

FFM. Directorate

भारत सरकार  
Government of India  
केन्द्रीय जल आयोग  
Central Water Commission  
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विषय : दिनांक 31.08.2018 की समाचार की कतरन ( News Clippings ) प्रस्तुत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचारों की कतरन ( News Clippings ) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

31/08/18  
( सहायक निदेशक )

31/08/18

उपनिदेशक

निदेशक (बा.प.प्र.)

210 चन्द्र  
31/08/2018

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

उपनिदेशक (स.प्र.) खिरेन

निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन)

Hindustan Times ( Delhi )  
नवभारत टाइम्स ( दिल्ली )  
The Tribune ( Chandigarh )  
The Hindu ( Chennai )

The Assam Tribune ( Guwahati )  
The Times of India ( Mumbai )  
The Telegraph ( Kolkata )  
हिन्दुस्तान ( पटना )

✓ The Deccan Herald ( Bengaluru )  
The Deccan Chronicle ( Hyderabad )  
Central Chronicle ( Bhopal )

# After floodwater abates, rescuers focus on traumatised children

Rasheed Kappan

**BENGALUR/KOZHIKODE:** Traumatized by unprecedented sufferings due to floods and landslides, thousands of children have remained in relief camps across Kerala's Kozhikode and Wayanad districts.

Now, as the camps are being wound up, relief workers want the focus back on these children and how to get them back in shape quickly.

In Wayanad district, where the normal lives of over 20,000 children were turned upside down by floods and landslides, schools will reopen with the first four days devoted to counselling and entertainment programmes.

"These children have gone through severe trauma, tensions and are mentally disturbed. I have instructed all schools to motivate them before beginning regular



The children from flood-affected areas arrive at a relief camp in a government school in Tirur, Kerala. DH PHOTO/ JANARDHAN BK

classes," the district's Deputy Director of Education, K Prabhakaran told DH.

Among the worst affected, a school building in Kuruchiramala had collapsed. Classes are now being arranged in a nearby Madrasa, where a private firm has donated benches and desks. Rains had washed away an approach road bridge to another school. The same

firm has proposed to build a temporary bridge.

In Kozhikode district, the official machinery has begun a psycho-social assessment of the disaster victims. Preparations are on to organise counselling sessions and creative workshops for the affected children, as environmentalist and relief coordinator Gopinath Parayil informs.

Relief work, he notes, could now focus on these areas of rehabilitation. "Drawing and painting workshops are being arranged to help these children brighten up. Perhaps, NGOs can send art material and their expertise, based on ground-level feedback and requirements."

Meanwhile, poor understanding of the actual relief requirements on the ground has led to tonnes of material being piled up unused across Kerala. Volunteers too had turned up in hundreds. "We had to turn away so many of them since they had come without tracking what we require," recalls Gopinath. Frustrated, he had put up a Facebook post that read: "If you genuinely want to help us in Kerala, please check on people you know here about what help we need before you move."

DH News Service



दिनांक 30.08.2018 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi )

नवभारत टाइम्स ( दिल्ली )

The Tribune ( Chandigarh )

✓ The Hindu ( Chennai )

The Assam Tribune ( Guwahati )

The Times of India ( Mumbai )

The Telegraph ( Kolkata )

हिन्दुस्तान ( पटना )

The Deccan Herald ( Bengaluru )

The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad )

Central Chronical ( Bhopal )

## Heavy flow hampers restoration measures at Upper Anicut

Work on building a bund is yet to take off owing to strong currents

C. JAISANKAR

TIRUCHI

Heavy flow of water through the damaged portion of a regulator and the formation of sand shoals on the upper reaches at Upper Anicut has complicated restoration work across the Coleroon.

The Water Resources Department of the Public Works Department began the erection of a ring bund using sand bags last Thursday to arrest the flow of water into the Coleroon through the damaged portion of the regulator. It has employed about 800 workers and deployed floating excavators. Motorised boats have been pressed into service to ferry material.

A massive ring bund is being erected for about 260 meters from the right bank to the 19<sup>th</sup> pier across the Coleroon.

According to a senior official, until Wednesday, the



**Taking stock:** Ministers inspecting the damaged regulator at Mukkombe in Tiruchi district on Wednesday. ■ M. SRINATH

bund was formed for a length of about 50 meters from both ends. However, work on formation of a bund across the washed away portion, considered crucial, is yet to begin, mainly due to heavy flow of water and strong currents.

A senior official told *The Hindu* that despite efforts to divert water in the Cauvery,

such as expediting restoration work, they could not control the flow of water in the Coleroon due to the natural water course. The accumulation of sand on the upper side of the Mukkombe barrage across the Cauvery had slowed the flow in the river. Consequently, more water was flowing towards the Coleroon.

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 31.8.2018

*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.

*[Signature]*  
31.8.18  
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director TD Dte, & Publication Division

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31/8/18

Director TD Dte

*[Signature]*  
31/8

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,  
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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 31/8/18 in the

Hindustan Times

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Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Business standard

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

## Weak El Niño likely next month: IMD

**SANJEEB MUKHERJEE**

New Delhi, 30 August

The southwest monsoon, which has been relatively quiet during the week that ended on August 29, isn't expected to show a big improvement in the next fortnight, with rainfall activity likely to be below normal from the second week of September.

In its latest weather update, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said that there was possibility of development of weak El Niño conditions in the last part of the four-month monsoon season, which began from June.

Overall, the monsoon till August 30 has been 6 per cent less than normal, with several districts of north interior Karnataka, Rayalaseema, Bihar, Jharkhand, Saurashtra and Kutch staring at a shortfall. The rainfall, according to agriculture ministry officials, has been well-distributed, though overall quantum might have been low in some regions. This they said won't have any impact on the overall production of kharif crops in 2018,

which is poised for another record.

On Tuesday, India said its overall foodgrains production in 2017-18 (July to June) was at an all-time high of 284.83 million tonnes, almost 2 per cent more than the last estimate that came in June, and 9.72 million tonnes more than 2016-17. The rise, however, hasn't been beneficial for the growers because price of several commodities particularly pulses slumped due to bumper harvest.

Meanwhile, till last week, sowing of kharif crops for the 2018-19 season was around 1.3 million hectares less than last year due to shift from pulses to oilseeds in some states and low acreage due to drought in others. With the southwest monsoon entering its last month and quantum of rains expected to remain low henceforth, sowing of kharif crops isn't expected to pick up in a big way. This would mean that acreage of some major crops might remain below last year's level, though the actual impact on total output will depend on the weather during the remaining few weeks.



Hindustan Times  
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Business Standard

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# The road out of energy poverty

The ultimate cost of energy poverty is far greater than what it takes to provide continuous power to all through an efficient and transparent ecosystem



VIVEK SHARMA

India is home to 18 per cent of the world's population. However, its energy consumption is a meagre 6 per cent, with per capita consumption at 1,122 kWh mark — or a third of the world average and the lowest among BRICS — during fiscal 2017.

Almost a fifth of the population lives in abject poverty, or below poverty line, with no access to electricity. Low demand and poor access to 'energy' — which includes electricity, cooking fuel etc — have meant chronic under-consumption.

Such 'energy poverty' has, apart from its socio-economic impact, a bearing on the environment, too, as it leads to greater reliance on unclean fuels such as wood, crop waste, dung, and biomass to cook and heat homes. While such fuels provide affordable energy access, in the long run, they become more expensive.

Smoke from wood and biomass stoves is hazardous and causes respiratory illnesses. Every year, thousands of women and children fall ill because of it. In other words, the indigent consumer is forced to cough up a hefty healthcare price.

Unclean fuels are also inefficient

because they don't have scalability so cannot be utilised to energise businesses. In other words, they cannot create livelihood or fulfill basic human necessities such as affordable healthcare.

The ill-effects of an unclean fuel such as kerosene, for which the government initially offered subsidy, is well-documented. For want of access to grid-based electricity, poor rural households, especially in rural areas, continued using it to light up their homes, which drove up consumption and health problems.

However, between fiscals 2011 and 2017, household electrification increased substantially and kerosene consumption fell, which was also driven by central government policies to reduce kerosene subsidy expenditure.

Over the past many years, the Centre has been decreasing quotas of subsidised kerosene that it allocates for states to distribute. The sharpest reduction was seen in fiscal 2017, when allocation nationally was reduced by over 20 per cent over fiscal 2016.

The primary motivation for lower allocation was to control the subsidy expenditure borne of the central government. Other reasons include large losses due to black marketing, which prevents the intended poor beneficiaries from accessing subsidised kerosene and thus decreases the efficiency of subsidy targeting.

And since August 2016, the government has progressively hiked the price of kerosene every fortnight by 25 paise per litre. This, and the oil price crash after 2013 have created significant savings on the government's subsidy bill.

To its credit, the government has actively targeted sustainable energy for all initiatives — including through 'LPG for all' and 'power for all', which

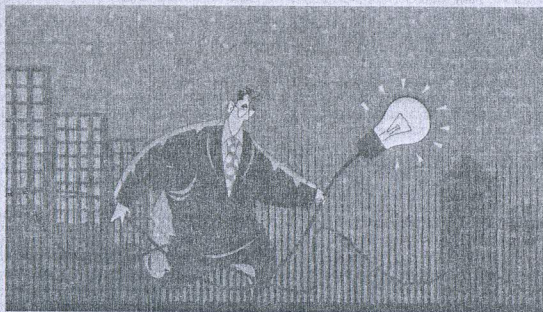


ILLUSTRATION BY BINAY SINHA

have led to a reduction in the use of unclean fuels.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, the government aims to provide five crore subsidised LPG connections to women of poor households (below poverty line) in the next three years.

Recently, the government launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, or Saubhagya, scheme to provide electricity connections to over 35 million families in rural and urban areas. Saubhagya will fund the cost of last-mile connectivity to willing households in order to achieve the goal of lighting up every household. To this end significant progress has been made with 33 per cent that is, 11 million households been connected.

The problem is, while Saubhagya aims to provide electricity connections, the goal to provide 24 hours reliable supply under 24x7 power for all programme continues to be a challenge.

Much of the blame for the situation rests with tangled political wires. This is

a sad mindset, indeed. Removing energy poverty should be a bipartisan goal at all times because of its criticality to human development.

The key to providing adequate energy access to the poor lies in the implementation of Universal Service Obligation (USO) and direct benefit transfer (DBT) for various energy schemes including 24x7 power for all. This can eventually replace the USO for LPG and all other energy schemes.

The logistical challenges to providing continuous LPG, including replacement cylinders, in the back of beyond is more expensive and difficult than connecting households that already have with 24x7 electricity. Hopefully, and eventually, appliances such as electric cooker and stove need to replace conventional ones fired by kerosene, wood or LPG.

A USO corpus to ensure reliable, extended supply of energy or electricity can be carved out from the annual revenues of the electricity distribution enti-

ties and, as was done in the telecom and banking sectors, an explicit fund to meet such an obligation needs to be created.

Such a corpus can be jointly funded from state and central Budgets. In fact, the central Budget on LPG can be subsumed with the revenue subsidy required for the electricity sector. Later, the amount of cross-subsidy charged to high-end consumers (industrial, commercial) can also be included in this corpus.

In addition, the introduction of DBT in power distribution the way it has been done for LPG, along with the USO corpus, can ensure effective subsidy delivery, eliminate discrepancies in subsidy accounting, and delays in disbursements, and also help in substantial savings in the total amount of subsidy given.

The challenge to overcome here is that unlike in the case of LPG, where the central government is involved, subsidy disbursement for electricity supply is the remit of state governments, which may result in varying approaches.

But the scheme can bring about seminal improvement in the duration and stability of electricity supply in the hinterland, which can set off a virtuous cycle by providing impetus to economic activity and development.

Apart from making fiscal sense, that would be crucial to ensuring sustainability of energy for all, and to structurally reduce subsidy requirements of the future.

The ultimate cost of energy poverty is far greater than what it takes to provide continuous power to all through an efficient and transparent ecosystem.

Bringing that drastically down is a mandate inherent in the social contract.

The author is senior director, Crisis Infrastructure Advisory



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The Times of India (N.D.)  
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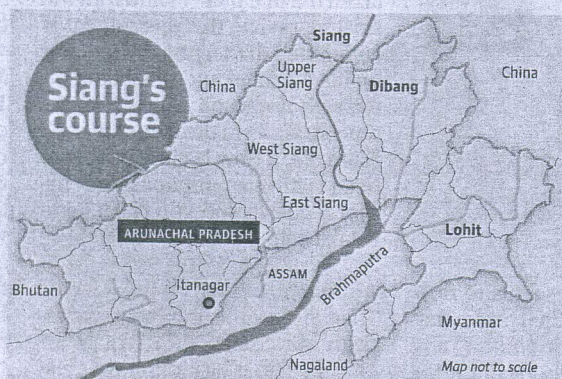
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
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The Times of India (A)  
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# High water discharge from China threatens Arunachal

Commissioners of districts along Siang's course issue flood alerts



Vehicles zipping past a highway near the Siang river at Pasighat in East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh. ■ RITU RAJ KONWAR

**RAHUL KARMAKAR**  
GUWAHATI

High discharge of water from China, the highest in 50 years, is threatening to submerge at least 12 villages along the river Siang in Arunachal Pradesh.

Hydrological experts said the “unusually high” discharge indicates sudden release of water from man-made barriers or a natural dam that was formed due to landslides caused by major earthquakes in the Tibetan region of China in November 2017.

T. Tatak, the deputy commissioner of Arunachal Pradesh's East Siang district, had on Wednesday issued an advisory warning the people of the 12 villages to be on alert because of the sudden surge in the Siang's water level. The villages are near district headquarters Pasighat,

about 560 km northeast of Guwahati.

He cited a report received by New Delhi from the Chinese government saying the Yarlung Zangbo (Tsangpo) was swelling with observed discharge of 9,020 cumec due to heavy rainfall in Tibet. But the “incremental discharge of 950 cumec” compared to a discharge of 8,070 cumec in the Tsangpo reported on August 14 “should not be a cause for panic”, he said.

## Assam follows

Laya Madduri, the deputy commissioner of Assam's Dibrugarh district downstream of Siang, issued a similar alert on Thursday in view of the rise in water levels.

But people in the 12 vulnerable villages in Mebo circle of East Siang district are worried. The Siang has already eroded 12 acres in Borguli

village while at least 10 families of Seram village nearby have dismantled their houses and shifted to a safer location.

## Ground report

“The situation is grim, and the government needs to come up with effective anti-erosion measures besides talking to China for ensuring safety of downstream areas in India,” H. Tayeng, a local leader, said.

Guwahati-based water expert Partha Jyoti Das said agencies such as the Central Water Commission need to closely monitor the level and quality of Siang's water. “There is a lot of concern at the international, national and local levels about the geologically and strategically important Siang that impacts Bangladesh too,” he said.

“The unusualness lies in

the highest discharge of water in decades.

It has all the indications of water being suddenly released from a natural or man-made dam. When earthquakes triggered landslides and dammed Tsangpo last year resulting in Siang's water turning muddy, many in India talked about sudden collapse of the earthen dam in the future leading to moderate to big flood downstream in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam,” Mr. Das told *The Hindu*.

But there was no serious follow-up action by the government, he said.

Congress MP Ninong Ering, who represents Arunachal East in the Lok Sabha, had attributed the turbidity of Siang's water last year to China's plan to divert Tsangpo to the parched Xinjiang province via a 1,000 km tunnel.

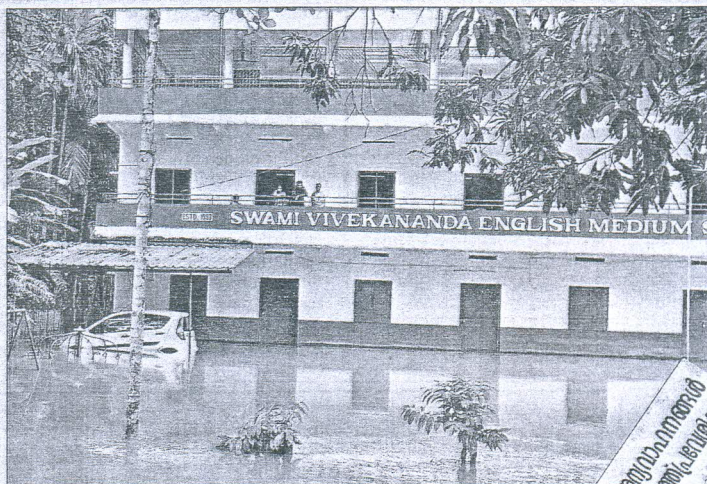


Hindustan Times  
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CMR



■ The Swami Vivekananda High School in Chengannur, Kerala. The state could suffer close to \$3 trillion worth of economic loss because of the floods.

RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO

## Our infrastructure must become climate resilient

A frustrating part about the Kerala floods is that the loss of life and economic devastation could have been prevented



The Kerala floods are one of the most devastating extreme weather events in India's history. Perhaps the most frustrating part of this tragedy is the fact that this loss of life and the economic devastation was preventable. Between August 8 and 9, the state received 12 inches of rainfall in 24 hours. Dams reached their capacity and operators opened the gates of 35 dams. This was not done in a planned manner with appropriate warnings to people living near them.

In an age of climate variability, our infrastructure must be climate resilient. A number of studies have outlined the steps that need to be taken to make current and future infrastructure resilient to climate and extreme weather events. However, no significant steps have been taken. The qualification of what makes infrastructure climate resilient is not codified. The 2018 budget allocated a significant amount of funding to create standards, but there hasn't been any progress. Without standards, any labelling of infrastructure projects as climate resilient will be ad hoc.

The Union government allocated \$58 million in its budget to help deal with climate adaptation issues. Additionally, certain states have promised to use 1% of the budget allo-

cated to each department to do the same. While these are good efforts, the funds fall woefully short of what is needed.

Finding ways to finance infrastructure projects is already one of India's largest challenges. According to the Economic Survey of 2017-2018, the current infrastructure gap stands at \$526 billion. This estimate, we feel, is low. In recent years, innovative steps have been taken by the government and industry to find ways to divert funding for infrastructure projects. Yet, these innovative steps haven't been extended to ensure that preventable disasters do not result in loss of life and property. Conservative international estimates approximate that \$1 trillion will be needed to make existing and future infrastructure in India climate resilient.

Kerala could suffer close to \$3 trillion worth of economic loss because of the floods. Private players, who cut corners to make their roads and bridges less resilient, have lost these revenue-producing assets. The Indian insurance industry is facing the prospect of insurance claims of around \$700 billion. The state government needs to provide incentives to builders to make the new infrastructure projects climate resilient, the industry needs to realise the risks they face in the era of climate change, and the insurance sector must make sure that it does not provide policies to builders or financiers if their projects don't adhere to the right climate resilient standards.

Aparajit Pandey is programme director, Observer Research Foundation. Ritwik Sharma is research assistant with ORF's climate change and development programme.

The views expressed are personal



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# Siang swells, Arunachal alert

**ADVISORY** People living on river bank have been told to be careful; admin says no reason to panic yet

Utpal Parashar

• utpal.parashar@hindustantimes.com

**GUWAHATI:** The administration in East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh has advised people living along the banks of the Siang to "remain alert but not to panic" as heavy rain in China had led to a massive discharge of water into the river Tsangpo.

The Tsangpo, which originates in China, is called the Siang after it enters India through Upper Siang district in the northeastern state. This means that if the Tsangpo swells because of a huge inflow of water, the possibility of a rise in the levels of the Siang cannot be ruled out. The Siang joins two other rivers – the Lohit and the Dibang – downstream to form the Brahmaputra.

In a circular issued on Wednesday, Tamiyo Tatak, deputy commissioner of East Siang, alerted the people, but asked them to stay calm even as he cautioned them against venturing into the river

## Siang flood

China has released 9020 cumec (9.02 million litres of water flow per second) in the Tsangpo river



- Brahmaputra was flowing above danger level at Neamatighat in Jorhat, the Dhansiri at Golaghat and Numaligarh and the Jia Bharali at Sonitpur
- During last monsoon, the Siang water turned turbid due to excessive siltation.
- In October, the water in the river

had become blackish with presence of large amount of clay and soil.

- A study by two Indian researchers after checking satellite imagery, reached the conclusion that massive landslides caused by a series of earthquakes in Tibet was the reason for darkening of the Siang's waters.

for swimming, fishing or other activities.

The circular said that according to reports sent to New Delhi by Beijing "due to heavy rainfall in Chinese portion, the Tsangpo

river is swelling with observed discharge of 9020 cumec" at 8 am on Wednesday.

A discharge of 9,020 cumec would be equal to 9.02 million litres of water flowing in the

Tsangpo per second. This is stated to be the highest discharge in the river in 50 years.

"We have issued the circular as an advisory so that people are careful. But there is no reason to panic at the moment....," Tatak told Hindustan Times.

### ANXIETY IN ASSAM

Since any swelling in the Tsangpo and the Siang could lead to a possible rise in water levels in the Brahmaputra, Assam is also on its toes.

"There is a gradual rise in the water levels of the Brahmaputra, but it is not flowing over the danger mark in Dibrugarh. There is no cause to panic yet," said Dibrugarh deputy commissioner Laya Madduri.

### TURBIDITY AND TURBULENCE IN SIANG

Last week, East Siang district officials had issued an advisory asking people to refrain from entering the Siang as "unusual waves"

had been causing a fluctuation in the flow of the river over the past fortnight. "Such big waves have never been seen in the Siang. The volume of water flow is the same, but the river has become turbulent. Maybe it's the result of heavy landslides in China affecting the flow of the river or an impact of some major construction activity," East Siang deputy commissioner Tatak said.

### LANDSLIDES THE POSSIBLE REASON

However, a study released in December by two Indian researchers, Chintan Seth and Anirban Datta Roy, had suggested that landslides caused by a series of earthquakes in Tibet could have been the reason for the darkening of the Siang.

The study said debris from the landslides had caused partial blockages at three locations on the Tsangpo, leading to formation of natural dams extending nearly 6 km over a 12 km stretch.

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# Heat trapped below Arctic surface could melt entire region's ice: study

Warmer water that originated hundreds of miles away has penetrated deep into its interior

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

'Archived' heat trapped below the surface of the Arctic has the potential to melt the entire region's sea ice, scientists warn.

The study, published in the journal *Science Advances*, shows that Arctic sea ice is not just threatened by the melting of ice around its edges.

Warmer water that originated hundreds of miles away has penetrated deep into the interior of the Arctic, researchers found.

"We document a striking ocean warming in one of the main basins of the interior Arctic Ocean, the Canadian Basin," said Mary-Louise Timmermans, a Professor at Yale University in the U.S. The upper ocean in the Canadian Basin has seen a two-



Heating up: A file photo of melt ponds on the Arctic sea ice. •AFP

fold increase in heat content over the past 30 years, the researchers said.

They traced the source to waters hundreds of miles to the south, where reduced sea ice has left the surface ocean more exposed to summer solar warming. In turn, Arctic winds are driving the

warmer water north, but below the surface waters.

"This means the effects of sea-ice loss are not limited to the ice-free regions themselves, but also lead to increased heat accumulation in the interior of the Arctic Ocean that can have climate effects well beyond the sum-

mer season," Ms. Timmermans said.

"Presently this heat is trapped below the surface layer. Should it be mixed up to the surface, there is enough heat to entirely melt the sea-ice pack that covers this region for most of the year," she said.

## NASA space laser to track melting ice

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

NASA is set to launch the most advanced laser instrument of its kind into the space next month, to measure the changes in the heights of the earth's polar ice in unprecedented detail.

The Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2 (ICE-Sat-2) will measure the average annual elevation change of land ice covering Greenland and Antarctica to within the width of a pencil, capturing 60,000 measurements every second.



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## Germany revived two own rivers, now gears up for clean Ganga op

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

Cleaning up the Ganga is a monumental but achievable task, believes Germany that cleaned up two of its own rivers — Danube and the clinically dead Rhine.

Germany, which joined hands with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pet Namami Gange project in 2015, has also earmarked 120 million euros of interest subsidised loan and 1.5 million euros towards technical assistance for the Ganga action plan.

The terms of reference of the 20-year loan with a grace period of five years have now been fixed and assessments are ongoing. The Modi government's 'Clean Ganga Project' involves a budget of Rs 20,000 crore or nearly 2.5 billion euros.

German officials, however, point out that the Rhine river, which is half the length of the Ganga and runs through six countries as riparian states, took almost 30 years to be cleaned and had salmon back in it by 1997 at a cost of 45 billion euros.

"Germany can capitalise on experiences that we have made in cleaning up the Rhine and the Danube. The lessons we learnt is you need time, money and right approach. You have to take on board all stakeholders from government authorities, local

**₹20,000 cr**

set aside for 'Clean Ganga Project' — pet plan of the Modi govt



bodies, representatives of industry, agriculture and also make sure individual households are part of this endeavour," says Dr Jasper Wieck, Charge D'affaires at the German embassy. The diplomat also underlined that the Ganga basin is home to more than 600 million people who need to be educated about water treatment, reduction of waste water and its toxicity.

Germany is working closely in Rishikesh and Haridwar where it is providing technical cooperation to the tune of 20 million euros towards sewage network creation, setting up of pumps, upgrading and optimising existing treatment plants. German Development Bank KfW has also introduced a Ganga box as pilot project at a school in Rishikesh as part of the curriculum. This includes mythological tales on Ganga to sensitise kids and activity books to bring about attitudinal changes, say officials.

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Hindustan (Hindi)

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Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Business standard

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

# SYL hearing on Sept 5, Amarinder to meet Gadkari

**RUCHIKA M KHANNA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

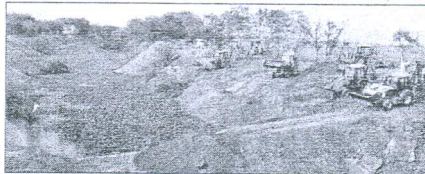
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 30

Ahead of the hearing in the SYL case on September 5, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh will be meeting Union Minister for Water Resources Nitin Gadkari to discuss the matter.

The CM and Irrigation Minister Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaraia have already gone to Delhi and will be meeting Gadkari and his officers, besides consulting the state

government's advocates. Since the Supreme Court has asked the Prime Minister's Office to mediate between the two states and come out with an amicable solution, the Union Minister is expected to give his inputs on resolving the long-standing dispute.

Sources in the Chief Minister's office and Sarkaraia told to The Tribune that a meeting with the Union Water Resources Minister was scheduled within the next two days. The CM is expected



The state government has already returned the land acquired for the SYL canal to its original owners. FILE PHOTO

to be in Delhi for the next four days. It is after the Haryana government moved the Supreme Court last month,

seeking early hearing of the matter, that the case has been listed for next week.

The negotiations are being

held at the highest political level on the intervention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Sources say they are still waiting for Haryana's response on "fresh demand" for sharing of river waters, before they commit anything. "Our stand is clear that we have no water to share, as Punjab is itself relying extensively on underground water to meet its irrigation needs. All issues will have to be discussed with the Union Minister, while explaining the

state's point of view and the law and order situation, especially in wake of the violence unleashed in 1990, when over 30 people were killed on the canal site," said an official.

The CM will also be meeting Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to urge him to reconsider the terms of settlement of Rs 31,000 crore legacy food credit account that is eating into the state's meagre finances. He will also be meet Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

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# Barges with fly ash set sail from Ganga to Brahmaputra

1,233 tonnes of fly ash was flagged off at Kahalgaon in Bihar

**RAHUL KARMAKAR**

GUWAHATI

Two Assam-bound barges carrying fly ash sailed from Bihar for one of the longest hauls in India's inland waterways via Bangladesh.

The two 1,000-tonne barges carrying 1,233 tonnes of bagged fly ash was flagged off at Kahalgaon in Bihar on Thursday. They are expected to reach Guwahati's Pandu port in 20 days covering 2,085 km.

The fly ash is a by-product from the National Thermal Power Corporation's Kahalgaon power plant.

Kahalgaon is on the banks of the Ganga, which is Na-

tional Waterway 1. Pandu is on the Brahmaputra, the National Waterway 2.

According to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), the journey of the two barges marks the commencement of a critical integrated movement through three waterways - NW1, NW2 and Indo-Bangladesh Protocol.

The Ganga and the Brahmaputra meet in Bangladesh after flowing into that country as the Padma and the Jamuna.

"The movement will evince confidence and interest in the inland waterways industry and vessel opera-

tors as more than 10 such pilot movements have been successfully completed lately on various stretches of National Waterways," IWAI chairman Pravir Pandey said.

In July, IWAI had launched a dedicated portal called FO-CAL to connect cargo owners and shippers with real time data on availability of vessels.

"More such movements of fly ash and pond ash from the super thermal power plants of NTPC are being planned on NW1," Mr. Pandey said.

Fly ash is in demand as raw material in cement and brick industry and is also used for the purpose of land filling.



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# Minor forest produce may see MSP boost

## 5Cr Tribals To Gain From Hike In Support Price

Ambika.Pandit@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** In what is intended to be an income boost to tribal communities, the government is set to announce a hike in support price (MSP) for minor forest produce (MFP) on the lines of the "cost of production plus 50%" formula for crops while also nearly doubling the number of eligible MFPs.

The hike is likely to be in the range of 40 to 60% over the current MSP which is largely derived on "cost of collection" to which a 50% increase will be offered. MFPs under the MSP framework are expected to go up from 23 to around 53 with about five crore tribals benefiting from the scheme.

MFP is categorised as all non-timber forest produce of plant origin and includes bamboo, brushwood, stumps and canes. The roll out of the new MSP pricing and outreach for procurement is expected by October and is intended to

**The new MSP is expected to be rolled out by October and is intended to complement the Centre's outreach to Dalits and OBCs ahead of polls**

complement the government's political outreach to Dalits and OBCs ahead of four assembly polls later this year and the Lok Sabha election next year.

The price committee set up by the ministry of tribal affairs is finalising the revised MSP by taking into account cost of collection of forest produce plus 50%.

The MSP for 50 plus MFPs is being worked out on the basis of ground reports gathered by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation's (Trifed) research partner Teri which visited 12,000 villages to study markets and costs. Also around 20 of these MFPs like tamarind have been identified for possible value addition and will be expected to benefit from 3,000 "van dhan (forest wealth) vikas kendras" proposed.

To seal the gaps based on review of the MSP scheme, the ministry of tribal affairs has

taken the MoU route to ensure procurement through mechanisms down to the panchayat level. As many as 16 states have so far signed MoUs with the Centre to implement MSP and another four are will be doing so. Trifed managing director Pravir Krishna said, "It is planned to follow a bottom up approach... to step up procurement and ensure the tribal community benefits fully."

With the countdown to the Lok Sabha polls underway, the move to hike MSP and the proposal to devolve power to procure MFPs to tribal self help groups at the village haat level is aimed at reaching out to the tribal population with the a plan to deliver on the promise of livelihoods. BJP has often done well on tribal seats where its candidates benefit from non-reserved votes, but with the 2019 election looking like a hard fought contest, the MSP decision will be seen as a vote multiplier. "Funds will be sent down through the state to the district level. Tribal samitis on the format of self help groups will be formed at the panchayat level and made in-charge of procurement at the fixed MSP and bring it to the haat. SHGs will get a commission..." Krishna said.

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# No threat of any major flood in Odisha

In view of average rainfall recorded in the State during the last 24 hours

**STAFF REPORTER**

BHUBANESWAR

The possibility of a major flood has been ruled out in Odisha following average rainfall recorded during the last 24 hours ending on Thursday morning.

According to the control room of the Special Relief Commissioner, the average rainfall in the State recorded on Thursday for the last 24 hours was 2.7 mm while 28 districts received sporadic

rainfall, the highest being 18.8 mm in Kalahandi district.

"There was no rainfall during the past 24 hours in the remaining two districts of Bhadrak and Deogarh," it said. Thursday also remained largely dry throughout the State.

Flood control cell of the State Water Resource department said 6.43 lakh cu-secs of water had flown through the Mundali barrage

by 6 p.m. and the flow of water would gradually come down. As there was drop in the intensity of rainfall in the upper catchment of the Mahanadi, managers of Hirakud Dam Project at Burla closed five sluice gates. However, 20 gates still remained opened.

Heavy precipitation recorded from Monday to Wednesday had inundated about 30 villages under the Harabhanga block of Boudh.

There was report of flooding in low-lying areas of Subarnapur, Angul and Cuttack districts.

"We had received information about a road getting cut off in Boudh district. It was immediately restored. We do not expect any major flood in the coastal belt," said Bishnupada Sethi, Managing Director of Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and Special Relief Commissioner.



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## KERALA FLOODS

AMIDST REPORTS OF the worst floods in a century in Kerala, controversies have arisen with regard to the acceptance of relief from foreign countries like the United Arab Emirates. A Ministry of External Affairs' statement talked about the country's resolve to use its own resources to meet the requirements of relief and resettlement of the victims rather than accept aid from a foreign country. *Akhbar-e-Mashriq*, in its editorial on August 24, notes: "The governments of Qatar, Maldives and Thailand have said that they will help Kerala deal with the crisis. The government of United Arab Emirates has been exceptionally generous by offering an aid of Rs 700 crore. The offer is especially significant given that the Government of India has offered an aid of only Rs 600 crore to the flood hit state... In this hour of crisis, the country should not show false pride and accept aid from wherever it comes."

The newspaper has also pointed to the statement of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, "The Disaster Management Plan prepared by the Centre in 2016 has a provision about accepting voluntary help from other countries." It has also quoted the Kerala finance minister's statement that if the Centre does not want to accept aid from a foreign country, it should give the state Rs 700 crore from its own coffers.

*Munsif's* editorial of August 24 notes, "Unfortunately, there are some people in the country who are using this terrible disaster as a ruse to discriminate between different sections of the society." The paper has talked of people who are describing the disaster in Kerala as a curse on them for eating beef. Others have said that the people of the state have been cursed "because women have been allowed entry into the Sabarimala temple. Such statements deserve severe condemnation," the paper said.



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# Kerala MPs knock at Centre's door for aid

They also want the curbs on foreign funding lifted

SOBHANA K NAIK  
 NEW DELHI

The Centre's aid of ₹600 crore announced for flood-affected Kerala should be increased and the restrictions on foreign aid lifted, said an all-party delegation of Kerala MPs at a meeting with Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

Mr. Singh assured the delegation, led by Congress leader A.K. Antony, that a meeting of all stakeholders, including Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, would be organised in the capital next week. All the Central government schemes being implemented in the State would be discussed. The Home Minister said he would discuss the question of foreign aid with



Listing the damage: Kerala MPs led by A.K. Antony leave after submitting a letter to Home Minister Rajnath Singh, in New Delhi on Thursday. •R.V. MOORTHY

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

## Seeks special package

The delegation also met Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh and Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

"We had two clear de-

mands. As per the rough estimates, losses have been pegged at ₹30,000 crore, so ₹600 would hardly suffice. We have asked for a special package that goes beyond the norms of the National Disaster Management Authority. Since the Centre has

failed to give us the aid we need, it should allow the foreign governments to pitch in," Congress MP K.C. Venugopal told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Vijayan announced on August 21 that the UAE government had offered aid worth ₹700 crore.

## Assembly resolves to build a 'New Kerala'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
 THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

After a marathon discussion lasting nearly eight hours, the Kerala Assembly on Thursday adopted a resolution calling upon the Centre to be liberal with financial and policy support for the State. The resolution, which was moved by Chief

Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, was followed by a debate that touched upon the magnitude of the devastation.

The resolution said the challenge before the State was not just to 'rebuild' but to create a 'New Kerala' based on the 'build back better' principle.

At the meeting with Mr. Radha Mohan Singh, the delegation demanded that the Centre conduct a study of the losses to farmers due to the unprecedented rain.

"As per the State's estimates, agriculture losses are an estimated ₹1,000 crore.

We have demanded that adequate help be given to farmers. We have been assured that the crop insurance scheme will be extended to all, including those having rubber and other plantations," P.K. Biju of the CPI(M) said.

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# The shale gas challenge

We need a sector-specific environment impact assessment manual on exploration and production



M.P. RAM MOHAN  
& SHASHIKANT YADAV

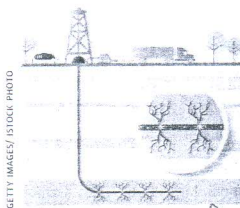
On August 1, 2018, the Central government approved a far-reaching policy that allows private and government players to explore and exploit unconventional hydrocarbons (including shale gas) in contract areas that were primarily allocated for extracting conventional hydrocarbons. Unlike conventional hydrocarbons that can be sponged out of permeable rocks easily, shale gas is trapped under low permeable rocks. Therefore, a mixture of 'pressurised water, chemicals, and sand' (shale fluid) is required to break low permeable rocks in order to unlock the shale gas reserves. The process requires around 5 to 9 million litres of water per extraction activity, posing a daunting challenge to India's fresh water resources.

Acknowledging this challenge, the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) issued a guideline on environment management during shale gas extraction, stating that "overall volume of fracture

fluid is 5 to 10 times that of conventional hydraulic fracturing" and "the (fracturing) activities are likely to deplete water sources and cause pollution due to the disposal of flowback (produced) water." However, the guideline falters and states that these challenges will be dealt while granting environmental clearances as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The EIA process, however, does not differentiate between conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons, and the DGH acknowledges this issue: "No differentiation has been made in the EIA notification between conventional and unconventional oil and gas exploration in this sector."

## Water-specific issues

Sensing this regulatory gap, the DGH in its guideline proposes five new reference points (term of references) relating to water issues in the fracking process that a project proponent must explain while applying for the environmental clearance. However, these five reference points are not succinct to resolve the water-specific issues posed by the fracking activities. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), which generally releases sector-specific manual for environment clearance, is yet to come out with a manual specific to fracking



activities.

Despite acknowledging the enormity of water requirement for fracking activities, the DGH guideline fails to give a general estimate of water requirement per unit of shale gas over the lifetime of a shale well. A recent study from Duke University observes that from 2011 through 2016, the water use per well in the U.S. increased up to 770% resulting in some shale wells consuming up to 42 million litres of water per well. The study further conveys that over a period of time, the usage of water dramatically increases for extracting the same amount of shale gas from a well. The importance of clarity in water usage and the place of shale gas extraction in India is linked directly with water requirements of priority sectors like agriculture.

Shale rocks are usually adjacent to rocks containing useable/ drinking water known as 'aquifers'. As

noted by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2017, while fracking, the shale fluid could possibly penetrate aquifers leading to methane poisoning of groundwater used for drinking and irrigation purposes. Several researches conclude that such contamination can be controlled, if not avoided, provided a project proponent maintains a distance of 600 m between the aquifers and shale gas fracture zones. Acknowledging this complexity and the myriad structures of aquifers in India, the DGH guideline states that a project proponent must "design and construct wells with proper barriers to isolate and protect groundwater", but misses out on broadly describing the nature or properties of a barrier that can be considered 'proper' to isolate and protect the groundwater.

Water cycle in a typical fracking process is different than other conventional hydrocarbon production activities. When shale fluid is injected underground at high pressure to fracture the rock, 5-50% (depending on the local geology) of the fluid returns to the surface, known as 'flowback water'. Return flows continue as oil and gas is pumped from the well. The flowback water is usually methane-contaminated, and therefore it poses different recycling and leakage issues than usual wastewater.

The Duke University study says, in the U.S., the flowback and produced water volumes generated within the first year of shale production increased up to 1,440% from 2011 through 2016. The DGH guideline again touches upon the exclusive nature of the flowback water but neither proposes any substantive treatment method nor recognises the increase in flowback water during repeated extraction of shale gas from a well over a period of time.

## Implementation gaps

Indian households and irrigation thrive on groundwater. Implementation of the fracking processes without a consultative thought through process, especially on 'water usage policy', may result in larger issues including water stress, contamination of groundwater, and related health hazards. But as the process stands today, we are missing an opportunity to comprehensively regulate the fracking process for a sustainable shale gas exploration in India. As a first step, a sector-specific EIA manual on exploration and production of unconventional hydrocarbon resources may be a good idea.

M.P. Ram Mohan is Associate Professor, IIM Ahmedabad; Shashikant Yadav is a legal researcher based in New Delhi. Views are personal



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## A/ ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी में पानी B/ छोड़ सकता है चीन, 3° अलर्ट पर अरुणाचल



■ टीएनएन, ईटानगर : बॉर्डर और सैन्य लेवल पर भारत की चिंताएं बढ़ाने वाला चीन अब पानी के जरिए देश को मुश्किल में ला सकता है। चीन ने एक अलर्ट जारी करते हुए कहा है कि उनके देश में काफी बारिश हो रही है, इसलिए वह जल्द ही ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी में पानी छोड़ सकता है।

चीन के इस अलर्ट के बाद केंद्र सरकार ने अरुणाचल प्रदेश को भी सचेत कर दिया है। ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी चीन की ओर से होती हुई आती है, चीन में इसे सांगपो के नाम से जाना जाता है। दावा किया जा रहा है कि नदी में पानी का लेवल 50 साल के सबसे बड़े स्तर पर है। यही कारण है कि चीन ब्रह्मपुत्र में पानी छोड़ सकता है।

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# गंगा नदी 2020 तक हो जाएगी स्वच्छ : गडकरी

मुम्बई, (एजेंसी): केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने आज यहां कहा कि गंगा के पुनरुद्धार कार्यक्रम की प्रगति की रफ्तार देख ऐसा लगता है कि नदी 2020 तक पूरी तरह स्वच्छ हो जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि नमामि गंगे मिशन के तहत 22,238 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली 221 परियोजनाओं में से अधिकतर पूरी होने के अग्रिम चरण में हैं। जल संसाधन एवं गंगा पुनरुद्धार मंत्री ने कहा, "जिस गति से काम दिया जा रहा है और पूरा किया जा रहा है, उसे देखकर हमें उम्मीद है कि मार्च 2020 तक गंगा नदी पूरी तरह स्वच्छ हो जाएगी। यह एक कठिन कार्य है, लेकिन पूरा हो जाएगा।" उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार को महत्वाकांक्षी परियोजना अच्छी तरह से प्रगति कर रही है और लगभग 70-80 प्रतिशत काम मार्च 2019 तक पूरा हो जाएगा।



सभी  
कार्य निजी

कंपनियों द्वारा किए जा रहे हैं और मैंने कोई भी जिम्मेदारी किसी निगम को नहीं दी है

गडकरी ने कहा कि गंगा नदी को स्वच्छ बनाने के अलावा इसकी सहायक नदियों तथा मुख्य नदी में मिलने वाले नालों को भी साफ करने के लिए काम किया जा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा,

"ये सभी कार्य निजी कंपनियों द्वारा किए जा रहे हैं और मैंने कोई भी जिम्मेदारी किसी निगम को नहीं दी है। इन परियोजनाओं को आगे ले जाने के लिए मैं सरकार पर निर्भर नहीं रह सकता और इसलिए हमने सर्वश्रेष्ठ आई टी विधियों के जरिए इनकी निगरानी का जिम्मा निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपा है।"

## 12 करोड़ यूरो का सस्ता ऋण देगा जर्मनी

जर्मनी गंगा नदी को साफ करने के प्रयासों के तहत भारत को 12 करोड़ यूरो का सस्ता ऋण दे रहा है। इस राशि से उत्तराखंड में नालों के पानी का शोधन करने की संरचना तैयार की जाएगी। जर्मनी के प्रभारी राजदूत जैस्पर विएक ने आज यह जानकारी दी। जर्मनी के दूतावास द्वारा किये गये कार्यों की जानकारी देते हुए विएक ने कहा इस परियोजना में करीब 360 किलोमीटर तक नालों की संरचना को बदलना तथा विस्तार भूशामिल है। इसमें घरों को नाले से जोड़ना तथा करीब 1.50 करोड़ लीटर प्रति दिन की क्षमता वाला जलशोधन संयंत्र बनाना भी शामिल है।



Hindustan Times  
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Indian Express  
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✓Kav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

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

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

# केरल त्रासदी ने फिर बताया कि हमारी राजनीति गंभीर सोच-विचार की क्षमता खो रही है उथले सवालों तक सिमटी सियासत

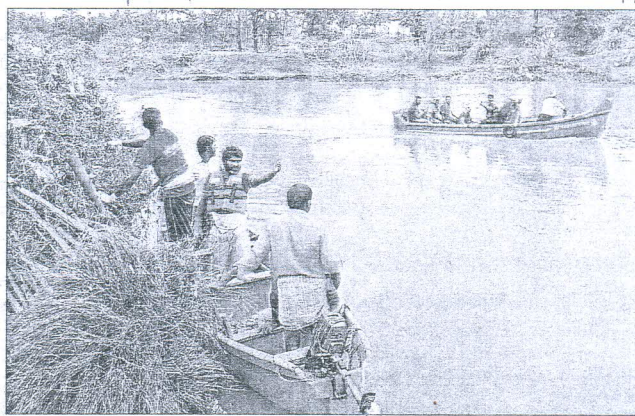


अनिल सिन्हा

हिस्सों में इन आपदाओं का सामना लोग कम बहादुरी से करते हैं। लेकिन केरल के आपदा-पीड़ितों ने जैसा अनुशासन दिखाया, उसके चलते कहर का असर बहुत कम होकर सामने आया। विपक्षी कांग्रेस और कई अन्य संगठनों ने यह साफ कर दिया कि वे इसे प्रकृति की ओर से ढाया गया कहर नहीं, आदमी की बनाई त्रासदी मानते हैं। लेकिन वे सिर्फ राज्य की मौजूदा सरकार को कटघरे में खड़ा करना चाहते हैं। समस्या की गहराई में जाने का उनका कोई इरादा नहीं है। उनकी नजर में अगर बांध के पानी को ठीक से संभाला जाता और उसकी मात्रा तथा बहाव पर पर्याप्त ध्यान दिया जाता तो ऐसी नौबत नहीं आती।

## ■ तुच्छ राजनीति

देश की राजनीति गहरे विचार की क्षमता खो रही है, यह केरल की त्रासदी के समय भी दिखाई पड़ा। ज्यादातर राजनीतिक दलों ने केरल की बहस को सिर्फ राहत कार्यों तथा इसके लिए जरूरी धन तक सीमित रखा। इसमें शक नहीं कि त्रासदी से निबटने की कोशिशों पर आने वाले लोकसभा चुनावों की छाया पड़ गई थी। केंद्र सरकार के व्यवहार में यह साफ दिखाई दे रहा था कि वह राज्य सरकार को ज्यादा श्रेय नहीं लेने देना चाहती थी। दूसरी तरफ राज्य सरकार भी केंद्र सरकार को कोई श्रेय नहीं लेने देना चाहती थी। उनकी इस होड़ से ज्यादा नुकसान अगर नहीं हुआ तो इसलिए, क्योंकि यह खुल कर सामने नहीं आया। दूसरी बात यह कि आपदा प्रबंधन की संस्थाओं और सेना पर इस राजनीति का असर नहीं था। संकट



वायनाड जिले में राहत कार्यों में जुटे कार्यकर्ता

पहाड़ों से लेकर समुद्र तटों और गुडगांव जैसे मैदानी इलाकों तक बारिश ने जो कहर ढाया है, उसने हमारे राजनेताओं में कोई चिंता नहीं पैदा की

की स्थिति गुजर जाने के बाद छिपी स्पर्धा सामने आ गई और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात की सहायता की पेशकश के बाद यह काफी कुरूप भी हो गई। पहले तो यह पेशकश सात सौ करोड़ रुपये की थी या नहीं, इस पर विवाद हुआ। फिर पेशकश हुई या नहीं, यह बहस शुरू हो गई। इस सहायता को लेकर केंद्र के इनकार को राज्य का हाथ बांधने की कोशिश के रूप में देखा गया।

सवाल उठ गया कि दो हजार करोड़ की सहायता मांगने पर केंद्र ने सिर्फ छह सौ करोड़ की सहायता क्यों दी? प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी भी राज्य सरकार के प्रति अपने राजनीतिक पूर्वाग्रह को छिपा नहीं पाए। उन्होंने अपनी 'मन की बात' में केरल के हादसे से निबटने में सेना, सुरक्षा बल, आपदा प्रबंधन टीम और

वहां के लोगों के जज्जे की जमकर तारीफ की, लेकिन राज्य सरकार का नाम लेना भूल गए। वैचारिक प्रतिस्पर्धा का सबसे गंदा रूप सोशल मीडिया पर सामने आया। वहां राहत भेजने में मजहब का ध्यान रखने की बात भी की गई। एक संघ समर्थक अर्थशास्त्री ने शबरीमाला मंदिर में स्त्रियों के प्रवेश की सुप्रीम कोर्ट की इजाजत को आपदा का कारण बताकर पूरे देश की हैरान कर दिया। संतोष की बात है कि ऐसे व्यवहार केरल के बाहर ही देखने को मिले। वहां के लोगों का ध्यान त्रासदी पर रहा और उन्होंने एक संपन्न सामाजिक भावना का इजहार किया। विकट परिस्थितियों में भी वे दीन-हीन नहीं दिखे। मछुआरों ने निःस्वार्थ सेवा का की मिसाल ही पेश कर डाली।

बेशक, राजनीतिक दायरे से बाहर की चर्चा काफी गंभीर थी। माधव गाडगिल तथा सुनीता नारायण जैसे पर्यावरण विशेषज्ञों ने पश्चिमी घाट के पर्यावरण को लेकर बरसों पहले दी गई चेतावनी की याद दिलाई और नदियों को बांधने की नीति पर जरूरी सवाल उठाए। उन्होंने निर्माण कार्यों और शहरीकरण में दिख रही उच्छ्वलता पर हमले किए। पूछा कि

नदियों के बेसिन में इमारतें कैसे खड़ी की गईं और नदी से सिर्फ चार सौ मीटर पर बने कोच्चि हवाई अड्डे को पर्यावरण विभाग की अनुमति कैसे मिली? मशहूर लेखिका अरुंधति रॉय ने कॉरपोरेट-राजनीतिज्ञ गठजोड़ और संसाधनों की लूट का सवाल उठाया। नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन की मेधा पाटकर भी इस मसले पर खुलकर बोलीं। कुछ चैनलों और अखबारों ने सड़कों-मकानों की निगलती जलधारा, भूस्खलन से टूटते पहाड़ों और जमींदोज हो रहे पेड़ों के थ्रिल पैदा करने वाले विडियो से आगे जाकर लोगों के मारे जाने जैसे गंभीर सवाल भी उठाए, लेकिन यह नाकाफी था।

## ■ बुनियादी सवाल

उत्तराखंड तथा हिमाचल प्रदेश के पहाड़ी इलाकों से लेकर केरल के समुद्र तटों और गुडगांव के मैदानी इलाकों तक बारिश ने जो असर दिखाया है, उसके बरस हमें गंभीर चिंतन की ओर जाना चाहिए था, जो बांधों के प्रबंधन और पर्यावरण संरक्षण की सावधानियों तक सीमित न हो। इसे जीवन और सभ्यता के व्यापक सवालों की ओर ले जाना चाहिए। हैरत की बात है कि इस सवाल पर कोई गांधीवादी यह बताने आगे नहीं आया कि जो सभ्यता हम बना रहे हैं वह मानवता और प्रकृति दोनों के लिए क्रूर है। कोई यह कहने नहीं आया कि यह मसला शहर या गांव का नहीं है। असल सवाल यह है कि हम पृथ्वी पर मौजूद हर चीज को भाग का समान मानें या खुद को भी प्रकृति का एक हिस्सा समझें। गांधी के देश में भी हम इस सवाल पर सोचने की हिम्मत नहीं जुटा पा रहे हैं कि हमें कैसी सभ्यता चाहिए। हम यह सवाल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं कि हमें ऊर्जा की असीमित खपत पर आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था चाहिए या मानव-श्रम पर आधारित। कंक्रीट का जंगल चाहिए या प्रकृति की सुंदरता? जहरीली हवाएं चाहिए या स्वच्छ वायु? जीवित नदियां चाहिए या मरे जलाशय? विकेंद्रित उत्पादन चाहिए या बड़े-बड़े कारखाने। प्रचलित सोच से आगे जाने की पहल हम कब करेंगे?



News item/letter/article/editorial published on 31/8/18 in the

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

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

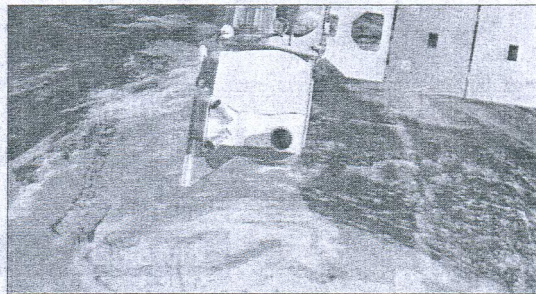
M.P.Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Business standard

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

अभियान

## नासा लेजर से जांचेगा अंटार्कटिका की बर्फ क्यों पिघल रही

अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी नासा स्पेस लेजर से जांचेगा कि अंटार्कटिका और ग्रीनलैंड में बर्फ क्यों पिघल रही है। इसके तहत नासा अगले महीने अपना सबसे उन्नत स्पेस लेजर लांच करेगा। यह स्पेस लेजर ध्रुवीय बर्फ की स्थिति में होने वाले अनूतपूर्व परिवर्तन का पता लगाएगा। द आइस, क्लाउड एंड लैंड एलिवेशन सैटेलाइट-2 (आईसीईएसएटी-2) बर्फ की परत में सालाना होने वाले क्षरण को मापेगा। सैटेलाइट का आकार पेंसिल जैसा होगा जो प्रति सेकंड 60 हजार बार माप करेगा।



### समुद्र के स्तर का पता चलेगा

नासा के विज्ञान मिशन निदेशालय के माइकल प्रीलिंच ने बताया, इस नई तकनीक से नासा पहली बार ग्रीनलैंड और अंटार्कटिका में पिघल रही बर्फ के जरिए समुद्र के बढ़ते स्तर का पता लगाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि यह आईसीईएसएटी-2 सैटेलाइट (उपग्रह) 12 सितंबर को लांच होगा। माइकल ने कहा कि यह तकनीक हमारी क्षमता को बढ़ाने में और मदद करेगी।

### विस्तृत डाटा मुहैया कराएगा

**7104** करोड़ रुपये की लागत आएगी आईसीईएसएटी-2 सैटेलाइट को लांच करने

- बर्फ के आकार को मापने वाला यह आईसीईएसएटी-2 सैटेलाइट कार के आकार का है
- नासा का नया अभियान अधिक विस्तृत डाटा मुहैया कराएगा

### ऐसे मापेगा

- आईसीईएसएटी-2 पृथ्वी की सतह से 500 किलोमीटर दूर कक्षा में स्थापित होगा
- यह अपने साथ 'एडवांस्ड टोपोग्राफिक लेजर अल्टीमीटर सिस्टम' (एटलस) उपकरण ले जाएगा
- एटलस नामक यह उपकरण लगातार हरे रंग की लेजर किरण उत्सर्जित करेगा
- सैटेलाइट से नीचे आते ही यह किरण छह अलग-अलग भागों बंट जाएगी
- इसके बाद यह किरण बर्फ की सतह की वास्तविक मोटाई को दर्शाएगी