

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

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 17.12.18

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.

P. Hashim
17.12.18

SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
17/12/18

Director, WSE Dte.

[Signature]
17/12

O/C

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 17.12.2018 in the

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

Cyclone Phethai to make landfall in Andhra today

Gali Nagaraja

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

VIJAYAWADA: Phethai, the cyclone, over southwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal is very likely to intensify into a "severe cyclonic storm" during the next six hours and move north-northwest, and cross Andhra Pradesh coast around Kakinada on Monday afternoon, said the Cyclone Warning Centre at Visakhapatnam in its latest 4.35 pm bulletin on Sunday.

The cyclonic storm lay centred at 2.30 pm on Sunday at about 480 km southeast of Machilipatnam and 510 km south-southeast of Kakinada.

"However, due to unfavourable environmental conditions, it is likely to weaken slightly before landfall and cross coast as a cyclonic storm," said the bulletin.

Rainfall at most places will be heavy, very heavy at few places and extremely heavy at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam district of Pondicherry on Monday. After



■ People walk along a breakwater at Kasimedu fishing harbour as Cyclone Phethai approaches Chennai on Sunday.

AFF

cyclones Daye and Titli this year, the threat of Phethai looms large over Andhra Pradesh.

M Mahapatra, head of Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre of India Meteorological Department told Hindustan Times that Phethai is relatively less severe when compared to Titli that ravaged Srikakulam district in north coastal Andhra

region, leaving eight people dead and parts of Odisha in September.

"We graded Titli as very severe cyclonic storm, whereas Phethai is expected to weaken and end up as a cyclonic storm by the time it makes a landfall, due to unfavourable conditions," he observed.

Titli left a trail of terror and destruction with gales speeding

PHETHAI IS RELATIVELY LESS SEVERE WHEN COMPARED TO TITLI THAT RAVAGED SRIKAKULAM IN NORTH COASTAL ANDHRA REGION, LEAVING EIGHT PEOPLE DEAD, SAYS IMD

up to 165 kmph. Phethai, however, is predicted to cause a gale speed of 80-90 kmph, gusting to 100 kmph along and off Andhra coast from Monday.

The state government has put seven coastal districts of Guntur, Krishna, West Godavari, East Godavari, Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam on a high alert in the wake of the predictions over the movement of Phethai.

A two-day holiday has been declared for schools from Monday as a precautionary measure to ensure safety of schoolchildren. Rescue personnel on leave have been called back.

Chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu at a teleconference on Sunday called for a close coordination among panchayat raj, roads and buildings and rural water supply departments in handling the cyclone.

Naidu said a request has been made for deployment of National Disaster Response Force teams in the vulnerable districts well in advance. In addition, police and fire services will also be pressed into service.

Paddy growers in the delta regions of Krishna, West Godavari and East Godavari districts are worried over the safety of their produce due to the forecast of heavy gales and rains triggered by the cyclone.

The farmers harvested the kharif crop and kept the produce ready for sale in the open fields.

The AP government directed the civil supplies department to run the paddy procure centres round the clock to ensure lifting of the produce from farmers to the maximum extent and mitigate the losses.

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

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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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Govt revises guidelines for groundwater extraction

Introduces water conservation fee to discourage new units

RAVI S SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 16

The Union Government has revised guidelines of groundwater extraction to strengthen regulatory mechanisms.

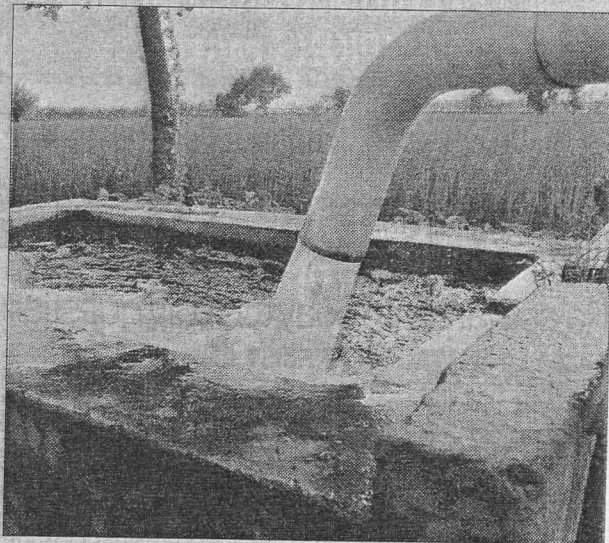
The revised guidelines have been issued after NGT directions and will come into effect from June 1 next year.

The salient features of the new guidelines include introduction of water conservation fee. The fee varies with the category of area, types of industry and quantum of water extracted.

The government's stand is that the fee structure is designed to progressively increase from safe to over-exploited areas and from low to high water-consuming industries as well as with increasing quantum of groundwater extraction.

It hopes that the application of fee would discourage new industries in overexploited and critical areas as well as act as a deterrent to large-scale extraction of water by industries, especially in areas which have become vulnerable.

The fee mechanism, however, has miffed experts. "Rather than banning extraction of groundwater in areas which have



“Rather than banning the extraction of groundwater in areas which have been alarmingly overexploited, the government has made the issue negotiable.

— Medha Patkar, SOCIAL ACTIVIST

been alarmingly overexploited, the government has made the issue negotiable,” noted social and water activist Medha Patkar said.

The new guidelines encourage use of recycled and treated sewage water by industries, provide for action against polluting industries and mandatory requirement of digital flow meters.

Exemption from requirement of NOC has been given to agriculturalists, people

employing non-energised means to extract water and individual households using less than 1-inch diameter delivery pipe.

Groundwater extraction in the country is primarily for irrigation, accounting for nearly 228 billion cubic metres, which amounts to 90 per cent of the annual groundwater extraction.

The remaining 10 per cent is for drinking and domestic as well as industrial use.

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West Bengal may get heavy rain

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KOLKATA

The weather department on Sunday warned of heavy rain in many districts of South Bengal on Monday as an effect of the cyclone 'Phethai', which is likely to make landfall in Andhra Pradesh.

The system is likely to move north-eastwards after making landfall on Monday afternoon, it said. Heavy rain is likely over one or two places in the districts of Howrah, East and West Midnapore, Purulia, Bankura, West Burdwan, Jhargram and Hooghly on Monday.

Strong wind

Strong wind, with speed reaching 30 to 40 km per hour, is likely to blow over north-west Bay of Bengal, the weatherman said. The forecast includes light to moderate rain for the city on Monday and an overcast sky.

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CLIMATE CHANGE & EXTREME EVENTS

AT A meeting of American Geophysical Union last week, scientists reported their findings that 16 extreme weather events in 2017 would not have been possible without human-caused climate change. Among these extreme events were floods in Bangladesh, China and South America; a months-long heat wave in the Tasman Sea beginning in November 2017; and droughts in East Africa and some US states. One study, of wildfires in Australia, was inconclusive on whether climate change influenced the event. The findings were also published online in a series of studies in a special issue of the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. These can be read online at www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/ams/publications/bulletin-of-the-american-meteorological-society-barns/explaining-extreme-events-from-a-climate-perspective/.

The findings include:

FLOODING: Extreme, 6-day pre-monsoon rainfall that inundated north-east Bangladesh was made up to 100% more likely by climate change. Climate change has made chances of the extreme rain that collapsed thousands of houses in southeastern China in June 2017 twice as likely. Peru's flooding rains of March 2017 were influenced by a natural cycle of warm coastal waters, but human-caused climate change on top of that made such extremes at least 1.5 times more likely.

HEAT: Climate change has made the chances of heatwaves in the Euro-Mediterranean region that are at least as hot as 2017's three times more likely than they were in 1950. The chance of such a heatwave recurring is now 10% in any given year. Heatwaves like the



The Bangladesh floods of 2017 were made up to 100% more likely by climate change, scientists say. Reuters

record-breaking 2017 event in central and eastern China were once rare. They are now one-in-five-year events due to climate change.

DROUGHT: Climate change made the 2017 Northern Great Plains drought 1.5 times more likely by shifting the balance between precipitation and evapotranspiration of soil moisture.

OCEAN-DRIVEN EVENTS: Scientists found that the record sea surface temperatures in the Tasman Sea in 2017 and 2018 were virtually impossible without global warming. Extremely warm sea surface temperatures off the coast of Africa doubled the probability of 2017's East Africa drought. Record-low Arctic sea ice due to climate change influenced record-breaking precipitation deficits across a large part of western Europe in December 2016.

Source: American Meteorological Society

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नदी जल विवाद बिल फिर पेश करेगी सरकार

कैबिनेट नोट तैयार

नयी दिल्ली, (भाषा): देश के विभिन्न राज्यों के बीच बढ़ते जल विवादों को देखते हुए सरकार ने अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवाद (संशोधन) विधेयक को संसद में फिर पेश करने का इरादा किया है और स्थायी समिति की सिफारिशों के आधार पर आधिकारिक संशोधन संबंधी कैबिनेट नोट तैयार कर लिया गया है। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि इस संबंध में लोकसभा में पेश अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवाद संशोधन विधेयक 2017 पर संसदीय स्थायी समिति की सिफारिशों के आधार पर और विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय के परामर्श के अनुसार, जल संसाधन मंत्रालय द्वारा इसमें किये जाने वाले आधिकारिक संशोधन संबंधी कैबिनेट नोट का मसौदा तैयार किया है। इसके अलावा मंत्रालय ने नदी बोर्ड अधिनियम 1956 में संशोधन के वास्ते नदी बेसिन प्रबंधन विधेयक 2018 का मसौदा भी तैयार किया है। बहरहाल, मंत्रालय से प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार, अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल

- देश के कई प्रदेशों के बीच नदी जल के उपयोग को लेकर विवाद चल रहा है। इनमें कावेरी विवाद तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक जैसे राज्यों के बीच है। सतलज-यमुना लिंक नहर विवाद पंजाब और हरियाणा के बीच है

PR -17

विवादों के निपटारे के कार्य को सुचारू बनाने के क्रम में मंत्रालय द्वारा अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवाद अधिनियम 1956 को संशोधित करते हुए पिछले वर्ष मार्च में लोकसभा में अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवाद संशोधन विधेयक 2017 पेश किया था। विधेयक में स्थायी स्थापना, स्थायी कार्यालय परिसर और आधारभूत ढांचा सहित अधिकरण के गठन की परिकल्पना की गई है। इसमें प्रत्येक जल विवाद के लिये एक अलग अधिकरण की स्थापना करने की बात कही गई है जो बहुत समय लगने वाली प्रक्रिया है। इसके बाद विधेयक को जल संसाधन संबंधी स्थायी समिति को भेजा गया था। स्थायी समिति ने

अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवाद संशोधन विधेयक 2017 के संबंध में जल संसाधन संबंधी 19वीं रिपोर्ट के रूप में 11 अगस्त 2017 को अपनी सिफारिशें प्रस्तुत कीं। अधिकारियों ने बताया, "इन सिफारिशों के आधार पर विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय के साथ परामर्श से जल संसाधन मंत्रालय ने उक्त विधेयक में आधिकारिक संशोधन संबंधी कैबिनेट नोट का मसौदा तैयार किया है।" इसे अब कैबिनेट की मंजूरी के लिये भेजा जायेगा।

उल्लेखनीय है कि देश के कई प्रदेशों के बीच नदी जल के उपयोग को लेकर विवाद चल रहा है। इनमें कावेरी विवाद तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक जैसे राज्यों के बीच है।

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अंडमान में मौसम खराब, हजारों टूरिस्ट फंसे, निकालना जारी

■ भाषा, पोर्ट ब्लेयर : खराब मौसम के कारण अंडमान स्थित हैवलोक और नील आइलैंड पर शुक्रवार से फंसे हजारों पर्यटकों को सुरक्षित वहां से निकाल लिया गया है। हालांकि कई अभी भी फंसे हैं और उन्हें निकालने का काम जारी है।

रविवार को डीजीपी दीपेंद्र पाठक ने कहा कि नौसेना और अंडमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह प्रशासन के साथ मिलकर भारतीय तटरक्षक बल टूरिस्टों को कई पोतों में लेकर पोर्ट ब्लेयर पहुंचा। मौसम विभाग के सूत्रों के अनुसार, शुक्रवार को अंडमान के पश्चिम में गहरे दबाव का क्षेत्र बनने से नौकाओं का समुद्र में चलना मुश्किल हो गया, जिससे दोनों द्वीपों पर हजारों टूरिस्ट फंस गए थे। ये दोनों द्वीप राजधानी शहर से करीब 30-40 समुद्री मील दूर हैं। पाठक ने कहा कि शनिवार को बचाव अभियान शुरू होते ही मौसम में सुधार नजर आया।



अंडमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह
पोर्ट ब्लेयर
हैवलोक

उन्होंने कहा कि फंसे टूरिस्टों का अंतिम समूह रविवार सुबह पोर्ट ब्लेयर के लिए रवाना हुआ। शनिवार को 1100 टूरिस्टों को 'कोरल क्वीन', आईसीजी और नौसेना

अपने खुबसूरत बीच के कारण टूरिस्ट्स के बीच काफी मशहूर है हैवलोक आइलैंड।

के अन्य पोतों की मदद से हैवलोक से पोर्ट ब्लेयर लाया गया था। रात में 135 टूरिस्टों को नील से हैवलोक और 96 को नील से पोर्ट ब्लेयर ले जाया गया।

आंध्र से टकराने वाला है तूफान 'पेथाई', राज्य में हाई अलर्ट

■ आईएनएस, विशाखापत्तनम : आंध्र प्रदेश के तटीय इलाके में रविवार को हाई-अलर्ट जारी किया गया क्योंकि बंगाल को खाड़ी में उठा एक चक्रवाती तूफान 'पेथाई' इसकी ओर बढ़ रहा है। यह चक्रवाती तूफान सोमवार को काकीनाडा और विशाखापत्तनम के बीच के इलाके को पार कर सकता है।

यह तूफान 20 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से बढ़ रहा है। राज्य सरकार की रियल टाइम गवर्नेंस सोसायटी ने सभी 9 तटीय जिलों में अलर्ट जारी कर दिया है। राज्य आपदा राहत बल और राष्ट्रीय आपदा मोचन

बल को तैयार रहने को कहा गया है। तटीय क्षेत्र के हिस्सों, विशेष रूप से कृष्णा जिले में रविवार को तेज हवाएं और बारिश होने लगी।

मुख्यमंत्री एन. चंद्रबाबु नायडू ने तटीय जिलों के कलेक्टरों को जानहानि को रोकने के लिए सभी एहतियात बरतने को कहा है। मौसम विभाग ने ज्यादातर जगहों पर बारिश और आंध्र प्रदेश व पुडुचेरी के यानम जिले में रविवार व सोमवार को भारी से मूसलाधार बारिश का अनुमान लगाया। मछुआरों को समुद्र में नहीं जाने की सलाह दी गई है।



चेन्नै में इतनी ऊंची लहरें उठीं कि सड़क तक इनसे ढक गई।

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

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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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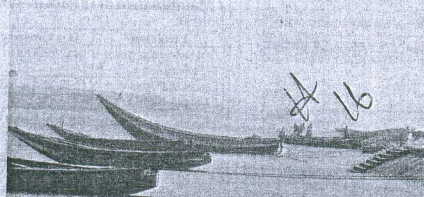
Rain forecast in Odisha, farmers alerted

Deep depression over the Bay of Bengal likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm; damage threat to standing crops

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR

With the deep depression over the Bay of Bengal likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm, the Odisha government on Saturday alerted all District Collectors on the adverse impact of heavy rain on harvested crop.

Collectors of six southern districts — Malkangiri, Gajapati, Koraput, Rayagada, Nabarangpur and Ganjam — have been directed to send field functionaries to villages to disseminate agriculture advisories on possible crop damage. "According to the latest information, the deep depression over the south-east bay of Bay of Bengal lies centred about 440 km south-east of Chennai and 890 km southeast of Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh. It is very likely to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm. It is likely to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Ongole and



Troubled waters: Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the deep sea till December 17. *FILE PHOTO

Kakinada on December 17 afternoon." P. R. Mohapatra, Joint Relief Commissioner, said here.

Warning till Monday

Under the impact of the atmospheric system, southern and central Odisha districts would receive rainfall on December 16 and 17.

Districts like Gajapati, Ganjam, Rayagada and Kalahandi are expected to be lashed by heavy rain on Sunday while isolated heavy to

very heavy rainfall is likely to occur in Malkangiri, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Kandhamal, Nuapada, Bargarh, Balangir, Jharsuguda and Sambalpur on Monday, the Meteorological Centre said.

Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the deep sea of southwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal till December 17.

Mr. Mohapatra said farmers are being sensitised to ensure protective cover for harvested crops.

Central assistance for cyclone Titli-hit areas soon: Naveen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR

The Centre has assured that it would release the assistance for damage inflicted by cyclone Titli and subsequent flood and landslides in 17 districts of Odisha, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said on Saturday.

The assurance was given by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh when Mr. Patnaik spoke to him over phone. "The Union Home Minister has assured that Chief Minister that it would release the assistance immediately," a release issued by the Chief



Naveen Patnaik

Minister's Office said.

On December 13, Mr. Patnaik, in a letter to Mr. Singh, had demanded immediate release of central assistance for the devastation caused by the cyclone to the State.

Mr. Patnaik said Titli, which lashed Odisha in October 2018, had severely affected a vast

population of about 60.31 lakh in 128 blocks spread over 17 districts.

The State government had earlier submitted a memorandum to the Centre seeking an assistance of ₹2,023.13 crore against total requirement of ₹2,779.32 crore for relief work. Mr. Patnaik had also written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 18 requesting for release of an interim assistance of ₹1,000 crore pending final decision of the High-Level Committee headed by Mr. Singh on the State government's memorandum.

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

गडकरी ने अवसंरचनात्मक विकास में निजी क्षेत्र से सहयोग का आग्रह किया

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने शनिवार को निजी क्षेत्र से एक्सप्रेसवे और जलमार्ग के विकास, सिंचाई परियोजनाओं एवं स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन में निवेश का आग्रह किया। उद्योग मंडल फिक्की की 91वीं आम बैठक में सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग, जहाजरानी एवं जलसंसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा पुनरोद्धार मंत्री ने कहा कि एक्सप्रेस के विकास को भूमि अधिग्रहण की दर को सरकार ने बहुत हद तक कम कर दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि इसे 7.5 करोड़ रुपये प्रति किलोमीटर से घटाकर 80 लाख रुपये प्रति किलोमीटर किया गया है।

मंत्री ने उद्योग जगत से भूमि अधिग्रहण, मजदूरी दर की कमी का फायदा उठा कर एक्सप्रेस-वे के साथ प्रस्तावित औद्योगिक गलियारों के विकास में शामिल होने का भी आह्वान किया। उन्होंने कहा कि यह जमीन बुलेट ट्रेन मार्ग के लिए भी उपलब्ध करायी जा सकती है। गडकरी ने कहा

● उद्योग मंडल फिक्की की 91वीं आम बैठक में सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग, जहाजरानी एवं जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा पुनरुद्धार मंत्री का संबोधन



कि सरकार ने 111 नदियों को जलमार्गों में परिवर्तित करने का फैसला किया है और जलमार्गों से माल ढुलाई के लिए उद्योग से सहयोग करने को कहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि यदि सड़क मार्ग से प्रति किलोमीटर ढुलाई खर्च 10 रुपये आता है तो उसी माल की ढुलाई पर रेल मार्ग से छह रुपये और जल मार्ग से जलमार्ग से एक रुपये का खर्च आता है। उन्होंने कहा कि 'स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन' के तहत कुल

280 परियोजनाओं में से 10-15 प्रतिशत को पूरा कर लिया गया है। गडकरी ने कहा कि गंगा के पुनरोद्धार का काम अब सफलता की कहानी बन गयी है। उन्होंने कहा कि मार्च, 2019 तक नदी करीब 80 प्रतिशत तक साफ हो जाएगी और उसके एक साल बाद नदी पूरी तरह स्वच्छ हो जाएगी। उन्होंने भारतीय उद्योग से इस मिशन में सहयोग का भी आग्रह किया।

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 15.12.2016 in the

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)
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Business standard
The Economic Times

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

Coastal Andhra braces for looming cyclonic threat

Gali Nagaraja

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

VUJAYAWADA: The Andhra Pradesh government is preparing itself to face heavy rains coupled with winds following a cyclone warning in the south coastal region and Rayalaseema in next 48 hours.

Chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu alerted the district collectors of six coastal districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam and Nellore to handle the cyclone threat. He is monitoring the situation through real time governance and preparing to position official teams in the vulnerable areas depending on gravity of the situation, he said.

A control room has been set up in the state secretariat at Velagapudi on Friday.

Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre of India Meteorological Department in its afternoon bulletin on Friday said it has put itself on a "pre-cyclonic watch for Andhra Pradesh" in the wake of deep depression over southeast Bay of Bengal.

The deep depression over southeast Bay of Bengal that formed on Thursday night moved north-northwest wards and it lay centred at 8.30 am on Friday over southeast Bay of Bengal, the bulletin said.

"It is very likely to intensify further into a cyclonic storm during next 24 hours and a 'severe' cyclonic storm in subse-

quent 24 hours. It is very likely to move north-northwest wards and cross Andhra Pradesh coast between Ongole and Kakinada during December 17 afternoon," the bulletin said.

The sea will be rough to very rough along and off south Andhra Pradesh and north Tamil Nadu coast on December 15 and "very rough to high" on December 16 and 17, it added.

"We have not issued any alert yet. The course of the cyclone remains the same and is likely to make landfall on the afternoon of December 17. The intensity, we think, will be less than the recent cyclone Gaja that hit the Tamil Nadu," said Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, senior scientist at IMD.



■ Cyclone Gaja had last month claimed 45 lives in south India. HT FILE

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 15.12.2018 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman

The Time of India (New Delhi)
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Tribune

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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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Give funds for 'Titli' victims urgently: CM

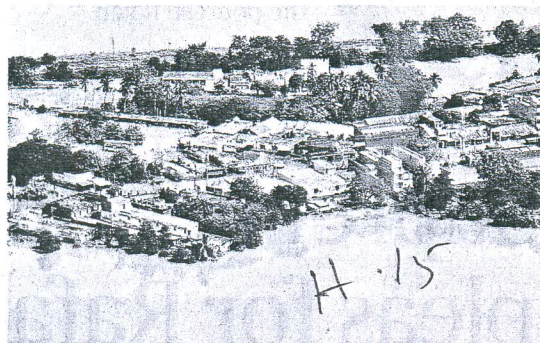
Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik writes to Union Home Minister, seeks his 'personal attention'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has said that the State has not yet received any Central assistance to carry out restoration work in the areas hit by cyclone Titli and demanded that the same be released immediately.

In a letter to Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday, Mr. Patnaik said the cyclone that hit Odisha in October affected 60.31 lakh people in 17 districts of the State.

Memorandum submitted
"The State government has submitted a memorandum to the Government of India seeking a Central assistance of ₹2,023.13 crore against the total requirement of ₹2,779.32 crore for relief and restoration measures," Mr. Patnaik wrote.



Aska town in Ganjam district of Odisha after cyclone Titili hit the State. ■ FILE PHOTO

He said he had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 18, seeking an interim assistance of ₹1,000 crore.

"The inter-Ministerial Central team had already made an on-the-spot assessment of the damages during the first week of November 2018. However, we have not

received any assistance, so far, from the Government of India," he said.

Mr. Patnaik said ₹1,689.13 crore released for relief and restoration work from the State Disaster Response Fund has been utilised.

The Chief Minister sought "personal attention" of the Union Home Minister for

"immediate" release of the Central assistance to Odisha for undertaking repair and restoration work, squaring up the liabilities and smooth management of other disasters.

'Paltry compensation'

Meanwhile, a farmers' organisation has alleged that the State government is giving only ₹2,200 per acre compensation for the cyclone-devastated paddy crop, while adjoining Andhra Pradesh was paying ₹20,000 per acre.

The Odisha Krushak Sabha added that the State government was also not providing adequate bonus to farmers during paddy procurement, whereas the Kerala government has decided to give ₹500 bonus over the Central government-prescribed Minimum Support Price.

During the 2017 Kharif season, insurance companies collected ₹986 crore as premium from the farmers but paid only ₹200 crore as insurance cover. The OKS alleged that the official assessment of paddy crop loss due to pests alone was ₹2,000 crore.

According to the OKS, unlike its counterpart in Karnataka, the Odisha government has not even thought of waiver of agricultural loans. Accusing the Naveen Patnaik government of ignoring the farmers, OKS leader Harikrushna Reddy said: "If this trend continues, the ruling regime may also face the wrath of the farmers in the near future."

The OKS is now planning to start a peasants' movement to press for its demands.

(With inputs from Sib Kumar Das)

Hindustan Times
Statesman
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Farming in a warming world

Efforts to make agriculture climate-resilient must be scaled up and consolidated



NAVEEN P. SINGH &
BHAUNA ANAND

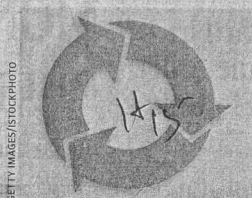
The pervasiveness of climatic aberrations and the associated socio-economic vulnerability are now widely recognised and experienced across the globe. The Sixth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on "Global Warming at 1.5°C" distinctly propagates the need to strengthen and enhance existing coping capacity and to remain committed to the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

The report establishes that the world has become 1°C warmer because of human activities, causing greater frequency of extremes and obstruction to the normal functioning of ecosystems. Climate-induced risks are projected to be higher for global warming of 1.5°C than at present, but lower than at 2°C (a catastrophic situation). However, the magnitude of such projections depends on in-situ attributes and the level of developments. Moreover, for such a change in global warming, indigenous populations and local communities dependent on agricultural or coastal livelihoods are very vulnerable to the climate impacts.

India, with its diverse agro-climatic settings, is one of the most vulnerable countries. Its agriculture ecosystem, distinguished by high monsoon dependence, and with 85% small and marginal landholdings, is highly sensitive to weather abnormalities. There has been less than normal rainfall during the last four years, with 2014 and 2015 declared as drought years. Even the recent monsoon season (June-September) ended with a rainfall deficit of 9%, which was just short of drought conditions. Research is also confirming an escalation in heat waves, in turn affecting crops, aquatic systems and livestock. The Economic Survey 2017-18 has estimated farm income losses between 15% and 18% on average, which could rise to 20%-25% for unirrigated areas without any policy interventions. These projections underline the need for strategic change in dealing with climate change in agriculture.

Steps needed

There is a need to foster the process of climate adaptation in agriculture, which involves reshaping responses across both the micro- and macro-level decision-making culture. At the micro-level, traditional wisdom, religious epics and various age-old notions about weather variations still guide farmers' responses, which could be less effective. Corroborating these with climate assessments and effective extension and promoting



climate resilient technologies will enhance their pragmatism. Climate exposure can be reduced through agronomic management practices such as inter and multiple cropping and crop-rotation; shift to non-farm activities; insurance covers; up-scaling techniques such as solar pumps, drip irrigation and sprinklers. Several studies indicate increasing perceptions of the magnitude of climate change and the need for farmers to adapt, but the process remains slow. For instance, the NSS 70th round indicates that a very small segment of agricultural households utilised crop insurance due to a lack of sufficient awareness and knowledge. Hence there is an urgent need to educate farmers, reorient Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other grass-root organisations with specific and more funds about climate change and risk-coping measures.

Climate adaptation actions in agriculture are closely intertwined with rural developmental interventions, calling for a holistic new paradigm. At the macro-level, climate adaptations are to be main-

streamed in the current developmental framework (which is still at a nascent stage, as acknowledged in the Economic Survey 2017-18). Though programmes of the government document the likely consequences of climate change, they lack systematic adaptation planning and resource conservation practices. Mainstreaming adaptation into the policy apparatus has the potential to improve the resilience of several developmental outcomes. The approach demands coherence across multiple policy scales as required for developing possible synergy between micro-macro levels and addressing several cross-cutting issues. Moreover, this enables identification of several barriers that prevent up-scaling efforts and adaptation by farmers.

Key interventions

Expansion of extension facilities, improving irrigation efficiency, promotion of satellite-enabled agriculture risk management, creating micro-level agro-advisories, providing customised real time data, and capacity building of stakeholders are some initiatives towards building greater resilience in agriculture. Interventions such as the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Soil Health Card, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Agriculture Market, or e-NAM, and other rural development programmes are positive interventions that can address the

vulnerability of farmers and rural households. There are also exclusive climate and adaptation schemes being operationalised, such as the National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA), the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), the National Adaptation Fund, and the State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC). It is desirable to have a cultural change wherein some of the components under these schemes can be converged with major rural developmental programmes, which will further enhance their effectiveness at the grass-root level. A study by the Centre for Science and Environment provides insights into the development of SAPCCs across selected States.

The SAPCC is an important platform for adaptation planning but it needs to evolve further in terms of climate-oriented regional analysis to capture micro-level sensitivity and constraints. Moreover, convergence of climate actions with ongoing efforts and several Central schemes with similar mandates is a must. Greater expertise and consultations are required for a systematic prioritisation of actions and fiscal prudence for building climate resilient agriculture.

Naveen P. Singh and Bhawna Anand are with the ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics & Policy Research, New Delhi. The views expressed are personal

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Time of India (New Delhi)
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Water Bill withdrawn as four ministers protest



ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 14

In the face of opposition from four Cabinet ministers, who represent urban constituencies, the Punjab Water Resources (Management and Regulation) Bill was withdrawn by the government at the last minute. Four other Bills were passed.

The Bill was aimed at regulating the use of groundwater. A Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority was proposed to impose tariff and restrict construction of structures for extraction of groundwater for domestic, commercial and industrial use, except agriculture.

Ministers OP Soni, Navjot Sidhu, Brahm Mohindra and Bharat Bhushan Ashu are learnt to have told Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh and Chief Secretary Karan Avtar Singh that on the lines of the power regulatory authority, the regulatory body on water conservation would not take urban local bodies in the loop.

CONG MLA TAKES ON TRIPT BAJWA

■ Differences within the treasury benches came to the fore as the Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill was presented. Gurdaspur MLA Barinder Singh Pahra confronted Rural Development Minister Tript Rajinder Bajwa for allowing officials to change the reservation roster in his constituency. The issue pertained to carving out two panchayats of Babbehali village in Gurdaspur. Pahra said despite the decision to create two panchayats, it was again reverted to a single panchayat.

CITING BACKACHE, BADAL SKIPS SESSION

■ **Muksar:** Citing backache, former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal did not attend the winter session of the Assembly. He had informed the Speaker in this regard, even as he visited Lambi and Gidderbaha Assembly segments in Muksar district on Friday. He had visited his aide Dyal Singh Kolianwali's residence and addressed Akali workers on Wednesday. TNS

The Bill was passed during the last Cabinet meeting despite reservations expressed by some ministers. The mandate of the regulatory body would be reworked before it is put up before the Cabinet again.

Differences within the treasury benches came to the fore as the Punjab Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill was presented. Gurdaspur MLA Barinder Singh Pahra confronted Rural Development Minister Tript Rajinder Bajwa for allowing officials to change the reservation roster in his constituency. The Bill includes reservation of 50

per cent seats in urban local bodies and Panchayati Raj institutions for women.

As Pahra strongly took up the issue with the minister, some MLAs backed him, giving fodder to the Akalis to mock Bajwa for not listening to his own MLA. Amid the din, the Bill was passed.

Other Bills passed were the Punjab Regulation of Compounded Cattle Feed, Concentrates and Mineral Mixtures Act, Punjab Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Ordinance and the Punjab Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Amendment Bill.

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तैयारी: देश में वाटर मेट्रो अगले साल से तरक्की: सबसे लंबा दोहरा पुल तैयार

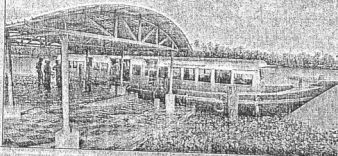
देश में पहली बार वाटर मेट्रो चलाने की तैयारी पूरी कर ली गई है। यह प्रोजेक्ट नौकाओं पर आधारित है, जो 76 किलोमीटर की दूरी में 15 रास्तों से चलाई जाएगी। केरल में कोच्चि मेट्रो रेल लिमिटेड अगले महीने तक टेस्ट जारी करेगा और सालभर में इस परियोजना को पूरा कर लिया जाएगा।

जमीन का अधिग्रहण शुरू
मेट्रो प्रोजेक्ट ने एंटीग्रैटेड वाटर ट्रांसपोर्ट प्रोजेक्ट के लिए भूमि अधिग्रहण का काम शुरू कर दिया है। वर्तमान में योजना के अनुसार इस प्रोजेक्ट की नौवां को फाइबर रोकफोर्ड प्लास्टिक से बनाया जाएगा। ये नाव इको-फ्रेंडली होंगी और बेटरी से चलेगी। ये नौकाएं एक द्वीप से दूसरे द्वीप तक चलेगी।

अगले दिसंबर में चालू होगी
वाटर मेट्रो की सेवा दिसंबर 2019 में शुरू हो सकती है। कोच्चि मेट्रो रेल लिमिटेड (केएमआरएल) ने पहले इसे अप्रैल में चलाने की योजना बनाई थी। अब इसे अक्टूबर तक के लिए आगे बढ़ा दिया गया। केएमआरएल के डायरेक्टर एपीएम मोहम्मद हैशिम ने बताया कि यह प्रोजेक्ट जर्मनी की मदद से तैयार होगा।

द्वीपों पर वाटर स्टेशन बनाए जाएंगे

इस खास मेट्रो के लिए वाटर स्टेशन बनेंगे। वहां तक पहुंचने के लिए सड़क भी बनाई जाएगी। पहले से बनी सड़कों को चौड़ा करेंगे। इससे द्वीपों पर रहने वाले करीब एक लाख लोगों को सीधा फायदा होगा।



पानी पर परिवहन

देश का सबसे लंबा दोहरा पुल पूर्वोत्तर में असम और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के बीच बनकर तैयार हो चुका है। इसमें ऊपर सड़क पर गाड़ियां दौड़ेंगी और नीचे रेल चलेगी। तकरीबन दो दशक के अंतराल के बाद आकार लेने जा रही इस परियोजना में भारतीय इंजीनियरिंग की तरक्की साफ झलकती है।

असम से अरुणाचल प्रदेश के बीच सफर आसान होगा

बोगीबील पुल असम के डिब्रूगढ़ क्षेत्र से अरुणाचल के पासोयाट इलाके दूरी कम करेगा। पुल पर यातायात शुरू होने के बाद यह दूरी 500 किलोमीटर से घटकर सिर्फ 100 किलोमीटर रह जाएगी। इससे ऊपरी असम और अरुणाचल प्रदेश में रहने वाले करीब 50 लाख लोगों के आवागमन में सहूलियत होगी। इस पुल की अनुमानित लागत तकरीबन 5800 करोड़ रुपये है।

अटल के जन्मदिन पर शुरू होगा

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी 25 दिसंबर को इस महत्वाकांक्षी पुल का शुभारंभ करेंगे। मौजूदा केंद्र सरकार 25 दिसंबर को पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की जन्मतिथि को सुशासन दिवस के तौर पर मनाती है।

पूर्वोत्तर के प्रति

प्रतिबद्धता का दावा
रेल मंत्री पीयूष गोखले ने कहा कि सरायवाट पुल और डोंबर भूपेन हजारिका सेतु के जल्द निर्माण से पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र को लेकर प्रधानमंत्री की प्रतिबद्धता साफ दिखाई देती है। 4.94 किलोमीटर लंबा देश का सबसे लंबा रेल सह सड़क पुल सात तीव्रता तक के भूकंप को झेलने में सक्षम होगा।

21 साल का इंतजार पूरा

03 लेन की सड़क ऊपर और नीचे दोहरी रेलवे लाइन है एशिया के दूसरे सबसे बड़े पुल में।

32 मीटर ऊंचा ब्रह्मपुत्र के स्तर से। स्वीडन और डेनमार्क को जोड़ने वाले पुल की तर्ज पर बनाया गया

1997 में देवगोड़ा सरकार में मंजूरी मिली, पांच साल बाद पेंडीए सरकार ने काम शुरू कराया

2007 में कांग्रेस नीत यूपीए सरकार ने इसे राष्ट्रीय परियोजना घोषित कर दिया था।

2009 में इस पुल का निर्माण पूरा हो जाना था, पर परियोजना पूरी करने में लगभग 10 साल की देरी हो गई।

76 किलोमीटर की दूरी में चलेगी नौकाएं

15 रात तैयार किए जाएंगे नौकाओं को चलाने के

819 करोड़ रुपये होगी प्रोजेक्ट की लागत

582 करोड़ रुपये जर्मन कंपनी लगाएगी

02 तरह की नावें सफर करेंगी यानी

04 कंपनियों को दिया जावे बनाने का ठेका

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 Bhagirathi (English) & Publicity Section, CWC

WHY

Tamil Nadu, Karnataka are sparring over Mekedatu

What is the problem?

■ Irritants resurfaced in relations between the riparian States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka last month after the Central Water Commission (CWC) allowed the Karnataka Cauvery Neeravari Nigam to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) on a nearly ₹6,000 crore plan to build a balancing reservoir-cum-drinking water project across the Cauvery at Mekedatu. The project envisages building a balancing reservoir with a storage of 67 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft), which would also supply drinking water to Bengaluru and Ramanagaram districts, besides generating power. The proposal received the Karnataka Cabinet's approval in February 2017 and the feasibility report was submitted to the CWC. The project could be completed in 2-3 years after construction begins, if all approvals are in place.

Why does Karnataka want this?

■ Karnataka has been contending that there is a need to augment capacity to

store excess water in monsoon surplus years. The recent heavy rain and floods resulted in Karnataka releasing excess water from the Cauvery to Tamil Nadu. This led to the State intensifying its efforts to build the Mekedatu reservoir. Water Resources Minister D.K. Shivakumar said the reservoir would help store excess water which can be released to Tamil Nadu during dry months, besides taking care of drinking water requirements of cities and towns of Karnataka. The excess water is of no use even to Tamil Nadu as it would run off into the sea. The project would not affect water release to Tamil Nadu, nor would it be used for irrigation, he maintained.

Why is Tamil Nadu opposing it?

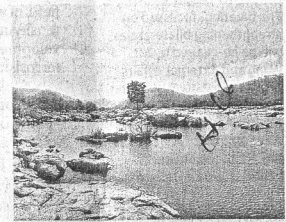
■ Tamil Nadu fears that Karnataka's move to create more storage facilities would effectively prevent the flow in the Cauvery, the lifeline for agriculture in delta districts, besides being a major drinking water source for several districts. Farmers' organisations fear this

could turn the fertile Cauvery delta into a desert. "The reservoir is not just for drinking water alone, as claimed by Karnataka, but also to increase the extent of irrigation, which is in violation of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal's award, as affirmed by the Supreme Court," Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami said in a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking withdrawal of the permission given to Karnataka. The State was quick to move the Supreme Court for a direction to the CWC to withdraw its letter of permission and restrain Karnataka from proceeding with the preparation of the DPR. The State also sought to initiate contempt proceedings against the CWC chairman, the Karnataka Water Resource Minister and others for "wilful disobedience" of the Supreme Court and Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal verdicts. Tamil Nadu said the Supreme Court had noted that the existing storages in the Cauvery basin of Karnataka should be taken into account for ensuring water releases to

Tamil Nadu from June to January. "Construction of any new dam by Karnataka would alter the adjudication to the distribution of 10 daily/monthly releases to Tamil Nadu. This amounts to interference with the adjudication, which is in contempt of the Supreme Court judgment of February 16, 2018," the petition said. Many parties rallied behind the Opposition Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's protest in Tiruchi; the government convened a special session of the Assembly to pass a unanimous resolution calling upon the Centre to direct the CWC to withdraw the permission.

What was Karnataka's response?

■ Karnataka termed the challenge "misconceived, obstructive and factually baseless." It rejected Tamil Nadu's claims that the tribunal order barred the project and maintained that the reservoir would not affect the downstream flow in the river or jeopardise the livelihood of farmers.



What happens next?

■ The Supreme Court has asked the Centre and Karnataka to respond to the petition filed by Tamil Nadu. The court said it would not, at present, go into the aspect of contempt of court. It also sought their responses to Tamil Nadu's challenge to the Centre's decision to give CWC chief S. Masood Husain additional charge as Chairman of the Cauvery Water Management Authority.

S. GANESAN