

Central Water Commission  
WSE Dte.,  
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West Block 11, Wing No-4  
R. K. Puram, New Delhi – 66.

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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.

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18.4.2019  
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

*[Signature]*  
18/4/2019

Director, WSE Dte.

*[Signature]*  
18/4/19

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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  
Statesman  
The Time of India (New Delhi)  
Indian Express  
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Hindustan (Hindi)  
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu (New Delhi)  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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

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

Indian Express, Delhi  
Thursday, 18th April 2019;

## For Subansiri okay, Govt looks at report of panel under judicial scrutiny

JAY MAZOOMDAAR  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 17

TO DECIDE the fate of the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower hydroelectric project, the Environment Ministry has turned to a report of a committee it set up, the constitution of which has already been challenged in the Supreme Court on grounds of conflict of interest.

The constitution of the three-member committee was first challenged in the National Green Tribunal, which dismissed the plea without citing reasons. The petitioners in the case then moved the Supreme Court, which sent back the matter and instructed the NGT to give a reasoned order.

In the two hearings at the NGT since, the Environment Ministry has sought time to file its reply. With the matter still sub judice, the ministry on April 12 decided to consider the committee's report at the next meeting of its Expert Appraisal Committee that decides on environmental clearances to hydel projects.

Conceived as the country's largest hydel project, Subansiri lower dam construction began in 2005 on the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border and over Rs 6,000 crore was already spent by NHPC Ltd before work was suspended due to local opposition in 2011. To break the six-year logjam, the NGT had in October 2018 asked the Environment Ministry to set up a "neutral" panel to objectively consider conflicting recommendations of the earlier committees and come up with an "independent opinion".

A month after the NGT order, the Environment Ministry, in November 2018, set up a three-member panel with experts who - or their organisations - have all

backed the NHPC's positions on the project in the past: ex-additional director general of Geological Survey of India Prabhakar Pande, former director of the Pune-based Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) I D Gupta and Chief Engineer (Brahmaputra) of the Central Water Commission, P M Scott.

When the constitution of the three-member committee was challenged on the ground of conflict of interest, the NGT dismissed the applications in December 2018 without giving any reasons. The applicants moved the Supreme Court which on March 11 asked the NGT to give a reasoned order on the matter.

"Subsequently, we filed restoration applications in the NGT. At the first hearing on March 26, the Environment Ministry sought one week to file an affidavit in the matter. At the next hearing on April 9, the ministry sought more time," said Ritwik Dutta, lawyer of the applicant Tularam Gogoi, a Guwahati-based activist and former vice-president of All Assam Students Union (AASU).

On April 10, the NGT uploaded a notification dated April 9 which said the next hearing in the case would be on July 25. On April 12, the Environment Ministry made public the agenda for a meeting of the EAC scheduled on April 23. The first item on the agenda is the discussion of the report filed by the 'conflicted' three-member committee.

The Environment Ministry official dealing with the EAC concerned said he was "not competent" to comment on the legality of considering the report of an expert panel under judicial scrutiny. Director General (forests) Siddhanta Das said he was "not aware of the case" and declined comment.

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Time of India (New Delhi)  
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## 378 Hry industrial units face closure for polluting Yamuna

Neeraj Mohan

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**KARNAL:** More than 378 industrial units in Haryana have been issued closure notice by the state pollution control board for polluting the Yamuna.

The crackdown comes after the central pollution control board (CPCB) had, earlier this month, directed the Haryana state pollution control board (HSPCB) to act against the erring units. That came two months after the CPCB and officials from National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) inspected the water quality of Yamuna river.

"We have identified about 400 such units and 350 of them have already been issued closure notices. Most of them have already been shut for non-compliance of norms," said HSPCB member secretary S Narayanan.

He said their electricity supply will be disconnected until they get fresh clearance certificate. Besides, efforts are on to

prosecute about 200 units, he added.

On why the HSPCB waited for CPCB orders, Narayanan said, "The action has been taken as these units were found violating norms, but the pollution control board conducts regular inspections and issues closure notices to industries routinely." He also said the HSPCB has also told large and medium scale units to install online liquid waste monitoring devices for round-the-clock monitoring.

### CRACKDOWN

The HPSB was asked to identify the non-complying units and taken action after a team found three drains carrying untreated water from various units at Yamunanagar, Panipat and Kundli mixing with the river, making it unfit even for use in bathing.

The team observed that these drains flow throughout the year and pollute the Yamuna, which is the biggest source of drinking water in Delhi.

### Yamuna polluters face action

Crackdown after nudge from central pollution body

Units identified ■ Units shut ■ Still operational

Yamunanagar	175	127	48
Ballabgarh	63	33	30
Gurugram	46	41	5
Sonepat	32	24	8
Panipat	31	27	4
Faridabad	31	28	3

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## Long-running drought and farm crisis are main election issues

Surendra P Gangan

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**BEED/OSMANABAD:** Polling will be held for 10 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra's Marathwada and Vidarbha regions on Thursday amid a growing water crisis. The government declared 90% of villages in Marathwada's eight districts drought-hit last November and December. Over 60% of villages are facing drought in three Vidarbha districts of Akola, Amravati and Buldhana, which are among the constituencies going to polls in the second phase of the general elections.

Among the main candidates in the fray are former Maharashtra chief ministers and Congress leaders Ashok Chavan (Nanded) and Sushilkumar Shinde (Solapur), Dr BR Ambedkar's grandson Prakash Ambedkar (Solapur and Akola) and former union minister Gopinath Munde's daughter and sitting MP Pritam Munde (Beed).

Maharashtra has the most seats, 48, after Uttar Pradesh (80). The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won 23 seats while Shiv Sena won 18 in the last Lok Sabha polls in the state.

The Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party won six between them.

Bhagwat Pawar, 75, a farmer, said he has not yet decided whom to vote for even as he attended Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Osmanabad last week.



■ Around 90% villages in Marathwada and over 60% Vidarbha are facing a drought.

SATISH BATE/ HT FILE

His priority remains how to deal with drought. "I have seen the 1972 drought when we had water but no food. [During] recent droughts from 2012 to 2014, there was a scarcity of water. But it is worse than that. Almost all of us own land, but do not have water... how are we going to sustain until it rains?"

Residents say water sources are rapidly drying up. "We wake up at 4 am to ensure maximum water is fetched from a public bore well. We get a couple of pots of water after waiting for 4-5 hours," said Anita Munjal, 45, a resident of Mardi village.

Ashok Tangade, who works for Jagar Pratisthan, an NGO, said no party is talking about the issue and none has done anything significant for the drought-prone district.

YR Jadhav, a former advisor to

the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, said the voters in the rural areas are in distress and do not have sufficient money to make ends meet. "They do not have the luxury of comparing the [performances of the] incumbent and previous governments before voting. The resentment is expressed through votes and it could go against the ruling party [BJP]."

Vidarbha-based farm expert, Vijay Jawandhiya, said most elections are fought on the lines of caste and creed and not the real issues.

"There is discontent among farmers and others in rural areas over crop losses, absence of minimum support price, inflation, rising unemployment. But ultimately voting is done in the name of caste, which is supreme over anything else for voters," he said.

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 18/4/2019 in the

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**Rashtriya Sahara,**

Thursday, 18th April

## प्रदूषित नदियों की निगरानी के लिए निगरानी समिति गठित

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। देश के नदियों को प्रदूषण मुक्त करने एवं उसके लिए बने योजनाओं की निगरानी के लिए राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (एनजीटी) ने एक निगरानी समिति का गठन किया है। एनजीटी के अध्यक्ष आदर्श कुमार गोयल की पीठ ने समिति में नीति आयोग के एक प्रतिनिधि, जल संसाधन, शहरी विकास तथा पर्यावरण मंत्रालयों के सचिव, राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन के महानिदेशक व केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष को सदस्य बनाया है। साथ ही उससे 31 जुलाई तक अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश करने को कहा है।

एनजीटी ने कहा है कि निगरानी समिति राज्यों की पुनर्जीवन समितियों से भी समन्वय करेगी और कार्य योजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन पर गौर करेगी। राज्यों के मुख्य सचिव राज्य स्तर पर नोडल एजेंसी होंगे। उल्लेखनीय है कि देशभर के नदी के 350 से अधिक भागों को प्रदूषण मुक्त करने की राष्ट्रीय योजना बनाकर उसे लागू किया जाना है।



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## Worried over climate-induced losses, India seeks global plan

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** With devastation caused by extreme weather events like heavy rains and cyclone — including the Kerala floods of 2017-18 — as the backdrop, India on Tuesday urged the global community to come up with a plan to address the issue of climate-induced 'loss and damage'.

The country also pointed out that the 'loss and damage' is not only an issue for small island nations, but also a critical issue in large countries like India which has a long coastline with numerous islands and coastal cities and Himalayan states which are at the risk of gla-

cier outbreaks.

The matter was discussed here in a national workshop on 'loss and damage' in India, organised by the Union environment ministry, which deliberated on how to assess, minimise and address climate-related losses.

### KERALA IN MIND

Addressing the workshop, Union environment secretary C K Mishra underlined the three critical elements for addressing the issue of 'loss and damage', including risk reduction through more plantation, risk retention and risk transfer through insurance and funding mechanism.

The small island nations and other least developed countries have long been demanding 'loss and damage' compensation, arguing that they have become vulnerable due to climate change which is caused by polluting practices of developed nations post-industrialisation.

Though global communities have been discussing the issue of 'loss and damage' as part of the Warsaw International Mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2013, it has so far not got traction in terms of providing compensation to vulnerable nations under a formal procedure.

Hindustan Times ✓

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# Squall leaves 60 dead, stormy summer ahead

**NORTH INDIA** IMD says rise in heatwaves may trigger intense dust storms in April and May

Jayashree Nandi

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**NEW DELHI:** Over 60 people were killed and crops damaged after rain, thunderstorm and lightning hit parts of north, west and central India at the start of a summer in which such extreme weather events could be fairly common, officials and experts said on Wednesday.

Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat took the maximum hit due to the change in weather over Monday and Tuesday, while residents in Delhi experienced intermittent showers and strong winds that brought down the temperature by up to 10 degrees.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi "expressed grief at the loss of lives due to unseasonal rains" in various parts of the country, his office tweeted. "The government is doing its best to provide all possible assistance to those affected. The situation is being monitored closely," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

Modi approved "an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh each from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund for the next of kin" of those killed, the PMO said, adding that the government also approved ₹50,000 each for the injured.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday issued a warning for thunderstorms, hail and lightning in



• The national capital witnessed intermittent showers and strong winds on Wednesday. RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO

parts of north and northeast India. It added that "fairly widespread to widespread rainfall with isolated thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds are likely over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, north-east Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand" in the next 24 hours.

There is no forecast for any western disturbance in the next seven days, except for one on April 22, which will only affect Jammu and Kashmir. Western disturbances are cyclonic circulations which originate over the

Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea and Black Sea, and move eastwards across north India and bring precipitation when the weather system reaches the Himalayas.

During the winter, parts of north India, including Delhi, experienced 18 western disturbances — many of which brought rain and a sudden drop in temperature — as opposed to the average five to six western disturbances that the region experiences in an average winter season.

## Weather

The weather department also predicted a higher-than-normal number and intensity of heat waves this summer. This will, in turn, make conditions favourable for intense dust storms and thunderstorms, which will bring down the temperatures for a brief period in northwest India in April and May.

High temperatures in Delhi and northwest India, particularly Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, induced the recent thunderstorms, said Mahesh Palawat, vice-president (meteorology and climate change) at Skymet Weather.

On April 15, Delhi recorded a maximum temperature of 40 degrees Celsius. It fell to 30.7 degrees Celsius — six degrees below normal — on Wednesday after the thunderstorms on Monday and Tuesday. "There are four parameters important for thunderstorm formation — intense heat, availability of moisture, instability of atmosphere and a cyclonic circulation. Heating this year may be one of the factors in favour of storms, but there will be thunderstorms only if there is adequate moisture. There will be dust storms where there is no moisture," said M Mohapatra, director general of meteorology at IMD.

He added that the temperature will be comfortable for the next two-three days and then rise significantly.

Professor SK Dash of the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences (CAS) at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi said, "We know that warmer atmospheric conditions have increased the incidents of lightning and thunderstorms in many parts of the world. Heat plays a major role in bringing on thunderstorms. The exact mechanism of climate change induced thunderstorms

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# बढ़ते तापमान में मानसून की राहत

मानसून-पूर्व की मौसमी गतिविधियां शुरू हो गई हैं, लेकिन बारिश कितनी होगी, इसका सटीक अनुमान लगाना अभी आसान नहीं है।

भारत में मानसून की भविष्यवाणी काफी अहमियत रखती है। इसके महत्व का अंदाजा इसी से लगाया जा सकता है कि यह देश की कृषि-पैदावार और अर्थव्यवस्था की दशा-दिशा तय करती है। चूंकि भारत की करीब 58 फीसदी आबादी अब भी अपनी आजीविका के लिए खेती पर निर्भर है और सिंचाई का प्रमुख साधन मानसूनी बारिश है, इसलिए इस भविष्यवाणी से यह आकलन

किया जाता है कि खरीफ को फसल कितनी लहलहाएगी। महंगाई, विकास दर के साथ-साथ शेयर बाजार पर भी इसका खासा असर होता है। इसीलिए कमजोर मानसून की आहत कई चेहरों, खासतौर से अननदाताओं को उदास कर जाती है।

सुखद है कि इस साल मानसून की सेहत ज्यादा बुरी नहीं दिख रही। मले ही जून-जुलाई में कम बारिश होने के कारण सिंचाई का काम देर से शुरू हो, लेकिन अगस्त-सितंबर में तेज बारिश धान जैसी फसलों को काफी फायदा पहुंचाएगी। हालांकि तकनीकी शब्दावलीयों पर गौर करें, तो भारतीय मौसम विभाग ने मानसून के 'लगभग सामान्य' बने रहने की भविष्यवाणी की है, जबकि स्काईमेट ने इसके 'सामान्य से नीचे' रहने की आशंका जाहिर की है। 'सामान्य से नीचे' का अर्थ है, दीर्घावधि की 90 से 95 फीसदी बारिश। दीर्घावधि पिछले 50 साल की औसत बारिश को कहते हैं, जो अभी 89 सेंटीमीटर है। स्काईमेट ने इस बार मानसून में औसत बारिश के 93 फीसदी पानी बरसने का कयास लगाया है, जबकि भारतीय मौसम विभाग ने 96 फीसदी (पांच फीसदी कम या ज्यादा)। दीर्घावधि की 96 से 104 फीसदी बारिश 'सामान्य मानसून' में गिनी जाती है, इसलिए भारतीय मौसम विभाग ने 'लगभग सामान्य' शब्द का इस्तेमाल किया है। हालांकि उसने इस शब्दावली का इस्तेमाल पहली बार किया है, वह अब तक 96 फीसदी बारिश को सामान्य ही बताता आया है।

मानसूनी बारिश के इन दो अलग-अलग अनुमानों में विवाद के बीच नहीं देखे जाने

महेश पलावत  
मुख्य मौसम विज्ञानी,  
स्काईमेट



चाहिए। अन्वत्, तो दोनों अनुमानों में बारिश का अंतर सिर्फ तीन फीसदी है, जो बहुत बड़ा नहीं है। और फिर, यह विश्लेषण 'प्योर साइंस' नहीं होता। इसका कोई तयशुदा फॉर्मेट नहीं है। यह व्यक्तिपरक बयानी स्कोरिफ्ट माना जाता है, जिसका अर्थ है कि सभी विश्लेषक अपने-अपने हिसाब से आंकड़ों का गुणा-भाग करके नतीजे निकालने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं। इस विश्लेषण का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू 'इंडियन ओशन डाइपोल' भी है, जिसे सामान्य बोलचाल में 'इंडियन नीनो' कहा जाता है। उष्णकटिबंधीय पश्चिमी और पूर्वी हिंद महासागर के समुद्र की सतह के तापमान में अंतर से लगातार होने वाला बदलाव 'इंडियन ओशन डाइपोल' कहा जाता है। जब यह अच्छा रहता है, तो देश में बारिश भी अच्छी होती है। संभव है, भारतीय मौसम विभाग ने इस साल डाइपोल को ज्यादा महत्व दिया होगा। उसे लगा होगा कि यह इस बार तपती धरती को कहीं ज्यादा सुकून पहुंचाएगा।

अच्छी बात यह भी है कि अमेरिका, ऑस्ट्रेलिया जैसे देशों की एजेंसियों ने मानसून पर जिस अल नीनो के असर की आशंका जताई थी, उसे हमारी एजेंसियों ने उतना प्रभाव नहीं माना है। भारतीय मौसम विभाग ने मानसून के शुरू होते ही इसके कमजोर पड़ जाने की संभावना जताई है, जबकि स्काईमेट का अनुमान है कि जून-जुलाई में बारिश इससे प्रभावित तो हो सकती है, पर अगस्त-सितंबर में स्थिति बदल जाएगी। अल नीनो का प्रभाव तब पैदा होता है, जब पूर्वी प्रशांत महासागर की सतह का

तापमान बढ़ जाता है। इससे पश्चिमी और पूर्वी अफ्रीका के मौसम में बड़ा बदलाव आता है। कभी-कभी इस वजह से तेज बारिश होती है, तो कभी यह दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून को थाम लेता है। हालांकि जून-जुलाई में हुई कमी की कितनी भरपाई अगस्त-सितंबर में हो पाएगी, यह बता पाना फिलहाल मुश्किल है। लेकिन अल नीनो की वजह से ही 2014 और 2015 में देश में सूखे-जैसे हालात हो गए थे। साल 2016 में तस्वीर सुधरी थी और उस साल दीर्घावधि की 97 फीसदी बारिश दर्ज की गई, मगर 2017 में लगभग सामान्य (दीर्घावधि की 95 फीसदी) और 2018 में सामान्य से भी कम (दीर्घावधि की 91 फीसदी) बारिश हुई।

'एक्सट्रीम वेदर' शान्ति मौसम में अप्रत्याशित होने वाले बदलाव के प्रमुख कारण स्तोबल बार्मिंग और जलवायु परिवर्तन हैं। धरती के लगातार बढ़ते औसत तापमान ने देश-दुनिया के पयावरण को खासा प्रभावित किया है। अपने यहां ही बर्फबारी लगातार बढ़ने लगी है। जितना पानी पहले दो-तीन दिनों में बरसा करता था, वह अब मजबूत दो-तीन घंटों में बरसने लगा है। तुफानों की तीव्रता बढ़ गई है और ये काफी ज्यादा नुकसान पहुंचाने लगे हैं। बढ़ता तापमान हवा में नमी की मात्रा भी काफी ज्यादा बढ़ा देता है, जिस कारण बनने वाले बादल कहीं ज्यादा उठ होते हैं। विगत साल फरवरी को दिल्ली-एनसीआर समेत देश के कई हिस्सों में इसी 'एक्सट्रीम वेदर' की वजह से काफी ज्यादा ओले गिरे थे।

अच्छी बात है कि देश में मानसून-पूर्व की मौसमी गतिविधियां शुरू हो गई हैं। इस बार पश्चिमी विक्षोभ कहीं ज्यादा प्रभावी रहा था, जिसके कारण पहाड़ी भागों में देर तक बर्फबारी होती रही। इसका असर मैदानी इलाकों में भी दिखा, जहां तापमान अपेक्षाकृत कम बना रहा और सर्दी की अवधि कुछ लंबी चली। मार्च की बजाय बेशक अप्रैल में मानसून-पूर्व हालात बनते दिख रहे हैं, लेकिन उम्मीद है कि मई में इसमें तेजी आएगी और बढ़ते तापमान के साथ बरसने वाले बादल कहीं ज्यादा बने लगे। इससे उत्तर भारत में इस बार तेज गर्मी कम पड़ेगी, लेकिन गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, तेलंगाना, कर्नाटक जैसे मध्य भारत के राज्यों में तापमान ज्यादा बना रहेगा।

(ये लेखक के अपने विचार हैं)



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**Wednesday, 17th April 2019**

**देश में मनाया जाएगा गंगा दिवस, चल रहा मंथन**  
देहरादून, राष्ट्रीय नदी गंगा की स्वच्छता और निर्मलता के लिए जरूरी है कि आस्था के साथ ही हर पहलू से गंगा को समझकर लोग उससे जुड़ें और दिल में उतारें। नमामि गंगे परियोजना के महानिदेशक राजीव रंजन मिश्रा ने देहरादून के शुक्लापुर में शोध संस्था हिमालयन इन्वायरनमेंटल स्टडीज एंड कंजर्वेशन ऑर्गनाइजेशन (हेस्को) के मुख्यालय के भ्रमण के दौरान यह बात कही। उन्होंने कहा कि इस जुड़ाव को और मजबूत करने के मद्देनजर ही गंगा दिवस मनाने के सुझाव पर गहन मंथन चल रहा है। उनका कहना है कि देशभर में गंगा किनारे लगभग 4500 गांव हैं, जिन्हें गंगा ग्राम के तौर पर विकसित किया जाना है। इन गांवों की तरक्की के लिए स्वच्छता, आजीविका, गंगा वन समेत अन्य विषयों पर वहां हेस्को की तकनीकी का उपयोग किया जाएगा। कुछ गांवों में यह पहले से ही चल रही है।