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Monsoon to hit Kerala two days in advance, says IMD

VIBHA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 14

The southwest monsoon will arrive over Kerala, its first landing spot in India, on May 30. This is two days ahead of normal date of arrival on June 1, the India Meteorological Department today said.

During the last few days, enhanced convection and increased rainfall activity has been observed over the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea. The cross equatorial flow is likely to strengthen and deepen over the area. Conditions are becoming favourable for advance of southwest monsoon over the Andaman Sea and adjoining sea areas during the next three to four days, the weather office added.

The forecast comes with an error margin of four days. Monsoon' advance over the Andaman Sea normally takes place around May 20 with a standard deviation of

El Nino threat looms

- While monsoon is expected to arrive early, the IMD says it will be below normal for the country for the second consecutive year
- There is a high prevalence (almost 70%) of El Nino phenomenon playing spoilsport this season
- Most affected will be key growing areas of northwest - Punjab, Haryana and Western UP - and central India

about one week. Its onset over Kerala signals the arrival of monsoon over the Indian subcontinent and represents beginning of rainy season in the region. It lands in Delhi around June 29.

Though it is expected to arrive early, the IMD has predicted a below normal monsoon for the country for the second consecutive year. Most affected will be key growing areas of northwest — Punjab, Haryana and Western UP — and central India.

The IMD says there is a high prevalence (almost 70 per cent) of the dreaded El

Nino phenomenon playing spoilsport this season. Private forecasting agency Skymet has, however, given a prediction of an early onset and a normal monsoon over most parts, including in the northwest, despite the El Nino factor.

The IMD says there is a 35 per cent probability for monsoon remaining below normal and 33 per cent of it being deficient. Only 28 per cent chances are that the June-September season will witness normal rain and just three per cent that it will be above normal and one per cent that it will be excess.

All their operational forecasts for the onset date issued during all past nine years (2005 to 2014) have been correct, the IMD says.

There is no one to one association of the date of monsoon advance over Andaman Sea with the date of monsoon onset over Kerala or that with the seasonal monsoon rainfall over the country, the IMD adds.

Operational forecasts for the date of monsoon onset over Kerala are made using an indigenously developed statistical model with six predictors-Minimum Temperature over North-west India; Pre-monsoon rainfall peak over south Peninsula; Outgoing Long wave Radiation (OLR) over south China Sea; Lower tropospheric zonal wind over southeast Indian ocean; upper tropospheric zonal wind over the east equatorial Indian Ocean, and outgoing Long wave Radiation (OLR) over south-west Pacific region.

Is it global warming or just the weather?

Scientists are getting more confident about attributing heatwaves and droughts to human influence

EARLY THIS year, touring a drought-stricken fruit farm in California, Barack Obama cited the state's three-year dry spell, the worst on record, as an example of the harm that climate change can cause. Politicians like this sort of pronouncement. David Cameron, Britain's prime minister, said in 2014 that he very much suspected that climate change was behind floods in parts of the country's south-west. In contrast, climate scientists have been ultra-cautious about attributing specific weather events to global warming. Because the weather is by its nature variable, it is impossible to know whether climate change caused any particular drought or flood. So the scientists have steered away from making firm connections.

Until now. A new branch of climate science is starting to provide answers to the question: was this drought (or heatwave or storm) at least partly attributable to climate change? In some cases, the answer seems to be a cautious yes. As the research progresses, it could change public perceptions and government policy.

For years, the central debate of climate science has focused on how much global mean surface temperatures would rise by 2100. This is so important that a target for mean temperature rises is likely to be embodied in an international treaty to be signed in Paris later this year. The increase in the mean is the simplest way to measure the long-term impact of climate change. But it has drawbacks. It makes global warming seem like something that will happen in 100 years' time. Most people do not think about global temperatures but local ones. And climate change affects ecosystems not just through increases in the mean, but also through changes in the extremes — more intense droughts, say. Extremes also have a profound impact on people: a heatwave in 2003 caused about 70,000 premature deaths in Europe. Focusing on links between climate change and the local weather thus makes sense in terms of both science and public understanding.

In principle, attributing the weather to climate change might seem straightforward. The two are so closely related that the climate can be defined as the average daily weather over a long period (or, as Edward Lorenz, a mathematician and meteorologist, once put it, "climate is what you expect; weather is what you get").

Of butterflies and bad weather

In practice, though, there are so many influences upon the weather — famously ex-

pressed by Lorenz's idea of a butterfly's wing-beat in one part of the world causing a hurricane in another — that isolating any individual factor is hard. That remains true. It is not possible to say categorically that climate change has caused any individual storm, flood or heatwave.

But scientific attribution does not require certainty; it deals in probabilities. Even now, doctors cannot be sure that a case of lung cancer has been caused by smoking (the patient might have got the disease anyway). Nevertheless, it is possible to say that smoking increases the risk of cancer by a certain amount and that smoking causes cancer in a general sense. In a similar way, scientists are now able to say that climate change increases the risk of a particular weather pattern by a measurable amount and, in some cases, that a particular episode is almost impossible to imagine without global warming. That is as near as you can get to saying global warming caused a weather event.

The science of weather attribution started in 2003 with an article in *Nature*, "Liability for climate change" by Myles Allen of Oxford University. It showed that human contributions to climate change can be calculated by looking at what the climate would have been like if people had not increased greenhouse-gas emissions. That meant comparing observations of the weather with computer models of what might have happened without climate change. Much climate science depends on such models, which describe the complexities of the climate. By running them using different assumptions (for example, no increase in greenhouse-gas emissions, or more volcanic activity), and comparing the results with reality, it is possible to reveal the probable effects of the emissions. With lung cancer it is possible to compare groups of smokers and non-smokers; with climate change computers have to simulate the equivalent of the non-smokers.

The trouble is that weather observations are limited and climate models imperfect. Dr Allen showed that, by quantifying the uncertainties, you can calculate the probability of a weather pattern occurring. That made it possible to say that man-made climate change made this or that weather event twice as likely, five times more likely, or less likely.

Dr Allen argues that the study of weather attribution followed naturally from the establishment, in the 2000s, of a scientific consensus that humans are largely responsible for climate change. Heidi Cullen



A new branch of climate science is starting to provide answers to the question: was this drought (or heatwave or storm) at least partly attributable to climate change? In some cases, the answer seems to be a cautious yes. Reuters

of Climate Central, an American research group, points out that there was also a technical contribution. The climate is global and climate models are, too. Weather, on the other hand, is local — and until recently models were not precise enough to describe it. In the past few years, though, it has become possible to impose a finer grid on the global picture. Computers have become powerful enough, and enough data have been collected, to describe what is happening in an area as small as 25km by 25km. The result has been the development of regional climate models.

Turbulence ahead

Most of the episodes that have so far come under the microscope have been large, long-lasting ones, such as Australia's heatwave in 2013, or California's continuing drought. But one study, by Hans von Storch of the Institute of Coastal Research in Germany, looked at a storm that passed through northern Germany and southern Denmark in 2013 and lasted less than a week. (It found no evidence of human influence.) Traditional climate re-

search is a little like epidemiology, the study of disease at the level of the population; Dr von Storch's study was a bit like an autopsy.

The number of such studies is proliferating. Dr Allen's outfit at Oxford has put its regional climate models online so anyone can download them. Hundreds are doing so, running their own studies and making this project, called *weather@home*, one of the largest examples of "citizen science" in the world. The science of weather attribution now has a network of researchers and a group of institutions which shapes the studies (in addition to Oxford and Climate Central, it includes the University of Melbourne, America's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute). There is also an academic journal which publishes most of them: the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* (BAMS).

Though the groups use somewhat different approaches, their conclusions are strikingly similar. The strongest evidence for human influence can be seen in heatwaves,

such as Australia's "angry summer" of 2013, when average temperatures were 1.5°C above the norm for 1911–40. In a study in *Geophysical Research Letters*, David Karoly of the University of Melbourne argues that it is possible to say with considerable confidence that human influence increased the risk of such high temperatures fivefold, at least. The heatwave of 2013, he argues, would have been "virtually impossible" without climate change.

The most recent BAMS contained nine studies of heatwaves in 2013, including in Europe, China, Japan and Korea. All showed that man-made climate change had increased the likelihood of exceptional heat. In Korea daily minimum summer temperatures were 2.2°C above the 1971–2000 average; the study found that climate change had boosted the chance of this happening tenfold. Germany is likely to have a summer as hot as that of 2013 about once in seven years now; before industrialisation the odds were one in 80. For Europe, the odds rose even more, by 35 times — the result of changes to ocean currents and the great Arctic melt, and to emissions of

greenhouse gases and aerosols (which, like the melting of Arctic ice, are influenced by natural variability, as well as humans).

You would expect more heatwaves with more global warming; they are two sides of the same coin. But climate change also seems to be contributing to droughts, though the evidence here is weaker. The link is intuitively plausible: higher temperatures speed up evaporation, reduce soil moisture and lead to drought. One BAMS study of California also found that atmospheric pressure patterns associated with droughts in the past are becoming more likely than they would be without greenhouse-gas emissions.

On the other hand, another study concluded that global warming increases the risk of drought in California in some ways but decreases it in others, leaving no net change. Forthcoming research on drought in south-east Brazil suggests other sorts of human influence, such as population growth and water consumption, also matter. Of four studies of droughts in the most recent BAMS, two showed that man-made influences were increasing the risk; two found no link or an uncertain one.

The evidence is weaker still when it comes to storms. It is often said that climate change is making hurricanes and other intense storms more frequent. But the BAMS researchers looked at three unusual storms in 2013 — the one in northern Germany; a blizzard in South Dakota and autumn snow in the Pyrenees — and found no evidence of human influence in any of them.

In an attempt to give the overall picture, a new study in *Nature Climate Change* by Erich Fischer and Reto Knutti, both of the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, moved away from individual events to consider heatwaves and rain storms in general. They took all the heat and precipitation extremes between 1901 and 2005, defining extremes as events likely to occur once every 1,000 days. By running the climate models with and without climate change, they found that 0.85°C of warming (the rise since the industrial era began) has made such heat extremes four or five times more likely, roughly the same as in the Australian study. The authors attribute 75% of the heat extremes, and 18% of the precipitation extremes, to observed global warming. Worrisomely, the risk of an extreme event seems to rise exponentially as mean temperatures creep up. The probability of a heat extreme is twice as great at 2°C of warming than at 1.5°C.

That does not mean, alas, that the science of weather attribution will be able to forecast particular droughts or heatwaves, only to say that more of them are likely to happen. That is a useful addition to climate science. People are routinely told about — and routinely ignore — the bad things they are doing to the climate. The attribution studies show that the climate is doing bad things back.

Monsoon to hit Kerala on May 30: IMD

Monsoon to come early, but El Nino almost certain to have an impact

AMITABH SINHA
NEW DELHI, MAY 14

THE MONSOON is set to make an early arrival to Kerala coast this year, the Met office said Thursday, but latest information from Pacific showed that an El Nino was gaining in strength and there was now a 90 per cent chance that it may continue through the summer in the northern hemisphere. El Ninos are known to have an adverse impact on monsoon.

The India Meteorological Department said the onset of monsoon on Kerala coast was likely to happen on May 30, two days ahead of the normal date of June 1. Some rainfall was already taking place in Andaman Sea, it said. "During the last few days, enhanced convection and increased rainfall activity has been observed over Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea. The cross equatorial flow is likely to strengthen and deepen... conditions are becoming favourable for advance of the southwest monsoon over the Andaman Sea and adjoining sea areas during the next 3-4 days," the IMD said.

The advance of southwest monsoon over Andaman Sea normally happens around May 20. However, it is the onset on Kerala coast that signals the arrival of monsoon to the subcontinent.

While early arrival might be welcome, the El Nino phenomenon is becoming a big cause for concern. In its latest advisory is-

sued Thursday, Climate Prediction Centre of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of US said there was now a 90 per cent chance, as compared with 70 per cent last month, that El Nino will continue through the 2015 summer in the northern hemisphere. Further, it said there was a "greater than 80 per cent chance" that El Nino will continue throughout the year.

El Nino is a condition in which ocean temperatures in equatorial Pacific region, off the coast of Ecuador and Peru in South America, become unusually warm.

J Srinivasan of Divecha Centre for Climate Change at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, said the extent of impact on monsoon will depend on which region of the Pacific warms up faster in coming weeks.

"At present, both central Pacific and east Pacific are over 1 degree celsius warmer than normal. If the central Pacific warming increases further, it may not be good news for the monsoon. On the other hand if east Pacific warms faster it may not have such a large impact," Srinivasan said.

He said most models were currently predicting that the central Pacific may have a temperature anomaly of about 1.5 degree Celsius during June, July and August, and that could lead to below normal rainfall. "How bad it will be depends upon whether the warming will be 1.5 degree or 2 degree Celsius," he said.



IMD'S MONSOON FORECAST IN PAST 5 YEARS

Year	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Forecast	June 5	June 3	June 1	May 31	May 30
Actual onset	June 6	June 1	June 5	May 29	May 31

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₹7,000cr will be spent to clear dues of old Ganga projects: Uma Bharti

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after government gave a Rs 20,000 crore boost to its flagship 'Namami Gange' programme, the Union water resource minister Uma Bharti on Thursday said around Rs 7,000 crore would be spent on payment of dues of previous clean Ganga projects, which have escalated due to time and cost overruns.

"Only Rs 4,000 crore was spent in past 29 years for cleaning of Ganga. Now, we will have to pay the liabilities (of previous projects) due to cost escalation which will be



Only Rs 4,000cr was spent in the past 29 years for the cleaning of Ganga

around Rs 7,000 to Rs 8,000 crore," said Bharti.

She said various options would be explored for making the old policies more effective

to yield better results by involving experts, NGOs and other stakeholders.

Expressing confidence that the government will be

able to complete first phase of cleaning of the holy river by October next year, Bharti noted that the Ganga rejuvenation programme is a centrally sponsored scheme which does not require any financial assistance from states.

She also said that the cleaning of Ganga and Yamuna was a joint project and would be successful only if viewed in totality.

"Learning from our past mistakes, we have realized that the problems and challenges in cleaning the two rivers along with some adjoining rivers will have to be taken up jointly," she said.

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OTHER TOP STORIES

Early monsoon forecast, but El Nino threat looms

The monsoon is likely to hit India on May 30, two days ahead of its normal onset date, but the possibility of below-par rainfall increased with both IMD and US forecasters predicting 80-90% chance of El Nino conditions persisting. **P 9**

BEFORE-TIME ARRIVAL

Monsoon to hit Kerala on May 30, 2 days ahead of normal, says IMD

	Onset Date	IMD's Predicted Date
2011	May 29	May 31
2012	June 5	June 1
2013	June 1	June 3
2014	June 6	June 5

► Conditions favourable for onset of monsoon over Nicobar Islands & adjoining seas in next 34 days



BUT EL NINO SHADOW GROWS

► US agencies say 90% chances of El Nino continuing through summer

► IMD too increases probability of El Nino staying on through monsoon

season to 70-80%, up from 50% last month

► El Nino already a full-blown event. IMD says it would negatively impact monsoon but other factors could

mitigate effect

► All droughts in India in recent times have occurred during El Nino years but some monsoons have been normal during El Nino

Monsoon may be early but El Nino fear looms

Amit Bhattacharya
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El Nino is a condition that occurs every two to seven years, when ocean waters in central and eastern equatorial Pacific heat up, leading to changes in wind patterns that impact weather in many parts of the world. It usually weakens the summer monsoon in India

New Delhi: The monsoon is likely to hit India two days ahead of its normal onset date, the India Meteorological Department announced on Thursday even as the possibility of below-par rainfall grew, with both IMD and US forecasters predicting a greatly increased chance of El Nino conditions persisting through the summer.

"The southwest monsoon is likely to set over Kerala on May 30, with a model error of ± 4 days," the IMD release said. The normal date of monsoon's arrival is June 1.

The department said that as a precursor to its arrival in the mainland, conditions were becoming favour-

able for the onset of monsoon over Nicobar Islands and adjoining areas in the next three-four days.

The announcement comes at a time when the shadow of El Nino has grown significantly over the rainy season that's crucial to India's economy. US weather agency NOAA increased the probability of El Nino continuing through summer to 90% in its latest update, making it nearly certain that this year's monsoon would play out under condi-

tions that generally do not favour good rains in India.

IMD too upped its El Nino forecast. D Sivananda Pai, IMD's lead monsoon forecaster, said the department's climate models were showing a 70-80% chance of El Nino continuing through the monsoon season, up from around 50% last month. "Most international climate models show El Nino is likely to persist through the year," Pai said. The department will shortly release a bulletin carrying the

El Nino update, he said.

The run up to last year's monsoon too was dogged by a growing El Nino threat. The condition persisted till June last year before dissipating dramatically. But by then, the Pacific had warmed enough to impact the first half of the 2014 monsoon.

This year's situation is different. El Nino is already a full-blown event that's satisfying all parameters, including key changes in wind patterns that plays a big role in 'teleconnecting' the event with weather in other parts. As one Indian meteorologist put it, "This time, the beast has stirred."

IMD last month predicted a below normal monsoon this year with rains pegged at 93%

of average. Pai said although El Nino is likely to be the dominant factor during this year's monsoon, other smaller events could mitigate its adverse effects.

"One is the state of the Indian Ocean. Although neutral conditions exist at present, if waters in the west become warmer than in east — called a positive Indian Ocean dipole — some of El Nino's effect could be neutralized," he said.

Typhoons in the Pacific is another factor that could aid the monsoon. "Warm Pacific waters during an El Nino increase the chances of typhoons. If some of these storms continue westwards towards the Bay of Bengal, the monsoon would be energized," Pai said.

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MONSOON TO HIT KERALA ON 30 MAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 14 May

Monsoon is likely to hit the Kerala coast on 30 May, two days before its scheduled arrival in India even as the country stares at the possibility of below normal rains for a second consecutive year.

The Indian Meteorological Department today said that conditions are becoming "favourable" for advancement of southwest monsoon over the Andaman Sea and adjoining areas during the next 3-4 days. IMD has already predicted that India is likely to witness a "below normal" monsoon season for a second consecutive year. It has partly blamed the El Nino phenomenon for the low forecast.

"The southwest monsoon is likely to set over Kerala on 30 May with a model error of 4 days. Advance of southwest monsoon over Andaman Sea normally takes place around 20 May with a standard deviation of about one week. During the last few days, enhanced convection and increased rainfall activity has been observed over the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.

"The cross equatorial flow is likely to strengthen and deepen over the area. As such, conditions are becoming favourable for advance of southwest monsoon over the Andaman Sea and adjoining sea areas during the next 3-4 days," IMD said in a statement.

The event will denote the official onset of the wet season in the country. The official date for monsoon to hit the southern state is 1 June. If the monsoon reaches Kerala on 30 May, it will be the seventh time in 10 years when the state witnesses the rains arriving earlier than the scheduled date.

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एक तिहाई राशि देनदारी में खत्म

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

हि-15-5-15

नमामि गंगे योजना

नमामि गंगे मिशन के लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा मंजूर की गई 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये की धन राशि में से लगभग 12 हजार करोड़ रुपये ही काम में आ पाएंगे। जबकि सात हजार करोड़ से ज्यादा की राशि गंगा सफाई की पिछली योजनाओं की देनदारियों को चुकाने में खर्च होगी।

जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती ने कहा है कि गंगा सफाई के लिए नया एक्शन प्लान तैयार है। सफाई का काम तीन चरणों में होगा।

पहले चरण का असर अक्टूबर 2016 में दिखाई देगा, जबकि गंगा में सीधे प्रवाहित होने वाले प्रदूषण को रोकने का काम प्रभावी ढंग से लागू होगा।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की कोर योजनाओं में शुमार नमामि गंगे के लिए केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने बुधवार को 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये की भारी भरकम धन राशि मंजूर की थी। गुरुवार को जल संसाधन मंत्री उमा भारती ने इस राशि का मोटा ब्यौरा देते हुए कहा कि नमामि गंगे के काम में

• केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने बुधवार को दी थी 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये की मंजूरी

• 07 हजार करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च होंगे पिछली देनदारियां चुकाने में

तीन चरण, त्रिस्तरीय समितियां

उमा भारती ने कहा कि अगले चार साल में 12 हजार करोड़ रुपये की इस पूर्ण केंद्र पोषित योजना को चरणबद्ध ढंग से क्रियान्वित कर दिया जाएगा। इसकी कुछ राशि यमुना पर भी खर्च की जाएगी, क्योंकि यमुना भी गंगा में ही मिलती है। उमा भारती ने कहा कि गंगा की सफाई का पहला चरण दो साल में पूरा करने का लक्ष्य है और अक्टूबर 2016 तक इसका असर सार्वजनिक रूप से दिखाई देगा। दूसरा चरण चार से सात साल में दिखेगा जबकि सात से दस साल में तीसरा चरण पूरा होगा। इसके क्रियान्वयन के लिए त्रिस्तरीय समितियां गठित की गई हैं। पहले स्तर पर केंद्र सरकार, दूसरे स्तर पर राज्यों के मुख्य सचिव एवं जल संसाधन या सिंचाई सचिव तथा तीसरे स्तर पर गंगा के तटवर्ती जिलों के जिलाधिकारियों की समिति गठित की गई हैं।



इसमें से 12 हजार करोड़ रुपये की ही राशि आएगी। दरअसल बाकी राशि देनदारियों में चली जाएगी। गंगा की सफाई के लिए पहला गंगा एक्शन प्लान 1986 में आया था। बता दें कि

बीते 29 साल में गंगा एक्शन प्लान समेत विभिन्न योजनाओं पर पांच हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च हो चुके हैं, जबकि सात हजार करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा की देनदारियां बाकी हैं।

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वनों के विनाश से बढ़ता है भूकंप का कहर

भूकंप का सबसे ज्यादा खतरा हिमालय क्षेत्र में है, जिसकी हम लगातार अनदेखी कर रहे हैं।

दि-15-5-15

अनिल प्रकाश जोशी
पर्यावरणविद



पर्यावरण और भूकंप दो अलग-अलग विषय हैं, मगर दोनों धरती से जुड़े हैं। एक धरती के भीतर की गतिविधि का परिणाम है, तो दूसरा धरती के बाहरी हिस्से की उपज। भूकंप पृथ्वी के गर्भ से शुरू होकर सतह पर असर करता है। पृथ्वी के इस हिस्से और इसके व्यवहार पर हमारा कभी नियंत्रण नहीं हो सकता। धरती के गर्भ से उपजा भूकंप धरती की सतह के पर्यावरण पर सीधा असर डालता है। हम भूकंप को नहीं रोक सकते, लेकिन पर्यावरण को तो बचा सकते हैं।

पिछले 500 साल में जितने भी भूकंप आए, नुकसान वहां ही ज्यादा हुआ, जहां बेतरतीब निर्माण बिना पर्यावरण की सुझबुझ के किए गए थे। भारत जैसे देश में इन सबका ज्यादा महत्व दो कारणों से है। यहाँ विकास के नाम पर हो रहे निर्माण व रियल स्टेट कारोबार बिना पर्यावरणीय मापदंड के ही चलते हैं। कई जगहों पर तो बहुमंजिली इमारतें अब डरावनी लगने लगी हैं। खासतौर पर तब से, जब से काठमांडू की ऐसी ही इमारतों के ध्वंस की तस्वीरें अखबार व इंटरनेट पर छाई हैं। मामला सिर्फ पहाड़ी इलाकों में हो रहे निर्माण का नहीं है। भूकंप का केंद्र जब काठमांडू से भी बहुत आगे था, तो उसके एक झटके से दिल्ली तक की इमारतें थरथरा उठीं। जरूरी नहीं है कि हर बार भूकंप का केंद्र इतना ही दूर हो। यानी हम अगर देश भर में कहीं भी निर्माण कर रहे हैं, तो हमें उन खतरों का ध्यान रखना होगा, जो हमारी जमीन से जुड़े हैं। अभी तक जो निर्माण हो रहा है, वह इस सच

को नजरअंदाज करके ही हो रहा है।

भूकंप का सबसे ज्यादा खतरा देश के हिमालय क्षेत्र और उसके आस-पास से जुड़ा हुआ है। हिमालय दुनिया की सबसे नौजवान पर्वत श्रृंखला है और यह लगातार आकार ले रही है। इसे आकार देने में ये भूकंप बड़ी भूमिका निभाते रहे हैं। यह सिलसिला अभी रुकने वाला नहीं है, इसलिए इस क्षेत्र में कुछ भी करने से पहले हिमालयी क्षेत्र की संवेदनशीलता को ध्यान में रखना ही होगा। खासतौर पर इन इलाकों में चलाई जा रही विभिन्न तरह की विद्युत और खनन परियोजनाओं के लिए गंभीर होना जरूरी है। किसी जमाने में वैज्ञानिक तीर्थ कहलाने वाली ये परियोजनाएं किसी प्राकृतिक आपदा की स्थिति में हमारी अवैज्ञानिक अदूरदर्शिता का नमूना भी बन सकती हैं। इस तरह से सोचें, तो टिहरी बांध के 54 वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में फैली झील गौरव बोध नहीं देती, बल्कि भयभीत करती है।

यह भी पाया गया है कि भूकंप की ऊर्जा तीव्रता को वनाच्छादित क्षेत्र कुछ हद तक कम कर सकते हैं। ऐसा माना जाता है कि वृक्ष भूकंपीय ऊर्जा के कुचालक के रूप में कार्य करने की क्षमता रखते हैं। कई पहाड़ी इलाके में भूकंप के दौरान वनविहीन क्षेत्रों ने बड़े भूस्खलन झेले हैं। परंपरागत भूकंप रोधी घरों में काष्ठ का उपयोग इसी सोच से किया जाता है। वन काटकर हम पर्यावरण के साथ ही भूकंप के विनाश को भी दावत देते हैं।

(ये लेखक के अपने विचार हैं)

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नेपाल में फिर लगे भूकंप के 5 झटके

■ भाषा, काठमांडू

जे-15-5-15

नेपाल में गुरुवार को भी भूकंप के पांच झटके महसूस किए गए। बार-बार आ रहे भूकंप के झटकों से यहां के लोग खोफजदा हैं। उल्लेखनीय है कि इससे पहले 13 मई को नेपाल में 7.3 तीव्रता वाले भूकंप में मरने वालों की संख्या 107 और घायलों की संख्या 2, 563 हो गई है। सबसे अधिक 51 लोग पूर्वी काठमांडो से 75 किलोमीटर दूर स्थित दोलखा जिले में मारे गए हैं। इसके पहले 25 अप्रैल को देश में आए



मलबे में कुछ ढूँढता एक शख्स

सर्वाधिक विनाशकारी भूकंप के बाद से कुल मिलाकर 211 के झटके महसूस किए गए हैं। इस आपदा में अब तक 8,151 लोगों की जान जा चुकी है और 17, 861 घायल हुए हैं।

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नदी जोड़ो योजना के लिए राशि दी जाए-डॉ.रामप्रताप

स्पेशल कमेटी फॉर इन्टरलिकिंग ऑफ रिवर्स की चौथी बैठक

नई दिल्ली. ब्यूरो @ पत्रिका -15-5-15
patrika.com

राजस्थान के जल संसाधन मंत्री डॉ. रामप्रताप ने केन्द्र सरकार से मांग की कि राजस्थान में ब्राह्मणी नदी से बनास नदी और पार्वती, कालीसिंध-बनास-गंधी नदियों को धौलपुर तक आपस में जोड़ने के प्रस्तावों को जल्द स्वीकृति दी जाए। साथ ही, दोनों को राष्ट्रीय महत्व की परियोजना घोषित किया जाए। इसके अलावा योजना की डीपीआर व सर्वेक्षण आदि कार्यों के लिए आवश्यक राशि स्वीकृति की जाए।

डॉ. रामप्रताप ने गुरुवार को केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन मंत्री उमा भारती की अध्यक्षता में आयोजित स्पेशल कमेटी फॉर इन्टरलिकिंग ऑफ रिवर्स की चौथी बैठक में राजस्थान का पक्ष रखा। उन्होंने कहा कि राजस्थान की दोनों

परियोजनाओं के लिए राज्य सरकार पिछले वर्ष ही केन्द्रीय जल आयोग को प्रस्ताव भेज चुकी है। उन्होंने बताया कि राष्ट्रीय नदी विकास प्राधिकरण (एनडब्ल्यूडीए) द्वारा शारदा नदी के आधिक्य पानी को साबरमती नदी तक ले जाने की परियोजना तैयार की गई है। इससे राजस्थान के मरु क्षेत्र को पेयजल उपलब्ध करवाया जा सकेगा तथा इससे राज्य के लगभग 7.79 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में सिंचाई हो सकेगी। डॉ. रामप्रताप ने बताया कि राजस्थान के अलावा इससे उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, दिल्ली व गुजरात भी लाभान्वित होंगे। उन्होंने आग्रह किया कि केन्द्र सरकार नेपाल सरकार से शीघ्र वार्ता कर सर्वेक्षण आदि कार्यों के लिए सहमति प्राप्त करे। उल्लेखनीय है कि एनडब्ल्यूडीए द्वारा राष्ट्र की प्रमुख

नदियों को जोड़ने की परियोजनाएं तैयार की जा रही हैं। इनका प्रमुख उद्देश्य नदियों के अतिरिक्त जल को परिवर्तित कर शुष्क प्रदेशों को जल उपलब्ध कराना है। इसके अतिरिक्त देश में निरन्तर बाढ़ से प्रभावित क्षेत्रों को निजात देकर शुष्क क्षेत्रों में पूर्ति करना है।

अधिकांश इलाका डार्क जॉन में

डॉ. रामप्रताप ने बताया कि राजस्थान का अधिकांश क्षेत्र भूगर्भ जल की दृष्टि से डार्क जॉन में आ गया है। अतः राजस्थान को लाभान्वित करने वाली इन परियोजनाओं पर केन्द्र शीघ्र निर्णय ले। बैठक में केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन राज्य मंत्री प्रो. सांवरलाल जाट व कई अधिकारी भी मौजूद थे।

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नेपाल में भूकंप के पांच और झटके, मृतक संख्या 100

रिक्टर पैमाने पर पांच
थी तीव्रता

काठमांडू @ पत्रिका. भूकंप से तबाह नेपाल में गुरुवार को फिर से भूकंप के पांच और झटके महसूस किए गए जिससे लोग फिर से खौफजदा हो गए। उधर दो दिन पहले हिमालयी देश में आए 7.4 तीव्रता के भूकंप में मरने वालों की संख्या 100 से ऊपर चली गयी है। देश में भीषण तबाही मचाने वाले 7.9 तीव्रता के भूकंप के आने के कुछ ही सप्ताह के भीतर सोमवार को नेपाल एक बार फिर से दहल उठा था। नेपाल में पिछले कुछ दिनों से रह रह कर आ रहे भूकंप के झटकों के कारण 8151 लोगों की जान जा चुकी है और 17,861 घायल हुए हैं।

रिक्टर पैमाने पर चार से पांच की तीव्रता के पांच छोटे झटके काठमांडो

के समीप रिकार्ड किए गए। पांच की तीव्रता का भूकंप तड़के करीब सवा तीन बजे आया जबकि चार की तीव्रता का भूकंप सुबह नौ बजकर पांच मिनट पर महसूस किया गया और दोनों का केंद्र दोलखा जिले में था। नेशनल सिसमोलॉजिकल सेंटर ने रात में 12 बजे से लेकर सुबह आठ बजकर 22 मिनट के बीच तीन अन्य झटके महसूस किए और इनका केंद्र मुख्य रूप से दोलखा और काठमांडू के पूर्व में सिंधुपालचौक जिलों में स्थित था। 13 मई को नेपाल में आए 7.3 तीव्रता के भूकंप में मरने वालों की संख्या 107 और घायलों की संख्या 2,563 हो गयी है। गृह मंत्रालय ने यह जानकारी दी। सबसे अधिक 51 लोग पूर्वी काठमांडो से 75 किलोमीटर दूर स्थित दोलखा जिले में मारे गए हैं।

Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

725(A), North, Sewa Bhawan,
R.K. Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated

15.5.15

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.

Encl: As stated above.


Assistant Director (publicity)

Editor, Bhagirath (English) & Publicity

Director (T.D.)

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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