

Central Water Commission
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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 will be uploaded on the CWC website.

P. Mahesh
5.12.18
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
5/12/18

Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
5/12/18

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at www.cwc.nic.in

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on ... 5/12/2018 ... in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Time of India (New Delhi)
Indian Express
Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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The Hindu (New Delhi)
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald
The Times of India (A)
Business standard
The Economic Times

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

DNA, Mumbai ✓

Central team to assess drought-hit areas in state

DNA Correspondent

correspondent@dnaindia.net

A team of senior government officials from the Centre is set to arrive today in Maharashtra for a 3-day visit to drought-affected areas in the state. The team — comprising of eight state and four Central government officials — will visit drought-hit areas in Marathwada, North Maharashtra, and Western Maharashtra. A meeting with state officials will also be held after the assessment before the team returns on December 7 to New Delhi.

The state government has declared drought in 151 talukas and 250 revenue circles in the state. It is following the state's request for drought relief worth Rs 7,522 crore from the Centre through the National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) that the team has been sent for assessment.



Picture for representation

A senior official of the state government said that the team will be split into three in order to ensure that all areas in the list are covered within the decided time frame. The team will submit its report to the Centre, which will take a call on the state government's memorandum

seeking financial relief.

More than 60 per cent of farmers in the state has been hit by drought this year. A total of 76,367 hectares of land belonging to 83 lakh farmers from 151 talukas and over 250 revenue circles has been affected due to the drought.

From the relief package of

GROUND SITUATION

■ The team — comprising of eight state and four Central government officials — will visit drought-hit areas in Marathwada, North Maharashtra, and Western Maharashtra

■ A meeting with state officials will also be held after the assessment before the team returns on December 7 to New Delhi

Rs 7522 crores, Rs 500 crore has been sought for cattle fodder and Rs 300 crores for providing water tankers. A government official said that the rest of the relief package will be used to offer compensation to farmers who have lost their standing crop due to the drought.

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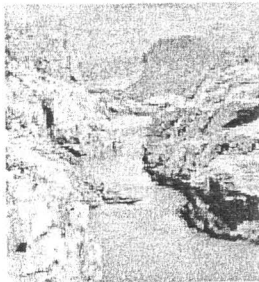
Business Line, Delhi

FROM THE VIEWROOM

Watery grave

The proposed Mekedatu project on the Cauvery is ill-conceived

The Karnataka government's plan to set up a ₹5,912 crore multi-purpose dam across the Cauvery at Mekedatu, some 110 km from Bengaluru, is a spectacularly bad idea. The point is not whether Tamil Nadu, which has moved the Supreme Court to stay the Centre's permission, will be deprived of its due share. The problem lies in the very conception of the



project — meeting the drinking water needs of Bengaluru and Ramanagaram district. In order to meet the demands of a city of about 8.5 million that does little to conserve its water resources, about 2,500 acres of forests will be sub-merged. The Karnataka government has blithely said that no environmental clearance is required for a drinking water project — which shows that politicians remain indifferent to the disrupt-

ive consequences of large-scale deforestation.

The reliance of urban sprawls on water that is stored and transported across long distances must stop. Instead, cities must invest on conserving their water bodies, storing rainwater, recycling waste water and addressing the phenomenon of 'unaccounted water'. Water utilities need to generate resources to meet rising water needs. Bengaluru's lakes should be cleaned for setting up sewage treatment plants. But for that its citizens must pay the right price for water. As water experts have pointed out, there is no reason why a household which pays a monthly electricity bill of, say, ₹3,000 should cough up just a few hundred rupees for water. Recycling water costs money, but if Israel, Singapore and even Namibia are doing it in a big way, not just for non-potable use but also for drinking, so can we. Unaccounted water, too, is a problem of utilities not having the funds to maintain its decrepit infrastructure.

Urban India has been pampered for too long. Rather than focus merely on 'environmental awareness campaigns', water should be priced rationally so that it is conserved and recycled. That would effectively rule out alarming ideas such as Mekedatu.

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SOUTH

Heavy rainfall to lash parts of coastal TN in next 48 hrs

Chennai: Heavy rainfall is likely to lash parts of coastal districts of Tamil Nadu in the next two days following a trough of low over Bay of Bengal, the regional weather office said Tuesday. In the last 24 hours, ending 8.30 am Tuesday, there were widespread rain in many parts in coastal Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, Deputy Director General of

Meteorology, S Balachandran told reporters here. The trough of low over Southwest Bay of Bengal and neighbourhood now runs from Comorin area to southwest Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh coast, he said. According to the rainfall data at 8.30 am today, Ponneri and Cholavaram in Tiruvallur district recorded 13 cm and 8 cm, respectively. PTI

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SINGLE FILE

Shift to low carbon

India's stakes in a low carbon world economy are among the highest as it is on the front line of climate disasters

VINOD THOMAS



Both rich and poor countries have faced extensive damage from storms and heatwaves this year. As climate representatives meet in Poland for the Conference of the Parties 24, the crucial question is whether carbon emissions will be reined in to avert further damage due to climate change.

In India, rains, floods and landslides in Kerala have killed 373 people since May 30. Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Assam were battered by floods this year, as was Chennai in 2015. Meanwhile, Delhi, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana, among other States, experienced heatwaves.

Greenhouse gas emissions, of which carbon dioxide is the biggest component, make the earth warmer and lead to more heatwaves. A study in the journal *Scientific Reports* found that the decadal mean of daily maximum temperature for April and May in the 2010s is 40-42°C over large parts of India. Warmer air holds more moisture, which results in more intense rainfall and provides more energy for storms. Climate scientists attribute the rising trends in flooding and heatwaves to human-induced climate change.

In the absence of a shift to a low carbon economy world-wide, the average temperature could rise by more than 2°C by the end of this century. Hotter, longer summers and excessive rainfall in some areas and droughts in others will damage crops. Warm coastal waters will turn unsuitable for certain species of fish.

Adapting to a changing climate is one part of the agenda. Japan has invested a lot of money on coastal defences. It has built the world's largest underground flood water diversion facility. But with a coastline of about 7,500 km, most of which is low-lying, India cannot make such colossal investments. Better early warnings and timely evacuations have had huge pay-offs, the most striking example being the massive relocation of people from the coasts of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha before Cyclone Phailin struck those areas.

But adaptation will not suffice unless mitigation takes central stage among the world's leading emitters, including India. The country has committed to cuts in carbon emissions consistent with a 2°C temperature rise. But plans to build new coal-fired power plants need to be abandoned and replaced with a massive ramp-up of wind and solar power. India's stakes in a low carbon world economy are among the highest as it is on the front line of climate disasters and is also a leading contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Apart from taking steps to adapt to climate change, India's voice in decarbonising the world economy is vital.

The writer is Visiting Professor, Asian Institute of Management, and author of 'Climate Change and Natural Disasters'.

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SLIGHTLY WARM WINTER AHEAD: IMD



Above-normal minimum temperatures (over 0.5°C deviation from normal) in 29 out of 36 subdivisions likely

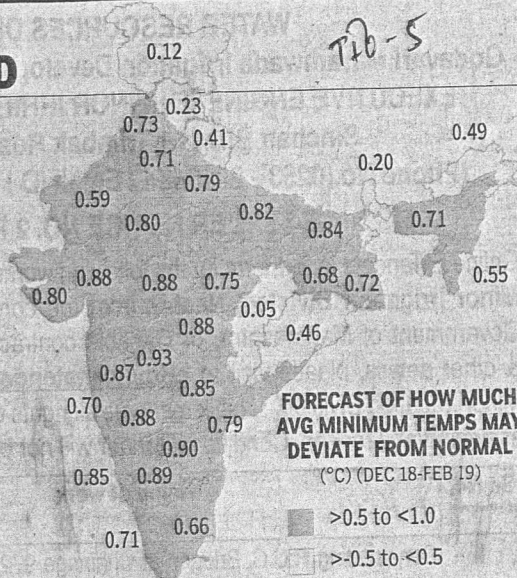


Less than usual 'cold wave' days in north, central & eastern India



Normal winter temperatures in J&K, Himachal, Uttarakhand, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Arunachal, Odisha & Chhattisgarh

Source: IMD's seasonal outlook for Dec-Feb temperatures



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Climate

Huge climate threat to Assam, Mizoram

COP24 ASSESSMENT Sikkim safest among Himalayan states

Jayashree Nandi

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Assam and Mizoram are the most vulnerable to climate change among the Himalayan states, according to a study presented by a team of Indian scientists at the COP 24 climate conference being held in Katowice, Poland.

The team studied 12 western and eastern Himalayan states on various parameters crucial for adaptation to climate change such as irrigated area, per capita income (for 2014-15), area under crop insurance, forest cover and the extent of slopes.

The data for these parameters has been taken from government records such as the census and annual reports.

The team, which has scientists from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc, Bengaluru), the Indian Institute of Technology

WHAT MAKES THEM VULNERABLE

A team comprising IISc, IIT scientists studied states on parameters like irrigated area and per capita income

■ Assam has higher vulnerability because it has one of the lowest areas under irrigation, lowest forest area per 1,000 rural households among the 12 states, lowest per capita income, lowest area under crop insurance and relatively low participation in the MGNREGA

■ Mizoram is also highly vulnerable because of the same issues but also because at least 30% of

the geographical area is under slope.

■ Jammu and Kashmir has the third highest vulnerability ranking, mainly because it has no area under crop insurance, least road density, low percentage of area under horticulture crops, low livestock to human ratio and low percentage of women in the overall workforce, among other factors.

(IIT) at Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, and IIT, Guwahati, found that Assam and Mizoram ranked highest on the vulnerability index, while Uttarakhand and Sikkim were the lowest relative to other hill states assessed.

Assam has higher vulnerability because it has one of the lowest areas under irrigation and lowest forest area per 1,000 rural households among the 12 states.

Besides, it has lowest per capita income, lowest area under crop insurance and relatively low participation in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme, which provides 100 days of employment (unskilled public work) to at least one adult member of every poor rural household.

Mizoram is also highly vulnerable because of the same issues but also because at least 30% of the geographical area is under slope. Jammu and Kashmir has the third highest vulnerability ranking, mainly because it has no area under crop insurance, least road density, low percentage of area under horticulture crops, low livestock to human ratio and low percentage of women in the overall workforce, among other factors.

"Vulnerability to climate change is not about how much high temperature or high rainfall a region is going to experience. It is about the economic, social and environmental resources you have access to. So it will include money, infrastructure and many other factors. For example if there is frequent crop damage, a community would have to depend on the forests nearby which is an environmental resource. Developed countries for example can do it because they have resources. I believe this is a very important study for India which is struggling with climate impacts," said Sanjay Vashist, director, Climate Action Network South Asia, a coalition of civil society organisations working to limit human-induced climate change.

Sikkim has the lowest vulnerability because it has the highest per capita income among the states assessed, lowest area under open forests but good coverage of dense forests, large area under orchards and a low population density.

NH Ravindranath, professor, Centre for Sustainable Technologies at IISc, made a presentation on these findings at Katowice on Tuesday. The Indian team said this vulnerability ranking will help in prioritising investment in mechanisms to adapt to climate change—in prioritising districts, blocks, communities, forest types and cropping systems and others.

"The vulnerability ranking will help the government rank most vulnerable states and districts within a state and undertake adaptation on priority. Indian Institute of Science devel-

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जल समस्याओं और गंगा संरक्षण पर मंथन होगा

नई दिल्ली | एजेंसी

सम्मेलन ५५

जल से संबंधित समस्याओं, गंगा संरक्षण समेत कई अन्य मुद्दों पर 5 से 7 दिसंबर के बीच भारत जल प्रभाव सम्मेलन में मंथन होगा। नई दिल्ली में होने वाले सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी करेंगे। सम्मेलन का आयोजन राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी) और गंगा नदी थाला प्रबंधन एवं अध्ययन केंद्र कर रहे हैं।

सम्मेलन में भारत के लिए विदेश से प्रौद्योगिकी संबंधी नवाचारों, अनुसंधान, नीतिगत ढांचा और वित्त पोषण की पद्धतियों पर भी चर्चा होगी। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि सम्मेलन में वृक्षारोपण और जैव

- तीन दिवसीय भारत जल प्रभाव सम्मेलन-2018 आज से
- केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन करेंगे

विविधता, शहरी नदी/जल प्रबंधन योजनाएं, गंगा संरक्षण कार्यक्रम के लिए वित्त पोषण हेतु वैश्विक पारिस्थितिकी का निर्माण जैसे मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श किया जाएगा।

इस सम्मेलन में कई देशों के प्रतिनिध भी शामिल होंगे। वे इस कार्य में भारत और विदेश से प्रौद्योगिकी विषयक नवाचारों, अनुसंधान, नीतिगत ढांचा और वित्त पोषण की पद्धतियों पर विचार-विमर्श करेंगे।