



WATER IN NEWS

A daily compilation of media coverage of water issues

for 15.05.2014, Thursday

Dear readers,

Regional Centre for Development Cooperation (RCDC) is extremely happy to present you 'Water in News' bulletin for May 15, 2014. Today's media coverage of water issues have been captured in the following heads: (a) Rural Drinking Water, (b) Urban Drinking Water, (c) Policy/Programme Watch, (d) Dam / Reservoir / Canal, (e) Health, (f) Sanitation, (g) Wild Life, (h) Pollution, (i) Disaster, and (j) Social Exclusion.

RCDC hopes that the readers will find the bulletin useful. Earlier issues of WIN can be accessed at www.rcdcindia.org. Your inputs, comments, feedbacks and critics will help us improve the bulletin. Kindly write to rcdcbsr@gmail.com, bimal@rcdcindia.org.

Today's bulletin covers water news and issues featured in newspapers and web portals published on 15.05.2014. We have covered print or e-paper editions of the following newspapers: (a) Sambad (all Samaj (Bhubaneswar), (b) Dharitri, (c) Prameya (all edition), (d) Samay (Bhubaneswar and Sambalpur), (e) Pragativadi, (f) Times of India (Bhubaneswar), (g) Pioneer (Bhubaneswar), and (h) New Indian Express (Bhubaneswar). Besides we have covered web portals of (a) The Hindu, (b) The Telegraph, (c) Orissadiary, and (d) Odisha Sun Times.

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Rural Drinking Water

More than half of water supply projects in Patrapur block of Ganjam defunct: Berhampur edition of Sambad informs that completed projects like Khariaguda, barang, Subarnapur, Abhyapur, tumba, gudipadar, padadigi, Nuapendtha, Tundipur, Durubudi, Mandarada, Hukuma, Trutipur, K Sharipada and Gothagaon projects are defunct. A Pipe Water Supply project that supplies water to 9000 people of Jayantipur, Samantiapalli, Chudialanji, Banasola and Ambagaon villages of Patrapur block is defunct. Locals allege that the project never ran regularly, but since Phailin it is completely defunct. Jayantipur and Samantiapalli villagers are collecting water from a tubewell one km away. While the norm requires one tubewell for 150 person, Jayantipur village has less than half of the requirement. PWS supply to block headquarter Patrapur is also being able to supply water to only 30 percent habitation.

Dharakot water supply stopped since last four days: Berhampur edition of Sambad informs that the pipe water supply that supplies water to Dharkot town from the Rushikulya river is defunct since last four days. Officials say that the 16 HP pump has burnt. RWSS department is supplying water through tanker. Samay and other papers have also covered the Dharakot status.

Pipe Water Supply projects in Gadadeulia village of Betanati block not functioning properly: Berhampur edition of Prameya has reported about problems with pipe supply projects in Betanati block area. It informs that projects in Gadadeulia which is not supplying water to Pokharisahi and Bhanupur villages.

ପାଇପ୍‌ଲାଇନ୍ ଓ ମାସ୍ ପଲେ କି ପାଣି ନାହିଁ ପାତ୍ରପୁର ବ୍ଲକର ଅର୍ଦ୍ଧାଧିକ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ଅଚଳ



Chhakapada villagers in Koksara block of Kalahandi depend on stream 'chua': Dhartri has carried a photograph of women of Chhakapada village of Aampani region in Kalahandi district are collecting dirty water from a stream 'chua'.

Water stress growing in Brahmagiri, people drinking polluted water: Dhartri reports that people of Brahmagiri region of Puri district are using polluted river water for drinking water purposes. It informs that Diarrhoea has spread in Podakera village of Talamal Panchayat since last 15 days and 30 people have been affected. Three of five tubewells in the village are defunct. The other two working tubewells discharge saline water. Though provisions have been made for pipe water supply, the supply has not started yet.

Urban Drinking Water

None of Berhampur Jalachhatras functioning: A report in Berhampur edition of Prameya reports that 43 Jalachhatras had been opened in Berhampur town by the Municipal Corporation but none are functioning now. Officials blame theft of pot as the reason.

Kharvelnagar groundwater storage not functioning: Dhartri says that the one lakh gallon capacity Kharvelnagar groundwater storage tank is not working. The tank work as well as pipe connection has been completed. Yet water supply has not been initiated. The report says of similar situation in Sundarapada of Bhubaneswar.

Industrial use

EIA plan for Paradeep PCPIR hub: Sambad and Business Standard inform about IDCO's move to prepare environment impact assessment for the proposed Paradeep Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR). The PCPIR has been approved with a Viability Gap Funding (VGF) of Rs 716 crore by the Government of India. A special purpose vehicle called Paradeep Investment Region Development Ltd has been formed as a fully owned subsidiary of Idco to implement the project. Existing units within the PCPIR hub include the fertiliser units of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd (Iffco) and Paradeep Phosphates Ltd (PPL) and a calcined petroleum

coke making facility of Paradeep Carbon Ltd. Industries on the pipeline are steel projects proposed by Posco India and Essar Steel, 0.365 million tonne per annum (mtpa) greenfield ammonium nitrate plant planned by Deepak Fertilisers Ltd and 0.22 mtpa calcined petroleum coke project by Kalinga Calciners Ltd. IDCO is in talks with National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and Environmental Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI) to prepare EIA for the PCPIR hub. IDCO has already received proposal from Hyderabad-based EPTRI for comprehensive EIA.

Policy / Programme Watch

MGNREGS progress in Odisha good: Pragativadi reports that performance of MGNREGS has been better in year 2013-14 than the previous year. It informs that 17.10 lakh families got employment in 2013-14 which is two lakhs more than last year. Man-days generated in 2013-14 was 7.12 lakh against 5.4 lakh previous year. The Chief Secretary has advised to increase funds and projects.

Dam / Reservoir / Canal

Demand to revive locks in Taladanda canal: Dhartri has carried a report about neglect of Taladanda canal. The report says that the canal had rich heritage of water transport and irrigation. But locks of the canal have decayed. Water transport from Cuttack to Tirtol area has been stopped since quite long and irrigation too have suffered. The report says that there is a demand to repair the locks. Concerned Engineer has informed about proposal to repair some locks.

Health

Diarrhoea death in Deogaon of Kabisuryanagar in Ganjam district: Berhampur edition of Sambad informs that diarrhoea has spread from Khallikote block to Deogaon village of Kabisuryanagar block in Ganjam district. Five villages of Khalikote block, i.e, Bania, Longhar, bhakutidihi, Kairashi, and Tumula were already affected. The report informs about fresh case of six more diarrhoea affected people from Tumula village Kabisuryanagar block admitted to hospital. One young girl of 8 years has succumbed to diarrhoea.

Sanitation

Sanitation programme in Basta block of Balasore has totally failed: Balasore edition of Sambad has a report which says that government's sanitation programme in Basta block of Balasore district has totally failed. The report says that agencies which were entrusted to construct toilets during period when Rs 500 to Rs 1200 subsidy was given had misappropriated the funds. The report mentions about local people's demand to punish the erring officials.

Sambalpur a model district in UN's project for management of medical waste: Sambalpur edition of Sambad has reported that the United Nations has included Odisha, along with four other states, for a project on medical waste management. Sambalpur has been taken as the model district within Odisha.

Basudevpur drainage is in bad state – flood fear looms: Samay reports that Basudebpur town's drainage systems are in very bad shape.

Drain water flooding Puri bus stand: Dharitri informs that the drain of Puri busstand is fully choked and is flooding the bus stand. The whole area is stinking and passengers are forced to go through the stink and drain water.

Wild Life

Wild lives face water scarcity in Nayagarh forest: A report in Dharitri informs that wild lives of Baispalli, Padmatola, Mahipur, Odagaon, Nayagarh, Gania, Daspalla, Khandapada and Pancharida, and Ranapur range forest in Nayagarh district are facing severe water scarcity.

Pollution

Dissatisfied with OSPCB report of Brahmani river pollution, High Court asks Central Pollution Control Board to submit report: The Odisha High Court on Wednesday has asked the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to study Brahmani river water and furnish a report on its pollution. The High Court had earlier taken suo-moto cognizance of pollution of Brahmani and its tributaries due to extensive chromite mining in Sukinda area. It had asked the OPCB to conduct a study and submit report. The OPCB had submitted its report which failed to satisfy the High Court. It has asked for a fresh study by CPCB. The CPCB team will also include member from Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). The expenditure on study will be borne by state government. Dhartri further informs that High Court had taken suo-moto cognizance after a news in this regard was published in English daily 'Orissa Post'. This news has also been covered prominently in Sambad and other newspapers.

Disaster

Unnatural high tide in Puri coast: Dhatri, Samaj and other papers have reported high tide along Puri coast on Wednesday between 5 to 8 AM. Dharitri also informs that the forest and environment ministry has not identified hazard zones and declared no development zones as per mandate of Coastal Regulation Zones, 2011. It say that when 50 ft high tides are coming on normal days then tides during cyclone and other disasters will disastrous.

Social exclusion

Dalits denied access to pond: Angul edition of Sambad reports disturbing news from Debahali village of Injid Panchayat under Khamar police station. Since last two years Dalits are being denied from accessing the pond. The matter has been brought to notice of the District Collector.

(RCDC seeks your inputs and ideas to make it more comprehensive and user friendly. All inputs will be appropriately credited to the contributor/author.



REGIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Plot No: HIG-26, K-6
Housing Scheme, Phase-II,
Kalinga Vihar, Bhubaneswar - 751 019
Odisha, India.