

Central Water Commission  
Technical Documentation Directorate  
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section  
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West Block II, Wing No-5  
R K Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 31.7.2018.

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

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

*S. Mahan*  
31.7.18.  
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director TD Dte. & Publication Division

*Yn*  
31/7/18

Director TD/Dte

*Susha*  
31/7

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at [www.cwc.nic.in](http://www.cwc.nic.in)

*o/c*

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

Nay Bherat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
A & J (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Dunya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

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

## Across India, high levels of toxins in groundwater

Vishwa.Mohan  
@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Discharge of toxic elements from industries and landfills and diffused sources of pollution like fertilisers and pesticides over the years has resulted in high levels of contamination of ground water with the level of nitrates exceeding permissible limits in more than 50% districts of India.

Apart from nitrate contamination, the presence of fluoride, iron, arsenic and heavy metals has also touched worrying levels, information provided by the government to Parliament reveals. According to WHO, nitrate in drinking water can cause methaemoglobinemia or the decreased ability of blood to carry oxygen around the body.

Details show seven of Delhi's 11 districts have reported excess fluoride, eight excess nitrate, two excess arsenic and three excess lead in ground water.

Though the government noted that "ground water in major parts of the country is potable", it underlined the contamination in many parts due to presence of one or more toxic elements. "... Some parts of various states

are contaminated by salinity, arsenic, fluoride, iron, nitrate and heavy metals beyond permissible limits of the Bureau of Indian Standards", said junior minister for water resources Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Drinking of arsenic-rich water over a long period results in various health effects including skin cancer, cancers of the bladder, kidney and lung, and diseases of the blood vessels of the legs and feet, and possibly also diabetes, high blood pressure and reproductive disorders, according to WHO.

The chemical quality of groundwater is monitored once a year by the Central Ground Water Board through a network of about 15,000 observation wells located across the country.

The minister said industrial discharges, landfills, fertilisers and pesticides are "possible sources of contamination of ground water".

Water expert Himanshu Thakkar of the South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers & People said, "In areas where GW is already contaminated, there can be several treatment related solutions, but the least expensive solution is rainwater harvesting..."

### HEAVY METALS AT WORRYING LEVELS

Presence of*	No. of affected districts	Affected states/UTs
Nitrate	386	21
Fluoride	335	20
Iron	301	26
Salinity	212	15
Arsenic	153	21
Lead	93	14
Chromium	30	10
Cadmium	24	9

\* Presence of these elements in ground water beyond permissible limits

► Lead, Cadmium and Chromium are heavy metals)

No. of Districts in India

718



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## Swelect uses sun, air to make drinking water

Tastes better than bottled water: firm

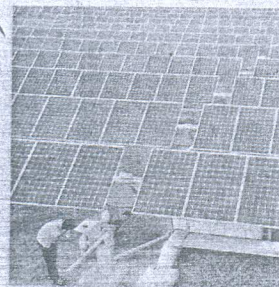
N. ANAND  
CHENNAI

1431  
Swelect Energy Systems Ltd. has unveiled 'Source,' a hydro (solar) panel to provide pure drinking water using sunlight and air, said a top official.

"For this, we have partnered with U.S.-based Zero Mass Water," said R. Chellappan, managing director, Swelect Energy Systems Ltd.

### Absorbing water vapour

He said water vapour from air is drawn into Source through fans, following which special materials absorb the water. The vapour is collected as the air flow passes through a condenser, then flows into a reservoir



where it is mineralised with calcium and magnesium. Water is pumped through a polishing cartridge before being delivered to a dispenser.

The price per panel will be ₹2 lakh and it will generate up to five litres of water per day depending on humidity and sunlight, he said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 31.07.2018 in the

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## Brimming giant

Water level at the Idukki reservoir, one of the tallest arch dams in Asia, has reached close to its maximum, prompting authorities in Kerala to issue an **ORANGE ALERT**

- The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority has issued precautionary messages to the public in light of a possibility of water release from the reservoir via the Cheruthoni dam, a part of Idukki hydel project

- The Kerala State Electricity Board will issue a **RED ALERT** if the water level in the dam nears 2,400 ft

**2,395 ft**

Current  
water level  
(at 9 p.m.)

**2,403 ft**

Full  
reservoir  
level

### Previous opening of shutters

1981 (from Oct. 29 and Nov. 13)

1992 (from Oct. 12 to 23)

### Power point

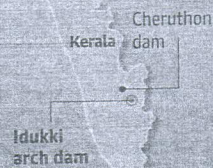
- The arch dam was built between two granite hills - Kuravanmala (839 m) and Kuravathimala (925 m) across Periyar

**1973** - year of commissioning

**365.85** metres - length of the arch dam

**4,64,000** cubic metres - the amount of concrete used for construction

- The hydel project has two other dams at Cheruthoni and Kulamavu apart from a power house at Moolamattom and related systems





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## AUTHORITIES ON ALERT

# Yamuna level still above danger mark, evacuation ops underway

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH,  
JULY 30

FOR THE third day in a row, the Yamuna's water level remained above the danger mark — touching 205.82 metres. Evacuation efforts continued even as the water level at Old Loha Bridge is expected to touch 206.50 metres on Tuesday afternoon, after water released from the Hathnikund Barrage in Haryana reaches the capital. The danger level is 204.83 metres.

The Yamuna passes through six Delhi districts. Rescue and relief operations are underway in these districts, with the government setting up tents and providing food to those who have been rescued from the settlements on the floodplains.

On Monday morning, discharge from the Hathnikund Barrage was 37,976 cusecs. The water level had reached 205.30 metres at 7 pm on Saturday.

The highest water level recorded at the bridge was 207.49 metres in 1978. It was 207.11 metres in 2010 and 207.32 metres in 2013, according to the



People being evacuated from low-lying areas. Praveen Khanna

Delhi Disaster Management Authority.

The Haryana government, too, has forecast that the situation will improve in the coming days. Officials said that just 37,976 cusecs was released from the Hathnikund Barrage in Yamunanagar district at 11 am on Monday, in comparison to over six lakh cusecs on Saturday evening.

Anticipating that the water may surround some localities, over three dozen families from Dhani Asadpur in the area were shifted to safer places.

In Yamunanagar, more than 30 villages were put on alert following rise in water level.

Haryana Additional Chief Secretary (revenue and disaster management) Kesni Anand Arora told *The Indian Express* that the high level water is likely to reach Faridabad and Palwal districts on Tuesday after crossing Delhi.

Haryana Revenue Minister Captain Abhimanyu said that they were even keeping an eye on the pattern of clouds to avoid any risks and make preparations in advance.

## Rain 10% above normal in July, more than last yr

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 30

FOR A city that received deficient rainfall in seven out of 11 years in July, between 2007 and 2017, this year has been among the better ones.

Delhi has received 286.2 mm of rain this month and light rain is expected on Tuesday too. The rain is around 10 per cent above normal. Last year, Delhi received only 170.8 mm of rain in July.

According to data provided by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), since the start of the monsoon in the country, Delhi has received 302.6 mm rain — 11 per cent above the normal of 272.2 mm.

The heavy rain in the Yamuna river basin areas has also been the primary reason behind the river flowing over the danger mark in Haryana and Delhi. While the Upper Yamuna basin received 337 mm of rain,

which is normal for this time of the year, the middle Yamuna basin received 315 mm rain, which is 34 per cent more than normal.

In April this year, the Yamuna had dried to a trickle, which experts say was the first time in at least two decades. Delhi fought a long court battle with Haryana, which was battling a water crisis of its own, to get more water through the river's channel. The IMD had forecast higher than normal monsoon this year in North West India.

Delhi, on Monday morning, received 25 mm of rainfall. The maximum temperature was recorded at 34.5 degrees Celsius, normal for this time of the year.

The minimum was 23 degrees Celsius, 4 degrees below normal. The minimum temperature over the past week has continued to remain significantly below normal, while the maximum temperature has remained below 35 degrees Celsius.



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# Plastic flows into Ashwani Khud, yet again

KULDEEP CHAUHAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JULY 30

The Ashwani Khud turned into a "river of plastic" for the second time on July 26, when the region was lashed by heavy rain, making the life of residents miserable.

A team of locals, led by Abhay Sharma, an environmental activist of Neri village, on Monday captured the images of the Ashwani Khud. The banks of the river were littered with plastic, discarded items of vehicles, household and hotel garbage, said Abhay Sharma, who on Monday shared the video clips and images of plastic he had captured with *The Tribune*.

Villagers said they saw a huge amount of plastic flowing into the river on last Thursday again like they had seen on July 2 when a video clip of the river was made by Abhay Sharma, who lives near Neri on the periphery of Solan.

The villagers said the trash and garbage flowed in to the Ashwani Khud as and when



it rained in the upper region of Shimla, Kandaghat, Sadhupul, Junga, Koti Barandi.

The SMC had stopped lifting water from the Ashwani Khud in 2015 after the jaundice outbreak in the city. However, the Irrigation and Public Health Department

lifts about 4 MLD of water daily from the Ashwani Khud near Neri to supply it to Solan. "We test water samples of the khud twice in a month and lift water only when the samples are passed by the National Institute of Virology, Pune," said Execu-

## IMAGES CAPTURED

■ Villagers saw a huge amount of plastic flowing into the river on July 26 and images were captured by Abhay Sharma, who lives near Neri on the periphery of Solan

■ Earlier, a video clip of 'river of plastic', made by Abhay on July 2, had gone viral on the social media.

“The MC is collecting garbage daily and dispose it of in the Bharyal plant. We are cleaning nullahs of polythene regularly which is now banned, but still many use it. We will enquire how plastic is flowing into the khud.

Kusum Sadret, MAYOR, SHIMLA

tive Engineer, IPH, Solan, Sumit Sood.

Pulled up by the NGT, the state regulator appointed a seven-member team of environment engineers to investigate the "river of plastic" episode and found Kanlog, Darni Ka Bagicha (both dis-

carded dump yards), four nullahs of Combermere, housing board, Shanan, Maliana, Brockhurst nullahs as the possible sources of pollution in the Ashwani Khud.

The inquiry report had indicted both civic bodies and slapped notices, seeking their reply on pollution in the khud, but the state regulator is yet to get the reply, sources said.

The team had found that the plastic and garbage collection and disposal in Shimla and Solan was not satisfactory and directed the bodies to monitor vehicles carrying garbage through the CCTV. The state regulator had submitted a report to the NGT on Monday last and the matter was pending in the green court, the sources said. Unfazed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), the state pollution regulator is yet to bring Shimla and Solan civic bodies to task on the issue of plastic pollution in the Ashwani Khud, the source of water for the twin cities.

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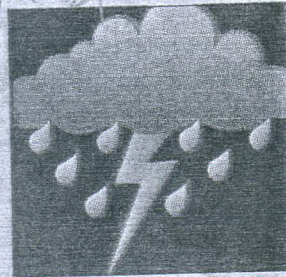
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## दो दिन हल्की बूदाबांदी के आसार, बादल छाए रहेंगे

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): दिल्ली में सोमवार को एक बार फिर से लोगों को उमस और धूप का सामना करना पड़ा। बादल छाए रहे, लेकिन कुछ इलाकों में बरसे तो कुछ में बिना बरसे ही निकल गए। सोमवार को अधिकतम तापमान 34.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया, जबकि न्यूनतम तापमान 23 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। न्यूनतम तापमान सामान्य से चार डिग्री कम रहा। वहीं अधिकतम और न्यूनतम आद्रता 100 और 64 फीसद बनी रही। बोते 24 घंटों में सोमवार सुबह तक 25 मिमी बारिश दर्ज की गई। मंगलवार का तापमान 34 और 24 डिग्री के बीच बने रहने की संभावना है।

मौसम विभाग की माने तो इस सप्ताह बरसात का मिला-जुला असर दिखाई देगा। मंगलवार और बुधवार को आसमान में बादल छाए रहेंगे और हल्की बारिश भी हो सकती है। वहीं उसके बाद बादल छाए रहेंगे, लेकिन भारी बारिश होने की संभावना कम



बन रही है। मौसम विभाग का पूर्वानुमान है कि आगामी तीन अगस्त तक कहीं-कहीं बारिश होने की संभावना रहेगी। इस दौरान आंशिक रूप से बादल छाए रहेंगे। इस दौरान अधिकतम तापमान 37 डिग्री तक बना रहेगा। फिलहाल दिल्ली में मानसून सामान्य बना हुआ है। पालम 34.9, लोधी रोड 34.6, रिज 34.3, आया नगर 34.4, डीयू 33.2, जाफरपुर 33.5, मुंगेशपुर 32, नजफगढ़ 33 और नरैला में 33.3 डिग्री सेल्सियस तापमान दर्ज किया गया।