

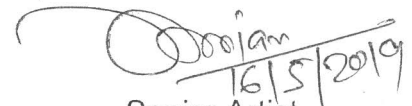
Central Water Commission
WSE Dte.,

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

Dated 16.05.2019

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.


16/5/2019
Senior Artist
WSE, Dte.,

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.


16/5/2019

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

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 16.05.2019 in the

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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

Monsoon may arrive 5 days late on June 6: IMD

ABHISHEK WAGHMARE
New Delhi, 15 May

National weather agency India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that southwest monsoon will arrive on the Kerala coast on June 6, "slightly delayed" than the normal onset date. But with a model error of four days, monsoon may hit the mainland any day between June 2 and June 10.

Private forecaster Skymet has predicted the onset to happen on June 4. Independent weather observers too expect a delayed monsoon this time.

Monsoon performance in the last five years shows that a

delayed monsoon is not necessarily associated with deficient rains. The best rainfall year in the last five years was 2016, and though monsoon arrived on June 8 that year, rains were 97 per cent of normal, though not well spread across regions.

IMD has been quite accurate in predicting the onset date. In the last 14 years, actual onset date was incorrect only in one instance.

Experts and scientists from the IMD said a delayed monsoon arrival had no bearing on the advance of the southwest monsoon over the entire country or its regional spread. Progress of sowing or agricul-

HOW CORRECT ARE FORECASTS

Delayed monsoon doesn't mean deficient rains

Year	Forecast onset date	Actual onset date	Seasonal rainfall as % of normal
2014	June 5	June 6	88
2015	May 30	June 5	86
2016	June 7	June 8	97
2017	May 30	May 30	95
2018	May 29	May 29	91
2019*	June 6	Yet to happen	96

*Forecast only

Source: IMD

tural output cannot be predicted or surmised from the onset date either.

Current thermal circulation and convective patterns over

northern and northwest India are dominated by western disturbances, among others. This condition is not conducive for formation of a pressure gradi-

ent pulls the winds flowing north of the equator to India from the southwest direction.

The Met department has been issuing operational fore-

casts for the date of the onset of monsoon over Kerala from 2005. An indigenously developed statistical model with an error of ± 4 days is used for the purpose.

The model uses six parameters to get the probable onset date. They are: minimum temperatures over northwest 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 OLR over the south-west Pacific region.



DS-16

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Rain gauge

IMD has forecast near-normal rainfall for 2019. The numbers refer to percentage of Long Period Average rainfall (89 cm) received from June to Sept. The forecasts are made in April

Year	IMD forecast (%)	Actual rain (%)
2013	98	106
2014	88	88
2015	106	86
2016	106	97
2017	96	95
2018	97	91
2019	96	-

Source: IMD



Rainclouds gather over the Kochi estuary in Kerala on Wednesday. ■ H.VIBHU

'Monsoon to reach Kerala on June 6' H-16

IMD's forecast expects 'slight delay'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday said the southwest monsoon will be "slightly delayed" over Kerala and arrive on June 6. The normal onset date is June 1.

The IMD forecast is in line with the one by private forecaster Skymet, which said on Tuesday that it will reach Kerala on June 4.

The IMD has been using a customised model, since 2005, to forecast the monsoon's onset over Kerala. From 2014 to 2018, the agency claims, it got the date wrong only in 2015.

This model crunches six meteorological parameters: minimum temperatures over northwest India; pre-monsoon rainfall peak over

the south peninsula; outgoing longwave radiation (OLR) over the South China Sea; lower tropospheric zonal wind over the southeast Indian Ocean; upper tropospheric zonal wind over the east equatorial Indian Ocean; and OLR over the southwest Pacific region.

It has a built-in error margin of 4 days. That is, a June 6 onset can mean any day between June 2 to June 10.

"Conditions are becoming favourable for advance of southwest monsoon over the southern part of Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal during 18-19th May," the IMD press note says. Generally, the monsoon reaches Kerala within 10 days of crossing the Andamans.

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Revive more waterbodies, urge activists

TIMES NEWS NETWORK 9/6/16

New Delhi: Following TOI's report on the Delhi government's plans to revive 201 waterbodies on the capital, activists have written to the AAP government to add more waterbodies to the list, including native ponds and johads which were once thriving with aquatic life and birds.

Members from the group New Delhi Nature Society (NDNS) said they had identified more waterbodies which could be added to the list and wrote to Delhi environment minister Imran Hussain and chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday.

Founder of NDNS Verhaen Khanna said he had been exploring Rajokri forest near Vasant Kunj for several years. The area, once thriving with waterbodies, is now witnessing fast decrease in their count.

"You are requested to intimate the authorities concerned to revive these waterbodies at the earliest. There is an Eco Task Force camp site nearby, the team there may be able to help in the protection of all these waterbodies," said Khanna in the letter.

He also highlighted concerns of a vanishing lake from Ashoka Park in New Friends Colony. "Ashoka Park used to have a beautiful lake some years ago. Over time, people destroyed the lake structure and now there is only barren soil. Also many trees have been felled leaving barren areas. You are requested to intimate the authorities to revive this lake at the soonest," said the letter.

Under government's plans, 201 bodies will be revived over the next few years, taking a waterbody in Rajokri as the base model. DJB has finalised the methods to restore 155 waterbodies in consultation with NEERI, the aim being to achieve biochemical oxygen demand of 10 ppm (somewhat polluted) and total suspended solids score of 10 mg/litre.

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Maharashtra demands 3 tmcft water in return for supply to Karnataka

State facing unprecedented drought; dams left with only 16% water stocks

SHARAD VYAS

MUMBAI

Facing an unprecedented drought situation, the Maharashtra government has demanded 3 tmcft of water from Karnataka.

The demand has been formally stated in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) the two States are likely to sign soon assuring exchange of as much as 5 tmcft of water across both sides of the border. Maharashtra's demand was communicated to Karnataka last week by outgoing Chief Secretary UPS Madan, officials said. "I have communicated to my counterpart in Karnataka that we would be providing water for drinking purposes in exchange for the water they may have to offer us in wake of the drought situation we are facing," Mr. Madan told *The Hindu*.

151 taluks

Maharashtra is currently going through an unprecedented drought like situation after declaring 151 taluks as drought-affected. The State is getting a Central assistance of ₹4,714 crore for the drought-affected areas but the dams in the State have only 16% of water left. It may dip into its emergency reserves now, officials have said.

"Water availability is a concern for us. We are able to provide fodder and other assistance. The government is trying its best to increase the water supply to remote areas," said Mr. Madan, now an advisor to the Chief Minister. The three tmcft of water will be distributed in the



Sheep in search of water at the Krishna river in Darur, of Athani taluk, Belagavi district last month. ■ FILE PHOTOGRAPH

Maharashtra villages bordering Karnataka, where the State is unable to supply tankers. Maharashtra in turn will supply two tmcft of water from the Koyna or the Warna into the Krishna and

two tmcft of water from Ujjani dam into the Bhima to help the dry districts of north Karnataka.

Earlier this month, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in principle agreed to Karn

ataka's demand for water to be released from State reservoirs for drinking in Belagavi district based on the condition that Karnataka should also release water from its reservoirs to drought-hit dis

tricts in that State.

Personal request

A BJP delegation from the State met Mr. Fadnavis, who had also received a personal request from Water Resources Minister D.K. Shivakumar for release of water for drinking in Belagavi, Bagalkot, and Vijayapura districts on the Karnataka-Maharashtra border.

"I told the delegation that we will give water based on availability, but at the same time they should enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with us to provide water to parts of our State from Almatti reservoir. Mr. Shivakumar has agreed to it. The respective secretaries of the two States will work on that immediately. Based on our needs and availability, if surplus water is available we will give it to them for drinking purposes," Mr. Fadnavis told *The Hindu*.

Pawar meets Fadnavis, discusses drought

Chandrakant Patil reviews arrangements in fodder camps, increases grant

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI

As the drought situation in the State turns grim, Revenue Minister Chandrakant Patil held a meeting of the Cabinet sub-committee held a review meeting to take stock of the situation on Wednesday. Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar too met Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday to discuss the situation.

In a four-page letter to the

Chief Minister, Mr. Pawar mentioned that areas such as Satara, Solapur, Beed and Ahmednagar would be witnessing a situation more severe than 1972. Among those who met the CM with Mr. Pawar were former deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, NCP MLAs Rana Jagjitsingh Patil and Deepak Salunkhe.

At a press conference after the sub-committee meeting, Mr. Patil said 1,417 fodder camps were operating across the State in which

9,39,372 cattle were being looked after. "In a bid to avoid irregularities in the fodder camps, we have developed a mobile application under which tags will be tied to the cattle making it easier to monitor," said Mr. Patil.

He said grant for animals in cattle camps too has been increased for the purpose of their fodder and water.

At present, 4,331 villages and 9,470 hamlets are being supplied water through 5,493 tankers. This number

was 5,174 last week and in 2018 during the same week only 1,245 tankers had been deployed. Mr. Patil said that the State has delegated the powers of the Collector at the tehsildar level for sanctioning water tankers within 24 hours wherever needed.

Mr. Pawar in his letter also said that "Drinking water was not supplied to Bijwadi, Shindi Khurd, Vavarhire, Bhalwadi, Panwal among other villages as per the needs of population."

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Depleting resources

HT-16



Summer woes: Water level in the Malampuzha dam in Kerala is rapidly receding due to the absence of summer rain in its catchment areas. It is the source of water to Palakkad municipality and the five adjacent panchayats. ■ K.K. MUSTAFAH

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Business Line, ✓

Maharashtra polls: Dams are the elephant in the room

With alleged beneficiaries of ₹70,000-cr scam across all parties, issue not raised in campaign

RADHESHYAM JADHAV

Pune, May 15

Reservoirs in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra now have just 3 per cent of their storage level. Reservoirs in the Nagpur division have 9 per cent and the State machinery is unsure of how to tackle the worsening situation. However, political discourse is on expected track — that the State needs more dams.

Though 2,069 large dams already dot its landscape, Maharashtra is building another 285, even though the majority of the dams have not achieved their projected irrigation potential. However, during the entire Lok Sabha election campaign and now, with the State facing one of the severest droughts, the irrigation scams are missing from public discourse.

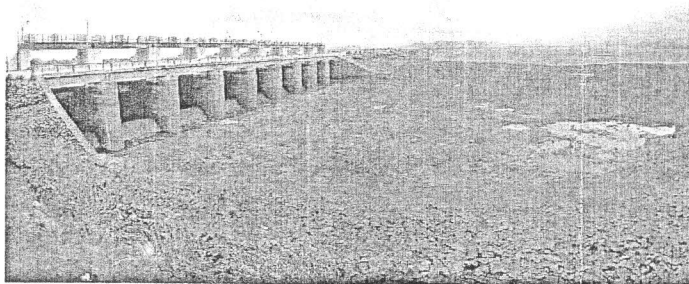
Since 2012, activists and NGOs in the State have been fighting legal battles to unravel the ₹70,000-crore scams related to

approval and execution of irrigation projects. The Economic Survey of Maharashtra 2011-12 mentions that despite spending over ₹70,000 crore, the irrigated area of the State increased only by 0.1 per cent. While the legal battle is on, no political party even mentioned it during the poll campaign.

Politics of slush money

Not only in Vidarbha and Marathwada, but also in the western parts of the State hundreds of irrigation projects launched by the Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation (MKVDC) are mired in controversies. Interestingly, if some of the contractors involved in the alleged corruption have become major players in the State politics, several others have direct connections to political families.

Maharashtra has the largest number of dams in India, but



Though 2,069 large dams already dot its landscape, Maharashtra is building another 285, even though the majority of the dams have not achieved their projected irrigation potential (file photo) AJAY SHARMA

has a mere 19 per cent of the net irrigated area and, yet, nobody is talking about it. Political observers say that a discourse on irrigation scam would open a Pandora's box for the State's politicians across party lines.

"Except drought, all issues cropped up during the Lok

Sabha election campaign. If you want to discuss drought, you have to discuss irrigation scam and no party is comfortable doing it. The government and the Opposition are talking about measures to tackle the drought, but not a word on why drought is perennial or what happened

to the huge amounts allocated for irrigation projects," said Shivrām Shinde, a farmer.

'All parties guilty'

"Who will talk about whose corruption? Leaders have jumped from party to party and now every party has leaders whose

name are involved in one or the other irrigation scam. One thing is common among all of them — they love big irrigation projects to nurture their political growth," said Amrut Raut, another farmer.

The case is not unique to Maharashtra. Across India, politicians favour large irrigation projects for obvious reasons.

Money down the drain

"We have invested ₹4-lakh crore in major and medium irrigation projects since Independence. Vast storages of water not reaching the farmers. We have focussed only on expenditure of vast sums of money for construction of dams and main canal systems, and not on enduring outcomes," observed a government-appointed committee in its report titled "A 21st Century Institutional Architecture for India's Water Reforms."

The committee noted that the average cost overrun is a whopping 1,382 per cent in major irrigation projects and 325 per cent in medium projects.

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Focus News, ✓

MoU Signed for Rudraksh Plantation in Ganga Basin



New Delhi, A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between National Mission for Clean Ganga, HCL Foundation and INTACH for taking up a project of 'Plantation of Rudraksh Trees in Uttarakhand' as a part of CSR initiative under the 'Namami Gange' Programme. While the project aims at planting 10,000 Rudraksh trees in the catchment area of river Ganga in Uttarakhand in association with local community and other stakeholders, it will also help in generating income for people residing in those areas. The tripartite MoU was signed by representative from HCL Foundation, INTACH and Shri Rozy Agarwal, Executive Director (Finance) from NMCG on 14th May 2019 in the presence of Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General NMCG and Shri G. Ashok Kumar, Executive Director (Projects).

Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG said that Namami Gange Mission aims at providing comprehensive and sustainable solutions for a cleaner ecosystem along the stretch of 97 towns and 4,465 villages on the Ganga stem and a public-private partnership will provide the initiative a much-needed impetus. He congratulated HCL Foundation and INTACH for coming forward and joining hands with NMCG in this endeavour.

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Financial Express, ✓

IT'S NOT JUST INDIA'S air that's choking; the water is getting toxic as well. It is estimated that about 70% of surface water is unfit for consumption. The most marginalised drink and use this water for their daily needs. In fact, every day, almost 40 billion litres of wastewater enters rivers and other water bodies, with only a tiny fraction being adequately treated.

A recent World Bank report estimates annual costs associated with water pollution, sanitation and hygiene at about ₹470-610 billion per year—most of which comes from the cost of diarrhoeal mortality and morbidity of children under five, and other population morbidity. In terms of ecological impact, India's national aquatic animal, the Ganges River Dolphin, has become an endangered species due to pollution. Despite its severe implications, there is no comprehensive programme for monitoring river water quality in real time.

Changing the game

Conventionally, water quality is measured by collecting grab samples and testing them in laboratories. Even though this may be a robust method, it has limitations: obtaining results takes time, it is expen-

Changing water data game to real time

Improving river water quality has been a political priority over the years. But what cannot be adequately measured, cannot be improved

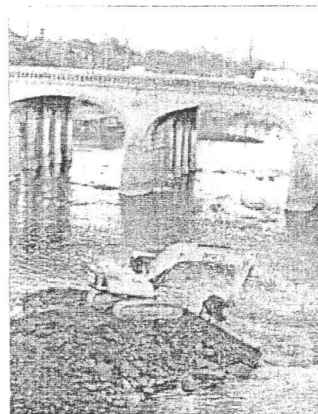
**PRIYANK HIRANI
& VIKAS DIMBLE**

Hirani is team lead & program manager, Water-to-Cloud, UChicago.
Dimble is assistant director, Research & Strategy, Tata Centre for Development at UChicago

sive on a per sample basis, and also prone to human errors at various stages. On the other hand, sensors that can monitor water pollution in real time can furnish quick and reliable data for policymakers to act upon. Such sensors, when taken around on boats instead of fixing them to specific locations, can provide a comprehensive picture of the health of a river by

gathering multiple data points in a given area rather than relying on a single-point measurement.

Rivers are dynamic ecosystems. They require continuous monitoring and near real-time data availability to ensure effective and holistic decision-making. But that's not necessarily the common practice in India. For instance, the distance



between two consecutive stations—one near Raebareilly and the other near Allahabad—being currently monitored on River Ganga by government agencies on a monthly basis, is about 80 km. Owing to lack of data in this 80-km stretch between the two stations, one may lose out on information about any contaminants entering the river through industrial

waste, municipal sewerage or agricultural field discharges in between these two stations. They add to the total pollution load in the river, but can go unnoticed since their effects could die down by the time the river reaches Allahabad.

Today, there are initiatives that use sensor technology to map river pollution hotspots in similar stretches in India to present policymakers with evidence to design interventions. To gather data, boats, with automated sensors attached to them, are taken around sites of interest on a regular basis. By pinpointing sources of pollution, identifying safe bathing ghats and quantifying pollution load entering the river, this approach can help regulatory bodies and other stakeholders.

Disseminating data

While collecting reliable and accurate data is essential, disclosing data to public in easy-to-understand formats is necessary to enable end-users to act upon it. Geotagging all data points helps in superimposing data on technical water parameters data on, say, Google Maps. Further, colour coding the scale for these data points helps create heat maps that can pinpoint any pollution sources entering

the river. Such visualisations can equip citizens with information to influence policymakers and play a crucial role in monitoring their local environment through community-led initiatives.

Helping public policy

Lack of high-quality data has been an obstacle for effective regulation of water pollution in India. Due to staffing constraints, manual inspections, which can often be manipulated, are carried out only a few times a year and that too only in a few places. Real-time monitoring of long stretches of water bodies can make reliable and accurate data available to regulators, and disclosing the data to public in real time have the potential to vastly improve regulation and enforcement. Existing research shows that disclosing data to public has many additional advantages. Such disclosures create competition among industries on environmental performance. In fact, civil society groups, common people and investors nudge polluters towards acting responsibly.

Cleaning India's rivers has been a political promise for long. To make it a reality, it's time to raise the game with better water quality data and transparency measures.

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हरियाणा ने फिर छोड़ा गंदा पानी, आउटर के लिए बना परेशानी

NBT

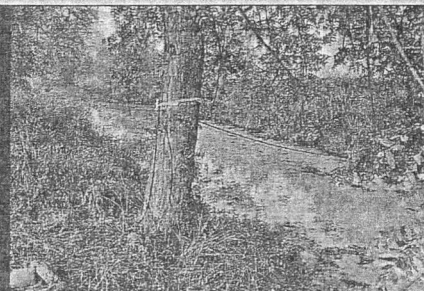
■ शमसे आलम, औचंदी बॉर्डर

हरियाणा के फिरोजपुर बांगर इंडस्ट्रियल एरिया के प्रदूषित पानी से दिल्ली के लोग बीमारी की चपेट में आ रहे हैं। लोगों की शिकायत पर एनबीटी ने इस मुद्दे को प्रमुखता से प्रकाशित किया था, जिसके बाद इसपर एक्शन भी हुआ।

6 महीने तक दिल्ली में प्रदूषित पानी आने से रोक दिया गया, लेकिन बीते 5 महीने से फिर से प्रदूषित पानी आ रहा है। लोग चर्म रोग, आंखों में इन्फेक्शन जैसी गंभीर बीमारी के शिकार हो रहे हैं। लोगों की मांग है कि दिल्ली सरकार और हरियाणा सरकार को एक्शन लेने की जरूरत है।

बॉर्डर के पास हरियाणा के फिरोजपुर इंडस्ट्रियल एरिया में सैकड़ों फैक्ट्री हैं। गंदे पानी की निकासी के लिए एक नाला बनाया हुआ है। पानी की निकासी न होने से इस ड्रेन को दिल्ली के मुंगेशपुर ड्रेन से कनेक्ट कर देते हैं। मुंगेशपुर ड्रेन में आ रहे केमिकल युक्त पानी से लोग बीमार हो रहे हैं। यह ड्रेन दिल्ली के कई गांवों से होकर गुजरता है। हजारों लोग इस समस्या से परेशान हैं।

■ एनबीटी ने उठाया था मुद्दा, 6 महीने गंदे पानी पर लगी थी रोक
■ दोबारा फिर से ड्रेन में छोड़ा जा रहा फैक्ट्रियों का दूषित पानी



“ पहले ड्रेन के पानी का उपयोग खेती के लिए होता था, लेकिन अब यह काफी गंदा और जानलेवा हो रहा है। - पवन खत्री



“ दर्जन से अधिक गांवों के हजारों लोग परेशान हैं। गांव के बच्चे बीमारी की चपेट में आ रहे हैं। - प्रदीप कुमार



“ इस पानी को पीकर पशु-पक्षी मर रहे हैं। कई बार ड्रेन के पास पशु मरे हुए मिलते हैं। एक्शन लेने की जरूरत है। - भगवान राणा



यहां लोग ज्यादा परेशान : मुंगेशपुर, कुतुबगढ़, कटेवरा, लाडपुर, टेटेसर, जौनती, पंजाब खोड़ और कंझावला के अलावा कई गांवों के लोग नाले के पानी की चपेट में हैं। गांवों के लोगों का कहना है कि गांवों का ग्राउंड वॉटर भी दूषित हो चुका है। ऐसे में लोग प्लोराइट जैसी गंभीर बीमारी के शिकार हो रहे हैं।

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फिर मानसून के भरोसे

ऐसे समय में जबकि देश के कई हिस्सों से जल संकट की खबरें आ रही हैं, मानसून में देरी के चलते बनने वाली तस्वीर काफी भयावह साबित हो सकती है।

भा

रतीय मौसम विभाग और निजी क्षेत्र की कंपनी स्काइमेट वेदर सर्विसेज दोनों ने ही इस साल देश में मानसून देरी से आने की भविष्यवाणी की है। स्काइमेट ने कल ही कहा था कि इस बार मानसून चार दिन देरी से 4 जून को केरल तट पर पहुंच सकता है। जबकि बुधवार को भारतीय मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आइएमडी) ने 6 जून तक मानसून के केरल तट पर पहुंचने का अनुमान लगाया है। स्काइमेट का आकलन तो यही कहता है कि अलनीनो के असर के कारण ही इस बार मानसून देरी से केरल तट पर दस्तक दे सकता है। इसके साथ ही इस बार भी सामान्य से कम बारिश का अनुमान लगाया गया है। पिछले दो सीजन से कम बारिश का दौर झेल रहे देश के लिए यह अच्छी खबर नहीं। स्काइमेट के मुताबिक इस साल बंगाल, बिहार व झारखंड में कम बारिश होगी। हालांकि राजस्थान, गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र और पंजाब में अच्छी बारिश का अनुमान लगाया जा रहा है। मानसून के लिहाज से साल 2018 भी खास अच्छा नहीं रहा। लगातार तीसरी बार सामान्य मानसून क्या किसानों के लिए संकट पैदा करने वाला नहीं होगा, यह बड़ा सवाल है? क्योंकि स्काइमेट के अनुमान के मुताबिक मध्य भारत में तो मानसून सामान्य से भी पचास फीसदी तक कम रह सकता है। साफ है कि मानसून देरी से आने के कारण बरसात का शुरुआती दौर भी धीमा ही होने वाला है। इस देरी का बड़ा कारण अल-नीनो को माना जा रहा है क्योंकि इसके प्रभाव से प्रशांत महासागर में समुद्र की सतह गर्म हो जाती है। इससे हवाओं के रास्ते और रफ्तार में परिवर्तन आ जाता है। पिछले सालों में मौसम चक्र को प्रभावित करने के लिए अलनीनो जिम्मेदार रहा है। मौसम में बदलाव के कारण कई स्थानों पर सूखा पड़ता है, तो कई जगहों पर बाढ़ आती है।

हमेशा मानसून का मोहताज रहने वाली देश की कृषि आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था पर इस बार पहले ही चुनावों का काफी भार पड़ा है। लोकसभा के ये चुनाव अब तक के सबसे खर्चीले चुनाव होंगे। दूसरी ओर विकास दर भी 7.2 फीसदी से घटकर 7 फीसदी तक रहने की आशंका बनी हुई है। ऐसे में कम बरसात से यदि पैदावार पर असर पड़ता है तो सीधे-सीधे मार आम आदमी पर पड़ेगी क्योंकि बेहतर खेती औद्योगिक विकास से भी जुड़ी है। चाहे भाजपा हो या कांग्रेस या फिर दूसरे दल, सबने खुद को किसानों का सबसे बड़ा हितैषी बताने के लिए इन चुनावों में कोई कसर नहीं छोड़ी है। कर्ज माफी की घोषणाओं से लेकर कृषि सम्मान निधि का ऐलान तक हुआ है। लेकिन ऐसे समय में जब देश के कई हिस्सों से जल संकट की खबरें आ रही हैं, मानसून में देरी के चलते बनने वाली तस्वीर काफी भयावह साबित हो सकती है। भारी चुनाव खर्च की वजह से आने वाली सरकार सिंचाई संसाधनों की बेहतरी के लिए अतिरिक्त धन जुटा पाएगी, इसमें भी संदेह ही है। दरअसल जलसंकट से जुड़े कारणों की पड़ताल करें तो हमारे साथ हुक्मरान भी कम जिम्मेदार नहीं। न हमने जल संरक्षण के प्रयास किए और न ही सरकारों ने। वाटर हार्वेस्टिंग को लेकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक के दिशा-निर्देश फाइलों की धूल खाते दिख रहे हैं। नदियों को जोड़ने की योजनाएं भी कागजों में दबी हैं। मानसून में देरी के खतरों से निपटने की बड़ी चुनौती केन्द्र की आने वाली सरकार व राज्य सरकारों के सामने होगी। जरूरत है कि अनावृष्टि वाले इलाकों में पानी की कमी के संकट से निपटने की स्थायी कार्ययोजना बनाई जाए।

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तालाबों में नदियों का पानी भरने की योजना रंग लाई इसके तहत राज्य में 445 काम पूरे ११

बैंगलूरु. राज्य सरकार की कोप्पल, दावणगेरे, विजयपुर, यादगीर समेत राज्य के 24 जिलों के तालाबों में नदियों का पानी भरने की योजना रंग ला रही है। योजना के परिणामस्वरूप तालाबों के आस-पास के गांवों के भूजल स्तर में वृद्धि दर्ज हुई है। गांवों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में पेयजल आपूर्ति होने के साथ सिंचाई के लिए भी पानी उपलब्ध हो रहा है। लघु सिंचाई विभाग के प्रशासनिक सूत्रों के मुताबिक अभी तक राज्य में ऐसी 445 कार्य पूरे हो गए हैं, जबकि 94 कार्य लगभग 80 फीसदी पूरा हो गया है।

लघु सिंचाई मंत्री सीएस पुट्टराजू के मुताबिक वर्ष 2017-18 में 'बहुग्राम योजना' नामक योजना की रूपरेखा तय की गई थी। इसे लागू किए जाने से कोप्पल जिले के कई सूखाग्रस्त गांवों में गर्मी के दौरान भी पेयजल की कोई समस्या नहीं है। इसके अंतर्गत जिले की प्रमुख नदियों का पानी नहरों के माध्यम तालाबों में भरा जाता है। इस योजना को सफल बनाने में लघु सिंचाई विभाग के अभियंता तथा कर्मचारियों ने काफी मेहनत की है। कोप्पल जिले में इसके सफल होने के बाद राज्य के 24 जिलों को इसके दायरे में लाया गया है। राज्य के 539 तालाब नदियों के पानी से भरे जाएंगे।

एमबी पाटिल जब जलसंसाधन मंत्री थे तब विजयपुरा जिले में मुद्देबिहाल समेत जिले के 113 सूखे तालाब कृष्णा नदी के पानी से भराए गए। इस योजना की सफलता के पश्चात राज्य के अन्य जिलों में इस योजना का विस्तार किया गया। अब राज्य के दावणगेरे, हावेरी, गदग, बेलगावी, कोप्पल, यादगीर, बीदर जिलों में इस योजना का विस्तार किया गया है। इस योजना के कारण इन जिलों के कई गांवों के तालाब सूखे में भी लबालब थे। इस कारण से भूजलस्तर बढ़ गया।

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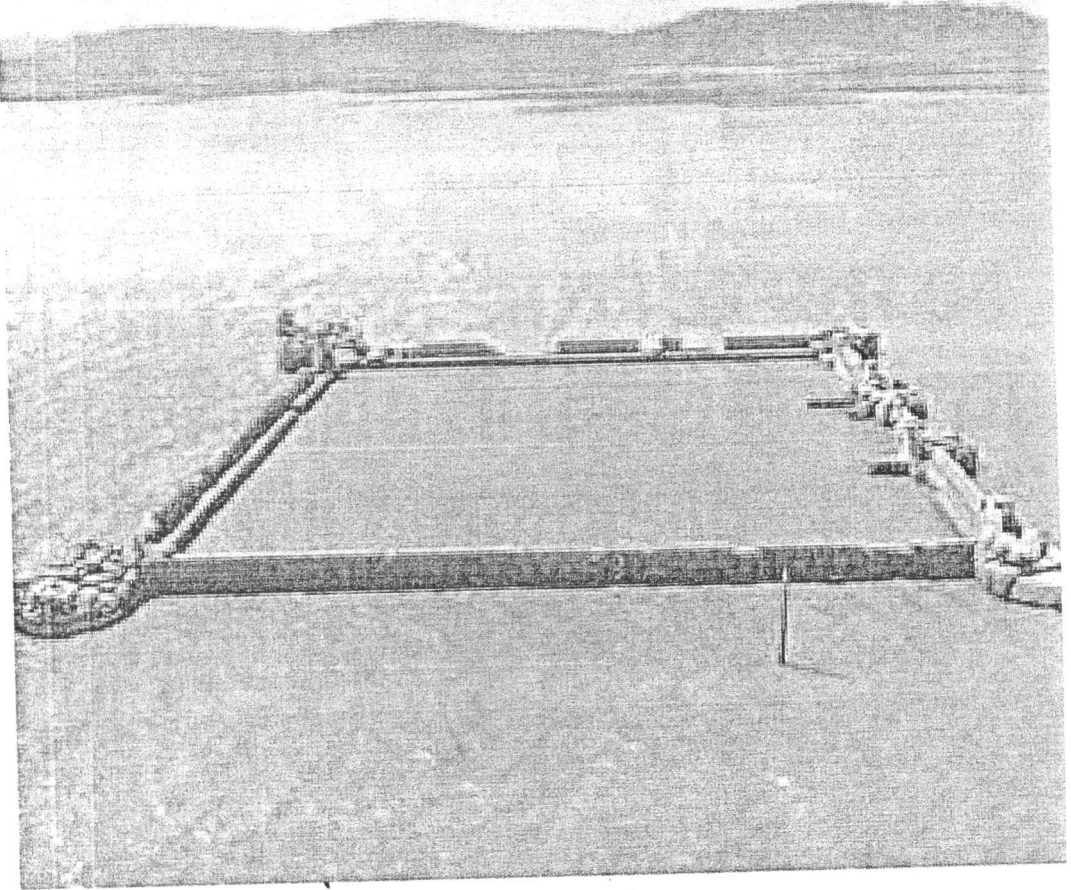
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Dainik Bhaskar, ✓

गुजरात: उकाई डैम का जलस्तर 64 फीट नीचे गिरा तो दिखने लगा 17वीं सदी में बना गायकवाड़ किला



सूरत | गुजरात के सूरत में बने उकाई डैम का जलस्तर 64 फीट नीचे चला गया है। इस कारण पानी में डूबा 17वीं सदी का गायकवाड़ का प्राचीन किला दिखने लगा है। यह चौथी बार है, जब यह किला दिखा है। उकाई डैम की जल भंडारण क्षमता 345 फीट है। लेकिन मंगलवार शाम डैम का जलस्तर 281.10 फीट रहा। जलस्तर 270 फीट पर पहुंचने के बाद डैम के सभी गेट बंद कर दिए जाएंगे। सिंचाई और पीने का पानी भी बंद कर दिया जाएगा।