

Central Water Commission  
WSE Dte.,

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

Dated 16.4.2019.

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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.

S. M. Chandra  
16.4.2019

SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

O/c

~~Deputy Director, WSE Dte.~~

~~16/4/2019~~

~~Director, WSE Dte.~~

~~16/4/19~~

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

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

Hindustan Times  
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The Time of India (New Delhi)  
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Hindustan (Hindi)  
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
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Deccan Chronicle  
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The Times of India (A)  
Business standard  
The Economic Times

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## This year's monsoon likely to be 'near normal' at 96%: IMD

Vishwa Mohan  
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**New Delhi:** India is likely to have 'near normal' monsoon this year, India Meteorological Department said on Monday in what could be an encouraging signal to farmers and the economy ahead of six phases of Lok Sabha polls.

Though there is only 39% probability of "near normal" monsoon in the first stage forecast, and a 32% chance of

"below normal" rains, the prediction of "well distributed rainfall" will bring a cheer to agriculturalists as skewed distribution—a pattern some times linked to climate

change — leaves one or the other region in a deficient rainfall (drought) situation.

IMD said the monsoon is likely to be 96% of average, differing from private fore-

caster Skymet's prediction of a "below normal" rains. "The forecast suggests 2019's monsoon is likely to be near normal. The seasonal (June to September) rainfall is likely

to be 96% of long period average, with a model error of  $\pm 5\%$ ," said M Rajeevan, earth sciences ministry secretary.

► **Rain forecast set to push industrial demand, P 15**

► **Continued on P 7**

◀ **SEE FLAP OPPOSITE**

## El Nino likely to persist during monsoon season: IMD chief

► **Continued from P 1**

IMD for the first time used 'near normal' as a category in place of 'normal', with its chief K J Ramesh later explaining that both the terms (normal and near normal) were technically the same. The forecast percentage of 96% sits on the line separating normal from below normal.

The LPA of the seasonal rainfall over the country as a whole for the period 1951-2000 is 89 cm. The monsoon is categorised as "normal" when the June-September period has rainfall in the range of 96-104% of the LPA. On the other hand, the seasonal rainfall is considered "below normal" if it falls in the range of 90-96% of the LPA. Asked if the existing El Nino phenomena will have its impact on monsoon this year, Ramesh said the condition was likely to persist

### CATEGORY AND FORECAST PROBABILITY

Category	# Rainfall range	Forecast probability (%) for 2019
Deficient	< 90	17
Below normal	90-96	32
Near normal	96-104	39
Above normal	104-110	10
Excess	> 110	2

# % of long period average; (IMD for the first time used 'near normal' in place of 'normal' as a category in its official release)

during the monsoon season but with reduced intensity in the later part of the season. Based on El Nino conditions, Skymet Weather had on April 3 predicted "below normal" monsoon for 2019 by pegging the countrywide rainfall during the monsoon period (June-September) at 93% of the LPA.

"Overall, the country is expected to have well distributed rainfall scenario during the 2019 monsoon season, which will be beneficial to farmers in

the country during the ensuing kharif (summer crops) season," said Ramesh while emphasising on treating 2019 as "normal" monsoon year for all practical purposes (including preparedness in the agriculture ministry in terms of its extension services to farmers across the country). The forecast indicates a 17% probability of drought (deficient monsoon) and 32% probability of 'below normal' rainfall.

Full report on [www.toi.in](http://www.toi.in)

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# Groundwater crisis: Alarmed HC orders PIL

YOU READ IT HERE

## Losing ground: Just 1,200 rainwater harvesting units in a city of 2 crore

Delhi ignoring Mandatory Requirement Despite Depleting Resources, Reveals RTI Reply

By Abhinav Garg

**DELHI REFUSES TO**  
**HEED ITS WAY**  
RTI reply reveals about failure of  
harvesting efforts

**Mar 23**  
**2019**

15,706  
units installed with DDA

1.5 times penalty  
in case of non-compliance (RTI reply)



Abhinav.Garg@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Delhi high court on Monday took note of depleting groundwater in the capital and decided to initiate a PIL to enforce rainwater harvesting norms to conserve water.

A bench of Justices Vipin Sanghi and Rekha Palli cited a **TOI** report of March 23, which highlighted that Delhi is ignoring the mandatory requirements on rainwater harvesting despite its depleting resources, to flag the issue as a PIL.

"This court considers it necessary to examine, firstly, the aspect of implementation of rainwater harvesting in terms of the regulations and guidelines. Secondly, it also considers it appropriate to examine the feasibility of channelising treated sewerage water, particularly in those parts of the city where the water table is very low, which would reduce dependence on groundwater and help in recharging it in such areas," the HC observed.

It directed the registry of the court to place the PIL before a bench led by the Chief Justice, even as it made the three corporations, DDA, New Delhi Municipal Council, DJB Central Ground Water Authority and Union housing ministry as respondents.

Last month **TOI** had highlighted how Delhi is staring at a groundwater crisis as there is hardly any enforcement of

bylaws, which mandate rainwater harvesting for establishments built on plots of over 500 square metres.

As per an RTI reply, DJB had admitted that only around 1,200 such units across the city have actually installed systems to route rainwater to underground resources, even though under the Delhi Water and Sewer (Tariff and Metering) Regulations, 2012 it is mandatory for all establishments over 500 sq m to install rainwater harvesting systems.

Pre-policy constructions on 100-500 sq metre are exempted, but all the new ones in this size are required to install such systems, high court also underlined in its order.

The bench further noted that regulations were notified in July 2012 which stated, that in case a DJB consumer fails to comply with the rainwater harvesting rules within prescribed time limit, the tariff will be increased by 1.5 times till the system is installed. "These regulations, it appears have not been put into practice," the HC added.

It also observed that in Delhi "it is a common knowledge that in most parts of the city, groundwater has drastically depleted over the last few decades. Despite the enforcement of these regulations, rainwater harvesting has not been taken up with the seriousness it deserves."

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## Mercury at 40°C, rain may bring relief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The mercury touched 40 degrees Celsius — three notches above normal — the highest yet this season. Previous highest this season was 39.3 degrees Celsius recorded on April 5.

The minimum temperature on Monday was 25.5 degrees Celsius, five degree above normal at this time of the year.

According to MeT officials, there might be some relief in the next two days. "The minimum might rise, but the maximum temperature is expected to go down. On Wednesday, too, rain is expected and therefore, the temperature will not be too high. Then, Thursday it might go up again," an official said.

The MeT forecasts a generally cloudy sky on Tuesday. Dust storm or thunderstorm accompanied with lightning or squall and hail is expected along with 60-70 km/hour wind.

"The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be 36 and 28 degrees Celsius, respectively," it stated.

Meanwhile, the air quality was moderate on Monday as the air quality index clocked 168. According to SAFAR, it is expected to stay in the 'moderate' level for the next two days. The forecast for Tuesday shows a generally cloudy sky accompanied by dust storm and thunderstorm. The maximum temperature is expected to be around 36 degrees Celsius, while the minimum will be around 28 degrees.

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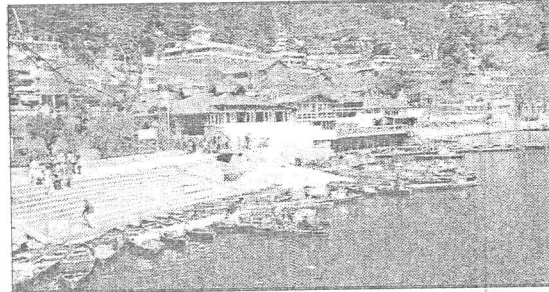
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# NGT seeks report on Naini lake encroachments

NEW DELHI, APRIL 15

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sought an action taken report from a committee against alleged illegal constructions in the catchment area of Nainital Lake in Uttarakhand.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel asked the committee comprising representatives of the Uttarakhand State Pollution Control Board, the Nainital District Magistrate and the Secretary, Urban Development, to submit the report within two months by email.



## THREAT TO LAKE

NGO Friends, an NGO, had approached the NGT against alleged illegal constructions around the lake and claimed that such constructions result in landslides, reduce the lake's capacity and increase soil erosion. It also alleged that constructions are beyond the carrying capacity of Nainital town.

"Before we consider the matter further, we find it necessary to obtain a factual and an action taken report from a joint committee...The nodal agency for compliance and coordination will be the District

Magistrate, Nainital. We may also make reference to requiring a carrying capacity conducted. A copy of this order be sent to the Uttarakhand State Pollution Control Board, the District Magistrate,

Nainital, and the Secretary, Urban Development by email," the Bench said.

The tribunal directed the applicant, NGO Friends, to furnish a set of papers each to the Uttarakhand State Pollution Control

Board, the District Magistrate, and the Secretary, Urban Development, and file an affidavit of service within a week.

The NGO had approached the tribunal against alleged illegal constructions around the lake and claimed that such constructions result in landslides, reduce the lake's capacity and increase soil erosion.

It also alleged that constructions are beyond the carrying capacity of Nainital town and as a result of it, the water level of the lake has gone down and recharge of groundwater is also affected. — PTI

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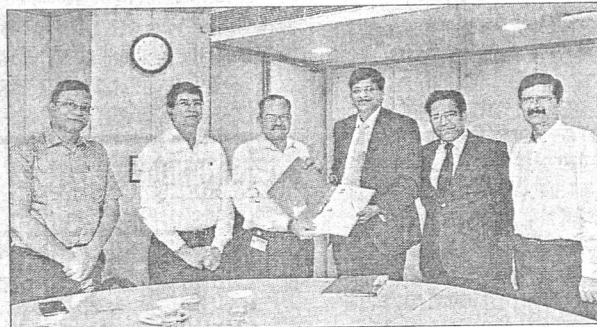
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## नमामि गंगे को लंदन में पुरस्कार

नई दिल्ली। राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी) को ग्लोबल वाटर समिट, लंदन में पब्लिक वॉटर एजेंसी ऑफ द ईयर-डिस्टिक्शन से सम्मानित किया गया। नमामि गंगे एक व्यापक पहल है जो गंगा नदी और उसकी सहायक नदियों के प्रदूषण उन्मूलन और संरक्षण के उद्देश्य पर पहले से चल रहे और वर्तमान में शुरू किए गए प्रयासों को एकीकृत करती है।



एनटीपीसी ने केनरा बैंक से 2,000 करोड़ रुपये का ऋण समझौता किया है। इस राशि का उपयोग पूंजी खर्च के वित्त पोषण में किया जाएगा। इस समझौते पर एनटीपीसी के कार्यकारी निदेशक (वित्त), एके गौतम और केनरा बैंक के अमित गर्ग ने हस्ताक्षर किए।