


Central Water Commission
WSE Dte.,

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

Dated 21.05.2019


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The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings will be uploaded on the CWC website.

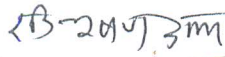

21/5/2019
Senior Artist
WSE, Dte.,

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.


21/5/2019

Director, WSE Dte.


21/5/19

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

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

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Time of India (New Delhi)

Indian Express

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Hindustan (Hindi)

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Deccan Chronicle

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The Times of India (A)

Business standard

The Economic Times

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Eye on the monsoon ^{H21}

States must set up new recharging wells and improve existing ones on a war footing

As India awaits the arrival of the annual summer monsoon, hopes are particularly high for normal rainfall that is so vital for agriculture, the health of forests, rivers and wetlands. The India Meteorological Department has forecast normal rainfall of 96% of the long period average of 89 cm rain, with an onset date in the first week of June in Kerala. It has also signalled a significant possibility of a deficit. The monsoon bounty is crucial for the 60% of gross cropped area in farming that is rain-fed, and represents, in the assessment of the National Commission on Farmers, 45% of agricultural output. Given the erratic patterns of rainfall witnessed over the past few decades and their possible connection to atmospheric changes caused by a variety of pollutants, the distribution of monsoon 2019 will add to the insights. The southwest monsoon is a determinant of India's overall prosperity, and sustained efforts to make the best use of rainfall are absolutely important for farms, cities and industry. Considering that there has been a 52% decline in groundwater levels based on tests conducted last year over the previous decadal average, State governments should have pursued the setting up of new recharging wells and made improvements to existing ones on a war footing. They also have lagged in building structures to harvest surface water and helping farmers raise the efficiency of irrigation. The approach to the farming sector, however, has been influenced more by the imperatives of an election year, and the Centre's biggest intervention was to announce a cash handout to specified categories of small farmers.

A normal summer monsoon over the subcontinent brings widespread prosperity, but does not guarantee a uniform spread. This, as scientists point out, may be due to the effect of particulates released through various industrial and agricultural processes. Some of these aerosols suppress the rainfall and disperse it across the land, causing long breaks in precipitation, while others absorb heat and lead to a convection phenomenon that increases rainfall in some places. Such evidence points to the need for India to clean up its act on rising industrial emissions, and burning of fossil fuels and biomass in order to improve the stability of the monsoon. An equally key area of concern is fresh-water availability for households, which, NITI Aayog says, account for 4% of available supplies, besides 12% used by industry. Urbanisation trends and the severe water stress that residents experience underscore the need for mandatory rainwater harvesting policies and augmented efforts by States to preserve surface water by building new reservoirs. Yet, governments are adopting a commodity approach to the vital resource, displaying deplorable indifference to the pollution and loss of rivers, wetlands and lakes that hold precious waters. This is no way to treat a life-giving resource.

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 21.05.2019.... in the

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'Every drop of pollution in Ganga is a matter of concern'

NGT pulls up 4-21
NCMG for not
providing proper
action plans

SHINJINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal has pulled up the National Mission for Clean Ganga for not providing "concrete action plans" pertaining to the rejuvenation of the Ganga in stretches where the river crosses the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said, "The

NMCG has not filed the precise information about the status of projects between Kanpur and Ganga Sagar. Thus, the affidavit of NMCG is of no assistance."

Directing the NMCG to take remedial action to provide "assistance" to the tribunal, the Bench added, "We find his approach to be that of the polluters instead of remedying the pollution."

The Bench said, "Every drop of pollution in Ganga is a matter of concern. The attitude of all the authorities has to be stringent and depict zero tolerance to pollution. No amount of wealth generation or commercial activities can get priority over cleanliness of Ganga."

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2018 floods: Kerala urges HC to reject report pointing lapses in dam management

KOCHI, 20 MAY

87-21

Kerala government has moved the state high court, seeking to reject the amicus curiae's report pointing out lapses in dam management that aggravated the impact of devastating floods in the state in August last year in which over 400 people died.

Except the finding that the reason for deluge was the extremely heavy rainfall between 15 August and 17 August, all other causes were on the basis of assumptions not supported by scientific data. These assumptions were on the basis of material rejected or not accepted by the scientific world, the state government said in its affidavit filed in response to the report. Referring to the study on the floods by the Central Water Commission that came out with supporting data, the government felt the CWC report negates any further need for a study.

Apart from this, the study by K P Sudhir of IIT-Madras points that the floods happened as 'an act of God', the government said.

It claimed the report of Vimal Mishra relied on by amicus curiae Jacob P Alex, to assist the court, was only an article rejected in peer review and thus not accepted for publication.

The same is the case with the article of Himanshu Thakkar, who is not a technical expert in the field and a renowned dam opponent, it said.

The government prayed the court to reject all the findings, conclusions and suggestions given by the amicus curiae except the attribution of extreme rainfall similar to the one in 1924 as a reason for the deluge.

Last month, the amicus curiae pointed out that lapses in dam management aggravated the impact of the floods which claimed over 400 lives besides causing widespread devastation. The court-appointed advisor had also recommended that an inquiry be conducted by an expert committee headed by a former SC judge.

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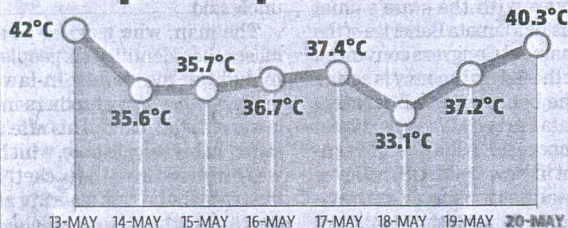
Mercury up but rain relief expected soon



■ Children play near the banks of the Yamuna on Monday.
There is a forecast of rain in the coming days.

RAJ K RAJ/HT

Temp over past one week



HT Correspondent

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEWDELHI: The day-time mercury, which remained below the 40-degree mark over the past one week, shot up to 40.3 degrees Celsius on Monday.

Officials from the India Meteorological Department's regional weather forecasting centre, however, have forecast that relief could be on the way soon as light rain and thunderstorms are expected this week.

There could be rain even on Thursday, counting day for the Lok Sabha elections, which will help the maximum temperature to stay below 40 degrees over the next five days at least.

"Because of an approaching western disturbance, we are expecting light rain, dust storms and thunderstorms between May 22 and May 24. This will help to keep a check on the maximum temperature," said an official from the local meteorological

department.

On Tuesday, there are chances of a dust storm or thunderstorm and on Wednesday, the meteorological department has issued a forecast of thunderstorm with rain.

On May 23, when Lok Sabha election results are out—Delhi could receive rain and thunder-showers with string gusty winds. The day's temperature is likely to remain around 38 degrees on that day.

On Monday, the maximum temperature was 40.3 degrees Celsius, which was normal. The minimum temperature was 22.8 degrees Celsius, which was four degrees below normal. The last time the day temperature was above 40 degree Celsius this season was on May 13, when it was recorded at 42 degrees Celsius.

But as the western disturbance is approaching and is triggering dust storms across north-west India and NCR, pollution levels in Delhi is also rising.

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Gujarat will supply treated waste water for industrial use 4-21

State has detailed plan for directing fresh water for drinking, irrigation

MAHESH LANGA

AHMEDABAD

Shortage of water is an annual story in Gujarat, with limited sources of fresh water and rising demand. Every year, the State faces water shortage, particularly for drinking water in far-flung areas in Saurashtra and north Gujarat, both drought-prone regions in the State.

In the current year, more than 750 villages are being supplied water through tankers due to non-availability of local sources, as most of the dams and reservoirs have gone dry, due to deficit rainfall in the last monsoon.

Detailed plan

Now, the State government has come up with a detailed plan to address the water shortage by limiting the supply of fresh water only for drinking and irrigation purposes, while the growing demand of industries will be met through treated waste water, which will be sup-



Parched days: Villagers in Kutch region of Gujarat on their way to a pond to collect drinking water. ■ VIJAY SONEJI

plied by State.

"In the next 3-4 years, more than 80% of the water requirement of industries will be met through the supply of treated waste water (TWW), which will be supplied from Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs)," said Gujarat's Chief Secretary J.N. Singh, adding that industry will get only treated water in order to reserve fresh ground water for drinking and irrigation.

■ "As of today, our total sewage water generation is

4,000 MLD (million litres per day), while our treatment capacity is 3,500 MLD. In the next 2-3 years, new capacity of 1,500 MLD will be added, with the setting up of new STPs and expanding the existing ones," said J.P. Gupta, Principal Secretary on water supply for the State.

According to Mr. Gupta, the State has limited sources of fresh water while demand is rising, which forces the authorities to adopt novel ways to address the issue.

"By treating waste water that's generated in sewage and supplying it for industrial consumption, we will also resolve the issue of pollution in cities and towns," he added.

"We have capacity to treat water at STPs and since there is no demand for treated water, it gets diluted and treated water is released into water bodies or farms. Now, we will be making it mandatory for industries to use treated waters," Mr. Gupta said.

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Telegraph Kolkata ✓

Bagjola waits for pump nod

KINSUK BASU

New Town: The canal that drains Calcutta's water into a river on the city's eastern outskirts would release more water during the monsoon if the Central Water Commission (CWC) clears a state government proposal to set up a pumping station.

Bagjola canal, which runs through parts of Dum Dum and Rajarhat, has a capacity to discharge 2,500 cusec of water into the Kultigang river.

But over the years, with vast stretches of vacant land across New Town and Rajarhat making way to high-rises, Bagjola has been forced to carry more than 5,000 cusec of water. As a result large parts of Salt Lake, New Town, Lake Town, Baguihati and Dum Dum would remain waterlogged because Bagjola couldn't discharge enough water. A round of dredging of the canal didn't work.

State government has now

drawn up a plan to construct a pumping station that would pump out 3,500 cusec of water per second into the Kultigang river from Bagjola canal.

"Several years back, a pumping station with 1,500 cusec capacity was built to help Bagjola release more water into the river. But with time, even that is proving to be insufficient," an official said.

"A detailed report has been drawn up for the Rs 150 crore project. Once the CWC clears the project, tender would be floated," said a senior official of the irrigation department.

"Recently, we wrote to the CWC to have a look at the detailed project report and give us an opinion before we go ahead and float a global tender for the project," he said.

Bagjola, a key link in Calcutta's canal network, is split into two. The Upper Bagjola canal spans 9.23km from its point of origin in Kamarhati till VIP Road. The lower canal stretches 28.8km from VIP Road till it

meets the Kultigang river.

But why is a clearance from CWC required?

Sources said the CWC was entrusted with the responsi-

bilities to coordinate and further schemes to control and utilise water resources in consultation with the state governments.

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Financial Express, Delhi ✓

HC irked over Maha govt's delay in listing steps to tackle drought

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Mumbai, May 20

NOTING THAT SEVERAL districts in Maharashtra were facing a drought-like situation, the Bombay High Court on Monday expressed dissatisfaction over the state government's delay in listing out measures to tackle the water crisis.

The high court last week directed the government to file its affidavit on Monday in response to an application of activist Sanjay Lakhe Patil, seeking setting up of independent disaster management committees in each district of the state.

Patil sought implementation of the 2016 disaster management guidelines, which listed several measures to be undertaken by the state government to tackle natural calamities and disasters, including drought.

The government lawyer on Monday sought further time to file the affidavit.

"We are aware of the situation in several districts of Maharashtra...we are aware of the seriousness of the situation. The government should not delay in filing an affidavit stating what steps it has taken," the court said.

The bench further noted that some districts in the state's Marathwada region get water supply once in eight days.

The court directed the government to



The Bombay High Court last week directed the government to file its affidavit on Monday in response to an application of activist Sanjay Lakhe Patil, seeking setting up of independent disaster management committees in each district of the state

file its affidavit by May 27, when it will hear the matter further.

The court said the government shall continue to carry out any relief work it has been doing and not stop it pending hearing of the application.

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चीन ने ब्रह्मपुत्र के आंकड़े साझा करना शुरू किए

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): चीन ने इस मानसून सत्र के लिये ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के जलविज्ञान संबंधी आंकड़े भारत के साथ साझा करना शुरू कर दिया है। जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने सोमवार को इसकी जानकारी दी। अधिकारी ने कहा कि सतलज नदी के लिये भी चीन द्वारा एक जून से आंकड़े साझा करने की शुरुआत का अनुमान है। देश में एक जून से ही मानसून शुरू हो रहा है।

ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी तिब्बत से निकलती है और भारत के अरुणाचल प्रदेश तथा असम से गुजरती हुई बांग्लादेश के जरिये बंगाल की खाड़ी तक जाती है। सतलज भी तिब्बत से निकलती है और यह सिंधु की सहायक नदी है। यह भारत से गुजरने के बाद पाकिस्तान चली जाती है।

चीन ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी की मुख्यधारा पर स्थित तीन जलविज्ञान स्टेशनों नुगेशा, यांगकुन और नुशिआ के आंकड़े मुहैया कराता है। ब्रह्मपुत्र



नदी को यारलुंग जांगबो नाम से भी जाना जाता है। सतलज को चीन में लांगकेन जांगबो नाम से जाना जाता है। इसके लिये त्सादा जलविज्ञान केंद्र से आंकड़े मुहैया कराये जाते हैं। बारिश के कारण नदी में जलस्तर

बढ़ने से बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिये जलविज्ञान आंकड़ों की जरूरत होती है। उल्लेखनीय है कि डोकलाम विवाद के बाद 2017 में चीन ने ब्रह्मपुत्र के लिये जलविज्ञान आंकड़े साझा करना बंद कर दिया

सतलज नदी के लिये भी चीन एक जून से आंकड़े साझा करने की शुरुआत कर सकता है

डोकलाम विवाद के बाद 2017 में चीन ने आंकड़े साझा करना बंद कर दिया था

था। उसने दावा किया था कि बाढ़ के कारण जलविज्ञान आंकड़े जुटाने वाले केंद्र बह गये हैं। ब्रह्मपुत्र के लिये 15 मई से और सतलज के लिये एक जून से आंकड़े साझा किये जाते हैं।

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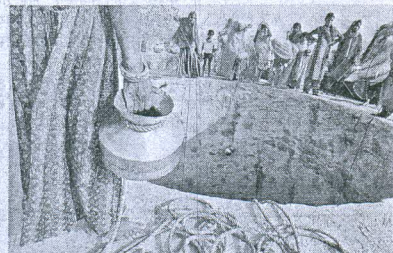
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सीजीडब्ल्यूबी 65 मीटर गहरे मिल जाता है पानी

10 साल में 100 मीटर तक देश में भूजल स्तर गिरने की आशंका



जनसंख्या वृद्धि और औद्योगिकीकरण के कारण भूजल स्तर ध्यानक तेजी से गिरा है। समस्या उन इलाकों में अधिक गंभीर है जहां चट्टानें सख्त हैं या पुनर्भरण का स्तर बहुत कम। केंद्रीय भूजल बोर्ड (सीजीडब्ल्यूबी) की एक मसौदा रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, अगले 10 साल में उत्तर पश्चिम भारत में भूजल 100 मीटर और गिर सकता है।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि हर साल भूजल स्तर 51 सेंटीमीटर की दर से गिर रहा है। वर्तमान में यह इस क्षेत्र में 10-65 मीटर की गहराई पर है। पिछले कई दशकों में सूखे जैसी स्थितियों के कारण यहां भूजल का अत्यधिक दोहन हुआ है।

कम बारिश ने रुलाया

35.78 बिलियन क्यूबिक मीटर है वार्षिक भूजल निकासी की दर

25% से 40% बारिश हुई है हिमाचल और उत्तराखंड में 2012-2017 में

15% से 20% बारिश हुई इस दौरान पंजाब, राजस्थान में

1994 और 2018 के बीच वर्ज आंकड़ों पर आधारित है रिपोर्ट

राजस्थान में आपातकाल जैसे हालात

रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, उत्तरी और पश्चिमी राजस्थान के पूरे कृषि क्षेत्र में भूजल स्तर तेजी से कम हुआ है। दक्षिणी

राजस्थान और पूर्वी राजस्थान के कुछ हिस्सों को छोड़कर पूरे राज्य में भूजल आपातकाल जैसे हालात हैं।

तेज निकासी से बढ़ता जा रहा है खतरा



149% थी उत्तर पश्चिम भारत में भूमिगत जल की निकासी

165% हो गई 2013 में बढ़कर

दो दशक में हो जाएगा पूरी तरह नाश

सीजीडब्ल्यूबी की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि अगर पंजाब, हरियाणा और राजस्थान में 300 मीटर की गहराई तक भूजल

की निकासी इसी दर से चलती रही तो अगले 20-25 वर्षों में ग्राउंड वाटर पूरी तरह खत्म हो जाएगा।

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एनजीटी ने गंगा किनारे लगे अवैध कैंप बैन किए, नहीं रह सकेंगे लोग

■ भाषा, नई दिल्ली

नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल (एनजीटी) ने उत्तराखंड सरकार को निर्देश दिया है कि गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों के किनारों पर कोई भी अवैध तरीके से कैंप लगा कर न रहे।

एनजीटी चीफ जस्टिस आदर्श कुमार गोयल की अध्यक्षता वाली बेंच ने उत्तराखंड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड को गंगा या उसकी सहायक नदियों में गंदा पानी या इंडस्ट्रियल वेस्ट (औद्योगिक कचरा) डालने को प्रतिबंधित करने का निर्देश दिया। बेंच ने आग्रह किया कि कार्रवाई करने में

विफल रहने पर नदी में अपशिष्ट या गंदा पानी छोड़ने के लिए जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों या अधिकारियों से मुआवजा वसूला जाएगा। एनजीटी ने कहा, यह मुआवजा नसीहत

■ उत्तराखंड को गंदा पानी या औद्योगिक कचरा न डालने का निर्देश
■ ऐवशन न लेने पर जिम्मेदार अफसरों और लोगों से मुआवजा वसूला जाएगा



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देने वाला और पुरानी स्थिति बहाल करने की कीमत वसूलने के लिए पर्याप्त होना चाहिए। ऐसा करना यह तय करने के लिए जरूरी है कि गंगा नदी को प्रदूषित करना अवैध है।

होगा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट और एनजीटी की ओर से पिछले 34 सालों में बार-बार दिए गए निर्देश सिर्फ कागजों तक सीमित नहीं रहने चाहिए। एनजीटी की तरफ से गठित की

गई समिति विफल रहने वाले अधिकारियों एवं राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों समेत विफल रहने वाले व्यक्तियों की पहचान कर सकता है।

एनजीटी ने कहा, उत्तराखंड राज्य को तय करना होगा कि गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों के तटों पर अवैध रूप से कैम्पिंग करके कोई न ठहरे। हम नीलकंठ मार्ग की तरफ पौड़ी गढ़वाल जिले के पियानी गांव में कथित अवैध कैम्पिंग का विशेष उल्लेख कर रहे हैं। उत्तराखंड राज्य को ई-प्रवाह की नीति को स्पष्ट तौर पर

“ गंगा में एक बूंद प्रदूषण भी चिंता का विषय है और नदी के संरक्षण के लिए सभी अधिकारियों का रवैया सख्त होना चाहिए। -एनजीटी

अन्य राज्यों की भी खिंचाई

■ एनजीटी ने राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन की यूपी, बिहार, झारखंड और पश्चिम बंगाल के लिए उसकी कार्य योजना को लेकर खिंचाई की और कहा कि यह शीघ्र समयसीमा और प्रदूषण को प्रतिबंधित करने के प्रयास वाली ठोस योजना नहीं दर्शाता।

समझाना होगा। एनजीटी ने कहा कि गंगा में एक बूंद प्रदूषण भी चिंता का विषय है और नदी के संरक्षण के लिए सभी अधिकारियों का रवैया सख्त होना चाहिए। एनजीटी ने ठोस कार्य योजना बनाने को भी कहा है।