

Central Water Commission
WSE Dte.,

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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.

S. J. Khan
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Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

19/03/2019
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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

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

India staring at severe water crisis, among worst in the world, says WaterAid research

Country's water footprint 3,000 litres per day, highest in the globe: Report

ARUP ROYCHOUDHURY
New Delhi, 18 March

India tops the list of countries with the most number of people living with water scarcity during at least one part of the year, and is facing the worst water crisis in its history, said a new report by global non-profit organisation WaterAid.

"With one billion people living in water scarcity during at least one part of the year and around 600 million living in areas of high to extreme water stress, India is suffering from the worst water crisis in its history," said the report, titled "Beneath the Surface: The State of the World's Water 2019".

The report also said India's national water footprint, or litres per person per day, stands at 3,000 litres, making it one of the highest in the world. The highest water footprint is that of the United States, at 7,800 litres per person per day. These numbers include what the report describes as 'virtual water', which is the water included

RUNNING DRY

Countries with large populations living with physical water scarcity

Country	Population living with water scarcity* (million)	National water footprint (litres per person per day)
Bangladesh	130	2,100
China	900	2,900
India	1	3,000
Nigeria	110	3,400
Pakistan	120	3,600
Mexico	90	5,400
United States	130	7,800

*Population living with water scarcity during at least one part of the year
Source: WaterAid

in the production of everything people eat/drink, buy and wear.

In India's context, the WaterAid report stated that export of food and clothing items, while important sources of income, exacerbate the problem of water crisis in India and if production is not made sustainable, it will make it harder for many poor and marginalised communities to get access to clean water supply.

The report said that India accounts for almost one-fourth of the total groundwater extracted globally, more than that of China and US com-

bined thus using the largest amount of groundwater, around 24 per cent of the global total.

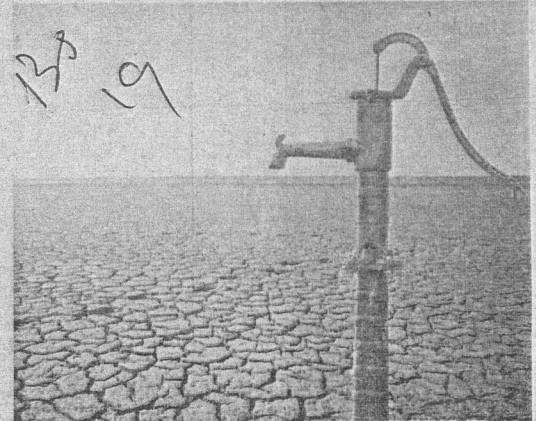
"Wheat accounts for 22 per cent of groundwater depletion. It has a global average water footprint of 1,827 litres per kilogramme, although this varies by region. In India, it has an average water footprint of 1,654 litres per kilogramme, which can vary depending on geography and climate," the report said.

"Rice accounts for 40 per cent of all global irrigation, and 17 per cent of global groundwater depletion, with an average water footprint of 2,500 litres of water per kilogramme. In India, it has an average water footprint of 2,800 litres per

kilogramme," the WaterAid report pointed out.

India's rate of groundwater depletion has increased by 23 per cent between 2000 and 2010 and it was also the third largest exporter of groundwater, accounting for 12 per cent of the global total.

"There is a dire need to make investments in making clean water within the household accessible to everyone, everywhere. India's success in providing its citizens with access to clean water will significantly impact the success of global goals that the government has committed to," said V K Madhavan, the Chief Executive of WaterAid India.



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Toll in Mozambique cyclone, floods could surpass 1,000: Prez



■ The Red Cross says as much as 90% of Mozambique's central port city of Beira has been damaged or destroyed by Cyclone Idai. AP

MAPUTO/HARARE: The number of people killed in a powerful storm and preceding floods in Mozambique could exceed 1,000, the president said on Monday, putting the potential death toll greatly more than current figures.

Only 84 deaths have been confirmed so far in Mozambique as a result of Cyclone Idai, which has also left a trail of death and destruction across Zimbabwe and Malawi, with vast areas of land flooded, roads destroyed and communication wiped out.

Speaking on Radio Mocambique, President Filipe Nyusi said he had flown over the affected region, where two rivers had overflowed.

Villages had disappeared, he said, and bodies were floating in

the water.

"Everything indicates that we can register more than one thousand deaths," he said.

The cyclone has also killed 89 people in Zimbabwe, an official said on Monday, while the death toll in Malawi from heavy rains and flooding stood at 56 as of last week. No new numbers had been released following the cyclone's arrival in the country.

Caroline Haga, a senior Red Cross official who is in Beira, said the situation could be far worse in the surrounding areas, which are completely cut off by road and where houses were not as sturdy. Nyusi flew over areas that were otherwise accessible, and some of which had been hit by flooding before Cyclone Idai. **REUTERS**

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Nations must join hands on ecological challenges

A new UN report once again shows the
global nature of the environment crisis

Last week, the United Nations released a landmark report, The Global Environment Outlook (GEO), which made two important points that all national governments need to take seriously: One, environment damage (emissions, chemicals polluting drinking water, and the accelerating destruction of ecosystems) is responsible for a quarter of premature deaths across the world. Second, there is a growing chasm between rich and poor countries as rampant overconsumption, pollution and food waste in the developed world is leading to hunger and poverty elsewhere.

In the past one year, there have been several reports that have warned national governments about the perils of ignoring such mounting challenges. While each of these reports have appraised the scope and nature of different challenges — from air pollution to biodiversity — the most important takeaway from all these reports is that many of these are global problems. Many environmental problems, as Israeli academic and author of the bestseller, *Sapiens*, Yuval Noah Harari, says, have no national solutions. Global cooperation is the first and necessary step to successfully face these challenges. With many world leaders such as US President Donald Trump showing a lack of interest in combating climate change, the road ahead will not be easy. Unfortunately, the brunt of such irresponsible behaviour will be borne by developing countries such as India.

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'Telangana's new bid to stall Polavaram'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA

Telangana, which gave its full consent for the Polavaram project at the time of bifurcation, approached the Supreme Court to stop its progress, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Water Resources Devineni Umamaheswara Rao alleged here on Monday.

Speaking to the media, he said that Telangana was in a way challenging the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act.

It filed an "original suit" (petition) on February 23 praying that the Supreme Court declare that Andhra Pradesh "has no right to the Polavaram Project without undertaking an assessment of probable maximum flood (PMF) at the Polavaram Dam and study of the backwater and other effects in Telangana State."

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The Hindu (19-03-2019)

NGT pulls up Ministry for not furnishing proper data

On mechanism for compliance of green clearance

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has pulled up the Union Environment Ministry for not furnishing proper data on monitoring mechanism for compliance of conditions of environment clearance granted by the Ministry.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel directed a senior official of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change to appear before the tribunal on April 29.

Precautionary principle
“The data furnished is wholly inadequate to evaluate the effectiveness of func-

tioning of mechanism. Adequate mechanism is the mandate of “precautionary principle” and “sustainable development” to be enforced by this tribunal. It appears that either the data is being withheld or the response of the officer is otherwise inadequate,” the Bench observed.

The observations came following submissions by the Ministry that “a mechanism existed to periodically monitor the compliance of environmental clearance conditions which was being strengthened”. The tribunal had in January directed the MoEF to furnish data on the same following which it submitted that a total of 6,779 projects were monitored

between 2013-2014 and 2018-19.

The Ministry informed the Bench that while in 2013-14, 843 projects were monitored, in 2018-19, it was 1,002.

Extent of defaults

“The data merely mentions figures of the projects monitored, without mentioning the extent of defaults found and further action taken, in absence of which the effectiveness of monitoring mechanism cannot be assessed,” the Bench observed.

Following the observations, the NGT asked the officer concerned to be present before the tribunal with the “entire relevant data”.

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अलनीनो की वापसी से खराब रह सकता है मॉनसून

नई दिल्ली, (आईएनएस) : इस साल अलनीनो की वापसी की संभावना जताई जा रही है और इससे मॉनसून की बेरुखी देखने को मिल सकती है। अमेरिका के नेशनल ओशनिक एंड एटमोस्फेरिक एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (एनओए) की हालिया रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, अलनीनो की वापसी हो सकती है जिससे अच्छे मॉनसून की उम्मीदों पर पानी फिर सकता है।

अलनीनो प्रशांत महासागर में एक जलावायु चक्र है, जिसका दुनिया भर में मौसमी दशाओं पर असर देखने को मिलता है। प्रशांत

● अलनीनो प्रशांत महासागर में एक जलावायु चक्र है, जिसका दुनिया भर में मौसमी दशाओं पर असर देखने को मिलता है : इस बार हिंद महासागर में इसके लौटने से भारत पर पड़ सकता है असर

महासागर स्थित पश्चिमी उष्णकटिबंधीय क्षेत्र में जब उष्ण जल विषुवत रेखा के साथ पूरब में दक्षिण अमेरिका की तरफ बढ़ता है तो यह चक्र शुरू होता है। एनओए के अनुमानकर्ताओं ने कहा कि भारत में जून से लेकर अगस्त तक

अलनीनो की दशा जारी रहने की 60 फीसदी संभावना है। भारत मौसम विभाग (आईएमडी) ने हालांकि बताया कि अलनीनो दक्षिणी स्पंदन की दशा वर्तमान में उदासीन है, जोकि कमजोर अलनीनो बनने का संकेत है। पुणे में आईएमडी के

वैज्ञानिक डी. एस. पई ने बताया कि अलनीनो की शुरुआत पिछले साल के अंत में ही होने वाली थी, लेकिन यह अनुमान गलत हो गया। वर्तमान में अलनीनो की दशा कमजोर है। कुछ मॉडलों का सुझाव है कि यह दो-तीन महीने में वापसी करेगा और उसके बाद ही यह कमजोर होगा। इस स्तर पर भी यह कमजोर है। पई ने कहा कि इसका मॉनसून पर प्रभाव के बारे में अभी कुछ बताना जल्दबाजी होगी। शायद अप्रैल के मध्य और मई के अंत में हमारे पास अलनीनो के बारे में स्पष्ट तस्वीर होगी।