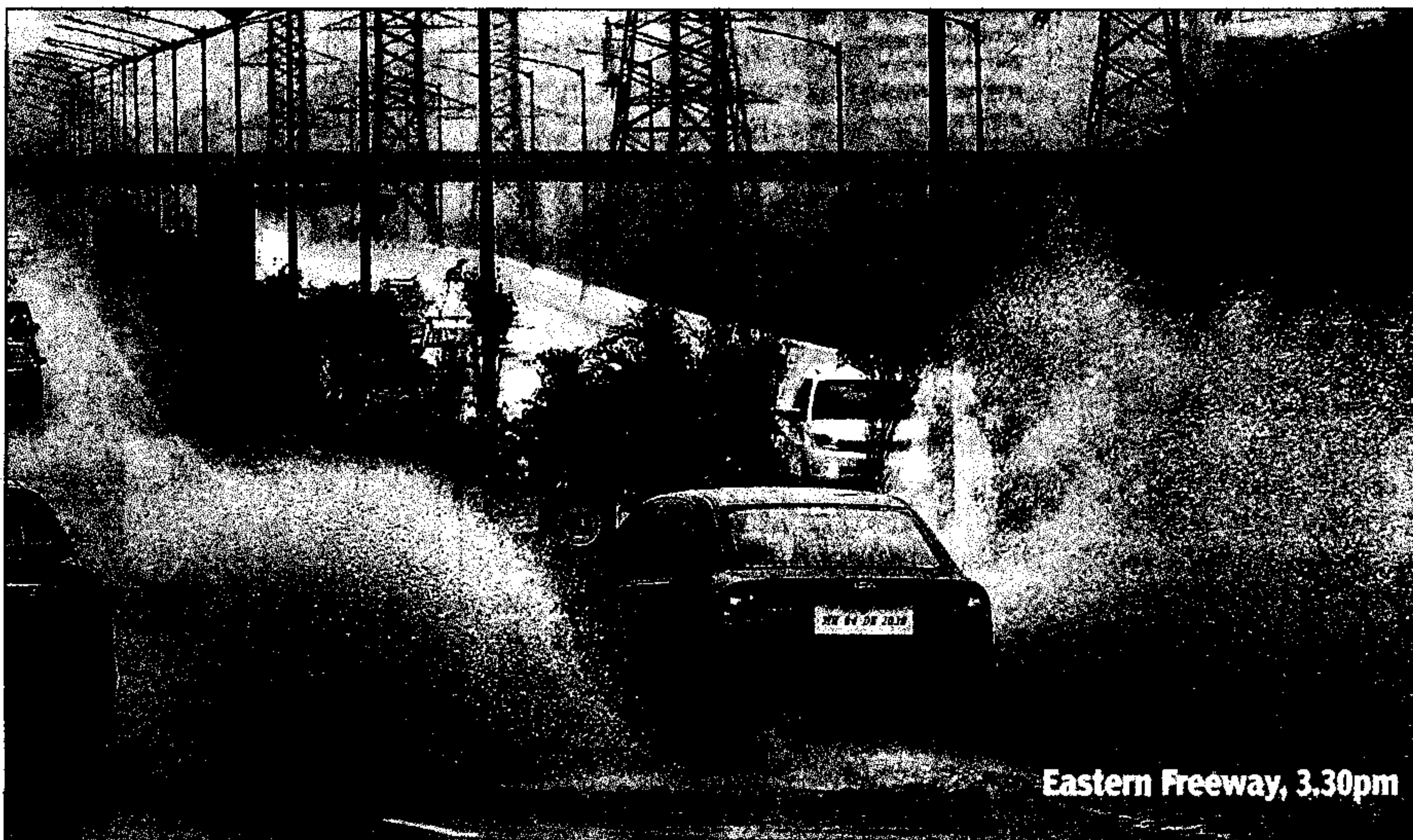
As per the readings of the Automatic Weather Station (AWS), which collects data across Mumbai, and not just one location in the south and one in the north, most parts of the island city received over 50mm rain in an eight-hour period starting at 8am, while most parts in the suburbs received up to around 35 mm (see graphic).

Maximum temperatures were brought down by two degrees. Colaba recorded 30.7 degree Celsius, down from 31.5 degree Celsius the day before. But relative humidity levels remained high: 90% in Colaba and 93% at Santacruz.

Friday's rain was the result of two weather systems, said V K Rajeev, director of weather forecasting, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Mumbai. "There is an offshore trough along the coast from Gujarat to Kerala, apart from an upper air cyclonic circulation above the Gujarat area, which is giving Mumbai its showers. The trough will intensify and there may be heavy rains till Sunday."

The wind direction is westerly, in keeping with southwest monsoon wind patterns. The total rainfall recorded this season so far is 208.3mm at the Colaba observatory and 264.9mm at Santacruz. Civic officials have been asked to report to work on Saturday and remain alert the entire day, in anticipation of heavy rain.

EXPECT VERY HEAVY RAINFALL FOR 2 DAYS



Eastern Freeway, 3.30pm

RAINFALL | 8am-4pm, June 24

Above 50mm	Byculla	57.39
C Ward (Chira Bazar)		52.57
D Ward (Nana Chowk)		54.85
Grant Road		53.33
Fort		53.84
Mumbai Central		64.53

Below 50mm

Bandra	6.08
Vile Parle	31.49
Marol	25.39
Chembur	23.88
Kurla	35.31
Deonar	30.74

Recorded by automatic weather station (AWS)

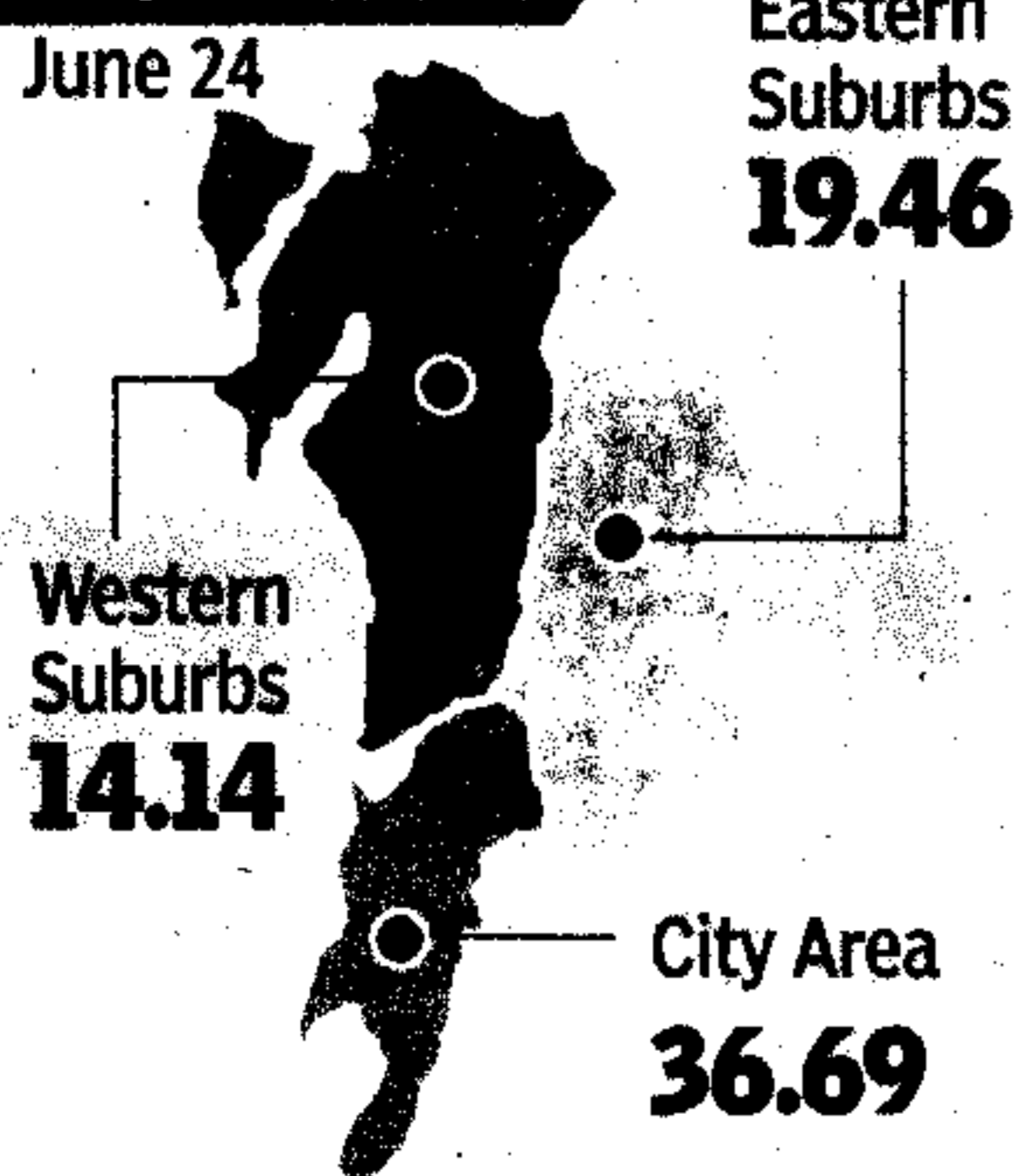
FORECAST

Heavy to very heavy rainfall in the next 48 hours has been forecast by the met department

10-DAY BLOCK ON WEH FLYOVER

The south-bound arm of Thakur Complex flyover (Kandivli-East) on WEH, will be repaired till July 4. From today till 6am on June 27, south-bound traffic will not be permitted. Thereafter, till the repairs end (July 4), only light motor vehicles will be permitted to use the south-bound arm, but from 6am to midnight. The traffic police have advised motorists to use SV Road or the slip road under the flyover during the block

AVG RAINFALL



LITTLE RAIN IN LAKES | On June 24

Lake	2016	2015
Modak Sagar	1	110.2
Tansa	2.2	121.8
Vihar	64.6	55.4
Tulsi	90	109
Upper Vaitarna	0	126
Bhatsa	5	112
Middle Vaitarna	3	121

WATER STOCK

As of June 24. In million litres

2016	92,647	2015	267,135
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Hindmata floods due to high tide

Because of a high tide of 4.42 metre at 3.02pm on Friday, which is touching distance of the warning level of 4.5 metre, the usual flood spot of Hindmata at Dadar went under water yet again. It took 40 minutes for the accumulated water to drain out, during which traffic was diverted. The BMC said not many complaints of waterlogging were received. TNN

Man injured in tree fall at JVPD

A man suffered leg injuries near Cooper Hospital at JVPD Scheme after a tree fell on an auto rickshaw he was in. The city lost 19 trees and branches in the course of Friday's rain. In the last three days, over 150 complaints of tree fall or crashing branches have been received by the BMC. It brings into question the monsoon-preparedness claims of municipal authorities. TNN

No luck at lake catchments

While the city got heavy rain on Friday, the lake catchments that supply water to Mumbai got insignificant amounts, except for Tulsi and Vihar, which received 90mm and 64.6mm. The city has continued to suffer 20% water cuts since August and so the lakes urgently need filling up. At present water stock in the lakes will cater to the city's needs till July 30. TNN

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A huge tree was uprooted in the evening rain on Vyalikaval main road on Friday. (Right) People move with protective gear as the sudden rains lashed JC Road in Bengaluru on Friday. DH PHOTOS

Evening rain holds up traffic across city

Tree falls on busy road in Vyalikaval

BENGALURU, DHNS: A large tree got uprooted and crashed on a busy road in Vyalikaval on Friday, leading to traffic snarls in central and northern Bengaluru. There was, however, no loss of life or property.

It started raining heavily during the peak hour, and kept visitors away from the central

More rain for next 2 days

The city on Friday received 8.9 mm rainfall till 8.30 pm, while HAL airport received 5.7 mm. Yelahanka received 2.2 mm rainfall. According to India Meteorological Department (IMD), the city received 1.3 mm till 5.30 pm, while HAL airport and the Kempegowda International Airport received 0.4 mm rainfall.

The IMD has forecast heavy rainfall for Bengaluru and the rest of Karnataka for the next two days as southwest monsoon remains active.

business district, which usually remains busy Friday to Sunday.

The rain choked drains and flooded many localities. Traffic bore the brunt, with

Anand Rao Circle, Race Course Road, Mehkri Circle, Vyalikaval, Seshadripuram, Platform Road, Hebbal, Okalipuram, Shanthala junction, City Market, Mysuru Road, Madiwala, Silk Board junction, Singasandra, parts of HSR Layout, Tumakuru Road (Yeshwantpur), Peenya and Jalahalli, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Kengeri and Kumbal-godu being badly hit.

Travellers affected

Outbound travellers had a tough time as buses couldn't depart on time.

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DM - 25 July 2016



It rained throughout the day in Mangaluru on Friday.

Moderate rains in Mangaluru

BENGALURU: Rain continued to lash several parts of the state on Friday.

It rained heavily for more than an hour towards evening in Hosapete. Movement of vehicles was affected for a while as the roads were waterlogged.

Moderate to heavy rains lashed Shivamogga district.

Shivamogga, Hosanagar,

Sagar received good spell of rains throughout the day. Bhadravathi, Shivamogga, Shikaripur and Sorab also received moderate rains. There were no reports of any casualty.

Dakshina Kannada district experienced moderate rainfall. Mangaluru and surrounding areas experienced rainfall throughout the day.

In the last 24 hours, Dakshina Kannada district has recorded 45.3 mm rainfall.

The compound wall of two houses collapsed in Ullal.

Uttara Kannada district too received widespread rains on Friday. There were reports of rains from Karwar, Honnavar, Bhatkal, Kumta and Ankola.

DH News Service

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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)

Rain compounds problem of uncleared garbage

BENGALURU: The heavy downpour in the city has left it stinking. Road users are forced to cover their noses, while crossing wet garbage piles.

Deputy Mayor Hemalatha Gopalaiah blamed local residents for the mess.

"People are protesting near garbage dumping yards and composting units. They are not allowing trucks to dump garbage, leading to waste mounds, especially in west Bengaluru. In case of other places, garbage should be collected at one point of every ward, for trucks to collect it. People have to co-operate," she said.

But residents are not convinced. They point out that garbage is not stacked in just one area, but everywhere.

"Rotting garbage mixed with rainwater is a common sight in most parts of the city, especially in central Bengaluru and newly added wards. The stink is unbearable," said Hemalatha R, a resident.

These sites have become breeding ground for mosquitoes and also feeding spaces for street dogs. Rodents can be seen jumping over the piles. It poses health hazards to people, said Iqbal K, a resident.

Prominent places where garbage piles are a common sight are Seshadripuram, Papareddypalya, Nagarbhavi, Srirampura, Magadi Road,



Workers clear stagnated rainwater near St Martha's Hospital on Nrupatunga Road. DH PHOTO

SUBODH YADAV, BBMP SPECIAL COMMISSIONER (SWM): There are no issues with garbage collection across the city. But in some places, the problem can be because of lax local officers or local issues. People can contact the control rooms or me directly.

Sunkadakatte, Banaswadi, Gandhinagar, Sarjapura main road, Koramangala, Mall-eswaram, Jalahalli, Vrishbavathi valley on outer ring road, Mysuru Road, Anjanapura, Banashankari, Banner-gatta Road, Gottigere, OMBR

Layout, Chickpet, Avenue Road and Ejipura.

BBMP special commissioner, solid waste management, Subodh Yadav said, "There are no issues with garbage collection across the city. But in some places, the problem can be because of lax local officers or local issues. People can contact the control rooms or me directly."

BBMP commissioner Manjunath Prasad said following High Court directions on Thursday, the Corporation is planning to mandate composting waste at residences, instead of sending them to processing units.

"We are in talks with companies to convert waste to energy, in the seven composting sites," he said.

DH News Service

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Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

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राजस्थान-पंजाब के बीच नहरी पानी का विवाद सुलझा

बीबीएमबी की बैठक ऐसे चला घटनाक्रम

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इंदिरा गांधी नहर को तोड़कर पंजाब की ओर से पानी लेने से उपजे विवाद में राजस्थान और पंजाब के मुख्यमंत्री के बीच बातचीत के बाद शनिवार को बीबीएमबी (भाखड़ा बांध प्रबंधन बोर्ड) की हुई बैठक में मामला सुलझा लिया गया है। अब राजस्थान के अधिकारी पंजाब

इंदिरा गांधी नहर विभाग का कहना है कि पंजाब की ओर से 20 जून को आरडी 312 पर कट लगा दिया गया। 21 जून को इसकी सूचना राजस्थान सरकार के अधिकारियों तक गई। यह बात जल संसाधन मंत्री और मुख्यमंत्री के ध्यान में लाई गई। 22 जून को पंजाब का पानी रोक दिया गया। इस

की ओर से इंदिरा गांधी नहर की मुख्य नहर आरडी 312 पर लगाए कट को दुरुस्त करने में लगे हैं। पंजाब में इंदिरा गांधी नहर की

मुद्दे पर राजस्थान-पंजाब के बीच चली कशमकश के बाद 25 जून को मामले को सुलझा दिया गया। अब अगले तीन चार दिनों में राजस्थान के इंजीनियर्स की ओर से कट को बंद कर दिया जाएगा। यह निर्णय दोनों सरकार के उच्च अधिकारियों के बीच बातचीत के बाद हुआ।

आरडी 312 पर नहर तोड़कर पानी लेना शुरू कर दिया। इससे मसीतावाली हैड पर पानी की आवक कम हो गई।

सुलझा गया मामला

राजस्थान को पंजाब स्थित फिरोजपुर फीडर की मरम्मत के लिए 49 करोड़ रुपये देने थे। जब इंदिरा गांधी नहर के रख-रखाव के दौरान क्लोजर लिया, उस समय पंजाब में कॉटन की बुवाई चल रही थी। पंजाब की ओर से क्लोजर लेने की मनाही आ गई। इसी को बहाना बनाकर पंजाब ने नहर में कट लगाकर पानी लेना शुरू कर दिया। अब यह मामला उच्च स्तर पर बातचीत से सुलझा लिया गया है। अगले तीन-चार दिनों में तोड़ी गई नहर ठीक करवा दी जाएगी। अभी मिट्टी भरवाकर पानी रोक दिया गया है।

विनोद मित्तल, अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता (रेग्यूलेशन) बीकानेर

इस घटना की सूचना अधिकारियों ने राजस्थान के जल संसाधन मंत्री को दी। मंत्री ने मुख्यमंत्री को हालात से अवगत करवाया। राजस्थान की मुख्यमंत्री की पंजाब के मुख्यमंत्री से बात होने के बाद आधिकारिक स्तर पर मसला सुलझा लिया गया।

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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) ✓

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

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The Times of India (A)

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दिनांक-26-6-16

{ चमके पर बरसे नहीं }



अहमदाबादवासियों को मौसम की अच्छी बारिश अब तक इंतजार है। शनिवार रात शहर के आसमान पर बिजली तो जमकर चमकी, लेकिन बादल उताने बरसे नहीं। शहर के कई इलाकों में बूझबांड़ी हुई, लेकिन झड़ी नहीं लगी। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार, रविवार को अच्छी बारिश के आसार हैं।

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प्रादेशिक, आसपास एवं अन्य गतिविधियां

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पंजाब केसरी

मुंबई में मूसलधार बारिश जारी

मुंबई, (भाषा): मुंबई में आज लगातार तीसरे दिन मूसलधार बारिश हुई जिसके कारण उपनगरीय ट्रेन सेवा में बाधा पहुंची। साथ ही, मौसम विभाग ने मुंबई, कोंकण और गोवा क्षेत्र में अगले दो दिनों में भारी बारिश होने की संभावना व्यक्त की है। भारतीय मौसम विभाग (आईएमडी) ने अनुमान को देखते हुये मछुआरों से समुद्र में नहीं जाने की भी चेतावनी जारी की है।

आईएमडी मुंबई के निदेशक वीके राजीव ने बताया, 'गुजरात तट के अरब सागर में अपतटीय दबाव बनने के कारण लगातार अच्छी बारिश हो रही है। दक्षिणी गुजरात और उत्तरी

कोंकण पर ऊपरी वायु चक्रवाती परिसंचरण भी विकसित हुआ है।' कल मुंबई के कोलाबा और सांता क्रूज वेधशालाओं में क्रमशः 26.8 और 50 मिली मीटर बारिश दर्ज की गयी है।

लगातार हो रही बारिश के कारण कुछ स्थानों पर स्थानीय ट्रेनों का परिचालन प्रभावित हुआ है और ट्रेनें अपने निर्धारित समय से करीब 15 मिनट देर से चल रही हैं। हालांकि अभी तक किसी भी ट्रेन को रद्द नहीं किया गया है। बारिश के कारण किसी विमान के परिचालन में भी देरी नहीं हुयी है और उन्हें रद्द नहीं किया गया है।



नवी मुम्बई स्थित पुलिस थाने में महिला पुलिसकर्मी मानसूनी वर्षा से बने तालाब को पार करते हुए।

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सूख गई ताप्ती



बुरहानपुर राजघाट के पास ताप्ती पूरी तरह सूख गई है। ताप्ती की तलहटी दिखाई देने लगी है। पिछले दिनों हुई बारिश के बाद भी मां ताप्ती में पानी एकत्रित नहीं हुआ है।

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विलंब से पहुंचा मानसून, बोरे से कर रहे रोपाई



डोंगरगढ़ @ पत्रिका. प्रदेश में मानसून के विलंब से पहुंचने के कारण किसानों को बोरे के पानी से खरीफ धान की रोपाई करनी पड़ रही है। इनसेट : खेतों की जोताई करता किसान।



पत्रिका-27-6-16

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दि-27-6-16 मानसून कमजोर पड़ने से 16 फीसदी कम बारिश

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

देश में मानसून की दस्तक के एक माह बाद भी सामान्य से 16 फीसदी कम बारिश हुई है। बीच में मानसून के कमजोर पड़ने के कारण ऐसा हुआ है। सर्वाधिक कमी मध्य भारत में दर्ज की गई है। जबकि इस बार मौसम विभाग ने सामान्य से ज्यादा बारिश होने का पूर्वानुमान जारी किया था।

मौसम विभाग के अनुसार, देश के करीब तीन चौथाई हिस्से में मानसून दस्तक दे चुका है। पर दिल्ली, पंजाब, हरियाणा, राजस्थान और मध्य भारत के कई हिस्सों को अभी इंतजार है। इस बीच, मौसम विभाग ने 26 जून तक की बारिश के आंकड़े जारी कर कहा कि 132 मिमी के मुकाबले अभी तक 111 मिमी बारिश हुई है जो सामान्य से 16% कम है। दिल्ली और हरियाणा क्षेत्र में

मध्य भारत : 30% कम

- ओडिशा, छत्तीसगढ़, महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात में बारिश 30% कम
- सिर्फ 89 मिमी बारिश मध्य भारत में हुई जबकि 128 मिमी होनी चाहिए

बिहार-झारखंड : कम वर्षा

बिहार में तीन फीसदी और झारखंड में 27 फीसदी कम बारिश हुई है।

मानसून पूर्व वर्षा भी कम हुई है। अब तक सामान्यतः 34 मिमी बारिश की जगह 25 मिमी बारिश हुई है। यह सामान्य से 25 % कम है।

इस बीच मौसम विभाग ने दिल्ली में मानसून के आगमन को लेकर भविष्यवाणी वेबसाइट से ही हटा दी है। इससे माना जा रहा है कि दिल्ली में मानसून के आने में देरी हो सकती है।

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आज भी हल्की बारिश के आसार

नई दिल्ली (प्र.सं.)। दिल्ली में शनिवार को बादल छाने का अनुमान है। मौसम विभाग के मुताबिक देर शाम कुछ इलाकों में तेज हवाओं के साथ हल्की बारिश की भी संभावना है। अधिकतम तापमान 39 डिग्री और न्यूनतम तापमान 29 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब रहने के आसार हैं।

दिल्ली में शुक्रवार को अधिकतम तापमान 39 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा। यह सामान्य से तीन डिग्री सेल्सियस अधिक है। वहीं, न्यूनतम तापमान 29.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। पालम में अधिकतम तापमान 42 डिग्री तक पहुंच गया। यह सामान्य से एक डिग्री सेल्सियस अधिक है। हवा में आर्द्रता का अधिकतम स्तर 69 प्रतिशत रहा।

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आकाशीय बिजली गिरने से यूपी में 16 मरे

कानपुर। आकाशीय बिजली गिरने से रविवार को उत्तर प्रदेश के अलग अलग हिस्सों में पांच बच्चों समेत 16 लोगों की मौत हो गई। सिद्धार्थनगर और देवरिया में चार लोगों की मौत हो गई। सिद्धार्थनगर में दो युवाओं के मरने के साथ महिला सहित तीन लोग झुलस गए। देवरिया में आकाशीय बिजली से दो किशोरियों की मौत हुई और युवक झुलस गया। सोनभद्र जिले में चार अलग-अलग थाना क्षेत्रों में रविवार दोपहर वज्रपात से पांच बच्चों व एक महिला की मौत हो गई। इन हादसों में एक व्यक्ति व चार अन्य बच्चे झुलस गए। एक अन्य घटना में भी एक व्यक्ति बिजली गिरने से झुलस गया। वहीं कानपुर में दोपहर बाद गिरी आकाशीय बिजली ने मां-बेटी समेत छह लोगों की जान ले ली।



जम्मू में रविवार को मूसलाधार बारिश के कारण लोगों को यातायात में भारी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। • प्रेस

News item/letter/article/editorial published on June-25-06-2016 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)

Blitz

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

केन्द्रीय मंत्री उमा

भारती एम्स

में भर्ती 25-6-16

नई दिल्ली @ पत्रिका. भाजपा नेता
और केन्द्रीय जलसंसाधन मंत्री उमा



भारती को एम्स में
भर्ती कराया गया
है। बताया जा रहा
है कि उन्हें सीने में
दर्द होने की वजह
से भर्ती कराया
गया है।

अभी उनकी
स्थिति के बारे में

ज्यादा जानकारी नहीं मिल सकी है।
सूत्रों के मुताबिक भारती की स्थिति
चिंताजनक नहीं है। खबर मिलते ही
भाजपा के कई नेता तुरंत अस्पताल
पहुंचे।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on June-25.6.2016 in the

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पंजाब-25-6-16

मानसून दिल्ली की इयोड़ी पर

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): राजस्थान के कई हिस्सों में कल से मानसून से पहले की बारिश हो रही है और इस बीच भारतीय मौसम विभाग का कहना कि दक्षिण पश्चिम मानसून के दिल्ली की तरफ बढ़ने के लिए स्थितियां अनुकूल बन रही हैं और अगले तीन-चार दिन में दिल्ली एवं अन्य उत्तरी राज्यों में

मानसून दस्तक दे सकता है। विभाग ने कहा कि गुजरात के कुछ और हिस्सों, पश्चिमी मध्य प्रदेश के बाकी हिस्सों, उत्तर प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड, हिमाचल प्रदेश और हरियाणा के ज्यादातर हिस्सों, चंडीगढ़, दिल्ली, पंजाब और पूर्वी राजस्थान में अगले तीन से चार दिनों में दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून

के आने के लिए स्थितियां अनुकूल बन रही हैं। राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में कई स्थानों पर रुक-रुक कर बारिश होने के चलते पाय 40 डिग्री से नीचे बना हुआ है। सफदरजंग वेधशाला ने अधिकतम 39.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस तापमान और सुबह 8:30 बजे तक 0.4 मिमी. बारिश दर्ज की।

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यमुना की सफाई के लिए अभियान

नई दिल्ली (प्र.सं.)। अटल यमुना सफाई अभियान के तहत उत्तर प्रदेश के नवीन शाहदरा जिला कार्यकर्ताओं ने दिन में वजीराबाद के रामघाट पर श्रमदान किया। इस मौके पर प्रदेश महामंत्री संगठन सिद्धार्थन, मंगिराम गर्ग, जगदीश प्रधान, प्रवेश शर्मा व अन्य लोग मौजूद रहे। सुबह 7 बजे शुरू हुए श्रमदान कार्यक्रम के दौरान आठ ट्रक गाद यमुना से निकाली गई। इसमें स्थानीय लोगों ने भी श्रमदान किया।

26-6-16

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25.06.2016
Jme - 0000

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28-29 जून तक आ सकता है मॉनसून तीन-चार दिन बारिश के आसार

■ नगर संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

नव-25-6-16

दिल्ली में मॉनसून तय समय से पहले ही आ सकता है। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों के मुताबिक 28-29 जून को मॉनसून दस्तक दे सकता है। वहीं 25 से 29 जून तक बारिश होने की संभावना है। तापमान भी दो-तीन डिग्री गिर सकता है।

नैशनल वेदर फोरकास्टिंग सेंटर के हेड बी. पी. यादव ने कहा कि दिल्ली में तीन-चार दिनों में मॉनसून आ सकता है। मौसम का ऐसा पैटर्न बन रहा है कि तीन-चार दिनों में मॉनसून आ सकता है। दिल्ली और आसपास के इलाकों में उमस

भी तंग नहीं करेगी। तापमान भी कम रहने की उम्मीद है।

स्काइमेट के मौसम वैज्ञानिक महेश पलावत ने भी कहा कि दिल्ली

में 28-29 जून तक मॉनसून

आ सकता है। आने वाले

दिनों में दक्षिण-पूर्वी दिशा

से नमी वाली हवाएं दिल्ली

और आसपास के इलाकों

में आएंगी। दिल्ली से सटे राज्यों में

चक्रवाती हवाओं का सिस्टम भी बनने

की संभावना है। तीन-चार दिन उमस

भरी गर्मी के चांस कम हैं। तापमान

नॉर्मल से दो-तीन डिग्री गिर सकता है।

मौसम विभाग के मुताबिक शनिवार को शाम और रात के समय बारिश होने की संभावना है। इस दौरान मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर

39 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेंपरेचर

29 डिग्री रहने का अनुमान

है। शुक्रवार को दिन भर

उमस भरी गर्मी महसूस हुई।

मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 39.9 डिग्री

दर्ज हुआ, जो नॉर्मल से तीन डिग्री

ज्यादा है। मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 29.2 डिग्री

दर्ज हुआ, जो नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री ज्यादा

है। सफदरजंग में सुबह 8:30 बजे तक

0.4 मिमी बारिश दर्ज हुई। अधिकतम

ह्यूमिडिटी का स्तर 69 पर्सेंट दर्ज हुआ।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on June 25.06.2016 in the

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Indian Express
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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)
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Dams will doom Ganga, SC told

Uma's Team At Odds With Power, Green Ministries

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The water resources ministry headed by Uma Bharati has raised the flag of faith to oppose major hydroelectric projects proposed on Alaknanda-Bhagirathi-Mandakini river basins putting it directly at odds with the green clearances for dams from power and environment ministries.

Soon after the 2013 Kedarnath tragedy, the Supreme Court had stayed green clearance to all 70 proposed hydroelectric projects in Alaknanda-Bhagirathi river basins. On May 10, additional solicitor general S S Patwalia had informed a bench of Justices Dipak Misra and U U Lalit that ministries of power and environment favour constructing five of the six projects — Lata-Tapovan (171 MW), Jhelum Tamak (108 MW), Kotlibhel 1-A (195MW), Alaknanda (300 MW), Khironi Ganga (4 MW) and Bhyunder Ganga (24 MW).

Taking an opposite stand, the Bharati-headed ministry told the SC that any addition to the existing number of hydroelectric projects on Alaknanda, Bhagirathi and Mandakini rivers would spell doom for Ganga. The water resources ministry argued, "Clearance provided to all these hydroelectric projects were before the unfortunate tragedy at Kedarnath in 2013. Hence, there is a need for a comprehensive hydrological studies as well as hydro-geological studies as to how the dams would change the flow of rivers."

"All these new projects are co-

'Mughals too accepted river's special quality'

Uma Bharati-led water resource ministry's affidavit in the Supreme Court opposing construction of new dams on Ganga's tributaries



appeared to be in tune with Mohd Rafi-sung title song of 1971 movie

'Ganga Tera Pani Amrit'. "River Ganga is India's identity, basis for universal faith and source of livelihood to more than 50 crore people. The world believes that river Ganga is unique because its water has some special elements which are not there in any other river in the world. Scientists have also accepted the same," the ministry said. "The Mughals also accepted this special quality of Ganga river and reportedly Emperor Akbar used to drink either pure Ganga water or water mixed with Ganga water," it said. "Preservation of Ganga is therefore not only a matter of mere cleaning but also conservation of our culture and traditions," it said. **Dhananjay Mahapatra | TNN**

ming up close to the existing projects, many of which are in ecologically sensitive areas hindering the source of fresh water resource. Hence, any further project will have substantial impact on ecological footprint of the area," it said. "The region around these projects is located in geologically unstable and seismically active area," the ministry said.

"There is a need for a review of these projects," the ministry said. Invoking the "Aviral Dhara" promise of the government on Ganga, the ministry said efforts to clean the Ganga and restore its pristine purity would succeed only if Alaknanda, Bhagirathi and Mandakini rivers were allowed to flow uninterrupted.

Differences persist even after a year

Vishwa.Mohan@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Even as the Centre wants to present a united stand in the Supreme Court, ministries of environment and water continue to be on different pages over the issue of hydroelectric power projects in Uttarakhand.

The water resources ministry has been opposed to new dams meant for such projects, which it believes would affect the uninterrupted flow of the river Ganga — a prerequisite to keep the river clean and allow it to self-rejuvenate. The environment ministry, on the other hand, wants to go ahead with some of the projects, arguing that it would not adversely affect the flow of the river Ganga.

Differences which surfaced last year when the Union water resources minister Uma Bharati wrote to her counterpart in the environment ministry Prakash Javadekar do not appear to have gone away. The water resources ministry's latest affidavit in the apex court has indicated how both the ministries have not been able to sort out their differences in over a year.

Its stand against new dams is mainly to pursue the government's 'clean Ganga mission' as the river needs uninterrupted flow of water to keep it naturally clean while maintaining the ecological flow round the year. The environment ministry does not challenge this view and in fact has argued in the apex court that it was in favour of only those projects which would not in any way affect the uninterrupted

The environment ministry counters the water resources ministry's opposition, saying the projects would not affect the flow of Ganga

flow of the river and the fragile biodiversity of the region.

Agreeing in principle to allow the construction of five out of six hydro power projects that along with others had come under judicial scrutiny, the environment ministry had informed the court that it had taken the decision on the basis of an expert committee report which gave clearance to the projects, subject to some conditions.

Referring to the findings of the panel, the ministry had also assured the court that the projects would not affect the flow of the river and there would be uninterrupted flow of 1,000 cusecs of water in the river. It also assured that the projects would not have any adverse impact on the environment.

The environment ministry's stand is also in sync with the government's overall plan of increasing the share of clean energy in the country's total energy mix to about 40% by 2030 — a voluntary commitment which India had made as part of the Paris agreement on climate change.

Bharati in her letter to Javadekar last year suggested that his ministry should think about taking the solar route instead of opting for big dams for hydro-power projects.

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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Deccan Herald

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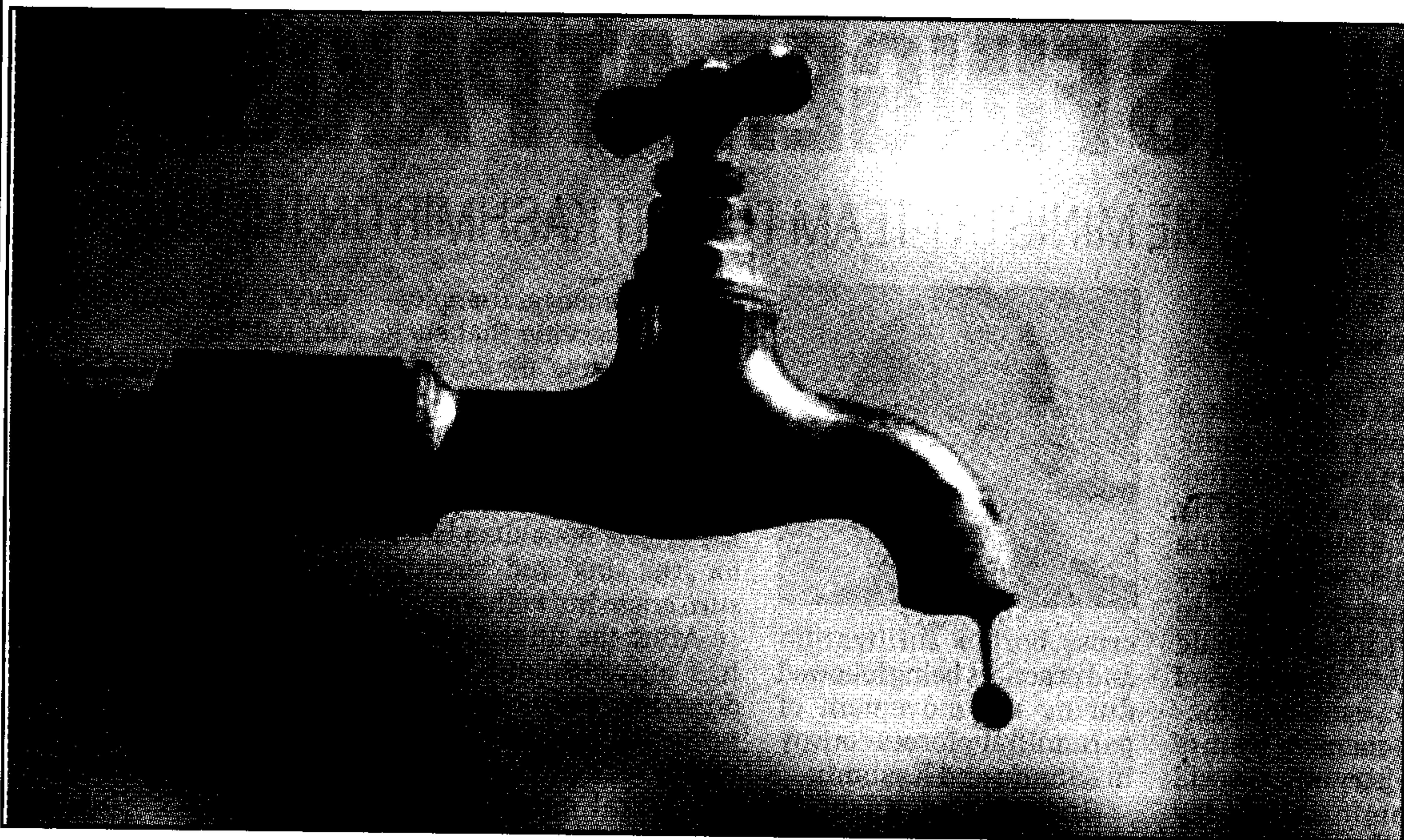
The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

DEADLY HOSPITAL WATER

St-27-P-5



Just three months back, a study warned Indians that by 2030 around 40 per cent of India's population may not have drinking water, if the present water crisis in country is not resolved seriously. In their study, PRS Legislative Research, a non-governmental organisation, highlighted depleting ground water, drying up of tributaries, reduced flow of river and using twice the required amount of water in farming as some of the wasteful practices.

While the study has made dire predictions about the future, many places in the Capital have already started facing shortage of drinking water. Take a look at any government hospital in the Capital. Every one of them is facing this problem, in varying degrees. These hospitals, already overburdened with patients ~ with a ratio of 2.5 beds per 1000 patients ~ have not just inadequate supply of drinking water but also of questionable quality. Be it staff, patients or doctors, for all water related activities they are totally dependent on ground water. The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has already declared Delhi's underground water unsafe since it is contaminated with domestic sewage, livestock run-off

and chemicals from farms and factories.

A colleague visiting the ESIC Hospital in Rohini, a Central government hospital under the Labour Ministry, was shocked to find that ground water was being used for daily consumption. The hospital, which faces a severe shortage of potable water, has provided some water filter machines, but one is still beset with doubts. Since it is run by the Labour Ministry, most of the patients are labourers, who can't afford to buy packaged water bottles from outside. Even the hospital staff has to either bring water bottles from home or go outside the hospital to a particular tap to fill their bottles. When our colleague, whose relative was admitted to the hospital for jaundice, tried to raise the issue with the hospital authorities, they shifted the blame on Delhi Jal Board and MCD.

Not only the hospital, the staff colony around the ESIC Hospital does not have proper drinking water supply. In an attempt to bring this to the notice of the Medical Superintendent, a group of ladies had even brought a bottle of the brackish underground water asking the official to taste it.

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State to ensure water at canal tail-end in Fazilka, Abohar 7-27. P. 05

Work begins to refill track between Rajasthan canal and Sirhind feeder

ARCHIT WATTS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, JUNE 26

The Punjab government has now started making efforts to supply water at tail end of canals in Abohar, Fazilka areas without taking any help from Rajasthan.

The neighbouring state had refused Punjab's proposal to divert water from Rajasthan canal to Sirhind feeder by reopening a diversion near Bhullar village.

The Punjab Government has even started the work to refill the track, which was dug up to link both canals.

Meanwhile, the CM has now sent Secretary (Irrigation), KS Pannu, to the Harike barrage to take all possible steps to make water available at the tail end of canals in Abohar and Fazilka areas. Pannu said, "I am at Harike barrage and looking at all options to ensure water to the farmers."

RK Gupta, Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Muktsar, said, "The water supply has been increased in Sirhind Feeder from Harike barrage. A number of machines have been installed at the barrage to increase the water carrying capacity of this canal. As a result, the present supply of water at RD 156 in Faridkot has touched 3,600 cusecs. Apart from two-three canals,



Workers fill the dug-up track between Rajasthan Feeder and Sirhind Feeder canals at Bhullar village in Muktsar district on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

'Linking canals sans permission illegal'

- The present situation has arisen after the state government failed to clean and de-silt the Sirhind feeder in April this year
- Raj Kumar Chaudhary, CE (North), Indira Gandhi Nahar Project (IGNP), said, "The preparation to link both canals without getting permission from the Rajasthan government is illegal."

the water supply in all others is normal."

"The CM has also assured the Rajasthan government that we won't use a single drop of water from Rajasthan feeder. We will also refill the channel that was dug up to link Rajasthan feeder with Sirhind Feeder," he added.

The present situation has

arisen after the state government failed to clean and de-silt the Sirhind feeder in April this year. Raj Kumar Chaudhary, CE (North), Indira Gandhi Nahar Project (IGNP), said, "The preparation to link both canals without getting permission from the Rajasthan government is illegal. We are camping here until the state

refills the channel."

Irrigation experts are of the view that both the canals have huge water carrying capacity and if there was any breach in the channel it would be hard to plug and a large number of villages will be flooded.

Meanwhile, Pannu yesterday met RK Chaudhary at Harike barrage. The latter was shown the bad condition of headworks, including the gates, and was requested to release their share of Rs 39 crore for repair and desilting Harike headworks and canals emanating from there.

Pannu said Punjab had already released its share of Rs 17 crore for the works.

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West Virginia floods: 14 dead, others rescued

agence france-presse

WASHINGTON, 24 JUNE:
Flooding in the US state of West
Virginia killed 14 people and
stranded others who had to be
plucked from rooftops and res-
cued from fast-moving waters,
the state's governor said today.

"The damage is widespread
and devastating. Our focus
remains on search and rescue,"
Governor Earl Ray Tomblin told
a news conference after floods
caused by a day of heavy rains.

"I had planned to fly around
the affected areas myself today
but wasn't able to because all
state aircrafts are currently being
used for rescues," he said.

The dead included an eight-
year-old boy who was swept
away while walking along a creek
bank with his mother and sister,
WSAZ reported. His body was
found after three hours of

searching. At least six counties
have extensive structural damage
and about 66,000 people were
without power, the governor
said. About 200 national guard
members had fanned out in
eight counties to assist local
responders and 17 shelters were
open for those homes which
were damaged or destroyed.

About 500 people were
stranded overnight inside a
shopping mall in Elkview, near
the capital Charleston, after a

bridge leading to the main road
was washed away, ABC News
reported.

Various dramatic images were
posted on *twitter* which showed
a man in chest-high water using a
rock to smash the windows of a
vehicle whose occupants were
trapped inside.

Another set of photos showed
a woman who had caught a giant
trout with her hands while stand-
ing on a two-lane road amid
stopped traffic.



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Content uploaded not forest draft policy, clarifies ministry

710-26. P-8

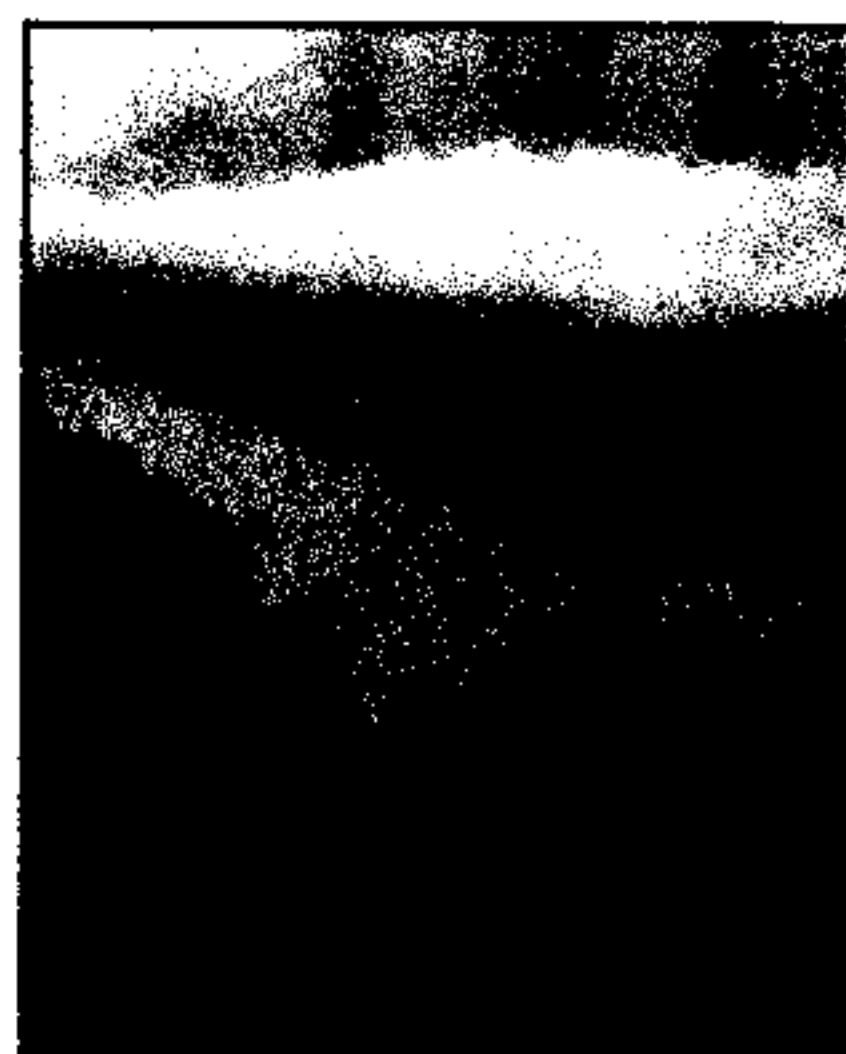
After Facing Flak, Says Institute Study Mistakenly Put On Website

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid criticism from certain quarters for proposing a green cess and permitting private players to use and develop government forest land, the environment ministry on Saturday distanced itself from the draft national forest policy saying "the study report prepared by the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal, was inadvertently uploaded as Draft Forest Policy on the website".

Emphasising that the ministry has not taken any decision on draft forest policy, it said, "A draft forest policy will be put in public domain once due process is carried out and views of all stakeholders are taken into account".

The draft which the ministry now calls a mere study by IIFM, Bhopal, had proposed



Emphasising that the environment ministry has not taken any call on the draft forest policy, it said that a draft forest policy would be put in public domain once due process is carried out & views of all stakeholders are taken into account

the levy of a green tax while calling for safeguarding of forests and practising of responsible eco-tourism in forest areas to ensure safety of wildlife. Contravening the Forest Rights Act and the existing national forest policy of 1988, the study also suggested a new administrative and legal regime diluting the rights of tribals to forest land while giving its control to forest bureaucracy.

All these points came in for severe criticism from environmentalists and forest

rights activists in the past one week, forcing the ministry to come out with a formal statement on Saturday distancing itself from the 'study' that was uploaded as the 'draft forest policy' on its website last week. "The ministry has not issued any draft notification on National Forest Policy. What has been uploaded on the website was a study done by IIFM-Bhopal.

"The study has not been evaluated by the ministry. The ministry has not taken any decision on the Draft Fo-

rest Policy. The study report prepared by IIFM-Bhopal was inadvertently uploaded as the draft forest policy on the website," director general, forests, and special secretary of the ministry, SS Negi, said in a statement.

"As director general, forests, I would like to clarify that this document is not the draft forest policy. The ministry has an elaborate procedure for preparing draft policy document, which takes into account multiple inputs from all stakeholders, state governments, think-tanks and public consultation.

"No process has been carried out on the document prepared by IIFM-Bhopal, which is only one of the inputs. A draft forest policy will be put in the public domain once due process is carried out and views of all stakeholders are taken into account," he said.

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
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M.P.Chronicle
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CW/C.

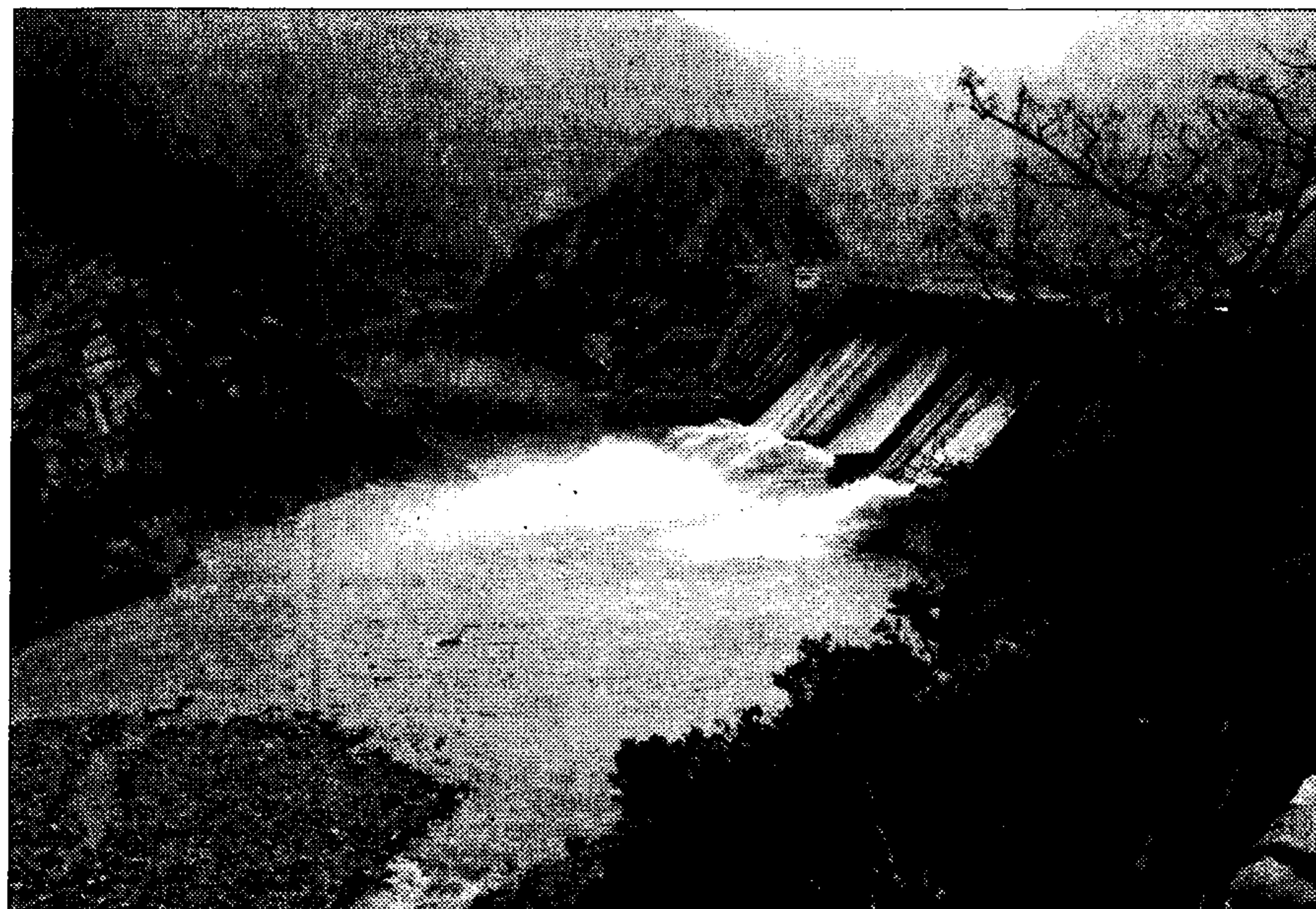
Megawatts of inefficiency in J&K

SUMIT HAKHOO &
ARTEEV SHARMA IN JAMMU

■ Last month, a woman died after an alleged mid-surgery power failure in the district hospital Shopian. The family alleged the woman had her vein ruptured during surgery conducted under flashlights of a mobile phone after a power failure.

■ On June 2, last year, doctors were reportedly forced to carry out a crucial 40-minute surgery under torchlight at premier Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) Jammu after electricity went off and the power backup failed.

THESE and many more instances recur in a state that boasts of its hydro power potential of 20,000 MW (one megawatt can power-feed more than 200 families). The Chenab, Ravi and the Indus plus hundreds of rich, flowing streams gurgling around hills of the state are a poorly harnessed asset constricted by political compulsions and red-tape. The enormity of these riches led state finance minister Haseeb Drabu to present a separate power budget along with the annual budget in the Assembly. The facts were out: J&K has a staggering Rs 7,000 crore power purchase liability this fiscal year. Its crippling effect only highlights the



The Salal hydro-electric project in Reasi is managed by the NHPC. PHOTO: INDERJEET SINGH

failures of successive government in reforming the power sector. As a result, the energy-deficient state relies on purchases from Northern Grid.

As per official figures, the state's power revenue deficit in is Rs 3,927 crore. The gradual increase in recovery from consumers since 1996-97, from Rs 54.33 crore to Rs 1,937.27 crore (2015-16) is no match

for the power purchase cost. A broad indicator of the operational inefficiency is the magnitude of AT&C (aggregate technical & commercial) losses: 59% in 2015-16, the highest in the country.

Unexplored potential

Out of the 20,000 MW potential, the government has identified about 16,697 MW.

Yawning gap

Current capacity: 1,419.37 MW. It comprises 1,110 MW of hydro-based stations, 198 MW thermal (gas turbine) and 110.96 MW solar.

The shortage: The requirement is of nearly 2,000 MW.

Total potential: 20,000 MW

Revenue loss: ₹3,927 crore

Liability: ₹7,000 crore in 2016-17

The reason for the gap is politics and corruption at various levels in completing several projects. Here are examples: the 850 MW Rattle project on Chenab in Kishtwar district was abandoned by the executing agency following a dispute with locals. There are several others awaiting the light of day: the Parnai project in Poonch, 1,200 MW Sawalkote, 600 MW Kiru, 240 MW Kirthal, 50 MW Lower Kainal, 520 MW Kavar and 280 MW Ujh.

There's yet another glaring gap: 21 power projects operated by the state power development corporation don't follow any standard operating manual necessary for energy accounting. In the face of such inefficiency, the state finance commission in 2011 and a working group headed by Dr C Rangrajan recommended that some projects run by the National Hydro Power Cor-

poration (NHPC) should be handed to the state. The motive was clear: Why should NHPC pocket the revenue, why not the state? Two such demands were for the 390 MW Dulhasti and 1,020 MW Bursar project.

The government in 2013-14 got an audit conducted of projects on the Chenab, Ravi and the Indus basin generating 761.96 MW. It revealed that there are no laid-down procedures to grade the reliability of sophisticated meters installed to record the energy outflow, which tracks the generation of each unit. It was observed that no manual/standards are in place. As a result, there is no data recording in certain cases.

Reform measures

J&K's special status has also come in the way of private investment. In 2011 the government announced a replacement of the State Hydel Policy, 2003. But it has failed to attract investment because of long bureaucratic procedures and red-tape. The National Conference-Congress coalition government in September 2012 ordered unbundling the power development department and setting up a transmission company, two distribution companies (one each for Kashmir and Jammu divisions) and a trading company. But it didn't get off the ground following large-scale protests against privatization by PDD employees and the separatist lobby.

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News item/letter/article/editorial published on June 26.6.2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

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Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

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Environment Ministry revokes draft forest policy

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has repudiated a 'Draft National Forest Policy' that it uploaded on its website earlier this month calling it an "inadvertent" error.

The 'Draft National Forest Policy, 2016', was uploaded on the Ministry's website on June 16 along with an office memorandum calling for comments. "The Ministry is in the process of revising the present National Forest Policy, 1988. A draft National Forest Policy in this regard has been prepared and enclosed. All stakeholders are requested to send their comments, if any, by email...by June 30, 2016," said the official memorandum signed by A.K. Mohanty, Deputy Inspector General of Forests.

The Environment Ministry had tasked the Bhopal-based Indian Institute of Forest Management, an affiliated organisation, with reviewing and revising the existing forest policy. This is the first time that the policy was being re-looked since 1988 as it wanted to update the several changes in forest laws and provide a forward-looking policy that talked about increasing India's forest cover and tackling the effects of climate change.

'It was a mere study'

However on Saturday, a formal statement from the Ministry and attributed to S.S. Negi, Director-General Forest and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change read: "As Director-General Forest, I would like to clarify that this document is not the Draft Forest Policy....The Ministry has not issued any draft Notification on National Forest Policy. What has been uploaded on the website was a study done by Indi-

an Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal. The study has not been evaluated by the Ministry. The Ministry has not taken any decision on Draft Forest Policy. The study report prepared by IIFM, Bhopal was inadvertently uploaded as Draft Forest Policy on the website."

The Hindu couldn't contact Mr. Negi for his comments. However the opening pages of the policy indicate that IIFM clearly saw itself as working on a "draft policy" and not just a study. "The draft of the National Forest Policy, 2016 has been prepared by the IIFM, Bhopal based on village-level focus group discussions, regional and national level consultations, inputs from various stakeholders and analysis of primary and secondary datasets carried out during 2015-2016. We are grateful to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for entrusting this task to IIFM, and acknowledge the financial support received from the UNDP," says the document.

A top official privy to the drafting process told The Hindu that while the policy was a study prepared for the "consideration of the government" it was unusual for the government to so "vehe-

mently" deny that it was a draft.

"This project was funded by the United Nations Development Fund and we were allotted about Rs. 60 lakh by the Ministry for the project that was commissioned as a 'Review of the National Forest Policy,' the official said.

The draft policy, as The Hindu reported on the June 22, made several suggestions including promoting the commercial use of wood, a greater role for industry in forest management and time-bound reviews of the progress being made in effectively managing forests.

As of Saturday evening, the document was still available on the Ministry's website and open to public comments until June 30. Dr. Negi's statement noted that a new draft policy would be made available. "...The Ministry has an elaborate procedure for preparing draft policy document, which takes into account multiple inputs from all stakeholders, State governments, think tanks and public consultation. No process has been carried out on the document prepared by IIFM, Bhopal, which is only one of the inputs. A draft Forest Policy will be put in Public Domain once due process is carried out."

CHANGED STANCE: The Dandeli forest in Karnataka. The draft policy suggested promoting the use of wood and a greater role for industry in forest management. — PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

News item/letter/article/editorial published on June-24.06.2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

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Monsoon active in several districts

BENGALURU, DHNS: The South West monsoon picked momentum in the state with Kodagu district receiving heavy rain on Thursday.

Showers coupled with gusty winds lashed the district. Bhagamandala, Talacauvery, Gonikoppa, Virajpet and surrounding areas experienced typical monsoon showers. An average 19.1 mm of rain was recorded in Kodagu in the last 24 hours. The amount of rainfall last year on the same day was 78.52 mm. The water level in Harangi reservoir rose to 2,807.53 feet as against the maximum of 2,859 feet. The water level on the corresponding day, last year, was 2,818.79 feet.

Havoc in DK

Heavy rain accompanied by gusty winds continues to lash many parts of Dakshina Kannada district, damaging a number of properties. A house on Parwarakana in Sullia was damaged after a tree fell on it. Similarly, a compound wall collapsed in Boodu colony and a tree was uprooted in Kurunjigudde. Payaswini river is in full spate in Paicharu, in Sullia. A huge tree uprooted in Kurunjigudde fell on the road bringing down an electric pole nearby and blocking movement of vehicles.

The port city of Mangaluru received rain through the day and waterlogging impeded

pedestrians as well as motorists. As the sea got rougher, sea erosion in Ullal intensified. As the protective walls have not been constructed scientifically, houses and other buildings face threat of being washed away or damaged by sea erosion. The amount of sea erosion is more in Mogaveerapatna, Kotepura, Kaiko, Subhash Nagar, Kileria Nagar, Ucchila and Talapady.

Even one year after the tender was cleared, the company concerned has not completed even the first phase of work.

However, there was low intensity rain in some other parts of the state. A steady drizzle on Thursday evening in Belagavi put students returning home from school to hardship. Hubballi-Dharwad too experienced drizzles.

Shivamogga district received moderate but widespread rain. There were reports of rain in Hosanagar, Shikaripur, Thirthahalli and Ripponpet. Parts of Uttara Kannada district, including Karwar, Bhatkal, Honnavar and Ankola received moderate rain. In the last 24 hours, the district recorded 437.2 mm of rain. Parts of Mysuru district received scattered light showers. Mysuru city and surrounding villages have been dry for at least a fortnight. Mandya district experienced good rain on Wednesday night, which continued up to Thursday morning.

Hindustan Times
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Rain makes South Gujarat entry, drizzle likely in city

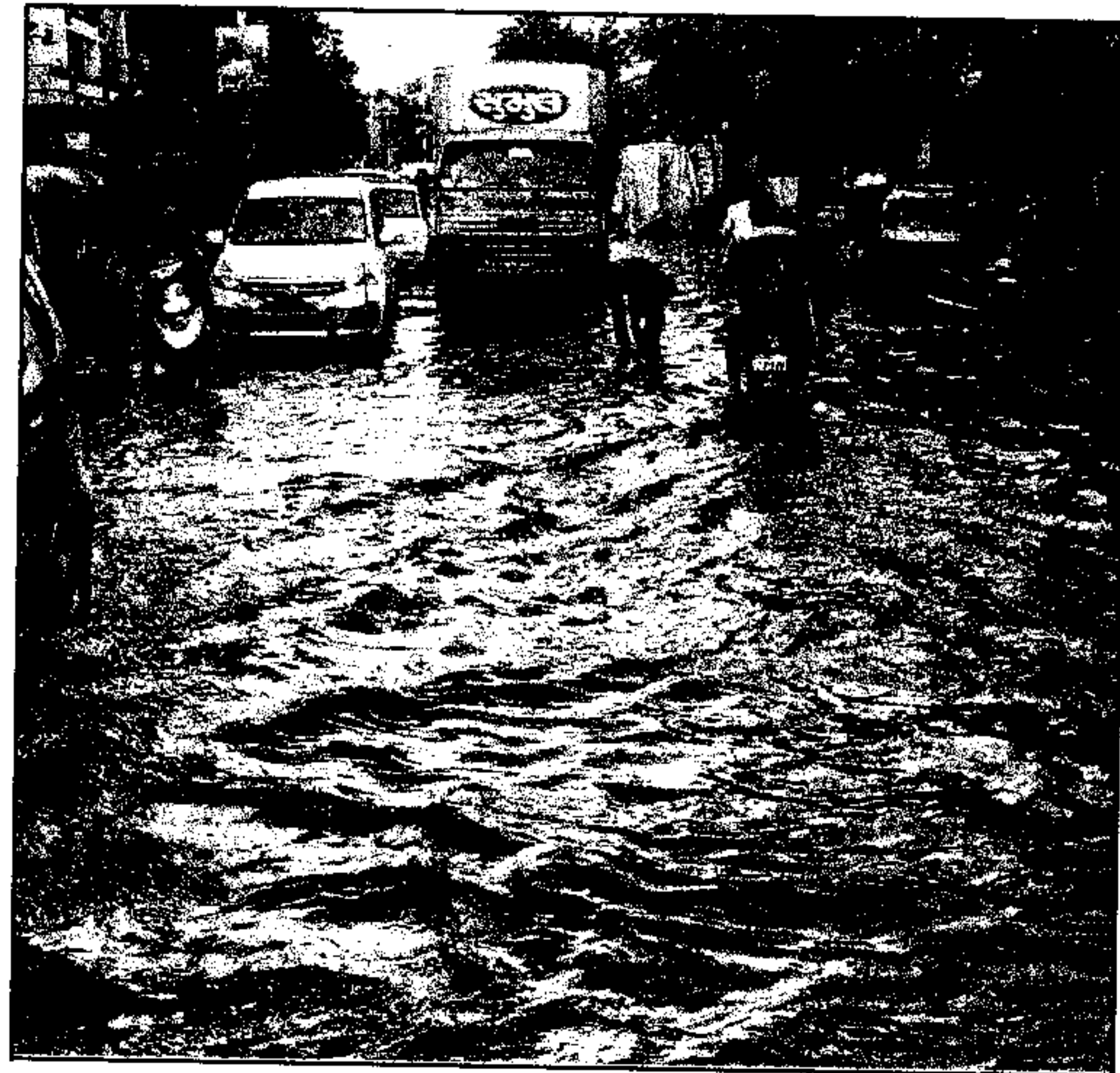
Ahmedabad Was Beset By High Humidity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: The monsoon rain made a lashing entry in South Gujarat with a heavy downpour drenching Surat and its surrounding towns on Tuesday. Ahmedabad had another humid day, a prelude to the coming monsoon. Meteorologists said that the city, which experienced record-breaking heat this year, is likely to see a drizzle on Wednesday.

Apart from South Gujarat, places in Saurashtra also got light to moderate rainfall on Tuesday. However, the onset of the monsoon in Gujarat was not declared on Tuesday by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Jayant Sarkar, director of IMD, Gujarat, said that the decision on declaring the onset of monsoon in Gujarat will be taken on Wednesday. "Today, we did not declare the onset as there was no heavy rainfall



Surat city recorded 36 mm of rain on Tuesday

and we must also consider the wind direction before declaring it," Sarkar said.

According to the IMD website, an upper air cyclonic circulation was active over south-west Madhya Pradesh and the adjoining regions of Gujarat. "The cyclonic circulation has weakened and will not have an impact on the arrival of the monsoon in Gujarat," said Sarkar.

According to IMD, Surat was lashed by pre-monsoon showers. Surat city on Tuesday had a heavy

downpour and registered 36 mm of rain. Kamrej taluka of Surat district recorded 69 mm of rainfall whereas Utchal and Nizar in Tapi district recorded 40 mm and 29 mm respectively.

Many other towns continued to see hot and humid conditions. Kandla was the hottest place in the state with a 39.9 degrees celsius maximum temperature.

In Ahmedabad, the cloudy weather ameliorated the heat — the maximum

temperature was around 39°C — but increased the humidity. This increased the discomfort of citizens who are eagerly awaiting the rains.

The meteorological centre here said that the city will likely witness a cloudy sky with a light drizzle on Wednesday.

According to the met centre's forecast, light to moderate rain or thundershowers are very likely to occur at a few places in districts of the Gujarat region.

Pics: Gaurang Joshi



Kharif sowing down by almost 80%

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Ahmedabad: The delay in arrival of monsoon in the state has led to around 80% less sowing this season, until now, compared to last year. An area of only 2.74 lakh hectares has been tilled and sown with kharif crops this year, while last year, by this time, 13.45 lakh hectares had already been sown. In Gujarat, sowing of different crops takes place over 86.78 lakh hectares in the kharif season.

According to agriculture department officials, kharif sowing in the state is likely to pick up once the monsoon sets in. Officials said that sowing is yet to take off in south Gujarat and



Kutch. These two regions have recorded the lowest sowing of 8,600 hectares and 12,300 hectares, respectively.

According to state agriculture department, cotton has occupied the lion's share of sowing activities in the state, so far. Of the 2.74 lakh-hectare area where farmers have sown crops, around 64% has been used

to sow cotton, while another 38,400 hectare was used for sowing groundnut. However, sowing of both groundnut and cotton remains lower than that of 2015.

Officials in the agriculture department said kharif sowing so far has been highest in Saurashtra region, where 1.26 lakh hectares have been sown, while in north Gujarat 95,000 hectares have been put to the plough till date this season.

Officials said that among districts, Botad was at the top with 46,600 hectares sown with crops.

This was followed by Surendranagar where sowing was completed in 36,500 hectare. Kharif sowing was yet to begin in six districts in the state.

According to agriculture department officials, farmers in the state are waiting for monsoon showers. This year, so far there hasn't been sufficient rainfall for farmers to risk full scale seasonal sowing of crops. Also, the dams in the state hold little water.

Karsan Patel, a resident of Amreli, said, "Usually, by June 21 we have one or two showers which moisten and softens the soil to make sowing easy. But this year the fields are still dry and hard, and have lain uncultivated as summer crops, too, were not sown due to lack of irrigation water. We have ploughed and readied the fields, and will start sowing when the first showers arrive."