

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


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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 have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As stated above.


26.12.16
Assistant Director (publicity)

Editor, Bhagirath (English) & Publicity

Director (T.D.)

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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GREEN FIATS 12/24

Two announcements show that Central agencies have not learnt from past failures in dealing with pollution

A MONTH AND a half after Delhi experienced a spell of seriously unhealthy air, two announcements offer a window into the thinking of the Central authorities on pollution. On Thursday, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) imposed a ban on burning waste in open places, across the country. "Violators shall be liable to pay environmental compensation of Rs 5,000 in case of simple burning, and Rs 25,000 in case of bulk waste burning," the NGT bench said. The same day, Union Minister of Urban Development, M. Venkaiah Naidu, said that the Centre is contemplating making a parking space certificate compulsory for car buyers. Congestion and garbage disposal are serious environmental problems. But the two proposals betray familiar faults in the ways authorities have tried to deal with such problems. All too often, cleaning up the environment becomes a matter of punitive actions directed by the courts — including the NGT — or short-sighted policies. It is not difficult to see why the air in the country remains unclean and the rivers remain dirty even after a plethora of court directives and government policies.

Take the case of the NGT ban on waste burning. The green tribunal had passed a similar order in April 2015. But reportedly, fines imposed by municipalities, in pursuance of the NGT order, did precious little to curb the problem of open waste burning. Dealing with the problem requires concerted efforts involving municipalities, resident welfare and business associations, individual households and private garbage disposal agencies. The green court is not to be blamed for the lack of such coordination in Indian cities. But shouldn't it have learnt from the failure of its 2015 directive?

There are surer ways to deal with congestion than asking car buyers to produce a parking space certificate. A fair number of cities across the world have had reasonable success in curbing pollution when they introduced congestion taxes. The growing aspiration for automobiles is the sign of an emerging middle class. But a rapidly increasing fleet of private cars is also a sign that all is not well with a city's public transport system. There are enough examples from across the world, and scholarly literature, to prove that a combination of economic disincentives and a robust public transport system can keep the number of private cars on the road to a reasonable level, and in turn check congestion and pollution. Agencies charged with protecting the country's environment would do well to pay attention to them, and also learn from past mistakes.

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A grey Christmas: Coldest December day in 6 years

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhiites woke up to a cold, grey Christmas, and it remained that way through the daylight hours on Sunday. The mercury didn't rise beyond 15.4 degrees Celsius, making it the coldest December day in December in six years.

A blanket of fog blocked the sun the entire day giving the appearance of a thick cloud cover over the city. This kept the maximum temperature 6 degrees below normal leading to what's known as "cold day conditions" in Met office jargon.

The Met office said the fog was formed due to a change in wind direction, from easterly to westerly that suddenly brought in moisture. "Due to wind reversal, fog intensified from 9.30am to 11.30am, with visibility falling to 200m. Higher westerly chilly winds fed the fog with moisture. The fog remained through the day despite winds blowing at 7-12kmph," a Met official said.

CHILLY DAYS

LAST 10 YEARS

Dec 28, 2010	15.2
Dec 25, 2016	15.2
Dec 24, 2014	15.3
Dec 31, 2008	16.0
Dec 27, 2012	16.5

Nasa satellite picture captures the dense fog cover over NCR

Source: TuTempo.net

Visibility hardly improved beyond 500m in the afternoon at both Safdar Jung and IGI Airport, he added.

This was Delhi's coldest day since December 28, 2010, when the maximum temperature was recorded at 15.2 degrees C, as per TuTempo.net data. NASA's satellite image captured the dense fog over NCR and most parts of Haryana, while a thinner layer enveloped the rest of the Gangetic plains.

The fog spell is not expected to last. "The next three days are

expected to be clearer. Dense fog may return around December 29," said Ravinder Vishen, head of the Regional Weather Forecasting Centre, Delhi.

Vishen said chilly winds lowered the day temperature, following the season's first snowfall in Himachal and Uttarakhand. "A western disturbance hit the hills, resulting in snow and rain. As the disturbance moves away, the fog will become less dense and nights will become a bit colder in Delhi over the next three days or so."

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MIT to help Identify 18 ferry terminals on Ganga

Dipak.Deshai@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will identify locations for ferry services on the Ganga in Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Munger, Kolkata and Haldia. The government targets to start this service at 18 locations by 2016 to help decongest city traffic.

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA), which has been tasked with developing the stretch between Varanasi and Haldia in West Bengal, has signed an agreement with a joint venture of MIT and Thompson Design Group of the US. This stretch, named National Waterway-1, is being developed for navigation of both passengers and cargo.



A ferry terminal in China

IWA project director Prabir Pandey said this joint venture has earlier worked on similar transport solutions for Governors Island, a 172 acre island in New York Harbour, Navy Pier and Buffalo Bayou, all in the US.

"We have huge demand for ferry service. On request of Bihar government, we are providing four ships to transport thousands of devotees through the river during Prakash Mahastav between January 1 and 5. Similarly, we are deploying three ships for the Ganga Sagar mela from January 1 to 15 in West Bengal," Pandey said.

According to the contract between IWA and MIT, the consultants will identify the best locations within the specific regulatory, planning and investment framework of the cities. They will also take into account commercial and passenger characteristics of each city.

Last year the shipping ministry had identified pilgrim circuits including Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Bhagalpur, Kolkata, Guwahati and Tezpur which can be accessed through waterways and cruises.

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Animals from T.N., Karnataka head for Wayanad sanctuary

E.M. MANOJ

KALPETTA: The seasonal migration of wild animals in search of fodder and water has begun from the wildlife sanctuaries of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) even before the onset of summer. This is due to the drought-like situation in the forest areas of the Nilgiri biosphere.

The annual migration usually begins in the first week of February and continues till the advent of monsoon. But it appears that owing to the drought-like situation in the adjacent forest areas, caused by deficit rainfall in the Nilgiri biosphere, the migration started early this year. P. Dhaneshkumar, Warden, WWS, told *The Hindu*.

The sanctuary is a haven for wild animals during summer, thanks to the easy availability of fodder and water throughout the year. But the

Due to deficit rainfall in the Nilgiris biosphere, the migration has started early this year

sharp decline in rainfall this year has posed a problem.

However, officials have made highly structured measures at a cost of nearly ₹1 crore to assure the availability of fodder, water and protection measures for the migrating animals.

Protective measures

"Water sources in the sanctuary, including 335 check-dams and well as 219 waterholes, have been closely monitored with GPS every week to ensure drinking water for wildlife," Mr. Dhaneshkumar said.

"Though water scarcity has not affected the sanctuary till now, nine temporary check-dams are being built inside the sanctuary, where

the streams may dry up during summer," he added.

Desilting works in 13 major water bodies and the construction work of five new earthen bunds had been completed, he said.

As part of fodder management, around 116 hectares of coarse grasslands had been trimmed to grow the soft grass and 545 hectares of exotic plants eradicated in the sanctuary to ensure fodder security for herbivores.

Apart from the 25 permanent anti-poaching camps and five watch towers at important strategic points in the sanctuary, as many as 15 new treetop machans (temporary watch towers) will start functioning this year.

Forest officials, including guards and watchers, have been deployed to alert against poaching and wild-fire. As many as 221 watchers have been deployed in the sanctuary, including 111 newly appointed temporary watchers.

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Water situation grim on Kasauli periphery

SOLAN, DECEMBER 23

Water shortage has hit several villages lying on the periphery of Kasauli where residents were getting water after two days. Though unavailability of adequate water is a common grouse of the area as it is distributed on alternate days throughout the year the situation has become more grim with residents getting water after two days now.

The Larah Water supply

scheme which serves several villages like Badah, Garkhal, Tickethatti, etc. had developed a snag which could not be detected. The prolonged dry spell has reduced the supply of water by as much as 40 per cent, confided an official saying this had forced the staff to curtail water supply.

The situation could worsen in the coming days if there were no rains and peo-

ple would have to look for other options in the summers than depending on the Irrigation and Public Health (IPH) Department.

With little augmentation of water having been done in the past several years the scheme's machinery had worn out and the old pipes which were being welded again and again had developed leakages which could not be plugged. — TNS

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After five days, it's back to new normal: Shutdown

EHSAN FAZILI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

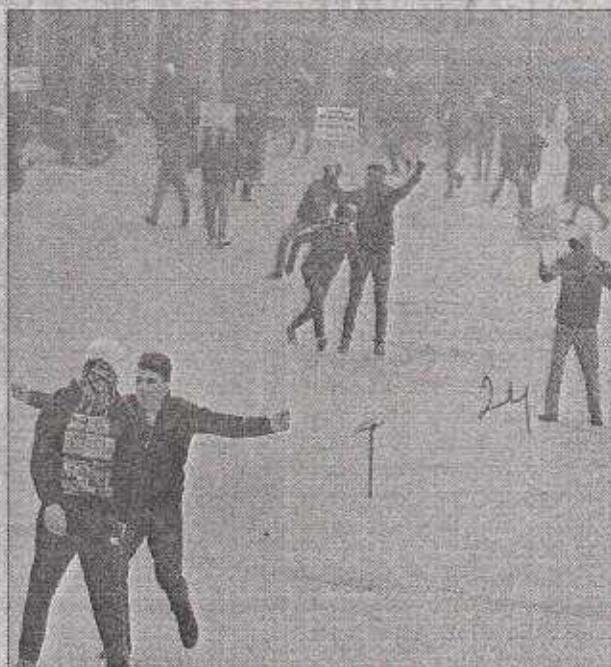
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 23

After five days of relaxation in the shutdown for the first time during the current unrest, normal life in the Valley was paralysed again as the separatists called for a two-day bandh, which began today.

While the overall situation across Kashmir remained peaceful, protests were held at various places, including Nowhatta and Batamaloo in Srinagar, after the Friday prayers. The protest erupted in the Nowhatta area after Mirwaiz Umar Farooq addressed a gathering outside Jamia Masjid after the Friday prayers. The police chased away the protesters leading to clashes in the area.

However, there were no reports of injuries to anyone. Protests were also held in Tral area of Pulwama district in south Kashmir. All shops and business establishments were closed and public transport was off the roads, though private vehicles plied normally in the capital city and other major towns of the Valley.

Thin public transport plied in some areas, while most of the people preferred to



Mirwaiz leads protest

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, chairman of a faction of separatist amalgam Hurriyat Conference, on Friday led a protest demonstration outside the city's Jamia Masjid against the proposed grant of domicile rights to West Pakistan refugees. Mirwaiz termed the proposed grant of domicile rights to the refugees as "anti-Kashmir" policy and alleged that judiciary was being used to "subvert the Kashmir dispute".

<< Youths throw stones at paramilitary and police personnel after Friday prayers outside Jamia Masjid in Srinagar.

TRIBUNE PHOTO: AMIN WAR

Malik, others detained near Lal Chowk

JKLF chairman Yasin Malik along with his party workers were detained at Sarai Bala by the police on Friday when they attempted to take a protest rally towards Lal Chowk. Before being detained, Malik told reporters that Kashmiris would "not shy away from spilling their blood" to safeguard the state subject law, demography and "Muslim majority character of Jammu and Kashmir".

remain indoors fearing trouble as there was heavy deployment of police and CRPF personnel in sensitive areas. There was thin attendance in government offices

and most of the educational institutions were closed.

The separatist leaders, Syed Ali Geelani, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Moham-mad Yasin Malik, jointly

issuing the protest calendars since the unrest started in July, have for the first time scaled down the shutdown for only two days a week, beginning today.

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Cold wave continues; Leh coldest at -8.2°C

Srinagar: The cold wave continues in Kashmir with the night temperature remaining below the freezing point. The Meteorological Department said there was a possibility of light rain or snow at isolated places in the higher reaches of the Valley over the next 24 hours. Srinagar recorded -5.5°C, down by half a degree from the previous night's -5°C, a Met official said. He added that the city was the coldest recorded place in the Valley. The mercury in Qazigund settled at -4.8°C, slightly up from -5.3°C on Thursday. The official said Pahalgam recorded -4.8°C, Gulmarg saw -2.2°C while Leh in the Ladakh region registered -8.2°C. The official added that Leh was the coldest recorded place in the state. — PTI

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BHANU P LOHUMI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 25

Thousands of tourists had a pleasant surprise as the prediction of dry weather went haywire and people witnessed "White Christmas" after 25 years.

Snowfall brought cheer to the hotel industry while widespread showers in lower areas broke the prolonged dry spell giving much-needed relief to farmers. As per records available with the local Met department Himachal received snowfall on Christmas after

25 years. "Last time, it witnessed snowfall in 1991," said Manmohan Singh, director, Meteorological Department.

The upper areas of Shimla and Jakhoo peak received 3 cm snow but as showers followed, the snow disappeared in no time while adjoining tourist resorts of Kufri and Fagu recorded 5 cm of snow. Tourists were ecstatic and made a beeline to Kufri to enjoy the snow but a thick carpet of impeccable white snow eluded the "Queen of Hills". The snowfall negated the impact of demonetisation

on tourism industry and occupancy in most of the hotels in Shimla town and periphery shot to 90 per cent. Hotels of the Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation were packed to capacity and hoteliers are looking forward to heavy tourist runs on the New Year's eve. Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation General Manager Vijay Sharma said there was a little impact of demonetisation in November and December but gradually things have improved. At present, there was 100 per

cent occupancy in majority of properties, he said. Shimla Hotel and Restaurant Association President Harman Kukreja said the season was picking up and the occupancy had surpassed 70 per cent. With white Christmas, the tourist rush would further go up, he added. Tourism Industry Stake Holders Welfare Association president MK Seth said the occupancy had gone up to 90 percent.

A honeymoon couple from Mumbai, Aastha and Sahil, were overwhelmed with snow. "I opened my eyes and it was snowing," Aastha said.

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Delhi experiences season's coldest day

At 15.4 degrees, the maximum temperature was six degrees below normal for this time of the year

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI: It was a cold foggy Christmas day in the Capital on Sunday, with the maximum temperature settling at 15.4 degrees Celsius, the coldest yet for the season.

The temperature was six degrees below normal for this time of the year, a significant fall from the sunny 24.5 degrees Celsius recorded the previous day. Shallow fog continued through the day, keeping Delhiites deprived of warm sunshine. The night, however, was warmer than usual with the minimum settling at 11.4 degrees Celsius.

Despite foggy conditions, flight operations at Indira Gandhi International Airport were not affected. Visibility at 8.30 a.m. was recorded at 600 metres, which dipped to 200-300 metres between 9 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. before improving.

Reversal of winds

"Due to reversal of winds from easterly to westerly at 9 a.m. there was intensification of fog across Delhi from forenoon, with wind speeds between 7 and 12 kmph," said a Meteorological Department official.

The maximum temperature fell by almost 10 degrees during the day, as the city received no sunlight to warm the air or the surface due to the shallow fog, he added.



CHRISTMAS SELFIE: People enjoy the foggy weather at Rajpath on Sunday. PHOTO: R. V. MOORTHY

Incidentally, there was hardly a difference between the minimum and maximum temperatures, as the minimum recorded overnight was 11.4 degrees Celsius, said the weatherman.

Usually, the city experiences such conditions on two-three occasions every winter due to the influence of western disturbance, which cause similar wind reversal, bringing a blanket of fog later in the day.

Trains late

Railway officials informed that 80 Delhi-bound trains were running behind sched-

ule by several hours, while 23 others required to be rescheduled owing to poor visibility. There was no fresh cancellation of services.

Forecast for fog

As per the forecast for Monday, the maximum and minimum are expected to hover around 21 degrees Celsius and 10 degrees Celsius respectively, with shallow to moderate fog in the morning. The extended observation shows that dense fog is likely to return during the last day of the year.

The air quality in the city

was "very bad" with levels of toxic pollutants remaining several times over the safe limit.

Pollution unchanged

However, air pollution levels have been around the same over the past week, and the dip in temperatures, which was expected to worsen air quality, did not have a very dramatic impact.

According to the National Air Quality Index, the air quality index (AQI) as of 7 p.m. at Anand Vihar, Delhi Technological University and Siri Fort was above 401, putting it in the 'severe' cat-

egory. Six locations — Shadipur, NSIT Dwarka, Mandir Marg, R.K. Puram, Punjabi Bagh and ITO — had 'very poor' AQIs, and one — IHRAS (Dilshad Garden) — had a 'poor' AQI.

As per the SAFAR index, the levels of both PM2.5 and PM10 remained at over four times the respective standards of 60 and 100 micrograms per cubic metre.

At 7 p.m., the 24-hour rolling average for PM2.5 was 273 micrograms per cubic metre, or 'severe', while the level of PM10 was 428 micrograms per cubic metre, or 'very poor'.

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अमरिंदर पानी देने का वादा करें तब प्रचार करूंगा: हुड्डा

चंडीगढ़ | हमारे स्वादयता

पंजाब चुनाव में कांग्रेस की ओर से प्रचार करने से पहले हरियाणा के पूर्व सीएम भूपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा ने कैप्टन अमरिंदर सिंह से सतलुज का पानी देने का वादा मांगा है। उन्होंने कहा जब अमरिंदर पानी देने का वादा करेंगे तभी प्रचार करूंगा।

हरियाणा के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा ने शनिवार को एक बार फिर से एसवाईएल मुद्दे पर अपना स्टैंड दोहरा

दिया है। कुछ दिन पहले उन्होंने पंजाब में विधानसभा चुनावों में कांग्रेस के लिए प्रचार करने से इनकार कर दिया था। हुड्डा ने कहा कि अगर पंजाब के पूर्व सीएम कैप्टन अमरिंदर सिंह सार्वजनिक मंच से वादा करें कि सत्ता में आए तो हरियाणा को उसके हिस्से का पानी देंगे, तो वे पंजाब में खुलकर प्रचार करेंगे।

हुड्डा ने कहा कि पंजाब के चुनावों में पार्टी की जीत से बढ़कर उनके लिए हरियाणा का हित है।

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पहाड़ों पर बर्फ, मैदान में बारिश के साथ ओले

26-12-16
देहरादून हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स

लगतार जारी शीतलहर के बीच पहाड़ों पर रविवार को जमकर बर्फबारी हुई। वहीं, मैदानी इलाकों में बारिश के साथ ओले भी गिरे।

उत्तराखंड स्थित चारों धाम बदरीनाथ, केदारनाथ, यमुनोत्री और रंगोत्री के साथ उच्च हिमालयी क्षेत्र बर्फ की चादर से ढक गए। बर्फबारी से किसानों के चेहरे पर भी मुस्कान लौट आई। बदरीनाथ में शनिवार रात से शुरू हिमपात रविवार भी जारी रहा।

नर नायक और नीलकंठ पर्वत पर रविवार सुबह से तेज बर्फबारी जारी रही। दिन चढ़ने के साथ ही पूरा बदरीनाथ बर्फ से ढक गया।

केदारनाथ में भी कपाट बंद होने के बाद पहली बार बर्फबारी हुई, जिससे यहां का तापमान रात से 6 डिग्री सेल्सियस नीचे चला गया। रंगोत्री, नैलांग, कोपांग सहित, मुखवा, धराली, हर्बिल, बगोरी, सहित दर्जनों गांवों में बर्फबारी के साथ बारिश होने से किसानों को फसल की पैदावार अच्छी होने की उम्मीद बंधी है।

पैरायट में ओले पड़े

मेरठ। यूपी में रविवार को मौसम ने करवट ली और कई जिलों में बारिश हुई, जबकि सहारनपुर में ओले पड़े। बिजनौर और मुजफ्फरनगर में बारिश से गेहूं की फसल को लाभ पहुंचा है। सहारनपुर के बाहरी इलाकों में ओले भी पड़े। बुलंदशहर, बागपत, मेरठ और हापुड़ में बादल छाए रहने से दिन के तापमान में गिरावट के साथ जबरदस्त ठंड रही।

राजस्थान में सर्द हवाएं

जयपुर। पहाड़ों पर बर्फबारी और शीतलहर से राजस्थान के मैदानी क्षेत्रों में ठंड बढ़ गई है। मौसम विभाग के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि प्रदेश के गंगानगर में रात को न्यूनतम तापमान 5.7 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया। जो प्रदेश में सबसे कम है।

हरियाणा में बारिश

चंडीगढ़। पंजाब और हरियाणा के कुछ हिस्सों में रविवार को बारिश हुई। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार चंडीगढ़ में 8.9 मिलीमीटर बारिश हुई, न्यूनतम तापमान 12.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस था जो सामान्य से सात डिग्री अधिक है। हिसार सबसे ठंडा रहा जहां न्यूनतम तापमान 5.1 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा और नारनौल पारा 6.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 24/12/16 in the

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Statesman

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Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

सिंधु जल संधि पर अंतर मंत्रालयी कार्य बल की बैठक हुई

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): पाकिस्तान के साथ सिंधु जल संधि के रणनीतिक पहलुओं पर गौर करने के लिए मोदी सरकार द्वारा गठित अंतर मंत्रालयी कार्यबल ने आज यहां हुई अपनी पहली बैठक में जम्मू-कश्मीर में 8,500 मेगावाट क्षमता की जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं में तेजी लाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा की। बैठक की अध्यक्षता प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के प्रधान सचिव नृपेंद्र मिश्रा ने की। इसमें एनएसए अजीत डोभाल, विदेश सचिव एस. जयशंकर वित्त सचिव अशोक लवासा और जल संसाधन सचिव शशि शेखर तथा पंजाब और जम्मू-कश्मीर के मुख्य सचिव शरीक हुए। सौंप सूत्री ने बताया कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं को लागू करने में तेजी लाने पर बैठक के दौरान चर्चा हुई। हमने परियोजनाओं के वित्त पोषण और संरचना के तरीकों पर चर्चा की।

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M.P.Chronicle
A & J (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

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

निर्मल गंगा, भूजल संरक्षण की चुनौतियां बरकरार

नई दिल्ली, (वार्ता): नमामि गंगे कार्यक्रम के तहत भले ही इस साल घाटों की सफाई, तटों का बनीकरण, टास्कफोर्स का गठन जैसे कई महत्वपूर्ण काम शुरू हुए लेकिन नतीजा हासिल करने के लिए कई चुनौतियां अभी बरकरार हैं।

स्वच्छ गंगा के लिए सरकार ने नमामि गंगे अभियान के तहत बजट में बीस हजार करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान किया था जिसमें सफाई के साथ ही तटों को पर्यटन स्थल के रूप में विकसित करना शामिल है। स्वच्छ गंगा के लिए गंगात्री

से गंगा सागर तक इसमें गिरने वाले तालों तथा प्रदूषक कल कारखानों को नियंत्रित करना है। गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री उमा भारती निर्मल गंगा परियोजनाओं पर काम की इस साल पहल कर चुकी हैं। मंत्रिमंडल ने जनवरी में ही 'नमामि गंगे' के लिए सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी (पीपीपी) संबंधी प्रस्तावों को मंजूरी दे दी थी जिससे गंगा सफाई परियोजनाओं में निजी क्षेत्र को जोड़ जा सकेगा। गंगा सफाई की मौजूदा स्थिति बहुत खराब है। केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण

निर्बंधन बोर्ड ने उत्तर प्रदेश, उत्तराखण्ड, बिहार तथा पश्चिम बंगाल में जलमल शोधन संयंत्रों की जांच की थी जिसमें पाया गया कि इन राज्यों में 30 प्रतिशत संयंत्र काम ही नहीं कर रहे हैं और जो काम कर रहे हैं उनमें



94 प्रतिशत मानकों का पालन नहीं कर रहे हैं। पीपीपी मोड पर इन संयंत्रों की स्थिति सुधरने और परियोजनाओं का काम फास्ट ट्रैक मोड पर शुरू होने की उम्मीद है। सरकार की शोधित जल के इस्तेमाल के लिए बाजार विकसित करने की तैयारी है और इसके लिए उसने इस साल दिल्ली में एक राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का भी आयोजन किया। मंत्रालय ने निर्मल गंगा अभियान में गंगा तटों पर बसे गांवों के लोगों को भी शामिल करने की

पहल की और इसके लिए इन गांवों के 1,600 से अधिक ग्राम प्रधानों की इस साल यहां एक बैठक बुलाई गई। उन्हें स्वच्छ गंगा-ग्रामीण सहभागिता कार्यक्रम के तहत अभियान में शामिल किया गया। कार्यक्रम में गंगा तटों पर

बसे सभी राज्यों की सरकारों ने भागीदारी की थी। गंगा सफाई के लिए सेना भी सामने आ गई है और उसके सहयोग से गंगा बाहिनी का गठन किया गया है। इसकी पहली कंपनी की उत्तर प्रदेश के गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में तैनाती की जा चुकी है। कानपुर, वाराणसी और इलाहाबाद में दुर्कड़िया तैनाती की जा रही है।

बाहिनी के जखान गंगा तट पर तैनात रहेंगे और सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि औद्योगिक इकाइयां एवं स्थानीय नागरिक गंगा को प्रदूषित नहीं करें। नमामि गंगे के तहत इस साल कानपुर में 560 करोड़ रुपए की परियोजनाओं की शुरुआत हुई जिनमें 63 करोड़ रुपए की सीसामऊ नाले के दिशा परिवर्तन, बिदूर में नदी तट के विकास के लिए 100 करोड़ रुपए और 14 घाटों और पांच शवदाह गृहों का निर्माण शामिल है।