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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 will be uploaded on the CWC website.

P. Maheshwari
24.12.2018
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

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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

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News item/letter/article/editorial Published on 24/12/18 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Time of India (New Delhi)

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Topreserve Yamuna, build sense of ownership among public: Panel

PTI

NEW DELHI, 23 DECEMBER

A committee overseeing the cleaning of Yamuna has stressed the need to raise awareness about the importance of the river and its floodplain so that a sense of "ownership" is created among the people and it is preserved.

The monitoring committee, that was set up by the National Green Tribunal Chairperson Justice A K Goel in July, has suggested forming a nodal agency for the task.

"Presently, there is no ownership of the river Yamuna. That is because it means nothing to the citizens as it is providing no opportunity for cultural activities, leisure or recreation," it said.

There needs to be awareness about why the flood plains are "sacrosanct they need conservation", it has observed.

The committee comprises retired expert member B S Sajwan and former Delhi chief secretary Shailaja Chandra and it has been directed to submit an action plan and detailed report on cleaning of the river by December 31. The committee has submitted the details to the Delhi government.

In the action plan, the com-



mittee has also noted that involvement of citizens requires that there is knowledge of why the river is important and why it is worth preserving and restoring.

"There is a need to plan for awareness building and permissible activities beyond the flood plains but for that there needs to be a nodal department to build awareness by spearheading permissible events and activities," the committee has said.

It has noted that except at the time of idol immersion during Ganesh and Durga Puja festivals, the river has no human activity which could enhance its habitat.

It said that Yamuna is a unique birding destination and there is a need for the Delhi Development Authority to

preserve the birding hot spots with inputs from an established birder group. "There is a need for assigning nodal responsibility for creating public awareness to a consortium of agencies with an interest which can include international and national level NGOs engaged in building awareness about the environment," it said.

The monitoring committee has also urged the Delhi chief secretary to encourage programmes that prevent dung from dairies going into the river. Installing a biogas plant for making gas out of dung instead of letting it flow into drains at Ghazipur would make a visible impact, it argued.

"Technology for this is available too and can become an interesting school field trip too," it added.

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SSB gears up to tackle floods

Training to face emergencies posed by overflowing Himalayan rivers from Nepal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), posted along the Nepal border, is training its men in riverine patrolling as rampant flash floods affect several areas in Bihar.

An official said that since 2017, the force has been training its personnel for rescue and relief work in flood-like situations as several border outposts get submerged in water.

"We cannot leave the border unattended when a flood strikes. It has to be guarded, come what may. We are training the men so that they are prepared in times of crisis," said an SSB official.

At Porbandar centre

The official added that the training is imparted at the force's Aqua Marine Training Institute in Porbandar.

"The objective is to train the personnel so that the operational calibre of those posted in the flood-prone

BOPs is enhanced and their expertise could also be used in carrying out rescue and relief work," he added.

For the past few years, the areas along the Nepal border have witnessed unpredictable flash floods originating from the rivers in the Himalayan ranges. Several dis-

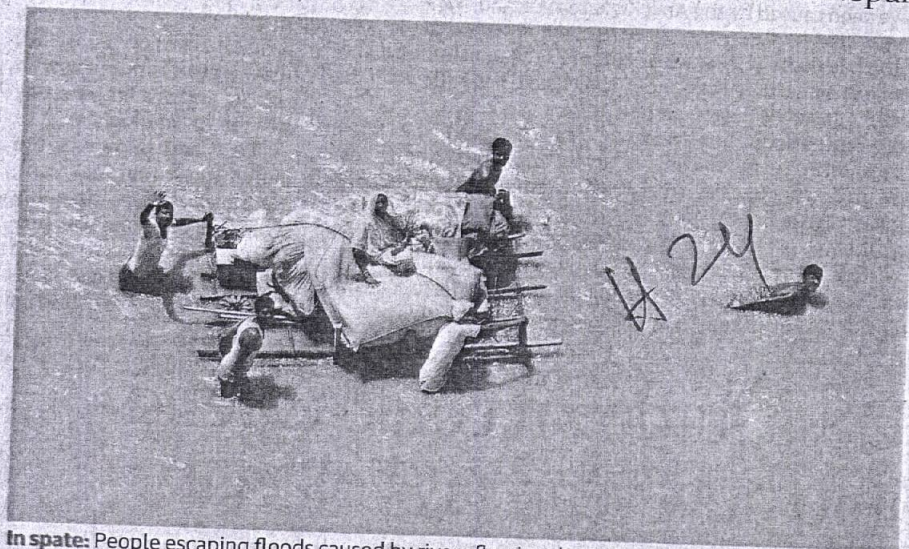
tricts of north Bihar are affected by these flash floods.

Post-Doklam, the SSB also opened three new BOPs in Sikkim and 15 others in Arunachal Pradesh, that shares its border with Bhutan in the west.

The official said that the new BOPs that had come up

along the Sikkim-Bhutan border were not exactly close to Doklam but were constructed to fortify India's defence structure.

The SSB was also mulling to use "laser fence" technology to plug loopholes along the two borders of Nepal and Bhutan that it guards.



In spate: People escaping floods caused by rivers flowing down from Nepal. ■ FILE PHOTO

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Ganga clean at just 1 out of 39 locations: CPCB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Only one out of 39 locations through which the Ganga flows had clean water in the post-monsoon period this year, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has said in its latest study.

As many as 37 of the 41 locations through which the river flows reported moderate to severe water pollution in the pre-monsoon period, according to the 'Biological Water Quality Assessment of the River Ganga (2017-18)' report that was recently made public by the CPCB in compliance with a Supreme Court direction.

Haridwar stands out

The water quality of the river was either clean or slightly polluted at only four out of 41 locations during the pre-monsoon period and at only one out of 39 locations

post-monsoon, it said, adding that Haridwar is the only location where the river was 'clean' in the post-monsoon period.

According to the report, 34 areas showed moderate pollution in the river while three areas recorded severe pollution in the pre-monsoon period in 2017-18.

The report also said in Uttar Pradesh, two major tributaries, River Pandu and River Varuna, are increasing the pollution load of the Ganga.

"On mainstream of River Ganga, although none of the locations were found to be severely polluted, most are in moderate pollution range," the study said.

As many as 37 of the 41 locations through which the river flows, reported moderate to severe pollution in the pre-monsoon period this year, it said.

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Govt miles away from a clean Ganga: CPCB

Vishwa.Mohan
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New Delhi: At a time when the Centre is pushing for early completion of all its river-cleaning projects, the country's central pollution watchdog has made public its latest report on water quality of river Ganga showing how the government still has miles to go before it could achieve its goal of rejuvenating the river.

The report on 'Biological Water Quality Assessment of the River Ganga (2017-18)' shows that the water quality of the river was either clean or slightly polluted (bathing standard or having a standard which could support aquatic life) at only four out of 41 locations during the pre-monsoon phase and at only one out of 39 locations in post-monsoon period.

The watchdog — Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) — in its bio-monitoring report shares its qualitative analysis of 80 samples (taken during pre- and post-monsoon period) and puts them under five water quality classes — clean (A), slight pollution (B), moderate pollu-

Dream of clean Ganga within reach, projects have started showing results, says Gadkari

Union water resources minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday claimed that the dream of 'clean Ganga' was within reach as most of the ongoing works had started showing results on the ground, making the river cleaner by almost 70-80% by March next year and rest by 2020. On a day when a central pollution watchdog report made apparent the tall challenge facing the government in cleaning the national river, Gadkari also said that efforts were being made to ensure uninterrupted flow of water round the year by May next year. Referring to other projects which he had planned for river Ganga, Gadkari said he was hopeful of launching an aero-boat facility from Varanasi to Allahabad on January 26, 2019 which he claimed would go a long way in increasing tourism and overall growth of areas along the stretch of the river. TNN

tion (C), heavy pollution (D) and severe pollution (E).

The report also analysed the comparative water quality data from 2014 to 2018, showing hardly any improvement at most of the locations in the past four years. Water quality at some locations (Jagjeetpur in Uttarakhand and Kanpur, Allahabad and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh) had even deteriorated in 2017-18 as compared to 2014-15.

In 2017-18, water quality at Haridwar Barrage was cleanest during both pre- and post-monsoon period while it was reported to be severely polluted at different monitoring

locations in Kanpur and Varanasi during the pre-monsoon phase.

It said "efforts must be made to control the pollution so that all locations may comply with at least 'B' class water quality" — it means the river must be rejuvenated in such a way that it could support aquatic life.

The report is based on bio-monitoring which is biological surveillance of benthic macro-invertebrate (BMI) communities dwelling in fresh water bodies. Such kind of study is considered an effective method for assessing biological health of aquatic ecosystems.

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Rise in sea level threatens river systems

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'Buses in Delhi's neighbourhood to go green'

New Delhi: Studies on sea-level rise in India have also projected a sharp increase in the population at risk from flooding due to more frequent severe weather events while warning about risk to river systems flowing into the Bay of Bengal.

Water demand is rising and a Unesco report earlier this year warned that central and south India will face high levels of deterioration of water supply by 2050.

"The deltas of Ganga, Krishna, Godavari, Cauvery and Mahanadi on the east coast may be threatened, along with irrigated land and a num-

ber of urban and other settlements that are situated in them," the government said, in what reads like a doomsday scenario for major water sources in the Gangetic plains, Deccan and south India.

Delhi's wheezing lungs can look forward to some relief from February when buses plying to and from the neighbourhood — identified as a key source of vehicular pollution in the NCR — will be able to switch to clean-burning CNG. "We are coming up with a CNG 'green corridor' connecting Delhi with its neighbouring states to reduce Delhi's air pollution. Haridwar, Agra, Jaipur and Chandigarh routes will be powered by buses running on CNG by February 2019," oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Friday.

TOI had first reported on July 13, 2015, that the Centre was developing these green CNG road corridors over next two years, to neighbouring destinations that are part of Delhi's air shed and see heavy bus traffic, with a view to cleaning up the NCR air. TNN

ber of urban and other settlements that are situated in them," the government said, in what reads like a doomsday scenario for major water sources in the Gangetic plains, Deccan and south India.

Responding to a Parlia-

ment question on impact of global warming in coastal areas in India due to sea-level rise, minister of state for environment Mahesh Sharma, in his written response, said the projected rise may result in coastal groundwater turn-

ing saline, endangering of wetlands and inundation of valuable land and coastal communities.

He, however, said, "The government is committed to taking proactive steps to protect the country's coastal areas and communities." India has submitted the findings and projections of the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services studies with the UN climate body.

The minister also outlined the measures being taken to protect coastal areas. He said the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification, 2011 and Island Protection Zone (IPZ) notification, 2011 were being enforced and implemented by the Coastal Zone

Management Authorities (CZMAs) of states and UTs.

Under the extant regulations, the CZMAs have been empowered to enquire into the cases of alleged violation and take appropriate action under the law.

"As per the state of forest report 2017, there has been a net increase of 181 sq km in the mangrove cover of the country as compared to the 2015 assessment," he said, adding that the other steps taken by the government target protection of livelihoods of fisher folk communities, preservation of coastal ecology and delineation of erosion line over the entire coastline as a part of hazard line mapping exercise.

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केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा, 'नमामि गंगे' के तहत तेजी से चल रहा काम

गंगा मार्च 2020 तक निर्मल होगी

भरोसा

नई दिल्ली | एजेसिया

जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा है कि 'नमामि गंगे' कार्यक्रम के तहत गंगा नदी को निर्मल और अविरल बनाने की दिशा में तेजी से काम चल रहा है और उन्हें उम्मीद है कि मार्च 2019 तक 80 फीसदी और अगले मार्च तक गंगा पूरी तरह से निर्मल हो जाएगी।

गडकरी ने उत्तर प्रदेश के कानपुर में गंगा में गिरने वाली गंदगी को रोकने के लिए 'वन सिटी-वन ऑपरेटर' योजना के तहत शुक्रवार को यहां हुए एक समझौते के मौके पर पत्रकारों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि गंगा की सफाई से जुड़ी सभी परियोजनाओं के लिए दिसंबर तक निविदाएं आमंत्रित कर ली जाएंगी और दावा किया कि मार्च तक गंगा 70 से 80 फीसदी तक निर्मल हो जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि गंगा का



कानपुर में शुक्रवार को 'वन सिटी-वन ऑपरेटर' योजना कार्यक्रम में शिरकत करते केंद्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी। • दिव्य

निर्मल और अविरल बनाने का सपना पूरा होने की कगार पर है।

गडकरी ने कहा कि यह असंभव सा दिखने वाला काम था लेकिन जिस गति से इस दिशा में काम चल रहा है उसे देखते हुए उन्हें पूरा भरोसा है कि गंगा मार्च तक तीन चौथाई से ज्यादा साफ

दिखने लगेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि गंगा के तट पर बसे 4500 गांवों को खुले में शौच करने से मुक्त घोषित किया गया है। गडकरी के मुताबिक उत्तर प्रदेश में गंगा सफाई से जुड़ी 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली 73 परियोजनाओं पर काम चल रहा है जिनमें से 13

यमुना की सफाई के लिए परियोजनाएं

केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि गंगा के साथ ही यमुना की सफाई का भी काम चल रहा है और 27 दिसंबर को यमुना की निर्मलता को लेकर यहां विज्ञान भवन में एक बड़ा कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया जा रहा है जिसमें दिल्ली सरकार भी शामिल होगी। यमुना की सफाई के लिए 3500-4000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत की 11 परियोजनाएं शुरू की जाएंगी।

परियोजनाओं पर काम पूरा हो चुका है। सरकार गंगा को निर्मल ही नहीं अविरल भी बना रही है और इसके लिए अधिसूचना जारी कर दी गई है और अगले साल मई तक गंगा अपेक्षा के अनुकूल निर्मल नजर आना शुरू हो जाएगी।

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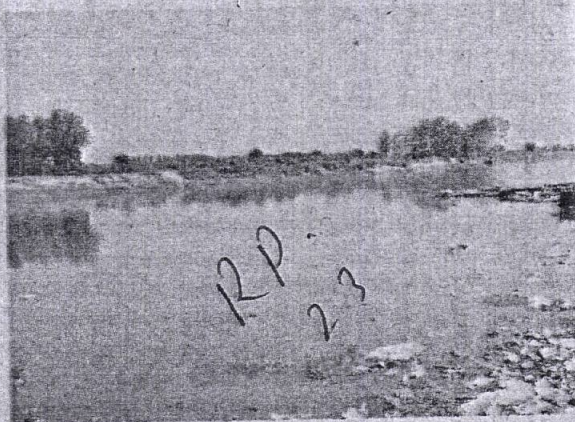
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कवायद

नदियों को साफ रखने के लिए अब सेटेलाइट से होगी निगरानी



पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
rajasthanpatrika.com

मुरादाबाद, कुम्भ में स्वच्छ पानी के लिए गंगा और उसकी सभी सहायक नदियों में गन्दा पानी और प्रदूषण रोकने के निर्देश पिछले दिनों सभी जिलों को दिए गए थे। जिसके बाद अब प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने मुरादाबाद समेत 18 जिलों में नदियों की सेटेलाइट के जरिए निगरानी शुरू कर दी है। यह सारी कवायद कुम्भ को लेकर सरकार और एनजीटी की सख्ती के बाद की जा रही है। गौरतलब है की अधिकांश नदियों का जल गंदगी और प्रदूषण के चलते नहाने लायक नहीं बचा है। यही वजह है कि प्रदूषण विभाग ने भी अब नदियों को साफ करने के लिए कदम कस ली है।

जनवरी से शुरू होने जा रहे कुम्भ को लेकर एनजीटी ने सख्ती बरतनी शुरू कर दी है। कुम्भ के स्नान में लोगों को साफ पानी देने के लिए एनजीटी ने सभी सम्बंधित विभागों को सख्त निर्देश भी दिए गए हैं। जिसके बाद प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड भी अब सख्ती के मूड में है। मुरादाबाद मंडल समेत प्रदेश की 18 नदियों को साफ रखने के लिए बोर्ड ने कवायद शुरू कर दी है। प्रदूषण विभाग अब इन नदियों की निगरानी सेटेलाइट के जरिये करनी शुरू कर दी है। गुरुवार को मुरादाबाद में रामगंगा नदी से इसकी शुरुआत हो चुकी है। विभाग अब नदियों को गंदा

रामगंगा में मिले थे खतरनाक रसायन

उल्लेखनीय है कि हाल ही में रामगंगा नदी के पानी की एक रिपोर्ट आई थी, जिसमें कई रसायनों के खतरनाक स्तर को पार करने का खुलासा हुआ था। इस रिपोर्ट में बताया गया था कि रामगंगा नदी में नहाना तो दूर आचमन भी खतरनाक हो सकता है। क्षेत्रीय प्रदूषण अधिकारी डॉ. आरके सिंह के मुताबिक शहर के साथ ही नदी के पानी के कई और जगह से भी नमूने भरे गए थे। इसमें पीएचक्यू लेवल बहुत ज्यादा है, जिससे लोग बीमार भी हो सकते हैं। यहां बता दें कि रामगंगा में बिजनौर से लेकर मुरादाबाद में 500 से अधिक छोटी बड़ी फैक्ट्रियां हैं, जिनका गंदा पानी बिना शोधन के ही नदी में छोड़ा जा रहा है।

को चिन्हित कर उन पर कार्रवाई की जाएगी। विभागीय अधिकारियों का साफ कहना है की किसी भी मिल या फैक्ट्री का पानी नदियों में नहीं गिरने दिया जाएगा। वहीं शहर के गंदे पानी को लेकर भी नगर निगम से साथ मिलकर कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

क्षेत्रीय प्रदूषण अधिकारी आर के सिंह ने बताया कि नदियों को साफ रखने के लिए लगातार निगरानी बढ़ा दी गई है। जल्द ही अब ऐसे लोगों पर कार्रवाई की

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The Economic Times

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गंगा की धारा के निर्मल होने का इंतजार

पृथ्वी बहुत व्यथित है, इसके सभी अंग जल, वायु, वनस्पति और सभी प्राणी आधुनिक जीवनशैली के हमले के कारण प्रदूषित हो चुके हैं। 'देश बचाओ, मां गंगा को बचाओ, राष्ट्र की उन्नति में सभी की उन्नति है' जैसी क्रांतिकारी आवाजें कई वर्षों से हमें सुनाई दे रही हैं। कोई कहता है कि गंगा को बचाने के लिए दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति अपनानी होगी। सभी को एकजुट होकर भागीरथ प्रयास करने होंगे। गंगा के किनारों पर शहरीकरण रोकना होगा। बातें तो सभी की तर्कपूर्ण हैं किन्तु हम सब जब तक गंगा के अस्तित्व को नहीं समझेंगे, तब तक महसूस भी नहीं कर सकते और बिना उसे महसूस किए हम उसके संकट को भी नहीं हर सकते। केवल जागरूकता भरे नारों से कुछ नहीं होने वाला। पिछले कई दशकों से हम पवित्र पावनी गंगा के निर्मलीकरण के लिए बेपनाह धन खर्च करते रहे हैं। गंगा एक्शन प्लान, प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, नमामि गंगे परियोजना शुरू की गई लेकिन अभी तक कोई ठोस परिणाम सामने नहीं आया। केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के ताजा अध्ययन में कहा गया है कि जिन 39 स्थानों से होकर गंगा गुजरती है उनमें से एक स्थान पर इस वर्ष मानसून के बाद गंगा का पानी साफ था। गंगा नदी जैविक जल गुणवत्ता आकलन (2017-18) की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार गंगा बहाव वाले 41 स्थानों में से 37 पर इस वर्ष मानसून से पहले जल प्रदूषण मध्यम से गम्भीर श्रेणी में रहा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देशों का पालन करते हुए केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने हाल ही में यह रिपोर्ट जारी की है। मानसून के बाद केवल हरिद्वार में ही गंगा का पानी साफ था। रिपोर्ट में यह भी कहा गया कि उत्तर प्रदेश की दो बड़ी सहायक नदियां पंडु नदी और वरुणा नदी गंगा में प्रदूषण बढ़ा रही हैं। गंगा नदी की मुख्यधारा पर कोई स्थान गम्भीर रूप से प्रदूषित नहीं था लेकिन अधिकतर स्थान मध्यम रूप से प्रदूषित पाए गए।

जीवनदायिनी गंगा को स्वच्छ और निर्मल बनाना केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों की प्राथमिकता में शामिल है। इसी कड़ी में नमामि गंगे परियोजना समेत अन्य योजनाओं के जरिये गंगा और उसकी सहायक नदियों को प्रदूषण मुक्त करने के प्रयास चल रहे हैं, मगर आशानुरूप परिणाम नहीं मिल रहे। उत्तराखंड की बात करें तो उदगम स्थल गोमुख से लेकर लक्ष्मण झूला तक गंगा पूरी तरह स्वच्छ है और निर्मल है लेकिन इससे आगे हरिद्वार तक इसमें उल्लेखनीय सुधार नहीं हो पाया। इसके आगे तो सहायक नदियों के साथ नालों के जरिये गंदगी गंगा में समा रही है। देहरादून की रिस्पना और सोन नदी के जरिये सबसे अधिक गंदगी गंगा में जा रही है। रिस्पना नदी में 2015 में फीकल कॉलीफार्म की मात्रा 1600 थी जो इस वर्ष भी बरकरार है। इसका अर्थ यही है कि देवभूमि में ही गंगा को निर्मल बनाने के लिए बहुत कुछ किया जाना बाकी है। इससे आगे तो गंगा की हालत बहुत खराब है, गंगा गंदे नाले में परिवर्तित हो चुकी है। गंगा के लिए कानपुर बहुत बड़ा डार्क स्पॉट है। सबसे ज्यादा यह शहर गंगा नदी को प्रदूषित करता रहा है। केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री नितिन गडकरी की मौजूदगी में राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन, उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम और निजी कम्पनियों शंभूजी पालोनजी एंड कम्पनी लिमिटेड और एसएसजी इंफ्रोटेक लिमिटेड के प्रतिनिधियों ने एक करार पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इस करार के बाद निजी क्षेत्र की कम्पनियां 'वन सिटी वन आपरेटर' के मॉडल पर कानपुर में एसटीपी का संचालन कर यह सुनिश्चित करेंगी कि शहर की गंदगी गंगा नदी में न गिरे। नितिन गडकरी ने उम्मीद जताई है कि स्वच्छ गंगा का सपना अब जल्द साकार होगा क्योंकि नदी सफाई के लिए उठाए गए कदमों के नतीजे अब दिखने लगे हैं। मार्च 2019 तक गंगा नदी 70 से 80 फीसदी तक साफ हो जाएगी। गंगा को निर्मल बनाने के उद्देश्य से 285 परियोजनाएं चल रही हैं और इन्हें 2020 तक पूरा कर लिया जाएगा। लंदन की टेम्स नदी इसानी कारगुजारियों के कारण मर गई थी, शहर में इसके चलते प्रदूषण फैलने लगा था लेकिन वहां के राजकाज और समाज के संकल्प से टेम्स नदी के जल में जीवन अठखेलियां कर रहा है। सरकारें, प्रशासन कितना भी काम कर ले, कोई परियोजना तब तक सफल नहीं हो सकती जब तक लोग उसमें सहयोग न करें। वेदों के अनुसार मानव की पांच माताएं हैं। एक तो जन्म देने वाली, दूसरी जन्मभूमि, जो अन्न से पोषित करती है, तीसरी गौमाता जो अपने दूध से पोषण देती है, चौथी मां गंगा, जो जल से जीवन देती है, पांचवीं माता है वेदों के रूप में श्रुति, जिसकी सलाह से मानव जीवन में उन्नति करता है। जब तक हमारी योजनाएं, हमारी क्रिया शक्ति सभी माताओं के विकास में बराबर की भागीदारी नहीं होंगी तब तक विकास एवं संरक्षण के कदम अधूरे रहेंगे। मां गंगा की स्वच्छता के लिए मानव को अपना योगदान देना होगा। राष्ट्रीय धरोहर गंगा में गंदगी उड़ेलने, प्लास्टिक की बोतलें, मल गिराने से स्वयं को रोकना होगा। गंगा को प्रदूषण मुक्त बनाना हम सबका दायित्व है, आइये मानवीय जिम्मेदारी निभाएं।

सरकारें, प्रशासन कितना भी काम कर ले, कोई परियोजना तब तक सफल नहीं हो सकती जब तक लोग उसमें सहयोग न करें। वेदों के अनुसार मानव की पांच माताएं हैं। एक तो जन्म देने वाली, दूसरी जन्मभूमि, जो अन्न से पोषित करती है, तीसरी गौमाता जो अपने दूध से पोषण देती है, चौथी मां गंगा, जो जल से जीवन देती है, पांचवीं माता है वेदों के रूप में श्रुति, जिसकी सलाह से मानव जीवन में उन्नति करता है। जब तक हमारी योजनाएं, हमारी क्रिया शक्ति सभी माताओं के विकास में बराबर की भागीदारी नहीं होंगी तब तक विकास एवं संरक्षण के कदम अधूरे रहेंगे। मां गंगा की स्वच्छता के लिए मानव को अपना योगदान देना होगा।

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

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Tsunami strikes Indonesia without warning, 222 dead

There Was No Seismic Activity In Area Which Might Have Prompted An Alert, Saved Lives

Carita Beach (Indonesia): The deadly tsunami struck in the dark, without warning.

At least 222 people were killed as waves smashed into houses, hotels and other beachside buildings on Saturday night along Indonesia's Sunda Strait, in a disaster that followed an eruption and possible landslide on Anak Krakatau, one of the world's most infamous volcanic islands. More than 800 were injured and dozens were reported missing after the tsunami hit coastal areas along western Java and southern Sumatra islands at 9.27pm (local time) on Saturday amid a Christmas holiday weekend, the Disaster Management Agency said. The death toll could increase once authorities hear from all stricken areas.

It was the second deadly tsunami to hit Indonesia this year, but the one that killed more than 2,500 people on the island of Sulawesi on September 28 was accompanied by a powerful earthquake that gave residents a brief warning before the waves struck.

On Saturday night, the ground did not shake beforehand to alert people to the oncoming wave that ripped buildings from their foundations in seconds. Azki Kurniawan, 16, said his first warning about the tsunami was when people burst into the lobby of the Patra Comfort Hotel shouting, "Sea water rising!"

Kurniawan, who was undergoing vocational training with a group of 30 other students, said he was confused because he had not felt a big earthquake. He said he ran to the parking lot to try to reach his motorbike but discovered it was already flooded. "Suddenly, a 3.3-foot wave hit me," he said, his eyes red and swollen from crying. "I was thrown into the fence of a building about 100 feet from the beach and held onto the fence as strong as I could, trying to resist the water, which felt like it would drag me back into the sea. I cried in fear. 'This is a tsunami! I was afraid I would die.'"

Disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said 222 deaths had been confirmed and at least 843 people were injured. Saturday's tsunami also rekindled memories of the 9.1 earthquake that hit Indonesia on Dec 26, 2004. It spawned a giant tsunami off Sumatra island, killing more than 230,000 people in a dozen countries — the majority in Indonesia. AP

222 Killed
558 Houses destroyed
350 Boats damaged

843 Injured
9 Hotels razed
60 Restaurants collapsed

Tsunami hit Pandeglang, Serang and South Lampung of Indonesia on Saturday

The Trigger | Combination of underwater landslides caused by eruption of Krakatau volcano in Sunda Strait. High seas from full moon may have contributed to strength of waves

How Tsunami May Have Been Caused | When volcanoes erupt, hot magma pushes underground and can break rock, triggering undersea landslides. This causes tsunami



ANGRY 'CHILD OF KRAKATAU' RUMBLES ON

Anak Krakatau, or the Child of Krakatau, emerged from the sea in 1927 from the legendary Krakatau volcano

- In August 1883, Krakatau underwent one of the most violent volcanic eruptions
- Tsunamis with waves up to 135ft killed 36,000 people
- Shot a column of ash over 20 kilometres into the air
- Eruptions were equivalent to 200 megatons of TNT — 13,000 times the nuclear yield of bomb dropped on



There is speculation that Edvard Munch's 'The Scream' may have actually been a rendering of what he saw in Norway following the eruption of Krakatau

Hiroshima in 1945

- Explosions were heard in Australia and up to 4,500km away near Mauritius
- Cloud of ash plunged area into darkness for 2 days
- Dust gave rise to spectacular sunsets and sunrises around the world
- World temp dropped by more than 1 degree Celsius
- Volcanic island virtually disappeared

Anak Krakatau has been growing and in recent weeks has been erupting frequently



Crowd screams as rock band swept away

Jakarta: Partygoers screamed as tsunami waves smashed into a beachside concert in Indonesia, sending band members tumbling off a collapsing stage, dramatic video footage showed on Sunday.

Some 200 employees of state electricity utility Perusahaan Listrik Negara (PLN) and family members had gathered at the Tanjung Lesung beach for an end-of-year party when the tsunami struck.

Video footage shared on social media showed partygoers enjoying the music and

then screaming as the waves crashed into the stage. The band, Seventeen, was playing its second song of a set when the wave burst through a backdrop behind the stage, crashed into the drummer, his drum set and the rest of the musicians, and swept the stage into the audience.

"Underwater I could only pray 'Jesus Christ help!'" Zack, a crew member of Seventeen, said in an Instagram post describing how he struggled in the water. "In the final seconds I almost ran out of

breath," he said, adding he survived by clinging to part of the collapsed stage.

At least 220 people were killed and hundreds injured by the tsunami and the toll is expected to rise. Among the dead were four members of Seventeen — bassist M Awal "Bani" Purbani, road manager Oki Wijaya, guitarist Herman Sukumbang and crew member Ujang, the band said.

The band's drummer was missing. "Lost Bani and our road manager Oki," lead singer Riefian "Ifan" Fajarsyah

told followers in a tearful video message on his Instagram account. Fajarsyah added that his wife was also missing.

PLN said 29 employees and relatives had died and 13 were missing. Survivors were treated at clinics but could not return to Jakarta because road access was blocked, Yulia Dian, a manager for the band in Jakarta, said. "We were shocked because a lot of the people who went there took their families," Dian said, noting the band had been due to return to Jakarta on Sunday. AGENCIES