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NECCON HAND

Date 28/2/2015

28/7/2013

China on way to becoming new imperial power

Beijing's global ambitions come with loans, long strings attached

EL CHACO (ECUADOR), NYT: Where the Andean foothills dip into the Amazon jungle, nearly 1,000 Chinese engineers and workers have been pouring concrete for a dam and a 15-mile underground tunnel.

The \$2.2 billion project will feed river water to eight giant Chinese turbines designed to produce enough electricity to light more than a third of Ecuador.

All across the country in villages and towns, Chinese money is going to build roads, highways, bridges, hospitals, even a network of surveillance cameras stretching to the Galápagos Islands. State-owned Chinese banks have already put nearly \$11 billion into the country, and the Ecuadorean government is asking for more.

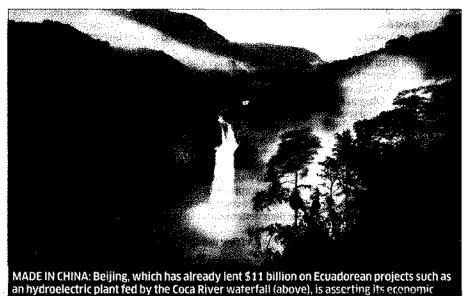
Ecuador, with just 16 million people, has little presence on the global stage. But China's rapidly expanding footprint here speaks volumes about the changing world order, as Beijing surges forward and Washington loses ground.

Rise in stature

While China has been important to the world economy for decades, the country is now wielding its financial heft with the confidence and purpose of a global superpower.

It represents a new phase in China's evolution. As the country's wealth has swelled and its needs have evolved, President Xi Jinping and the rest of the leadership have pushed to extend China's reach on a global scale.

China's currency, the renminbi, is expected to be anointed soon as a glohal reserve currency, putting it in an elite category with the dollar, the euro, the pound and the yen. China's state-owned development bank has surpassed the World Bank in international lending. And its effort to create an internationally funded institution to finance transportation and other infrastructure has drawn the support of 57 countries, including several of the United States' closest allies. DH/NYT INFOGRAPHIC



Ecuador, however, is not complaining. China represents "a civilisation and history that awakens admiration to those who know it," President Rafael Correa of Ecuador proclaimed on Twitter, as his jet landed in Beijing for a meeting with officials in January.

China's leaders portray the

overseas investments as symbiotic. But China is forcing countries to play by its financial rules, which can be onerous. Many developing countries, in exchange for loans, pay steep interest rates and give up the rights to their natural resources for years.

clout to win diplomatic allies, promote its currency and secure natural resources. NYT

China has a lock on close to

90 per cent of Ecuador's oil exports, which mostly goes to paying off its loans.

"The Chinese are shopping across the world, transforming their financial resources into mineral resources and investments. They come with financing, technology and technicians, but also high interest

ALBERTO ACOSTA, EX-ENERGY MINISTER, ECUADOR: The problem is we are trying to replace American imperialism with Chinese imperialism

rates," said Alberto Acosta, who served as Correa's energy minister during his first term

The Chinese money certainly comes with its stiff conditions. Ecuador is largely required to use Chinese companies and technologies on the projects.

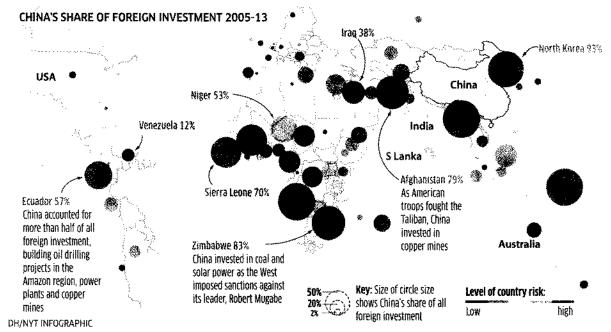
Defaulting could mean countries will have to hand over their natural resources for additional years, limiting their governments' abilities to borrow money and pursue other development opportunities.

China has significant leverage to make sure borrowers pay. As the dominant manufacturer for a long list of goods, Beijing can credibly threaten to cut off shipments to countries that do not repay their loans.

Stepping into the void

China's enormous overseas spending has helped it displace the US and Europe as

the leading financial power in large parts of the developing world.



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The Try bune

Date 20/7/ 2015

28 JULY 2015

HARYANA

Despite deficit rain, 92% target of sown area for kharif crops met

PRADEEP SHARMA

CHANDIGARH, JULY 27

On account of a deficient rainfall in nine Haryana districts in the monsoon season, the state has been able to achieve a target of about 92 per cent sown area in the kharif season 2015.

While the state has failed to meet the targets for the sown area in the case of paddy (98 per cent), bajra (73 per cent), Kharif oilseed (70 per cent), Kharif pulses (41 per cent), sugarcane (94 per cent) cotton (90 per cent), summer moong (22 per cent), the targets have been exceeded in the case of maize (125 per cent), jowar (153 per cent), and guar (121 per cent). As against the target of 30.21 lakh hectares, the kharif crops could be sown in the area of 27.84

Monsoon update

- Hisar records a deficient rainfall of 69%, Kurukshetra a surplus of 71%
- Haryana achieves a target of 92% of the Kharif crops sown area
- Target for paddy (98%), bajra (73%), kharif oilseed(70%), kharif pulses(41%), sugarcane (94%), cotton(90%) and summer moong (22%) not met.
- The target for maize (125%), jowar (153%) and guar (121%) exceeded

lakh hectares, data with The Tribune showed.

Officials said this was largely due to a deficient rainfall in nine districts with Hisar, recording a deficit rainfall of 69 per cent, followed by Rohtak (54 per cent), Mahendragarh (51 per cent), Fatehadbad (50 per cent) Panchkula (41 per cent), Bhiwani (36 per cent), Sirsa (32 per cent), Gurgaon and Jind

(14 per cent) and Kaithal (8 per cent).

On the other hand, Kurushetra has recorded a surplus rainfall of 71 per cent, followed by Karnal (53 per cent), Faridabad (44 per cent), Mewat (41 per cent), Palwal (35 per cent), Ambala (15 per cent).

However, sources said there no was cause for worry as the rain in the remaining 12 districts was widespread with the average statewide rainfall for July pegged at 157 mm as against the normal rainfall of 158 mm.

"With the monsoon still in progress we are expecting a normal rainfall for the rain-deficient districts in the days to come. The productively of various crops is also not likely to be hit much as rain-deficient districts also have good irrigation facilities," officials contended.

Officials' confidence stems from the fact during the corresponding period last year, the rain deficiency was pegged at 51 per cent while in 2013 this was recorded at 39 per cent. Despite a highly deficient rainfall, the production was normal for a majority of the kharif crops last year.

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Low-cost moisture sensor a boon for farmers

Easy-to-use equipment is powered by solar cells

BENGALURU: A group of researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and IIT-Bombay have designed a low-cost soil moisture sensor that can accurately determine the water content of soil and has the potential to become a boon for farmers throughout the country.

Soil moisture is one of the most crucial determinants in agriculture and since farm output is directly linked to moisture content in the soil, an easy-to-use soil moisture sensor is an essential tool for a country like India.

So far, the most common

way of finding soil moisture is to measure its ability to store heat. However sensors based on "heat pulse" have two basic challenges. One, it is very expensive and two, it consumes a lot of power. The soil moisture sensor developed by the researchers is cheap and requires little power to run. Powered by a solar cell array, the sensor works for three days, non-stop.

Components used

Prof G K Anathasuresh, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, who headed the research, said: "This (low-cost sensor) was achieved with proper material selection, geometry of the heater probe, signal conditioning and amplification, and of course, hard work by students."

The researchers calibrated the sensor against white clay, whose properties are well-known and documented, and tested on red soil which is commonly found in South India. The sensor can test different kinds of soil and accurately measure moisture content up to 30 per cent, which is above the saturation limit for most variety of soils.

Besides, the nature for soil moisture is essential for agriculture. It directly influences long-term climatic conditions like hydrological process and drought development. On a much shorter time-scale, it acts as a carrier of nutrients to plant roots, and helps sustain life on earth. In fact, in 2010, soil moisture was recognised as an Essential Climate Variable, a release from IISc said.

The new sensor designed by the team is currently undergoing field trials and is expected to be affordable.

DH News Service

State govt to seek national project status for Upper Krishna Project

BAGALKDT: The State government will soon submit a proposal to the Centre seeking national project status for Upper Krishna Project (UKP), one of the biggest irrigation projects in the country, said, Shivayogi Kalasad, Commissioner Upper Krishna Project (Resettlement and Rehabilitation).

The commissioner of UKP told Deccan Herald, "The Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigam Ltd (KBJNL) has prepared a proposal seeking national project status to UKP and the same has been sent to Department of Water Resources. The State government will soon forward the proposal to the Centre."

If the project gets national project tag, the works which are going at a snail's pace for the last four decades, will gather momentum and the project would be completed soon.

After the implementation of Phase-3 of the project, 5,30,475 hectares of dry land

will be covered under irrigation. As many as 150 villages in Mumbai Karnataka and Hyderabad Karnataka region will get drinking water.

Further, the hydel power plant has the capacity to generate 210 MW. The project has all the markings of a national project. Hence, the Centre should grant national project status to the UKP, Kalasad explained.

The UKP Commissioner (Resettlement and Rehabilitation) said the implementation of Phase-3 would leave 20 villages in Bagalkot and Vijayapura districts submerged, affecting at least one lakh people. A total of 94,640 acres of land in 192 villages will get submerged.

The authorities would need huge amounts of money for the rehabilitation of the displaced. If the Centre join hands with State government, the project would be executed at the earli-



A bird's eye view of Almatti dam in Bagaikot district, built across river Krishna. DH FILE PHOTO

est, he said.

"The national project status will fetch additional funds to the UKP which inturn would expedite the ongoing works. Also, it would solve the issues

pertaining to Krishna river water sharing between the riparian states Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana," Kalasad added.

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8 LIVES LOST ON BOMBAY STEAMER

OVERBOARD

(From Our Correspondent) Bombay, July 27

The sea in Bombay harbour is now very rough and as a result there was accident on board the S.S. Ladra vati at 5-30 A.M. today, involving the loss of eight lives. The captain of the ferry steamer reported this morning that while making along the coast with about 324 passengers and general cargo she met with rough weather. When the vessel was between Kennery island and the light ship she began to roll heavily and was very much buffeted by the waves. Heavy seas struck the ship, carrying away the railings, and eight passengers, seven men and one woman, were washed overboard. Life buoys were immediately thrown out to them and the ship rounded several times to save the unfortunate passengers, but in spite of strenuous efforts made by the ship's crew all their attempts proved futile. The life buoys drifted far away and were lost. The bodies of two of the missing men were washed ashore at Prince's dock.

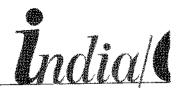
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stats man, 28/7/2015



Humidity soars in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 27 July

Scattered showers were witnessed in parts of the national capital today which failed to bring any respite from the humid weather conditions that Delhiites have been facing since past several days.

The maximum temperature today was recorded at 34.7 degrees Celsius which was a notch above the season's average while the minimum temperature had settled at 24.6 degree Celsius, two notches below the normal.

"Areas under Palam, Lodhi Road and Ayanagar received 0.8 mm, 1.2 mm and 1.3 mm rainfall between 8.30 AM and 5.30 PM.

"Safdarjung observato

ry, reading of which is considered the official figure for the city and areas under Ridge did not record any rainfall in the same period," a MeT department official said.

Humidity level oscillated between 61 and 87 per cent.

The MeT department has predicted generally cloudy sky with a possibility of light rains and thunder storm in many parts of the city to morrow.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to settle at 34 and 26 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Yesterday, the minimum temperature had settled at 27 deg Celsius while the maximum was recorded at 33.9 deg C, both normal for this time of the season.

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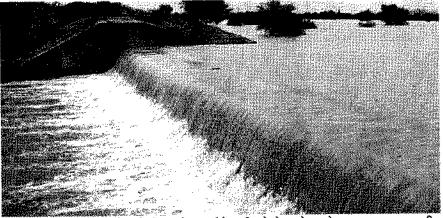
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मारवाड के कई बांधों पर चली चादर

जोधपर @ पत्रिका. मानसून इन दिनों समुचे मारवाड पर मेहरबान है। तेज बारिश के कारण जहां नदी-नालों में भी वेग से पानी बह रहा है. वहीं कई छोटे-बड़े बांधों में पानी की अच्छी आवक हो रही है। मारवाड के एक दर्जन बांधों पर चादर चल रही है। संभाग में सर्वाधिक बांध पाली जिले में हैं। अधिकांश बांधों पर पानी की अच्छी आवक हुई है। प्रमुख पेयजल स्रोत जवाई बांध में जवाई नदी से तेजी से पानी की आवक हुई। इस बांध की क्षमता 18.67 मीटर है। इसमें 9.603 मीटर पानी भर चुका है। जोधपुर जिले के प्रमुख जसवंत सागर बांघ की 8.69 मीटर क्षमता के मुकाबले अभी तक 3.018 मीटर पानी आया है। कई दिनों से हो रही बारिश के कारण मारवाड गोडवाड क्षेत्र की निंदयों में तेजी से पानी की आवक हई। खिंवाडा के निकट स्थित कोलर बांध पर एक फीट चादर चली।

ये बांध हुए ओवरफ्लो

वनघर, सई, फुलाद, खेड़ा स्मेरप्र, बाण्डी, बालोरिया, भला बांधों में पानी की जोरदार आवक हुई है। ये सभी बांध ओवरपलो की स्थिति में है। दूसरी तरफ वेस्ट बनास, चितलवाना, बावली, रायपुर लूणी सरीखे बांधों को अभी भी पानी का इंतजार है।



पाली जिले के बिसलपुर के पास पेरवा में रविवार को रात हुई तेज बारिश से ओवरफ्लो हुआ पेरवा तालाब ।

किसानों के लिए नफा-नुकसान

लगातार बारिश होने से जहां किसानों में खुशी की लहर है, लेकिन पछेती बुवाई की फसलों के लिए बारिश नुकसानदह साबित हो रही है। कई फसले अभी उगी ही है उसर से बारिश होने से अब वे गलने लगी है जबकि अगेती बुवाई करने वाले किसानों के लिए यह अमृत वर्षा है।

रुक-रुक कर हो रही बारिश से जिले में तकरीबन 10 लाख हेक्टेयर से अधिक क्षेत्र में बोई गई कपास, बाजरा, मृंग, मोठ, ग्वार, तिल की फसलों को जीवनदान

इस बार सभी जगह अच्छी बारिष्ठ हुई है, इसलिए मारवाड़ के अधिकांश बांधों में पानी की पर्याप्त आवक हुई है। कुछ बांधों का जलग्रहण क्षेत्र काफी बड़ा है इसलिए रुक-रुक बारिश होने से उनमें पानी नहीं पहुंचा है। सात-आठ बांध ओवरपलो हो गए है। हालाँकि अभी भी कई बांध पूरी तरह से खाली हैं। मोपराम चौपरी.

पभारी, रेन डेटा सेंटर, सिंचाई विभाग मिला है। बारिश के अभाव में यह

फसलें मुर्झाने लगी थी। जिले में 30 हजार हेर्क्टेयर में बोई कपास की फसल को बारिश से सबसे ज्यादा फायदा हो रहा है। कई दिनों से हो रही बारिश के बाद अगर आने वाले

जिले में बुवाई पर एक नजर

बाजरा ४.०५ लाख हेक्ट्रेयर मंग 1.22 लाख हेक्ट्रेयर मोठ १.०१ लाख हेक्टेयर भ्वार २.१५ लाख हेक्ट्रेयर तिलहन २० हजार हेक्ट्रेयर मुंगफली ७५ हजार हेक्टेयर

कपास ३० हजार हेक्टेयर

दिनों में धूप निकलने के साथ ही आसमान साफ नहीं हुआ तो फसलों में कीटों का प्रकोप बढ़ने की भी आशंका है।

यह है बांधों में पानी की स्थिति

जिला जोयपुर			
बांध का नाम	क्षमता	पामी का भराव वर्तमान में	15 जुलाई तक यह था भराद
बिराई	4.57	1.524	1.52
जसदंत सागर	8.69	3.018	2.13
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जवाई	18.67	9.603	7.17
सरवार समंद	7.62	2.957	1.16
सादड़ी	19.12	16.36	11.33
सई	10.93	11.10	2.90
रायपुर लूणी	3.95	00	0.0
बाणियावास	3.23	2.83	1.50
सिंघरु	5.56	3.56	3.05
िरीनंदा	8.23	1.06	1.0
कंटालिया	7.00	3.6	1,50
सिरीयारी	7.93	2.74	1.80
हेमावास	8.54	7.68	5.10
रक्षरडा	3.96	1.43	1.20
मीठ\$	7.62	3.96	2.50
फुला द	8.23	8.23	4,65
(पानी की क्षमता	व भराव मीटर में)		
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आज हो सकती है बारिश

मनस, नई दिल्ली: कहीं काले बादल, कहीं हल्की बारिश और धूप..... इसी तरह का मीसम सोमवार को दिन भर रहा। बादल छाए रहने के बाद भी ज्यस्दातर इलाकों में बारिश नहीं हुई। मीसम विभाग ने मंगलवार को कुछ इलाकों में हल्की बारिश होने की संभावना जताई है। हवाएं भी चलने का अनुमान है। दिन भर बादल छाए रह सकते हैं। मैक्सिमम टेंपरेचर 34 और मिनिमम टेंपरेचर 26 डिग्नी सेल्सिमस रहने का अनुमान है। सोमवार को दिल्ली में मैक्सिमम झूमिडिटी का लेवल 87 परिंट दर्ज हुआ। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने कहा है कि आने वाले दिनों में पाकिस्तान से होते हुए उत्तर भारत में वेस्टर्न डिस्टरबंस पहुंच सकता है। जो न 28 7 1/5