

News item/letter/article/editorial published on August 15.8.2015 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Eharat Times (Hindi)	M.F.Chronicle
Steelesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	A. & J (Hindi)
The Times of India (M.D.) ✓	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Kal Duniya (Hindi)
Tribune	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A) ---
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

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

Dump waste in Hindon, pay ₹20k fine

New Delhi: Anyone spotted throwing waste in and around the Hindon canal will have to pay a fine of Rs 20,000, the National Green Tribunal announced on Monday.

A bench headed by NGT

chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar also said, "Any vehicle which is used for the purpose of throwing such wastes in and around Hindon Canal would be seized by these authorities." PTI



News item taken from the collection published on August 23, 2015

Hindustan Times
Statecraft

The Times of India (I.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Kesari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Bhopal Chronicle

Bhopal Herald

L.F. Chaudhary

A.S. (Hindi)

Indian Affairs

U.S. Daily (Hindi)

The Times of India (U.S.)

U.S.

For Documentation in English (English) / Publicity Section, CWC

INDIA'S INDCS FOR UN PARIS SUMMIT TO BE COMPREHENSIVE: ENV MINISTER

Climate change check

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 24 August 23-51

Ahead of the crucial UN climate change conference in Paris, India today said it will present a "comprehensive" plan to combat climate change unlike most other countries whose 'Intended Nationally Determined Contributions' (INDCs) reflect only mitigation measures.

Environment minister Prakash Javadekar said: "We are at an advance stage of preparing our INDC. For the last eight months, we have been engaged in this exercise and widest consultations have taken place with all ministries, state governments, research institutes, industry, think



Minister of environment, forests and climate change Prakash Javadekar at a Press conference in New Delhi on Monday. - AFP

tanks and many organisations.

"Our INDCs will be comprehensive. Many countries who have submitted their INDCs talk only about mitigation. But the world has now accepted that mitigation

and adaptation both carry same importance. We have created two templates for it.

"All elements will be part of our INDCs - mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology and capacity building."

He added that this was the mandate of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and India's INDC will reflect this mandate.

All countries are either in the process or have submitted their INDCs in the run up to the Paris climate change conference, which will pave the way for a global climate pact.

More than 50 countries, including China, the US, and the European Union - the world's three largest emitters - have already released their INDCs. All countries are expected to submit them by 30 September.

The minister said that at India's insistence, France has started the

initiative of having informal meetings before the Paris summit.

"We, right from day one, said that there are issues and differences of opinion on differentiation, ambition, finance, technology and legal nature of agreement which we must discuss at various forums point by point... We consistently demanded and many countries supported it," he said. He said that India will hold a meeting of 'Like-Minded Developing Countries' (LMDCs) in September on climate change.

"We will have also have an Indian pavilion in Paris. Many bilaterals will also take place simultaneously," Javadekar said.

News item/text/article/editorial published on August 25, 2015 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (W.D.)
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Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Eharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindia
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

L.P. Chronicle
A. A. (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (V.)
Elite

and documented at Ehadra(h)(English) Publicity Section, DYC.

'Stop illegal sand mining in Yamuna'

Akanksha Jain

NEW DELHI: After finding out that sand is being mined illegally from the banks and bed of the Yamuna on the pretext of de-silting and dredging to maintain the flow of river, the National Green Tribunal has directed the Delhi government to ensure sand mining is not permitted anywhere on the banks of the river and its surrounding areas.

"No illegal and unauthorised mining will be permitted anywhere on the river bank and its surrounding areas without proper compliance, permissions and particular environmental clearance," said a

Bench, headed by NGT Chairperson Swatanter Kumar.

Dredging involves removal of bed material and associated vegetation from a river channel. Removal of scrub from river banks is also associated with dredging. The Bench was informed that illegal sand mining was going on in Delhi and one of the sites specified during the hearing was Jagatpur Bandh at Wazirabad. However, the authorities concerned claimed it was de-silting and not sand mining, and that the same was being done to ensure that no undue sand/silt collects on the river bank so as to obstruct the flow of the river.

The Bench then asked for samples of material dredged by the contractor and the same was sent for analysis. The report revealed the sample to be 80 per cent sand, following which the Bench held it could not be termed as de-silting.

Following this, it constituted a panel comprising a senior Mining Department officer, officers of the Corporation and DJB, and representatives from the DPCC and Union Environment Ministry to consider the report and contract, and submit their recommendations to the NCT of Delhi, which will then pass appropriate orders.

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मानसून रुठा : प्रदेश के हालात बदतर, केंद्र को लिखा पत्र

पत्रिका-25-8-15

किसानों की मुसीबत बढ़ी

सरकार ने माना सूखे के हालात

146 तहसीलों में से 52 में 80 फीसदी कम बारिश

■ सूखे के हालात से निपटने गैरथन बैठक आज

रायपुर @ पत्रिका

patrika.com

मानसून की बेरुखी के बाद किसानों की उम्मीद टूटने लगी है। पिछले एक पखवाड़े में प्रदेश बरसात के लिए तबस गया है। ऐसे में हालात सूखे जैसे बन गए हैं। राज्य सरकार ने श्री. स्वीकार किया है कि प्रदेश में सूखा पड़ने की संभावना बढ़ गई है। राज्य की कुल 146 तहसीलों में से 27 में 60 फीसदी और 52 तहसीलों में 80 फीसदी से कम बारिश हुई है, जिसकी वजह से अधिकांश हिस्सों में सूखा पड़ सकता है।

प्रदेश के कृषि उत्पादन आयुक्त अजय सिंह ने सोमवार को केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्रालय को लिखे पत्र में कहा है कि राज्य में धान की फसल के लिए पर्याप्त पानी की जरूरत होती है, लेकिन प्रदेश के जलाशयों में पानी की स्थिति बेहद कमजोर हो गई है। जलाशयों से सिंचाई के लिए पानी देने में दिक्कत हो रही है। कृषि विभाग की ओर से जुटाए गए आंकड़ों के आधार पर कृषि उत्पादन आयुक्त ने यह भी लिखा है कि प्रदेश के पांच जिलों में औसत वर्षा की स्थिति 60 प्रतिशत से कम है। प्रदेश के 10 जिलों में 80 फीसदी से कम वर्षा दर्ज की गई है, वहीं, जिन जिलों में 80 फीसदी वर्षा हुई है, वहां भी तहसील स्तर पर वर्षा की स्थिति एक समान नहीं

केंद्र से पैकेज के लिए बैठक

सूखे के हालात से निपटने के लिए राज्य सरकार केंद्र से विशेष पैकेज मांगने की तैयारी में है। मंगलवार को जलसंसाधन विभाग के डाटा सेंटर में कृषि मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में जलसंसाधन विभाग, पंजीयक सहकारी संस्थाएं, बीज निगम, विपणन संघ, कृषि विश्वविद्यालय के अधिकारियों की बैठक होगी, जिसके बाद मंत्रालय में मुख्य सचिव भी जिले के कलक्टरों से वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए यह जानने का प्रयास करेंगे कि किसानों को राहत देने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं।

प्रदेश में 1 जून से 24 अगस्त तक बारिश

जिला	फितीली	औसत	इतनी कम फीसदी	डाटा से पानी (मिमीटर में)
बस्तर	752.4	851.5	(-19)	मिनीगला बंगो 75.89
बीजापुर	1109.2	1049.5	(6)	रविशंकर सागर 28.06
बिलासपुर	625.2	507	(-23)	तांदुला 44.64
दंतोवाड़ा	879.1	890.8	(-1)	दुधवा 22.03
धमतरी	486	787.2	(-38)	सिकारार 55.62
दुर्ग	578.2	761.3	(-24)	सादर 61.36
जाजगीर	721.8	907.9	(-21)	सोदर 60.94
जशपुर	753.8	1004.5	(-25)	मुरुमसिल्ली 13.04
कांछेर	655.8	927	(-29)	कोडार 47.10
कोरबा	855.7	958.7	(-11)	घोषा 61.38
कोरिया	526.5	880.3	(-40)	मटियामोती 24.43
कठर्या	458.8	649.7	(-29)	केशव 36.37
महसमुंद	810.7	780.6	(4)	धार 16.36
नारायणपुर	882.6	934.9	(-6)	
रायगढ़	879.4	847.2	(4)	
रायपुर	567.7	791.5	(-28)	
राजनांदगांव	460.4	796	(-42)	
सरगुजा	657	905.2	(-27)	



बीमा प्रस्ताव की तिथि बढ़ाने को कहा

कृषि मंत्री बृजमोहन अग्रवाल ने केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्री राधा मोहन सिंह को पत्र लिखकर अन्नगो किसानों के लिए राष्ट्रीय कृषि बीमा योजना की तिथि बढ़ाने की मांग की है। कृषि मंत्री ने कहा, राष्ट्रीय कृषि बीमा योजना में फिलहाल ऋणी किसान शामिल किए गए हैं। बीमा प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 31 जुलाई रखी गई थी। यदि इसे 31 अगस्त तक बढ़ा दिया जाएगा तो अन्नगो किसान भी योजना में शामिल हो जाएंगे और उन्हें राहत मिलेगी।

बीमा योजना में शामिल होगी धान की फसल



राज्य में कुल 36 लाख हेक्टेयर रकबे में धान की फसल ली जाती है। अब तक इस फसल से नुकसान दर्ज नहीं होने की वजह से इसे राज्यस्तरीय फसल बीमा समन्वय समिति ने राष्ट्रीय बीमा योजना में शामिल

(अधिसूचित) नहीं किया था। इधर, कृषि विभाग का अनुमान है कि अब वर्षा के चलते प्रदेश के 7 लाख हेक्टेयर धान का रकबा पूरी तरह से बर्बाद हो गया है। कृषि उत्पादन आयुक्त ने भी माना है कि धान की

फसल को नुकसान पहुंचा है। उन्होंने केंद्र को अवगत करवाया है कि धान की फसल (सिंचित) को राष्ट्रीय कृषि बीमा योजना में शामिल करने का निर्णय लिया गया है।

[illegible]

बादशाहपुर ड्रेनेज के उफान से एनएच-8 पर जमा हुआ पानी
हिं-25-8-15

हि-25-8-15
**जलभराव से एक्सप्रेसवे
पर छह घंटे लगा जाम**

आफत

गुडगांव | कार्यालय संवाददाता

दिल्ली-मुडगांव एक्सप्रेससे पर सोमवार की सुबह फिर से जाम लग गया। हीरो होंडा चौक पर जलभराव की वजह से सुबह आठ बजे ही जाम लगना शुरू हो गया। दोपहर दो बजे तक एक्सप्रेसवे के मुख्य चौराहों से जुड़ने वाली सड़कों पर भी वाहन फंसे रहे।

रविवार रात हुई भारी बारिश से बाढ़साहपुर ड्रेनेज ओवरफ्लो हो गई। इससे हीरो होंडा चौक पर जलभराव शुरू हो गया। हालांकि बारिश सुबह तीन बजे तक थम गई थी, लेकिन जल निकासी के प्रबंध बेहतर न होने से समस्या बढ़ गई। एक्सप्रेसवे पर पहले दिल्ली से जयपुर की दिशा में राजीव चौक से सिनेचर टावर तक वाहनों की लंबी कतारें लगीं।

बाद में जयपुर से दिल्ली वाले हिस्से पर भी जाम लग गया। सूचना मिलते ही ट्रैफिक पुलिस ने मौके पर पहुंचकर जाम पर काबू पाने का प्रयास शुरू कर दिया, लेकिन एक्सप्रेसवे पर सर्विस लेन के साथ ही स्लिप रोड पर भी पानी जमा होने से हालात बेकाब होते चले गए।

रजोकरी फ्लाईओवर तक लगी कतारें : सुबह दस बजे तक दिल्ली से जयपुर वाले हिस्से पर सरहौल टोल से आगे रजोकरी फ्लाईओवर तक वाहनों की लंबी कतारें लग गई। राजीव चौक, झाड़सा चौक, सिग्नेचर टावर चौक,



रविवार की रात गुड़गांव में हुई भारी बारिश के बाद सोमवार को एकसप्रेमसे स्थित हीरो हॉल चौक पर जमा यानी। लोगों को भारी परेशानी झेलनी पड़ी। • प्रदीप कुमार

जाम का शाम

- बादशाहपुर ड्रेनेज ओवरफ्लो होने से हीरो होंडा चौक पर भरा पानी
- पहले दिल्ली से जयपुर और बाद में वापसी की दिशा में जाम

वाहन रेंगते नजर आए। जाम से बचने के लिए वाहन चालकों ने सोहना रोड, झाड़सा रोड, महाराणा प्रताप रोड से ओल्ड दिल्ली रोड पर जाने के लिए वाहन मोड़ लिए। इससे यहां भी जाम लग गया।

सर्विस रोड और स्लिप रोड पर भी जलनिकासी नहीं : हीरो होंडा चौक के साथ एक्सप्रेसवे के अन्य चौराहों पर भी सर्विस रोड और स्लिप रोड पर जलनिकासी के प्रबंध संतोषजनक नहीं हैं। इफको चौक पर सिमनेचर टावर की

सिग्नेचर टावर से सेक्टर-30 की स्लिप रोड पर भी जलभराव से यातायात प्रभावित हुआ।

इन पर है जिम्मेदारी : मूसलाधार बारिश होने पर हर बार बाइसाहपुर ड्रेनेज ओवरफ्लो होती है, जिससे जाम लग जाता है। एनएचएआई ने इससे निपटने के लिए विशेष योजना बनाई थी। इसके तहत हरी होंडा चौक पर एक किलोमीटर के हिस्से में जलनिकासी की जिम्मेदारी बलेचा इंजीनियरिंग प्राइवेट लिमिटेड को सौंपी गई थी। राजीव चौक से खेड़की दौला टोल तक बाकी हिस्से पर जलनिकासी की जिम्मेदारी हुडा और नगर निगम ने मिलकर उठाई थी। सरहौल टोल से राजीव चौक तक जलनिकासी सुनिश्चित करने की जिम्मेदारी मिलेनियम सिटी एक्सप्रेसवे प्राइवेट लिमिटेड की थी। इन सभी एजेंसियाँ ने अभी तक जिम्मेदारी नहीं निभाई।

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

K.P. Chronicle

A. a. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Kal Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A.)

Elite

and documented at Eharatrain(English)& Publicity Section, CV/C.

बाढ़ से निपटने के लिए 500 करोड़ रुपये मांगे

गुवाहाटी/ नई दिल्ली। असम सरकार ने बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में राहत, पुनर्वास और मरम्मत कार्यों के लिए सोमवार को 500 करोड़ रुपये की अंतरिम राहत मांगी। राज्य में बाढ़ से 8.3 लाख प्रभावित हुए हैं जबकि इसमें 13 लोगों की जान जा चुकी है।

असम के मुख्यमंत्री तरुण गोमोई ने कहा, हम केंद्र से अंतरिम राहत के रूप में 500 करोड़ रुपये मांग रहे हैं। कई क्षेत्र अब भी पानी में डूबे हुए हैं। इसलिए नुकसान के अंतिम आकलन में कुछ वक्त लगेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि असम सरकार

के पास तत्काल राहत अभियान के लिए पर्याप्त कोष है लेकिन क्षतिग्रस्त बुनियादी ढांचों की मरम्मत के लिए केंद्रीय सहायता की जरूरत होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि कई स्थानों पर बारिश रुक गई है और जलस्तर घट रहा है।

जलस्तर घटने के बाद हमने सड़कों, तटबंधों, पुलों और महत्वपूर्ण ढांचों को हुए नुकसान का आकलन करना शुरू किया है। असम राज्य आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण के मुताबिक राज्य में 984 गांवों में 8.33 लाख लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं। (एजेंसी)

35-8-15

Punjab facing a veritable water crisis

SARBJIT DHALIWAL

THE National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) sent a warning signal that agriculture output can collapse in states like Punjab and Haryana and there can be severe shortage of drinking water in big cities such as New Delhi if efforts were not made to ensure sustainable groundwater usage. We need to look afresh at issues related to usage of water for agriculture, industrial and domestic purposes.

The water table is rapidly falling in the plains of North of India but officialdom has not shown seriousness in the matter. Efforts to ensure efficient management of water are inadequate. Obviously, there is an urgency to take effective measures to regulate usage of water and introduce water-saving measures such as drip irrigation, sprinkling system and underground piping system for irrigation on a large scale. The canal system requires to be revamped.

First, let us look at an interesting similitude. Located several thousand miles apart, world's two leading foodgrains producing states, California and Punjab, are plagued by an identical problem related to water required to irrigate crop land. It has been widely reported that an state of Emergency has again been declared in California because of the severe drought fourth year in a row. Farmers are facing problems there to water parched croplands due to the drought. They have been recklessly pumping out water from bore wells to meet their requirement to irrigate farmland. Like Punjab, which has been contributing 25 per cent to 50 per cent rice and 38 per cent to 75 per cent wheat per



Free power to farmers has led to reckless drawing of ground water and a low water table.

annum over the years to the Central food pool, California is a state that alone meets 25 per cent food requirement of the US. Apart from it, 50 per cent of the total demand for vegetables and fruits in the US is met by California. In Punjab, the sub-soil water table has been dipping at a fast pace. The state faced a severe drought last year because of the rainfall was below average by 50 per cent. It is another matter that there was no major effect on crop yield because farmers operated their near 14 lakh bore wells (diesel sets and electricity driven ones) overtime to save their crops. The same happened in 2012 and 2009, when the rain was deficit by 47 per cent and 36 per cent, respectively, than normal average. Earlier, in 2007 and 2004, the state faced an equally bad situation in this regard. Except in 2008, the rainfall

is never above average in the state since 2004. There is no regulation or check on the farm and industrial sector on pumping out water. About 3 crore gallons of water is pumped out by industry in Ludhiana alone. For drinking purpose, hundreds of tube wells work in cities, towns and villages work over time.

In the absence of adequate rain, farmers in Punjab recklessly pump out water through bore wells, numbering around 14 lakh. Applications for power connection to about 3 lakh tube wells await the nod of the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL). The number of electricity and diesel-operated tube wells was just 1.92 lakh in 1970-71. It went up to 6 lakh in 1980-81 and to 8 lakh in 1990-91 and 9.25 lakh 1995-96. The number of diesel-operated remained almost same (in the range of

2 lakh) since 1990-91, the number electricity-driven tube wells shot up to 12.50 lakh in 2001-02 because the state government announced free power for farm sector tube wells in 1997. While doing so, the state government did not impose any restriction on the draft of water from the sub-soil. As free power to the farm sector is not metered, there is misuse of this facility. NASA, in its report, stated that "beneath the earth surface level, water has been disappearing in the Northern part of India, especially states like Punjab and Haryana and if the phenomenon persisted it could lead to the collapse of agriculture in that region." The Central Ground Water Board, Punjab Irrigation Department and Agriculture Department have been highlighting the rapidly declining water table for the past many years.

According to a report by the Water Resources and Environment Directorate, the water level dipped in 80 per cent of the total area in the state and came up only in about 20 per cent area. The minimal district-wise average fall of 0.38 mts was noticed in Fazilka from October 2013 to October 2014. The maximum fall 2.15 mts in the water table was recorded in the Sangrur district during this period. The average fall in the state worked out to be 1.20 mts. Rainfall was deficient by 50 per cent last year and consequently, the adverse impact on the water table was severe. The directorate observes and analyses data gathered from 1,000 observations wells across the state. The subsoil water level has gone down to more than 58 mts in Hoshiarpur and Sardulgarh areas of the state over the years due to unregulated rafting.

The question is: Does Punjab need such

a vast number of tube wells when 27 per cent of the total 42 lakh hectares under agriculture is served by a network of canals? The area of 42 lakh hectares also includes the water-logged area of Muktsar region and the Kandi belt. According to a rough estimate, the state has a tube well for every two hectares, if one is to exclude area under water-logging and canal irrigation. Is there need to draw a line disallowing the installation of more tube wells and to fix the quantum of water to be drawn? This question should be addressed by politicians and policy makers. Free power to the farm sector has a strong relationship with a votebank. Should all farmers get free power or it should only be meant for small and marginal farmers owning less than 5 acres of land?

Punjab failed to set up the Water Regulatory Authority, a pragmatic step suggested by the previous UPA government. The state also did not promote less water-consuming crops such as maize and sunflower, instead of water-guzzling paddy. The Centre had made a viable offer for the procurement of sun flower but Punjab rejected it, while Haryana accepted it and also procured sun flower this year. In Haryana, the average fall in the water table in the past 16 years is about 8 mts.

The Punjab government has given free power worth Rs 45,000 crore since 1997 mainly to grow water-guzzling paddy (rice) crop. Had the state government promote less water-guzzling crops such as maize and sun flower and supported their marketing with this money, the scenario might not have been so bleak.

sarbjit.dhaliwal@gmail.com

A holistic approach helps to tackle farmers' woes⁸

BS SIDHU

OWING to climatic aberrations in the recent past, crisis in agriculture sector has deepened in states like Punjab, Haryana and certain other parts of the country. The weather played villain and hit the productivity in the farm sector. The fall in the price of cash crops such as cotton, potatoes, sugarcane and *basmati* tightened the noose around the neck of small and marginal farmers. The growing number of suicides is evidence of constant distress in the farm sector.

The relative contribution of agriculture in the national economy has declined substantially over the years, but there is no visible change in the basic characteristics of Indian agriculture. The cultivated area remains more or less the same but increase in the population and urbanisation has put agriculture land under stress. In rural areas, land is a main income-generating asset. The family income is directly related with the size of land one cultivates or owns. The average size of a farm holding has now come down to 1.1 hectare, from 2.3 hectares in 1970.

Agricultural credit that plays a major role in present-day, input-intensive agriculture further aggravates the situation: Three major policy initiatives have shaped institutional credit flow to the agriculture sector: The 2004-05 policy of doubling the institutional credit to agriculture in three years; agriculture debt waiver and debt relief scheme of 2008-09; and the interest subvention scheme that

sought to remedy the perceived negative impact of a loan waiver on timely repayment. A study, "Productivity of agriculture credit in India," by NABARD (2015) indicates that, "in the pre-doubling credit phase, fertilisers were significantly responsive but in the post-doubling phase, credit appears to have strong relationship with tractors and puts an adverse impact on small farmers. Tractorisation of agriculture, particularly of small-holder agriculture, does not improve economic viability as this largely does not improve debt serviceability and pushes them into a debt-trap."

Rural society is facing reduced social cohesion, poor quality of education, and absence of good healthcare facilities. Unproductive expenditure on ceremonial festivities and over-capitalisation in agriculture, particularly by small land holders, is leading to the problem of debt and breaking of social fabric under economic stress. The largely traditional technology is a deterrent for rural youth taking up farming. It does not match their ever-increasing aspirations triggered by exposure to enthralling urban lifestyles. The National Crime Records Bureau recorded 11,722 farm-related suicides in the country in 2013 and 12,360 in 2014. Taking cognizance of these problems of farming, programmes to improve the sustainability of agriculture and farmers' income were started by the Punjab State Farmers Commission. These have demonstrated the potential to mitigate the agrarian crisis.

There has been an alarming fall in the ground water level due to over-exploita-



The government and policy makers should address woes of farmers on priority

tion for irrigating paddy. The state was persuaded to enact, "The Punjab Preservation of Sub Soil Water Act 2009," that prohibited the sowing of paddy nursery before May 10 and its transplanting before June 10. Now, the date has been further shifted to June 15 and has helped in reducing irrigation water demand.

To enhance water use efficiency and increase crop production, precision land levelling of fields was introduced. Laser land levellers were provided to farmers and cooperative societies by providing capital assistance. About 5,500 laser land levellers are available in the state to provide custom-hiring services to the farmers. About 1 million ha area has been precision levelled. Consequently, the rate of decline of ground water level has been reduced from 91 cm per year in 2000 to about 60 cm per year now.

To rejuvenate the soil and protect the

environment, management of crop residues was started. Farmers are being encouraged to adopt the machinery viz. balers, choppers, rakes, happy seeders etc. for collection of bio-mass for power generation as well as its in-situ management through mulching or incorporation in soil. The use of these machines helps in efficient management of residues for soil health improvement and contributes in checking burning of crop residues, thereby reducing pollution.

It has been successfully demonstrated how cultivation of vegetables under low-cost net houses increases yield as well as quality due to lower use of pesticides. Further, the produce is also available off-season when market prices are generally higher. A farmer with a set of two net-houses of one kanal each, can get a net profit of Rs 1 lakh per year from cultivation of vegetables.

Farmers generally rear two to three buffaloes for milk production for domestic use and sale. Income of farmers can be substantially enhanced by improving milk productivity of buffaloes by upgrading the breed through artificial insemination. Integrated Buffalo Development Centres (IBDC) ensured artificial insemination at the farmers' doorstep. Two NGOs set up these centres and covered 1,600 villages. An evaluation study carried out by CRRID indicates that the productivity of the next generation of buffaloes has improved by 2.4 kg/day, thus giving the farmer owning two animals an additional income of about Rs 150 per day, without additional cost. Capital investment by the small farmers in heavy

machinery and equipment increases their fixed costs and reduces net returns. Some modern technologies need expensive equipment that is to be used only for a limited number of days during the crop season. In order to make this equipment available to small farmers on a custom-hiring basis, a programme to set-up agricultural machinery service centres was started. This has helped to cut down the farmers' fixed costs and adoption of latest technology. The 1,544 service centres set up provide employment to local youth and latest machinery to farmers on reasonable rent. Efficient backward and forward linkages with rural-based industrial and service sector effectively reduce pressure on farming and improve investments in the agriculture sector. Allocation to the agriculture sector (agriculture + irrigation) in the Union budget which was about 31 per cent in the first five-year plan has come down to about 17 per cent in the 12th.

Development of a resilient agricultural production system requires a holistic approach and higher public and private investment in agriculture infrastructure in water-sources management, post-harvest handling, small holder farm mechanisation and the off-farm rural industrial and service sector.

Future growth will depend upon technology development supported by appropriate public policies, relevant institutional changes and increased investment from public and private sectors.

The writer is Commissioner Agriculture, Punjab

दिनांक 25 अगस्त को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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अगस्त में टूटा 5 साल का रिकॉर्ड

■ राहुल मानव, नई दिल्ली : दिल्ली में अगस्त महीने में बारिश ने पिछले 5 सालों का रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया है। 1 से 24 अगस्त सुबह 8:30 बजे तक 346 मिमी बारिश दर्ज हुई है। साल 2010 के बाद अगस्त महीने में इतनी ज्यादा बारिश हुई है। इससे पहले से 2010 में 362.6 मिमी बारिश दर्ज हुई है। 2011 में 144.5 मिमी, 2012 में 275.6 मिमी, 2013 में 174.9 मिमी और 2014 में 121.9 मिमी बारिश दर्ज हुई है।

स्काइमेट ने पालम के आंकड़ों जारी किए हैं। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि अगले तीन से चार दिनों तक दिल्ली में बारिश होने की संभावना कम है। 30 से 31 अगस्त के दौरान बारिश होने की उम्मीद है। वहीं सोमवार को दिल्लीवालों को उमस ने खूब तंग किया। ह्यूमिडिटी का अधिकतम स्तर 90 पर्सेंट से ज्यादा दर्ज हुआ।

मौसम विभाग ने अपने बुलेटिन में कहा कि संडे सुबह 8:30 बजे से सोमवार सुबह 8:30 बजे तक सफ़दरजंग में 56 मिमी और पालम में 67.6 मिमी बारिश दर्ज हुई है। मंगलवार को बादल छाए रह सकते लेकिन बारिश होने की स्थिति कम है। मैक्सिमम टेम्परेचर 35 डिग्री और मिनिमम टेम्परेचर 26 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहने का अनुमान है।

सोमवार को दिन भर बादल और धूप छाए रहे। कुछ जगहों में हल्के काले बादल छाए, लेकिन बारिश नहीं हुई। लोगों को उमस भरी गर्मी ने खूब परेशान किया। मैक्सिमम टेम्परेचर नॉर्मल से एक डिग्री सेल्सियस ज्यादा के साथ 34.9 डिग्री दर्ज हुआ। मिनिमम टेम्परेचर नॉर्मल से दो डिग्री कम के साथ 23.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज हुआ।

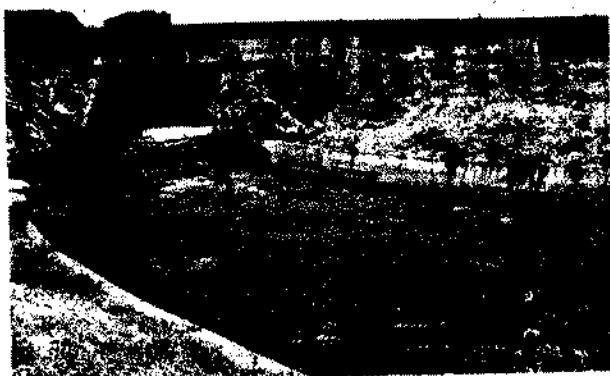
दिनांक २५ अगस्त, १९६० को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
 नवम रतन (दिल्ली)
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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
 The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
 Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Rain in Mettur, water release reduced



Quantum of release has been brought down from 13,000 cusecs to 10,000 cusecs . - PHOTO: E. LAKSHMI

NARAYANAN

Special Correspondent

SALEM: The release of water from Mettur dam for the samba crop was reduced by about 3,000 cusecs on Sunday due to widespread rain in the Cauvery delta districts.

Public Works Department (PWD) officials said the quantum of release was brought down from 13,000 cusecs to 10,000 cusecs on Sunday morning. Another 500 cusecs of water is being released from the dam for the cultivation activities in the

area covered under the east and west canal system.

PWD sources said the inflow into the dam was 16,440 cusecs. The level in the dam stood at 91.59 feet on Sunday against its full level of 120 feet. The storage improved to 54.48 tmcft against its full capacity of 93.470 tmcft. The surrounding areas of Mettur dam experienced widespread rain on Saturday. Mettur town experienced 22.6 mm rainfall in the last 24 hours that ended at 8 a.m on Sunday.

दिनांक २५.३.२०१५ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित जायसु/ बाह सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Man-made slopes led to Darjeeling landslips: GSI

Soumya Das

KOLKATA: One of the key reasons behind the recent landslips in the Mirik and Kalimpong areas in Darjeeling district was the large-scale construction of man-made slopes, such as raising the ground for buildings and roads.

In a recent survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India (GSI), it was found that these slopes were built without proper support. Very heavy rainfall and other geological factors (such as loose soil) were other causes behind the landslips in July. Nearly 30 people died and many were washed away during successive landslips in Darjeeling last month.

The survey was conducted in the Mirik Block and in the Kalimpong sub-division and in and around Darjeeling and Kurseong in July. It has been found that the soil above these man-made steep slopes in Mirik and Kalimpong became loose and came down after heavy rainfall last month.

Inadequate drainage systems were also found to be one of the reasons for the calamity.

"Some of the landslips in the Mirik Municipality area took place on very low-lying slopes. It cannot be denied that human activity sometimes played a role in it along with other geological factors," Saibal Ghosh, head of the OGeohazards Research and Management Cell of the GSI, told *The Hindu*. Dr. Ghosh, who supervised the survey, however, pointed out that many landslips also took



The GSI survey found that the soil above man-made steep slopes became loose and came down after heavy rainfall. — FILE PHOTO: AFP

place on natural slopes in the area.

The GSI had already prepared a landslip susceptibility map in Darjeeling Hills which categorises the slopes into high, moderate and low zones based on probability of landslips in an area. Dr. Ghosh emphasised that the susceptibility map must be followed during any future land use planning and construction in such areas to minimise the loss of lives and property due to the natural calamity.

The geologist also emphasised the importance of proper drainage system in landslip-prone areas. Dr.

Ghosh said that during monsoon, natural drainage paths should be kept clear of all obstructions to ensure free flow of surface water.

"During heavy rain, the water enters the already loose soil over the bedrock and loosens it further, triggering landslips," added Dr. Ghosh.

Pointing out that Darjeeling was a highly landslip-prone area, geologists said that past events in Darjeeling Hills indicated that landslips occurred there during the beginning of the monsoon that was in June-July and the end of the monsoon in September-October.

दिनांक 24.3.2015 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित जायसूना/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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India records a 9% deficit, but rainfall normal in half the nation

New Delhi: Even as the prospect of drought in some parts of India looms large, the India Meteorological Department has reported that more than half of the country has received normal rainfall so far. Some regions in central and southern parts, on the other hand, have reported deficient rains this monsoon.

According to IMD data, 20 of India's 36 sub-divisions, or over 55% of the country, have received normal rainfall. About 29% has witnessed deficient rainfall, and 13% reported an excess.

Overall, a deficiency of 9% was recorded in the whole country. Among the four divisions, the northwest received the highest rainfall — only 2% lower than the normal. The east and northeast followed with a deficit of 6, while central India and the southern peninsula reported a shortfall of 11% and 20%, respectively. The weatherman has reported a positive sign in that no sub-division has recorded "scanty" or "no-rain" precipitation.



Flood-affected children use a boat to reach their school after incessant rains at Jorhat district in Assam. The flood toll on Sunday rose to 13, with 6.16 lakh people being affected. Chief minister Tarun Gogoi said central assistance was urgently needed to repair the infrastructure damage caused by the second wave of the deluge.

Sub-regions Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jharkhand and Bihar, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, east Rajasthan, Odisha, east Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry,

Lakshadweep and southern interiors if Karnataka have received normal rainfall.

With a deficiency of 44 and 46%, the northern interiors of Karnataka and Maharashtra's Marathwada region are the worst affected so far.

The rainfall deficit in central Maharashtra was reported at 36%, 33% for Konkan

and Goa, 34% for eastern UP and 29% for its western parts, 31% for Punjab, 30% for Kerala, 26% for coastal Karnataka, and 22% for Telangana. Delhi reported a deficit of 25%.

Only three sub-divisions — Gangetic West Bengal (32%), west Rajasthan (76% pc) and west MP (35%) have witnessed excess rainfall. AGENCIES

India to reveal climate action plan today

India will on Monday throw some light on the broad contours of its upcoming climate action plan which the country would submit to the UN body on climate change in September. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday discussed finer details of the plan with concerned officials and ministers and asked them to strictly adhere to the country's priorities including eradication of poverty and to enable energy access to all its deprived citizens.

The climate action plan — Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) — is the country's voluntary pledge which it will eventually take up as its post-2020 contribution to fight the global challenge of climate change. Modi is learnt to have asked the officials to focus equally on access to "affordable technology" and "adequate finance". TNN

दिनांक १५. ३. १९९१ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित जायगा/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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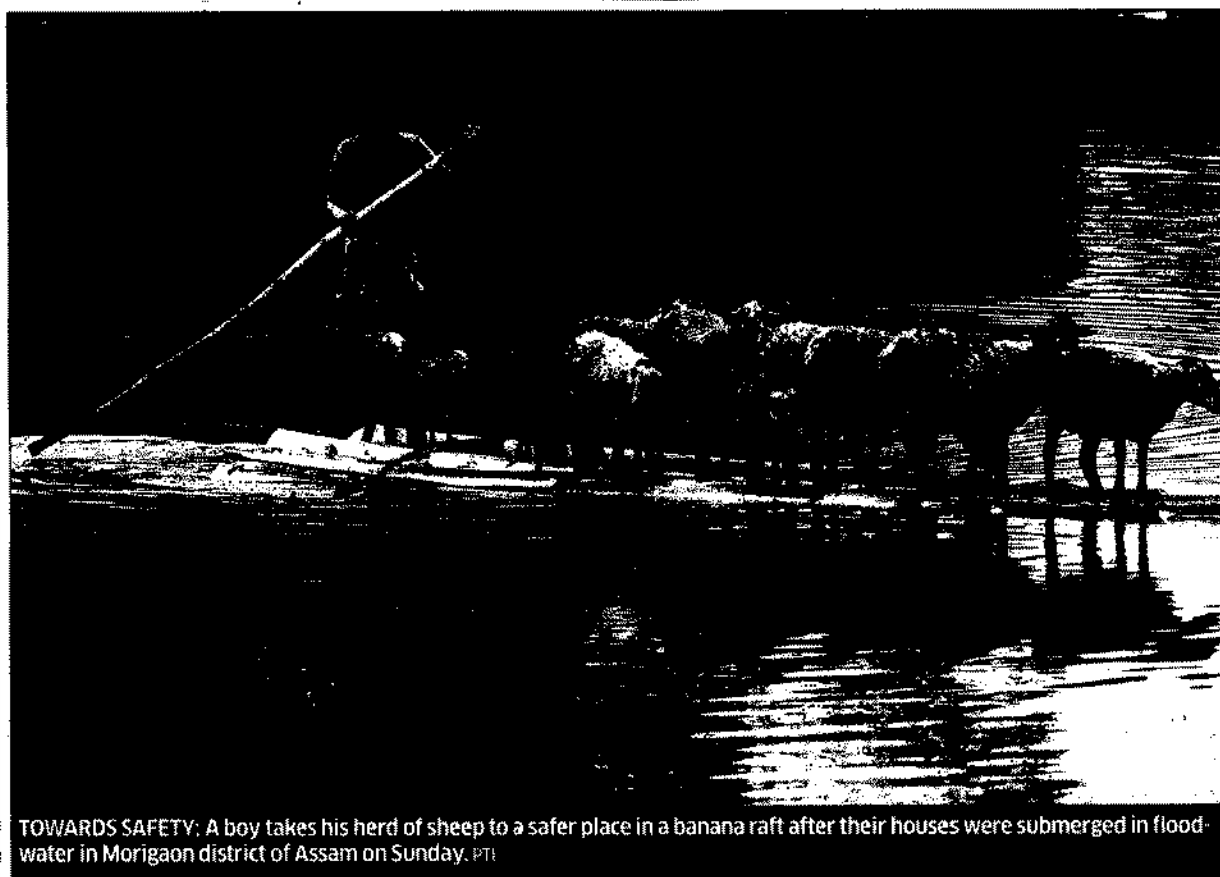
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TOWARDS SAFETY: A boy takes his herd of sheep to a safer place in a banana raft after their houses were submerged in flood-water in Morigaon district of Assam on Sunday. PTI

Assam on the brink of flood disaster

GUWAHATI, DHNS: Assam's flood situation showed little signs of abating on Sunday, as Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi took a two-hour aerial survey of the affected areas and ordered to step up rescue and relief operations.

Gogoi also ordered all the ministers to visit flood-hit districts and monitor the relief operations.

More than 1000 villages in 15 districts are still marooned in the floods triggered by incessant rains in neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Bhutan. The disaster has affected six lakh people and claimed 13 lives so far.

Gogoi went on the aerial survey with Chief Secretary V K Pipersenia, State Disaster Management Authority chair-

Drought-like situation in Odisha districts

Nearly half of the 30 districts in Odisha have so far recorded less than normal rainfall this monsoon season, **DHNS** reports from Bhubaneswar. Drought-like situation is already prevailing in some of the districts. The situation is expected to be more precarious if the present rainfall trend continues for another week or two, officials and experts in the state agriculture department apprehend. The state had recorded 11 per cent excess rainfall in the month of June. However, in the month of July the average rainfall drastically came down to 13 per cent below normal. It has worsened in the month of August and the rainfall deficit for the month currently stands at a whopping 40 per cent.

man P K Tiwari and other officials.

Speaking to reporters later, he said the state is yet to receive any central assistance.

"We have submitted memo-

randa to the Central Government, including the Prime Minister and Home Minister, but have not received the funds to build infrastructure damaged in floods last year," Gogoi said.

He said his government is giving priority to rescue and relief operations, noting that he had asked district deputy commissioners to specially care for women and children.

Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) sources said Brahmaputra is flowing above level in Jorhat, Tezpur, Kamrup, Goalpara and Dhubri.

There are several rivers that are still flowing above flood levels in worst hit lower Assam. 1.53 lakh people are still in 238 relief camps in the state.

Roads, irrigation and power infrastructure has been totally damaged in lower Assam, while bumper harvest on nearly 50,000 hectares of agricultural land has been washed away over the week.

दिनांक २५.३.२०१५ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित माजसूना/ बाढ़ सबबन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

भारत रत्न (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

Indgame

CO₂ melted Ice-age-glaciers, says study

PARIS: Greenhouse gases were the driving force behind global glacier retreat at the end of the last Ice Age, echoing current climate change, according to a study published Friday.

More than 11,000 years later, the researchers say, global warming is on track to wipe out 80-90 per cent of remaining glaciers within a few hundred years unless carbon dioxide emissions are held in check.

Such an outcome would push sea level rise and rob hundreds of millions of people in Asia and South America of a critical source of water.

Using new techniques to resolve an old debate, researchers showed that it was a

55 per cent increase of CO₂ in the atmosphere — from 180 to 280 parts per million (ppm) — over some 7,000 years that melted the world's glaciers to a level that remained stable until the start of our industrial era.

Higher levels of greenhouse gases, such as CO₂, trap more of the Sun's heat on earth causing global temperatures to rise.

Up to now, scientists disagreed on the cause of Ice Age glacier decline, with some attributing it mainly to solar radiation and regional influences such as ice sheets and ocean currents.

A team of scientists led by Jeremy Shakun of Boston College re-examined the ages of



more than 1,100 previously studied glacial boulders by measuring a particular isotope — Beryllium-10 — produced by exposure to cosmic rays.

They compared their findings, the most accurate so far,

to the timing of the rise of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, data gleaned from ice bubbles trapped in ice cores.

The results were unequivocal. "The only factor that explains glaciers melting all around the world in unison

during the end of the Ice Age is the rise in greenhouse gases," said Shakun.

Scientists are still not sure what triggered the gradual release of CO₂ into the atmosphere starting 19,000 years ago, or exactly where it came from.

The most likely scenario, according to co-author Peter Clark of Oregon State University is that huge quantities of carbon bubbled up from the sea.

"The carbon was likely released because of changes in the ocean and its circulation that were triggered by changes in the earth's orbit around the Sun," he wrote in an email exchange.

AFP

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A man and his son crossing a flooded area in Ghilamara Meleki village on a makeshift plantain raft under Dhakuakhana subdivision, on Friday. – UB Photos