

Central Water Commission
WSE Dte.,

West Block II, Wing No-4
R. K. Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 07.05.2019

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 will be uploaded on the CWC website.


7/5/2019
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o/c

Deputy Director, WSE Dte. On leave

Director, WSE Dte. On leave

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

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

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

Hindustan (Hindi)
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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

Mail Today, Delhi ✓
Tuesday, 7th May 2019;

Namami Gange holds 4th consultative meeting

By Mail Today Bureau in
New Delhi

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), in collaboration with PTC Financial Services Limited, organised the 4th consultative meeting on 'Development of Sewage Treatment Plants through Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)', recently at India Habitat Centre, Delhi. There was wide participation of all the major players in the water/waste water sector as well as other stakeholders, developers, consultants, financial institutions, bankers etc. including Adani Group, Larsen and Toubro, Suez India, U.P. Jal Nigam, Voltas, ICICI Bank, World Bank, Union Bank of India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Aquanomics System Limited, Korfta Engineering Limited, International Finance Corporation (IFC), SREI, Mahindra, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), KPCPL etc.

Addressing the stakeholders, Upendra Prasad Singh, secretary, ministry of water resources, river development and Ganga rejuvenation, said that the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) is proving to be a gamechanger and this innovation is adding value to projects in sewerage infrastructure. Besides being a role model for players from different sectors, he believed that quality of overall delivery would also improve under HAM in the future.

Rajiv Mishra, director general, NMCG was pleased to see all the stakeholders on one platform and was confident that the discussions would help to build understanding of the concerns associated with qualification, financing, timelines and other terms of bid documents on development of sewage treatment plants under HAM with public private partnership (PPP) and create confidence

in the mind of investors. Mishra looked forward to the suggestions; addressing the challenges and expediting the processes.

At the interactive session, the secretary, along with the NMCG team, made sure that all the valued inputs and suggestions by stakeholders, prospective developers, contributors, and investors would be included in the policy framework of HAM projects.

Before HAM projects, the focus was more on asset creation which led to under utilisation and inefficient operation of many STPs. Under the HAM with PPP projects, upto 40 per cent of the capital cost of the project is paid by the government during the construction phase of the project. The remaining capital investment on the project, the cost of operations

and maintenance of STP are paid over a period of 15 years as quarterly instalments. The payment of the project in the given period has been linked to performance standards of the project. Interest rate risk and inflation risk is also covered in the model.

The pioneering projects in sewerage infrastructure under HAM with PPP have been started in Haridwar and Varanasi, followed by projects in Mathura, Howrah, Prayagraj, Kanpur and Patna. A total of 30 packages have been prepared under this model, out of which six packages have already been awarded, bids have been received in two projects and nine are under the process of bidding.

The HAM has been further improvised through 'one city, one operator' model, wherein operations of new STPs, existing STPs, pumping stations and pipe lines are all given to one operator to manage. This

initiative is proving to be a paradigm shift in the waste water treatment sector giving one stop solution to sewage treatment of an entire city. The single ownership and accountability for end-to-end operations assures continued performance for both existing and new sewerage infrastructure.

The innovation has been recognised at the international level. Varanasi waste water treatment project was recognised as the 'Water Deal of the Year' by International Infrastructure Journal and recently NMCG was awarded distinction as 'Public Water Agency of the Year' at Global Water Summit, London.

Besides, various other subjects were also discussed during the consultative meeting, including the technical and financial criteria needed to bid in the project, experience in the sector, funding issues, concerns of banks and other financial institutions.



Before HAM, the focus was more on asset creation which led to inefficient operation of many STPs.

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TAMING THE TEMPEST

Odisha's handling of Cyclone Fani points to the gains the state has made in dealing with natural disasters

THE ODISHA GOVERNMENT can take credit for minimising the impact of Fani, a rarest of rare summer cyclone that made landfall near Puri on Friday. It flattened several structures on the coast and disrupted essential services in the state. Every death is one too many, but the death toll, at 34, was expected to be worse. Two decades ago, the Super Cyclone, which swept the state with windspeeds similar to Fani, killed over 10,000 people. Odisha had then promised to put systems and structures in place to deal with cyclones, an unavoidable natural phenomenon on the Bay of Bengal coast. The administration's resolve was tested by Cyclone Phailin in 2013 and now, it has stood up to the onslaught of Fani.

The administration could plan the evacuation of over a million people largely because the Indian Meteorological Department had tracked the storm's path accurately since it originated as a tropical depression in the Indian Ocean, off Sumatra, on April 26. As the eye of the storm moved across the Bay of Bengal, the Odisha administration embarked on a massive communication outreach to get the vulnerable population on the coast shift to nearly 900 cyclone shelters that had been built in the aftermath of the 1999 Super Cyclone. Loud speakers to radio and TV commercials to mobile phones — 2.6 million text messages were sent out — were pressed into service to spread the message of the impending storm and fishermen warned not to go out into the sea. Thousands of volunteers, emergency workers, police officers executed the evacuation plan and by the time the cyclone crossed over to the land, most of the population had been moved to the shelters. The administration had also readied boats, helicopters and the necessary equipment to clear roads, fallen trees etc. Now that the worst has passed, it is time to start counting the losses. Electricity and water supply are to be restored in rural and urban areas. That, hopefully, will be done soon. People and the state administration will need a generous hand from all sections of society to rebuild homesteads, livelihoods and infrastructure. But the administration has passed the first test.

Cyclones have been both a boon and bane of India's eastern coasts. These tropical storms feed water systems on the eastern coast, even as they wreaked havoc on unsuspecting populations in the past. Advanced technologies now allow accurate prediction of cyclone paths and enable people to be prepared when the storm arrives. Equally important is that the administration and political leadership are now more capable and willing to put in the extra effort to contain the impact of cyclonic storms. A similar resolve would help Odisha get back on its feet soon.

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Thunder on the Coast

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As the wind with a speed of 175 kilometres per hour howled in Odisha on Friday morning, the message that resonated in echo chambers across the country was that the state cries out for a massive national effort towards reconstruction and rehabilitation of the dispossessed in the coastal belt - Puri, Bhubaneswar, Kendrapara, Cuttack, and Jagatsinghpur. Alas, it has turned out to be a decadal catastrophe. Ten years after Cyclone Aila convulsed West Bengal (26 May 2009) and close to 20 years after the super cyclone devastated Odisha (29 October 1999), both the eastern states will have to grapple with the tragedy for some time yet, deflecting the focus from the puerile electoral joust between a Chief Minister and the Prime Minister. In the hour of the tragedy, the political relief must seem to be considerable. The response, specifically the assistance package, will hopefully match the scale of the devastation. Cyclone Fani is the most severe cyclonic storm since the super cyclone and this is the grim message to be drawn from Friday's landfall. In several respects, it has turned out to be decidedly more destructive. That Kolkata and coastal South Bengal were spared the worst at midnight lends no scope for a sense of Schadenfreude, specifically the "pleasure" derived from another's misfortune. The collapse of "mobile towers" in Bhubaneswar has been symptomatic of the general collapse of connectivity, with Kolkata airport closed for nearly 24 hours and 223 trains cancelled. To that must be added the near-total breakdown of power supply, almost inevitably leading to a crippling shortage of water. As battered Odisha languishes in unsplendid isolation, one must give credit to the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for the precautionary measures, which have arguably checked the number of casualties. Notably, the evacuation of 12 lakh people two days before the cyclone from the low-lying areas of the coastal districts is a reflection of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's signal of intent - "The priority is to take care of the people." On Monday morning, restoration of communication links and power supply were the two other forbidding tasks.

It redounds to the credit of the BJD government that Odisha has been the first state to put in place an Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA), which is backed up by the Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force. This structural arrangement has ensured an effective response, as immediate as it was concerted. The district administrations had acted with the very first weather forecast on the impending cyclone, reaffirming that there ought to be no time-gap between the alert and response. With not dissimilar alacrity, the government will be expected to contain the ballooning food inflation in the wake of the cyclone not the least because of the limited purchasing power of people in a predominantly rural state with a sizable swathe belonging to the BPL category. The overwhelming darkness is as literal as it is figurative in a state that is generally acknowledged to be an investment destination. Puri, for instance, exemplifies the grot of poverty and the glitz of tourism. Let India help Odisha.

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Naveen draws praise for Fani work from PM

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced an assistance of ₹1,000 crore to Odisha for carrying out restoration work in cyclone Fani-hit regions.

After an aerial survey, Mr. Modi said, "The Naveen Patnaik-led government has done a commendable job in evacuating the coastal areas to avoid loss of lives."

He also held a meeting with senior officers of the State and the Central government at the Biju Patnaik International Airport.

ODISHA SEEKS 10,000 CRORE,
SPECIAL STATUS ▶ PAGE 10

Odisha seeks ₹10,000 cr. for power infrastructure

State wants special category status

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced ex gratia of ₹2 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 to the seriously injured, as the death toll in cyclone Fani rose to 35 in Odisha.

According to a statement released by PIB, he promised further assistance after the assessment by an inter-ministerial Central team.

Assuring that a Central team would visit the State soon to assess the extent of damage to infrastructure, housing, fishermen and farms and relief needed to be provided to the State, Mr. Modi directed the State and Central government officers of power, telecom and railways to ensure restoration of services at the earliest.

Since district-wise damage could not be compiled due to failure of the communication network, the Odisha government would submit a memorandum in detail after assessment of

the damage, it was said at a review meeting with the Prime Minister.

Seeking Central assistance, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid emphasis on the power sector. Coastal Odisha needs funds to the tune of ₹10,000 crore for building disaster-resilient power infrastructure, he said.

Housing needs

Similarly, provision of five lakh disaster-resilient affordable houses which would require ₹7,000 crore was sought at the review meeting. The State government demanded special allotment under the Prime Minister Awas Yojna with 90:10 funding ratio.

The Chief Minister also demanded that Odisha be granted special category status. "As Odisha faces such extreme calamities frequently, we seek special category status for the State."

The death toll was the highest in Puri district at 21 casualties.

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Can't risk water cut, taking back plea: DJB

Says Doing So Under Pressure From Haryana

Abhinav.Garg@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In a peculiar move, the Delhi government has approached the Delhi high court saying it wants to withdraw its plea for protection of water supply flow to the city, as it is under pressure from Haryana.

Filed on Monday, the plea by Delhi Jal Board (DJB) says it wishes to withdraw its earlier plea in public interest of citizens of the capital, who are dependent on the neighbouring state for water supply.

"Now Haryana insists that DJB withdraw its application if it is to consider supply of water to Delhi. Further, bunds

crucial in the larger interests of protecting water supply to the national capital, which is at the onset of this most critical hottest phase of summer.

Based on DJB's earlier plea, HC had asked the Haryana government to ensure that it releases the entire quantity of water required as per the undertaking given by it to the court. Haryana has to release 719 cusecs of water per day into Munak canal and 330 cusecs per day in Delhi Sub-Branch Canal, according to the undertaking and earlier court orders.

Meanwhile, the main petitioner whose PIL led to court orders, advocate S B Tripathi, also filed a plea in HC pointing out that it is essential that Yamuna river is not left high and dry at any point of time and a minimum amount of water is always there.

Tripathi has argued that if environmental flow is maintained in the river there is no question of water loss due to seepage. He also urged the court to direct the Centre to "supervise and/or take over the control at Tajewala barrage with installation of meters of water releases to ensure that 1974 cusecs of water is released in Yamuna" and Delhi government should be ordered to take steps to take over canals falling in Delhi territory for their smooth management.

Citing the peak summer season, DJB had contended that "an imminent water crisis is likely to hit Delhi owing to the failure of Haryana to supply water as required pursuant to orders of the Supreme Court".

IN HIGH COURT

and blockades are being created in the main river course to obstruct drinking water supply to Delhi," the latest plea, likely to come up for hearing later this week, says.

Earlier, DJB had sought directions from the court for immediate takeover of the crucial canal and channel systems supplying water to Yamuna from Haryana, either by the central government or a neutral central body.

The DJB, terming its application for withdrawal "extra-ordinary", pointed out that "since the further supply and release of water to Delhi has been linked to withdrawal of this application... it is being done to ensure that required drinking water supply is made to the city."

It added that meeting the "precondition" imposed by Haryana and Centre is

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Mint, Delhi ✓

Tuesday, 7th May 2019;

DELHI IN NUMBERS

WATER WARS HEAT UP IN ELECTION SEASON

HOWINDIALIVES.COM

120

WHAT IS IT?

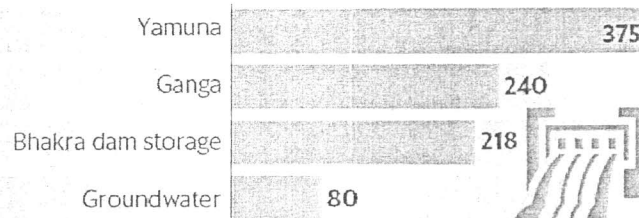
The installed capacity of the water treatment plant in Delhi's Wazirabad (in million gallons/day).

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

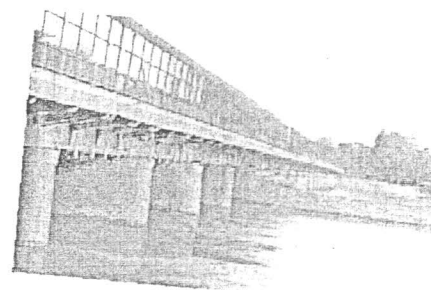
As summer peaks, the Wazirabad reservoir has found itself at the centre of a water dispute between Delhi and Haryana. The Delhi Jal Board (DJB), which is in charge of supplying water to the National Capital Region, has complained to the Delhi high court about Haryana's alleged reluctance to supply ample water to the Wazirabad reservoir, which accounts for more than 13% of water treatment capacity in Delhi. The DJB told the court that the reservoir caters to key parts of the city, including Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Prime Minister's residence, and much of Lutyens Delhi. The DJB has been demanding that the centre should supervise the release of water from Haryana, at least during peak summers. Haryana, in turn, says Delhi should do more to prevent leakage of water—the capital loses 30% of water to leakage and theft. More than 40% of raw water available to Delhi comes from the Yamuna, which passes through Haryana before reaching Delhi. Last week, Delhi's deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia even alleged that Haryana was building a bund in the river to obstruct the flow of water to Delhi ahead of elections.

Delhi's water sources

■ Water supply (million gallons/day)



Source: Economic
Survey of Delhi 2017-18



Howindialives.com is a database and search engine for public data

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Time of India (New Delhi)
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Dainik Jagran, New Delhi
Tuesday, 7th May 2019;

मजबूत राजनीतिक इच्छाशक्ति से ही स्वच्छ हो सकेगी यमुना

सुभाष डांगर • पृष्ठ 12

दिल्ली से जब यमुना मिलत कर के राखे फरीदबाद में प्रवेश करती है तो इसका पानी दूषित होता है। लोकसभा क्षेत्र में यमुना फ्लवेल उपमंडल के तहत आने वाले हमनपुर तक बहती है। वैसे तो यमुना पूरे जिले के लोगों से किसी न किसी रूप में जुड़ी है, मगर इसके किनारे बसे गांवों को यह बड़े स्तर पर प्रभावित करती है। यमुना किनारे लोकसभा क्षेत्र के करीब 40 गांव हैं। इनमें बड़ी आबादी रहती है और राजनीतिक पार्टियों के लिए यहां के निवासी मतदाता के अलावा कुछ नहीं।

हेतु की बात है कि यमुना की सफाई लोकसभा चुनाव में कोई कोई मुद्दा नहीं है। करीब 20 गांव यमुना पार पड़ते हैं। यमुना पार खादर में जाने के लिए अभी तक सिर्फ मोहना पुल है। अब यहां पर अरुआ, छावसा में दो स्थायी पार पेटन पुल हैं, जो थोड़ा सा जवस्तर बढ़ने पर बंद जाते हैं। यमुना में दिल्ली के 21 नाली का गंद पानी बहता है। ऐसा

लगता है कि काला तेल बहा रहा हो। पहले यमुना का पानी इतना स्वच्छ होता था कि ज्वेल के दशहरा पर हर वर्ष गांवों के लोग श्रद्धापूर्वक स्नान करते थे और पूजा करते थे। श्वेत कोई जलान करने नहीं आता। पूजा पाठ भी नहीं होती। यमुना में फरीदबाद की गंदगी नहीं है। शहर से दूर होने के कारण यहां पर कोई गणेश, दुर्गा, सरस्वती की मूर्त भी विसर्जन के लिए नहीं जाता है।

फरीदबाद दैनिक जागरण की टीम सोमवार को यमुना किनारे बसे ग्रामीणों से उनकी जिंदगी के बारे में जानने के लिए सबसे पहले यमुना पार के गांव ललीपुर पहुंची। यह गांव साहपुरा खादर की पंचायत में जुड़ा हुआ है। अभी तक गांव के अंदर स्कूल, राइड, पीपी का पानी, बिजली नहीं पहुंची है। यहां के लोग अभी भी रात को अंधेरे में रहते हैं और घरों से बाहर सारवाई बिजलकर सोते हैं। गांव के रहने वाले मलकौत सिंह कहते हैं कि यमुना अमृतप्रदानी मानी जाती थी, लेकिन अब ये बीमारियां का घर है। जिस तरह देश की राजनीति दूषित हो चुकी है

• यमुना में पानी आने से फसल की बुवाई-कटाई होती है प्रभावित

• हर वर्ष जून से सितंबर तक यमुना में आने वाली बाढ़ में बह जाती है फसल

यमुना तीरे



• यमुना की स्वच्छता को लेकर चलाए गए आंदोलन नहीं हुए सफल

• राजनीतिक दलों के लिए यहां के लोग मतदाता के अलावा और कुछ नहीं



यमुना किनारे गांव साहपुरा खेतों में बतों करते हुए किसान • जागरण

और इसे शुद्ध करने के लिए कड़े प्रयास करने होंगे, उसी तरह से यमुना भी दूषित है, जिसके स्वच्छ होने का इंतजार है।

मलकौत के अनुसार गंद पानी होने

की वजह से यहां पर मछरर बहुत हैं। रात भर मछरर करते हैं। अब तो आदत पड़ गई है। जब रिस्तेदार आते हैं तो उन्हें रात काटनी मुश्किल हो जाती है। गंधी



गांव साहजहंपुर के पास यमुना के तल में बैठे दरवाहे वहां करते हुए • संजय शर्मा

में मच्छरों की वजह से तमाम बीमारियां भी फैलती हैं। पशु भी इस गंदे पानी को पीने को मजबूर हैं। यमुना में अभी पानी आ गया था, जिसकी वजह से पेटन पुल

को हटा दिया तो फसल की कटाई और मंडी समग्र पर नहीं ले जा सके, इसलिए एक महीने देरी से फसल की कटाई हुई है। बाढ़ दिन में यमुना की वजह से हर

वर्ष हजारों एकड़ फसल बह जाती है, जिसका किसानों को नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है।

गांव साहजहंपुर के सूरज बताते हैं कि नेता यहां कभी भी नहीं आते। कभी आते भी हैं तो सिर्फ गांव के पंच-सरपंचों से मिल कर चले जाते हैं। यमुना सफाई को लेकर एक बार यमुना राक्षक दल के नेतृत्व में आंदोलन चलाया गया, तब लगा कि अब शावद इसकी सुनवाई होगी, लेकिन शाक के तीन पात रहे। ऐसे ही एक बार हरियाणा विकास पार्टी की सरकार बनने से पहले पलवल के विधायक कर्ण सिंह दलाल ने यमुना के केमिकल युक्त पानी का मुद्दा विधानसभा के साथ ही राजनीतिक गंजों से उठाया, लेकिन समाधान नहीं हुआ।

ऐसे ही जब प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने गंगा सफाई अभियान को शुरुआत की तो लगा कि एक दिन सक्कर यमुना की भी सफाई करेगी, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ। अरुआ के अजीत कलते हैं यमुना की सफाई को लेकर कोई नेता गंभीर दिखाई नहीं देता।

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Statesman

The Time of India (New Delhi)

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Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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

हिमाचल में लोगों को ब्यास नदी से दूर रहने को कहा

धर्मशाला (हिमाचल), (भाषा): हिमाचल प्रदेश के कांगड़ा जिला प्रशासन ने एक परामर्श जारी कर स्थानीय लोगों और पर्यटकों से कहा है कि वे बढ़ते जल स्तर की वजह से ब्यास नदी से दूर रहें।

उपजिलाधिकारी, देहरा (कांगड़ा) धनवीर ठाकुर ने कहा कि बढ़ते जल स्तर की वजह से नदी पर बने पंडोह बांध के दरवाजों को किसी भी वक्त खोला जा सकता है और किसी भी दुर्घटना को टालने के लिये यह परामर्श जारी किया

● बढ़ते जल स्तर की वजह से बांध के दरवाजों को किसी भी वक्त खोला जा सकता है १५

गया है। उन्होंने कहा कि नदी के आसपास के इलाकों में चोटियों पर बर्फ पिघलने से जलस्तर बढ़ा है। उन्होंने कहा कि रक्कड, जसवाना, दादासिबा और प्रागपुर जैसे इलाकों में रहने वाले लोगों के लिये चेतावनी जारी की गई है।

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

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

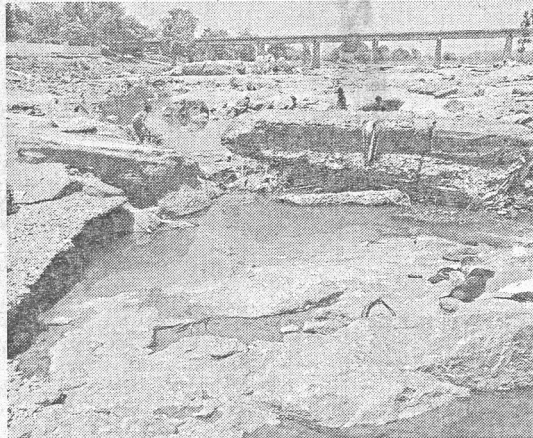
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald
The Times of India (A)
Business standard
The Economic Times

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

बलरामपुर : भ्रष्टाचार की भेंट चढ़ गया 8 करोड़ की लागत से कन्हर नदी पर बना एनीकट एनीकट का गेट जर्जर, चार दिन में ही बह गया 80 प्रतिशत पानी, इलाके में गहराया जलसंकट

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रामानुजगंज, बलरामपुर जिले के रामानुजगंज के वार्ड क्रमांक 9 में मां महामाया मंदिर के समीप जल संसाधन विभाग द्वारा 8 करोड़ रुपए लागत से बने एनीकट आने वाले दो-चार दिन में शो-पीस के रूप में तब्दील हो जाएगा, क्योंकि कन्हर नदी में पानी सूखने की कंगार पर आ गया है। वहीं एनीकट का गेट खराब होने के कारण बंद होने के बाद भी लगातार पानी निकल रहा है। स्थिति ऐसी है कि बीते 4 दिन में एनीकट का 80 प्रतिशत पानी निकल चुका है। एनीकट की स्थिति देख नगर पंचायत भी चिंतित है, क्योंकि नगर पंचायत की जल प्रदाय व्यवस्था कन्हर नदी पर ही आश्रित है। ऐसे में इस बात से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता है कि नगर में भीषण जल संकट उत्पन्न हो सकता है।



8 करोड़ बहा दिए पानी में

जल संसाधन विभाग द्वारा बना एनीकट भ्रष्टाचार की भेंट चढ़ गया है। 8 करोड़ की लागत से बना एनीकट आज किसी काम का नहीं रहा। विभाग द्वारा 8 करोड़ रुपए पानी में बहा दिए गए। एनीकट में पानी कम होने के बाद भ्रष्टाचार की पोल अब खुलने लगी है। एनीकट डाउन स्ट्रीम फ्लोर की दीवार टूटी हुई है, वह अब दिखने लगी है। वहीं डाउन स्ट्रीम फ्लोर का फर्श जो बना ही नहीं, वह भी अब स्पष्ट रूप से दिखने लगा है।

बरमकेला में सूख चुका है 98 प्रतिशत से अधिक भूजल

रायगढ़ @ पत्रिका. सारंगढ़ विधानसभा के बरमकेला में आने वाले कुछ वर्षों में भूमिगत जल स्रोत पूरी तरह से सूख जाएंगे। ऐसी स्थिति में लोगों को बूंद-बूंद पानी के लिए तरसना पड़ जाएगा। यदि शासन प्रशासन सहित स्थानीय लोग अभी से भू जल संरक्षण पर ध्यान नहीं दिए तो आने वाला समय यहां के लिए भयावह हो सकता है।

यह बात और कोई नहीं बल्कि केंद्रीय भू जल संरक्षण से जारी रिपोर्ट में कही गई है। इस रिपोर्ट की माने तो छत्तीसगढ़ के 21 ब्लाक क्रिटिकल कंडीशन में पहुंच चुके हैं। यहां का भूमिगत जल स्तर चिंताजनक स्थिति में पहुंच चुका है। इन सभी 21 ब्लाकों में जल स्तर 74 से 100 फीसदी तक सूख चुके हैं। सबसे बुरी स्थिति बालोद जिले के

गुरुर क्षेत्र में है। इसके बाद दूसरा नंबर रायगढ़ जिले का सारंगढ़ ब्लाक अंतर्गत बरमकेला आता है। यहां की बात करें तो यहां 98.73 प्रतिशत भू जल सूख चुका है। ऐसे में बरमकेला अंचल के लोगों को मात्र 1.27 प्रतिशत पानी जीवन यापन के लिए बचा है। यदि वह भू जल संरक्षण को लेकर नहीं चेते तो यह पानी भी खत्म हो जाएगा।

जिले में बरमकेला और पुरौर सेमी क्रिटिकल ब्लॉक की श्रेणी में आते हैं। भू जल संरक्षण का कार्य नरवा गुरुवा घुरवा बारी योजना के तहत किया जा रहा है। गर्मी में होने वाली धान की फसल में भी पानी काफी मात्रा में व्यय हो रहा है।

संजय सिंह, ईई, पीएचई, रायगढ़