



livelihoods

today and tomorrow

April 2016



Drought

Happy Ugaadi!
 Happy Baisakhi, New Year!
 Happy Rama Navami!
 125 years of Dr BR Ambedkar! The founder-architect of Modern India.

Planet has become dry with varying severities. 2015 has been the hottest year on record and 2016 March 15 the hottest ever. Drought in the country has been intense and 100s are succumbing to heat. Several others are committing suicides. Many places do not have potable water. Temperatures are soaring to new highs. Bihar has banned daytime cooking. Telangana has rescheduled MGNREGS works to early morning or late evenings. It is a national calamity hitting a third of Indian population across half of Indian Districts and Blocks. Marathwada, Vidarbha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Bundelkhand, Chhattisgarh, North Karnataka, Odisha, WB and Bihar are severely affected. In this context, 'livelihoods' is exploring 'Drought'.

Please read P Sainath's classic, 'Everybody loves a good drought'.

The e-links include 'Large Cardamom Value Chain Analysis in Sikkim'; 'Human Resource and Skill Requirements in the Textile and Clothing Sector'; e-book – 'Strengthening Rural Livelihoods—The Impact of Information and Communication Technologies in Asia'; and v-book – 'Ajeevika Film on Apparel fabrication in Mandla'

Supplements include Legenday Effort – Right to Information; and Kshetram - 'Thar Desert'. Livelihoods Management Notes are on 'Interventions'.

With the faith and hope that you find this special issue useful, we remain.

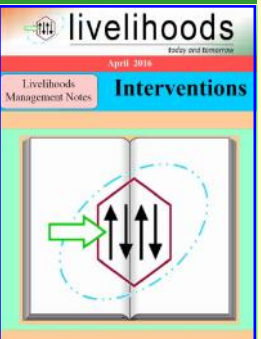
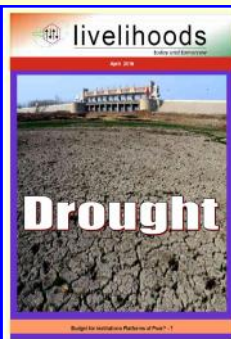
the 'livelihoods' team

The U.N.'s humanitarian aid agency says the El Nino weather phenomenon has affected 60 million people worldwide and is warning that the worst impact from droughts causes is yet come. (Source: usnews.com)



Intermittent interference and supervision in structured planning does not always yield a directional result.

Latest Livelihoods



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Focus: Drought
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Subsector	Human Resource and Skill Requirements in the Textile and Clothing Sector
E-Book	Strengthening Rural Livelihoods—The Impact of Information and Communication Technologies in Asia
V-Book	Aajeevika Film on Apparel fabrication in Mandla

Legendary Effort Right to Information

Kshetram Thar Desert

Livelihoods Management Notes Interventions

e- course e-livelihoods learning course Capsule No: 258 - 277



Wow! Dear Murali and Team,
 This is definitely commendable. I have received all the issues of Livelihoods from the beginning invariably within the first week and I must say I open all of them, though spending 10 minutes on some but 60 minutes on many others. To sustain it for more than 8 years and get it going at a monthly frequency must have been a challenge which you have overcome. Since I have been responsible for a few such publications I can very well appreciate what you must have gone through.

Congrats and keep it up.

Best regards

Ashis Kumar Sahu +919880117259

Thank you for the Livelihoods, March 2016.

Great to get the issue regularly.

All the best Regards,

Felix



Can Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Scheme Provide LPG Connection to All BPL Households?

News

Water Scarcity in Telangana and AP:

Almost the entire Telangana and parts of Andhra Pradesh are in the grip of water scarcity with water levels in most of the major reservoirs across Krishna and Godavari rivers reaching dead storage and ground water plummeting further. Scarcity of fodder and lack of water has forced small farmers in the worst-hit Mahabubnagar, Nizamabad and Nalgonda districts of Telangana and in perennially drought-prone Anantapur district.

CAG Report on MSWM:

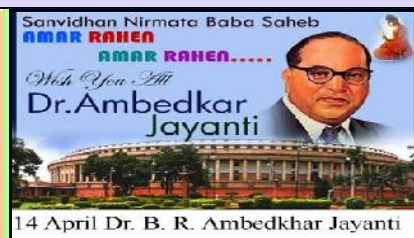
In Telangana state, the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) do not comply with the Municipal Solid Waste Management (MSWM) rules like segregation at source, point to point door collection, transportation and processing of waste to minimize burden on the landfills, according to the latest report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). The management of solid waste has been "inadequate" and "absence of segregation at various levels was only posing health hazards. ❖

Drought in Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh:

Anantapur is witnessing to spur in farmer's suicides, a total of 22 farmers have taken lives, during the last three months, unable to bear the failure of bore wells and mounting debts. The large numbers of farmers, who have committed suicides last year, were in the age group of 20-35 years, suggesting great social turmoil among the families of the farmers of the district, who have experienced seven consecutive drought years.

NABARD Released Grant:

Andhra Pradesh front, The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has said that there were no instances of suicide by farmers in areas where the bank supported watershed programmes. Addressing a press conference highlighting the performance of Andhra Pradesh regional office of the bank, its chief general manager Hairsh Java said the bank released a grant of Rs.175 crore for 166 watershed projects in AP last year and 154 of them were completed. ❖



Historic Agreement on Climate Change:

Historic agreement on climate change marked a milestone, with a record of 175 countries, including India, signing it. With the planet heating up to record levels, sea levels rising and glaciers melting, the pressure to have the Paris Agreement enter into force and to have every country turn its words into deeds was palpable at the U.N. signing ceremony.

EU lifted ban on Sri Lanka's fish exports:

The European Union (EU) has lifted its 15-month-long ban on Sri Lanka's fisheries exports. Prior to the ban imposed in January 2015, the EU accounted for nearly one-third of Sri Lanka's fish exports. ❖

News From the States

Coal Tax; Ahead of signing the Paris agreement:

Coal Tax; Ahead of signing the Paris climate agreement in New York, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar, said New Delhi would exhort developed countries to take a cue from India and impose a tax on coal production to the tune of \$6 per tonne (approx. Rs 390/tonne). This would kick-start the annual \$100 billion (approx. Rs 6.5 trillion) fund promised by developed nations to tackle climate change.

Merchandise exports shrank 15.9 per cent:

Export Shrink; Merchandise exports shrank 15.9 per cent in 2015-16 to \$261.13 billion amid weak overseas demand, a slump in commodity prices and currency volatility. Reflecting a slowdown in the domestic economy, especially in the manufacturing sector, goods imports contracted 15.3 per cent to \$379.6 billion.

At least 330 million people are affected by drought:

Drought; At least 330 million people are affected by drought in India, the government has told the Supreme Court. Authorities say this number is likely to rise further given that some states with water shortages have not yet submitted status reports. The drought is taking place as a heat wave extends across much of India with temperatures crossing 40C for days now.

Sikkim has got its fastest supercomputer:

Northeast state Sikkim has got its fastest supercomputer with a peak computing power of 15 Teraflops built at a cost of over Rs. 2 crore and this is housed at the National Institute of Technology Sikkim's campus and it is a collaboration between Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and the Ministry of Communications and IT. This would be enabling a major boost to research at all levels.

Groundwater levels have depleted in Latur:

Drought; Marathwada and sugarcane! Yes the groundwater levels have depleted to such an extent that Latur, has a total of 34,778 irrigation borewells in year 2007 and only second after Nashik at 37,545. In 715 sq. km comprising of 10 talukas the number of borewells is staggering of 90,000. Latur is dealing with acute water shortage!!

Garment workers against PF:

Hosur Road; Bangalore, as there have been protest against the recent amendments to the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) continued, as per the new amendments, employees will be able to withdraw only their contribution to their provident fund accounts, as they will be able to withdraw

the employers contribution only after they are 58 years old. As the Garment and Textile Workers termed it as "anti-worker" move.

NDRF is calling to combat natural catastrophes:

NDRF is calling for citizens to be trained in combating both man-made and natural catastrophes, with disasters like earthquake, floods and structure collapse occurring frequently in India and the view has also been endorsed by a recently published IIT Delhi case study on the working of the force. As the country is hit by disasters and about 4.8 million people are hit by disasters, hence it is very important to think that building resilience is important and should be a collective imperative.

Reliance invested over Rs. 150,000 crore:

Reliance Industries has invested over Rs. 150,000 crore in its 4G internet and telecom venture, promising to deliver mobile broadband speed that would be 40-80 times faster than the current average speeds and this would have a whole host of applications and services and huge library of audio and visual content. It is one of the largest transformational green-field digital initiatives anywhere in the world with an investment. The coverage of mobile broad band in India is only about 15-20% and "jio" has plans to start services with 70% coverage of India.

NHRC report on children missing:

According to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the number of missing children has been on rise in Tamil Nadu and the police were not investigating those cases seriously. According to the media report, the number of missing children cases went up from 441 in 2014 to 656 last year. In the State capital alone, 114 children went missing in 2014 and it was 149 last year.

India's growth rate to 7.4 percent:

According to Asian Development Bank, the global headwinds will pull down India's growth rate to 7.4 percent in the next fiscal from 7.6 percent this year, however, more reforms will help the country to remain one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

CMIE on stalled projects:

According to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the percentage share of stalled projects in total projects has risen to 12.3% for the quarter ending March 2016. An increase in the number of stalled projects for three consecutive quarters has brought them to their highest level since, Narendra Modi assumed office, in May 2014. ❖

Anamalai

The Anamalai or Anaimalai Hills are a range of mountains which form the southern portion of the Western Ghats, and span the border of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The hills derive their name from both Malayalam and Tamil words; ana or anai meaning elephant and mala or malai meaning hills, combined to mean "Elephant Hills".



The highest peak of the range is "Anaimudi" which stands at 2,695 meters located in the Idukki district of Kerala. The hills have 12 different types of forests. The monsoon rains are heavy in the hills, and annual rainfall varies from 2,000 mm to 5,000 mm in the area. The hills are home to abundant flora and fauna. Some of the most famous reserves and sanctuaries in the hills are Eravikulam National Park, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Parambukulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Anamalai Tiger Reserve and the adjacent Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park. The Anamalai hills are particularly well known for elephants. The lower slopes of the hills have coffee and tea plantations and as well as teak forests of great economic value.

The hill range also contains an impressive cultural diversity including a number of tribal communities. Kadar, Muthuvar, and Malai Malasar communities live in settlements located adjacent to rainforests in the Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary. Livelihood activities range from natural resource gathering for income generation, cultivation of crops for subsistence and employment with the Forest department and at private plantations.

However, the tribes are slowly veering towards other employment opportunities given the restrictions in collecting forest produce. Some settlements have diversified through cash crop cultivation, especially cardamom; although benefits are marginal, given the cultivation practices, and fluctuating prices. The hills and its beauty and biodiversity attract a lot of tourists and gives income generation opportunities to local people.

Demographic changes include a 180% increase in population over three decades and increasing literacy and access to higher education with a literacy rate of 52% (females: 42%, males: 63%). There is considerable ground to cover in developing sustainable sources of income and livelihoods given these developments.

It is essential that inherent skills, though scarce, are used to derive alternative employment and manage income sources, given the twin needs of a growing population and conservation of the biologically diverse rainforest ecosystems they live amidst. ❖

Kattunaikans

Tribes with pre-agricultural stage of development and with very low literacy rates are defined as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTG). The Kattunaikans are one among the five PTGs of Kerala.



They are mainly found in the Wayanad district; however, the tribe also inhabits Malappuram and Kozhikode districts. The Kattunaikan tribe is one of the true inhabitants of the forest. The "kaatu" in Kattunaikan means forest and "naikan" means king. As the tribe's name suggests, it was once considered as the king of the jungle, it held and continues to hold a very symbiotic relationship with forests.

According to the Socio-Economic Survey of 1996-97, their population was 11,871 with 5991 males and 5880 females. Their settlements are called as "kudi". Their population in the three districts of Wayanad, Malappuram and Kozhikode is distributed in the proportion of 91:8:1.

The people mostly depend on the forest and its products, such as honey, roots and barks of plants and hunt small game with bows and arrows. Apart from depending on forest produce, the Kattunaikans are also into cultivation; their main crops include plantain, ginger, tapioca, coconut, coffee, pepper, paddy and any other in their small land holdings. However, the agricultural activity is only a subsidiary activity for them, as they depend predominantly on the forests for their subsistence.

Literacy rate is relatively low and poor in the districts that they inhabit. Due to reduced access to forests and increased exploitation of forest resources by the non-tribals, the Kattunaikans have been forced to seek other livelihood options, and which have now become a major source of income for them. Their main livelihoods are casual wage labour in nearby villages and towns, and engaging in forest works undertaken by the forest department.

Kattunaikans are engaged in shifting cultivation, and as they are unaware about the new techniques and innovations in cultivation, their crop produce is very low and suffices them for domestic use only. On the education front, the medium of instruction is a serious problem, even though Kattunaikans have reasonably good infrastructure facilities, but the tribe does not have any script of their own.

The Kattunaikans are trying to cope up with all the changes, but the non-tribals who are interfering in the economic and social matters of this tribe without understanding their sensibilities is a threat to their lifestyle. There is a need for the government to put up appropriate measures in place for safeguarding their culture, while also striving to bring in modernisation into their life for their benefit. ❖

Budget for Institutions Platforms of Poor?

Happy Ugaadi! Happy Baisakhi, New Year!

Happy Rama Navami! Johar to Dr BR Ambedkar!

National Panchayat Day!

We had Gram Uday se Bharat Uday Abhiyaan during 14-24 April 2016 – to remember Ambedkar; to reach out to farmers and other members; and to demonstrate accountability to Gram Sabha. Dr BR Ambedkar is remembered. PM visited Mhow, Baba Saheb's hometown. We celebrated National Panchayat Day.

While we have no doubt in our minds that poverty reduction is a reality (hope), soon enough and people can do this (faith), if only the poor are organized fully and quickly. Can we lend our hands to this? Adequately? People's Organizations across the country have to join Janaandolan. SHG Movement has to become a national movement quickly. It has to get the imagination of the country double quick.

In essence this means poor help themselves, by organizing themselves, by having cadres that service them, by having their capacities built, by taking other stakeholders on board through a sensitization, by working closely with PRIs and other stakeholders to access their rights, entitlements and schemes, by collectivizing, by improving the livelihoods and lives, by increasing options and choices towards freedom, and by visioning, planning and progressing forward on them. This means institutions with animators and facilitators pushing forward.

This requires Swayam Sahaayata Janaandolan becoming Kshamata Janaandolan. Apart from SHG Bookkeepers, we need to have one animator from within becoming part of this Aandolan as Active Women, Village level and Cluster level Activists, Community Trainers, Community Paraprofessionals, Community Service Providers, Community Resource Persons, Community Process Facilitators etc. They in turn need Trainers/ Learning Facilitators at Cluster/Block level. These learning facilitators may facilitate learning to members, leaders, committee members, office-bearers, PRI leaders, village level government servants/workers, bankers and other stakeholders.

These learning facilitators, we may need one per village on an average but work for the block/cluster. They need to be in various areas of learning –

- ◆ social mobilization, inclusion, institutions (SHGs) and organization at village level;
- ◆ funds, books, financial inclusion and financial management;
- ◆ cluster federations and their visioning, planning and management;
- ◆ gender, FNHW (food, nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene), other social development, plans for vulnerable and vulnerabilities, sensitization, action and leveraging;
- ◆ farm (agriculture, horticulture, dairy, livestock, fisheries, non-timber forest produce), non-farm livelihoods - individual and collective planning and action;
- ◆ participation and planning – poverty assessment and tracking, microplanning, participatory assessment of entitlements, vulnerability reduction planning, convergence planning and dovetailing with GP Development Plans, MGNREGS works and other schemes;
- ◆ cadre and training/learning management, identifying, training, nurturing and deploying cadres and trainers;
- ◆ poverty-vulnerability-gender-livelihoods analysis, visioning, management and leadership

Perspectives
G Muralidhar

These learning facilitators need learning support from district/state resource persons/trainers, who in turn require learning support from national resource group. To fast track the janaandolan, we need them available in advance. For 34 states/ union territories, 640 districts, 6600 blocks, 2.5 lakh GPs, 6.5 lakh villages, and 10 Crore rural households, we are talking about 2.5 lakh Block learning facilitators, 15000 District learning facilitators, 1000 state learning facilitators/ resource persons and a pool of 100+ national resource persons.

They need to identified, trained and nurtured as soon as possible. Can we do it in a year? They in turn may catalyze the swayam sahaayata kshamata janaandolan by rolling-out training/learning in the block. ❖



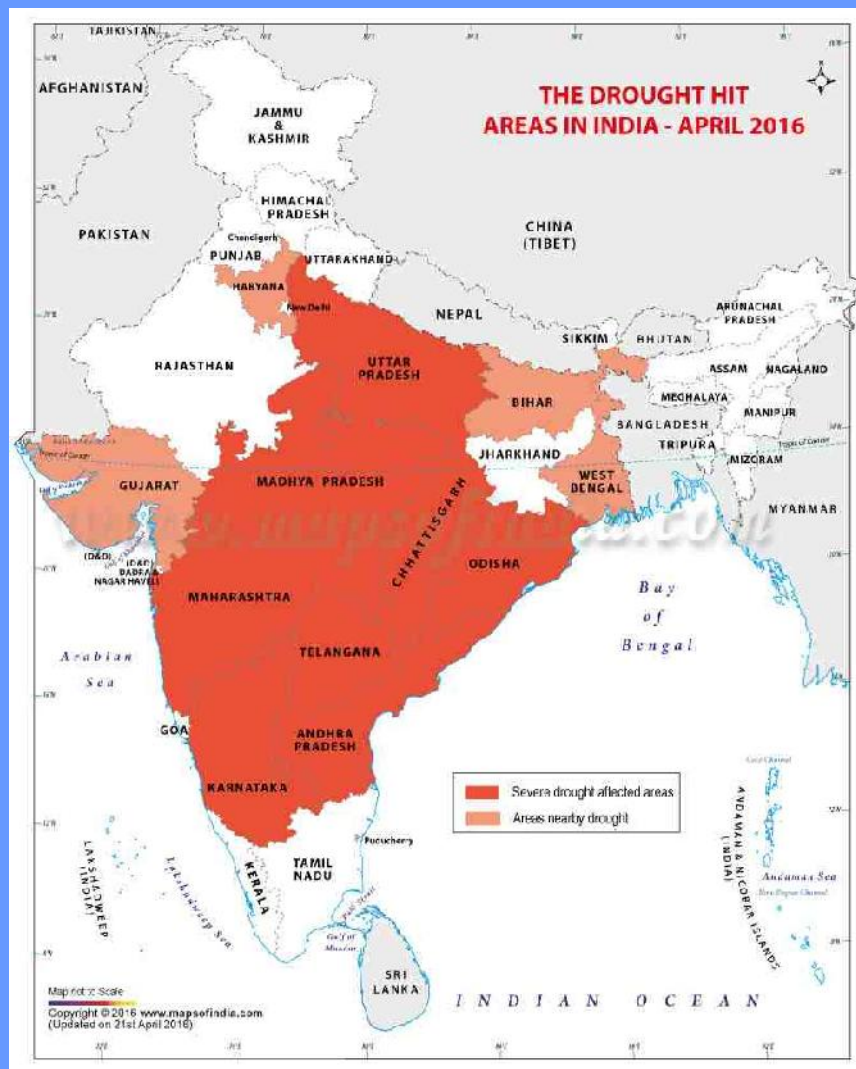
**7 April,
World Health Day**



**21 April,
World Creativity And Innovation Day**

Drought

Drought affects our lives in many different ways as water is an essential part of our day to day activities. We, along with animals and plants, need water to survive; we need water to grow food, to drink, to wash and to do all human chores. When there is not enough water for the daily activities because of a drought, people across the regions go through tough times, and various human activities get affected in many different ways. In this context 'livelihoods' tries to understand drought in the country.





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History clearly shows that prolonged droughts have always caused mass migrations, humanitarian crises as most of the arid ecosystems have inherently low productivity. Interestingly, the most prolonged drought in the world recorded in history occurred in Atacama Desert in Chile, around 400 years ago.

Drought, very commonly known as a “creeping phenomenon”, is an insidious hazard of nature impacting the world in various ways. It is a period of

below-average precipitation in any given region, resulting in prolonged shortages of water supply. A drought can last for months, years, or can be declared after as few as 15 days.

Drought always has a substantial impact on the ecosystem and agriculture of the region, and harms the local economy. In tropics, the annual dry seasons can significantly increase the chances of a drought developing and subsequent bush fires. The periods





of heat can significantly worsen drought conditions by hastening the evaporation of water. The impact of drought conditions varies from region to region; therefore, it becomes critical for people to understand its implications.

As the drought originates from a deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time; thus, it

is all the more difficult to define a drought because what may be considered as a drought in certain areas, may not be a drought in other areas,

Genesis of Drought In India:

In India, droughts have been officially recorded since the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and have caused tens of millions of deaths over the course of time.

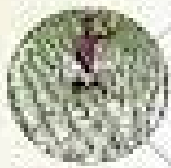
India is a predominantly agrarian economy, with the agriculture being heavily dependent on the climatic conditions. However, it has been experiencing increasingly frequent drought phenomena.

Droughts in the past have periodically led to major Indian famines, including the Bengal famine of 1770, in which up to one-third of the population in affected areas died; the 1876-1877 famine, in which over five million



TYPES OF DROUGHT

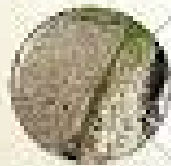
There are 3 types of drought. They are as follows:



Meteorological
Drought



Hydrological
Drought



Agricultural
Drought

PARCHED LAND

EXTENT OF DROUGHT:

- 302 out of 676 districts in the country are in the grip of drought
- Deficit rainfall put as many as 18 states under drought situation
- Only 6 out of these 18 states have so far approached the Centre for relief

STATE DECLARATION

Karnataka | 27 of 30 districts
Andhra Pradesh | 7 of 13 districts drought-affected
Madhya Pradesh | 41 of 51



drought-affected districts
Maharashtra | 20 out of 36 districts drought-affected
Odisha and Chhattisgarh too informed the Centre about drought situation in the states

ANOTHER DROUGHT YEAR

Rainfall below 90% of the Long Period Average is considered as drought

- Long Period Average (LPA) of the seasonal rainfall over the country as a whole for the period 1951-2000 is 89 cm which is taken as standard base to categorize the monsoon
- India faces back-to-back drought in 2014 and 2015 (rainfall recorded below 90% of the LPA in both the years)

RAINFALL DEFICIT THIS YEAR IS HIGHER AS COMPARED TO 2014

people died; and the 1899 famine, in which over 4.5 million died.

Recurrence and Extent of Drought:

Out of the total geographical area of India, almost one-sixth of the area which is home to 12% of the population, is drought-prone. The areas that receive an annual rainfall of up to 60 cm are the most prone areas. In 1972, the Irrigation Commission had for the first time identified 67 districts as drought-prone areas, which comprised of 326 taluks, located in 8 states, covering an area of 49.73 m. ha. Later in 1976, The National Commission on Agriculture (MoA) had identified a few more drought-prone areas, with slightly different criteria. Later on, based on detailed studies, 74 districts of the country have been identified as drought-prone.

Most of the drought-prone areas are found in arid, semi-arid, and

sub-humid regions of the country which experience less than the average annual rainfall. In our country, the drought-affected areas can be divided into two tracts- The first tract, comprising of desert and the semi-arid regions covering an area of 0.6 million sq.km, is a rectangle shaped area, whose one side extends from Ahmedabad to Kanpur and the other from Kanpur to Jullundur. The rainfall here is less than 750 mm and at some places, it is even less than 400 mm.

The second tract comprises of regions east of the Western Ghats up to a distance of about 300 km from coast. As it is in the rain shadow area of the Western Ghats, the rainfall here is less than 750 mm and is highly erratic; moreover, this region is thickly populated, and periodic droughts have been known to cause considerable suffering and distress.

Drought Expansion; Climate change, Monsoon, Rainfall:

Around 50 million people are affected annually by drought in India. Of the 90 million hectares of rain-fed areas, about 40 million hectares are prone to scanty or no rain, and rainfall is poor in 9 meteorological subdivisions out of 36 subdivisions (each meteorological subdivision covers a geographic area of more than ten revenue districts in India). In recent decades, drought has become a recurrent phenomenon, resulting in widespread adverse impacts on vulnerable people's livelihoods and young children's nutrition status. Over the years, droughts have caused and continue to cause severe suffering in the affected areas, including effects on poverty, hunger and unemployment.

The monsoon provides 80 percent of the total rainfall in the subcontinent, and our country is completely dependent on it for its agriculture. These days droughts are increasingly becoming recurrent due to failure of monsoon in India. The monsoon has been lately showing some disturbing changes. There has

DRIEST OUTLOOK FOR NORTH

➤ Monsoon predicted to be **88% of average**, 2 percentage points below drought level

➤ Northwest India may get **just 85% rains**

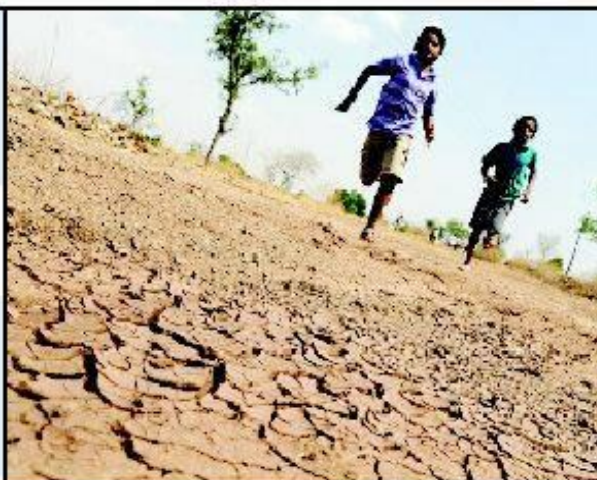
➤ **90% rains** in central India and northeast. South likely could end up with 92%

➤ July may get 92% rains, **August 90%**

A DIRE FIRST

➤ This is IMD's first ever prediction of a **drought year**

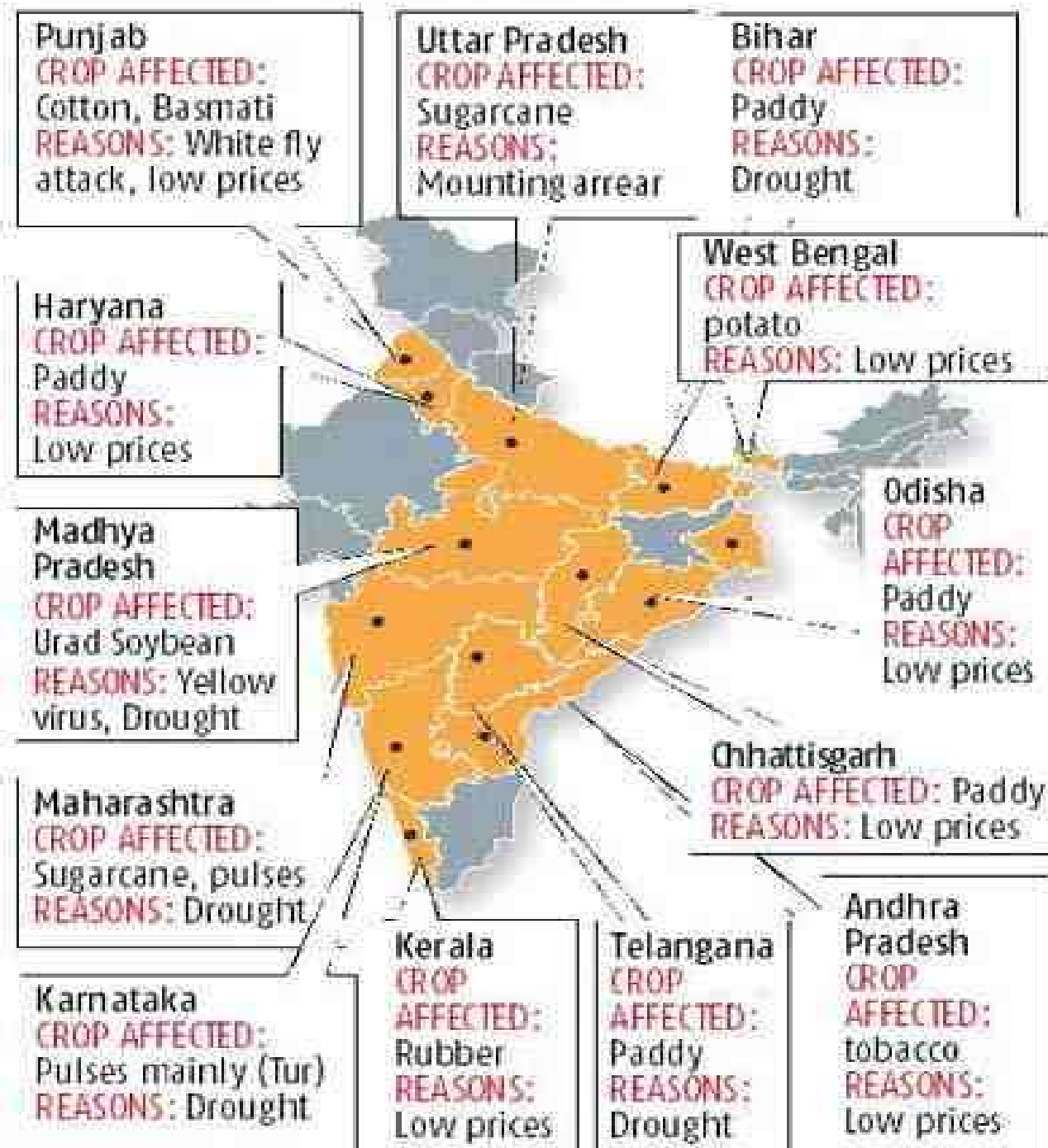
➤ Last back-to-back drought



in India took place **28 years ago**, in 1986-87

➤ Major factors working against monsoon: strengthening **El Nino**, **warm Indian Ocean**

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



been a decline in the average total seasonal rain during the period from 1980-2011, and changes have also been observed in atmosphere, wind and moisture. These are likely to be responsible for the changes in wet and dry spells and the trends of monsoon rains over the last 60 years.

The warnings of extreme weather conditions which were being given by experts, are close to becoming a reality now and would affect the future too. There has been a decreasing trend over the monsoon “core” since 1951, as the mean rainfall during July-August showed a significant (10 percent significant level)

RESERVOIR LAGS

Current storage (in BCM)

35.8

Last year storage

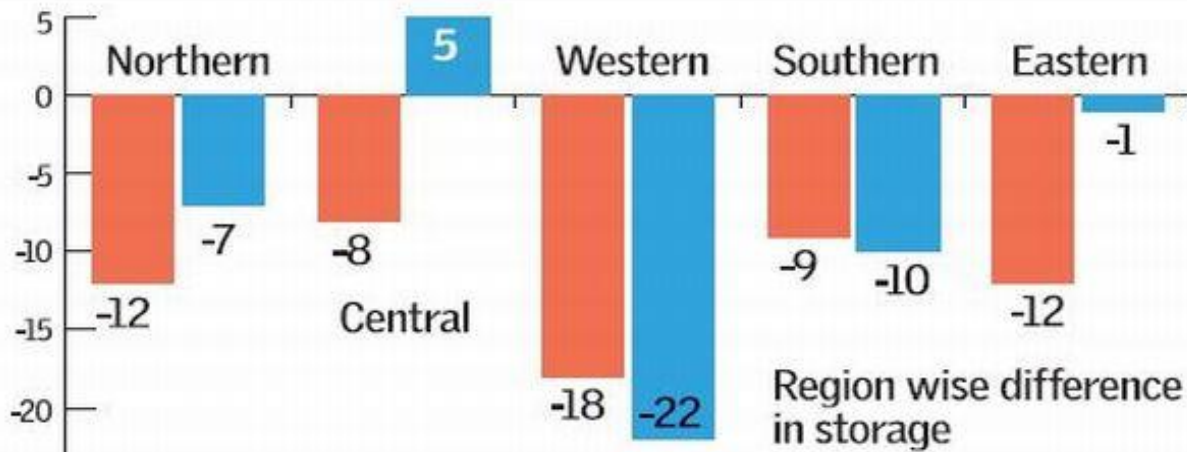
53.5

Average of last 10 years

46.5

Live storage capacity of 91 major reservoirs
157.799

- Difference from last year (%)
- Difference from average of last 10 years (%)



decrease in the data set of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), which has been consistent with reported decrease in all-India rainfall. The variation, though relatively small, has a strong influence on agricultural production, stocks and commodities markets.

There are also long-term studies of rainfall and temperature changes, that are being conducted using historical data: For instance, in Kerala, the state which the Indian monsoon first hits, between the year 1999 and 2005, there has been close to 10 percent less annual rainfall. The rainfall pattern is definitely changing, as the southwest monsoon from June to July has been found to be decreasing, while the post-monsoon rains of October and November have been increasing. The local climatic changes are also dependent on the type of vegetation in the region, as can be seen in the state of Goa, where due to

extensive mining there has been a harsh impact on the climate.

The changes in vegetation of a region can pave the way for invasive species to dominate a landscape and drought phenomena can make the area dry and fire-prone. Thus, the natural vegetation is badly hit and invasive species are not palatable to the animals. The changing trends in monsoons have had and continue to have ripple effects, especially increasing the conflict between humans and animals. As climate variability increases, these kinds of effects are going to increase.

In the more recent past, El Nino has been in news for poor monsoon across the country. Understanding El Nino and how it affects monsoon in India and its GDP is crucial. Pacific Ocean is huge and occupies almost a whole hemisphere and receives more sunlight than any other region. The ocean stores this sunlight in the

form of heat and El Nino – Southern Oscillation (ENSO), a temperature anomaly, where there are fluctuations in temperature between the ocean and the atmosphere in the east-central equatorial pacific.

When the temperatures in the above mentioned region of the pacific is near average or normal it is known as ENSO neutral; La Nina. These two phases typically last nine to 12 months, but some prolonged events may last for a year or so, they often begin to form between June and August and reach peak strength between December and April and then decay between May and July of the following year. The periodicity is highly irregular and occurs every three to five years.

Thus, Indian monsoon has El Nine conditions

persisting through the summer and impacts on normal monsoon. It not only affects India, but also other regions of south and southeast Asia and Australia. It is the most monetarily important in our country because of its serious influence on economy of the nation. The drought conditions across the regions in the country are directly linked to the ENSO, as the summer temperatures over much of India rises to as high as 45 degrees Celsius.

The Indian monsoon coincides with El Nino with

DROUGHT ALERT IN SIX STATES

- After two-thirds of sowing period, 22% monsoon deficiency
- Area under kharif crops fall by 14% over last year
- Thanks to irrigation, sowing comfortable in Punjab, Haryana



deficient monsoon rains. Asia “breathes-in” and “breathes-out” and the inhalation is the summer monsoon or the southwest monsoon and the exhalation is the northwest monsoon for us. It is not only El-Nino, but growing concern has also been laid on climate change.

The rise in temperatures is having drastic effects on human population, food security and so on. India is already experiencing a warm climate and due to this,

MARATHWADA, VIDARBHA WORST HIT

Total farmers in state



1.37 crore

Affected farmers

89.7 lakh | **65%**

Kharif crop area

144.3
lakh hectares

Affected area

98.6 lakh
hectares (68%)

Total villages

39,453

Declared drought-hit

23,811

> **60%** villages report
half the standard crop yield



Crops affected
include cotton,
soyabean, paddy



It is a very difficult situation.
Farmers in the state are
facing severe agrarian distress

K H Govinda Raj | STATE RELIEF AND
REHABILITATION SECRETARY

> State has released
relief worth ₹ 2,000 crore
> Aid worth ₹ 4,800
crore sought from
Centre yet to come



many regions are experiencing unusual and unprecedented spells of hot weather. As the new high-temperature climatic regimes are going to increase, it will have significant impacts on agriculture. Due to climate change, there would be changing rainfall patterns, as a decline in monsoon rainfall, since the 1950 has already been observed and also the frequency of heavy rainfall events has also increased over the years. It is estimated that a 2 C rise in world's average temperature will make India's summer monsoon highly unpredictable.

An abrupt change in the monsoon could precipitate a

major crisis, triggering more frequent droughts as well as greater flooding in large parts of India, and India's northwest coast to the south eastern coastal region could see higher than average rainfall; furthermore, dry years are expected to be drier and wet years wetter. The impacts of climate change will be severe, in terms of drought, as evidence indicates that parts of South Asia have become drier since the 1970s with an increase in number of droughts.

The droughts have had and will have major consequences, as can be seen in 1987 and in 2002-2003; droughts affected more than half of India's crop

area and led to a huge fall in crop production. Droughts are expected to be more frequent in some areas, especially in north-western India; and also in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh, the crop yields are expected to fall significantly because of extreme heat by the 2040s. Because of the climate changes, groundwater scenario would be worse in coming years as more than 60% of India's agriculture is rain-fed, making the country highly dependent on groundwater.

As on today even without climate change, 15% of India's groundwater resources are overexploited. The glaciers are melting fast and temperatures are rising by 2.5 C, the Himalayas are expected to lose much of their snow cover, threatening the stability and reliability of Northern India's primarily glacier-fed rivers, especially the Indus and Brahmaputra, and would eventually result in sea level rise.

The sub-continent would see much of higher rises in sea levels than higher latitudes due to it being closer to the equator. The storms resulting out of high sea-level would lead to salt water intrusion in the coastal areas, impacting agriculture, degrading groundwater quality, contaminating drinking water, and possibly causing a rise in diarrhoea and other epidemics. Climate change will have its impact on agriculture, food security, energy security, water security, health, nutrition, migration and conflict.

In the coming years, seasonal water scarcity, rising temperatures and intrusion of sea water would threaten crop yields, jeopardizing country's food security, reductions in both rice and wheat production. On the energy security front, hydropower plants will have to face challenge and decrease in the availability of water and increase in temperature will pose major risk factors to thermal power generation.

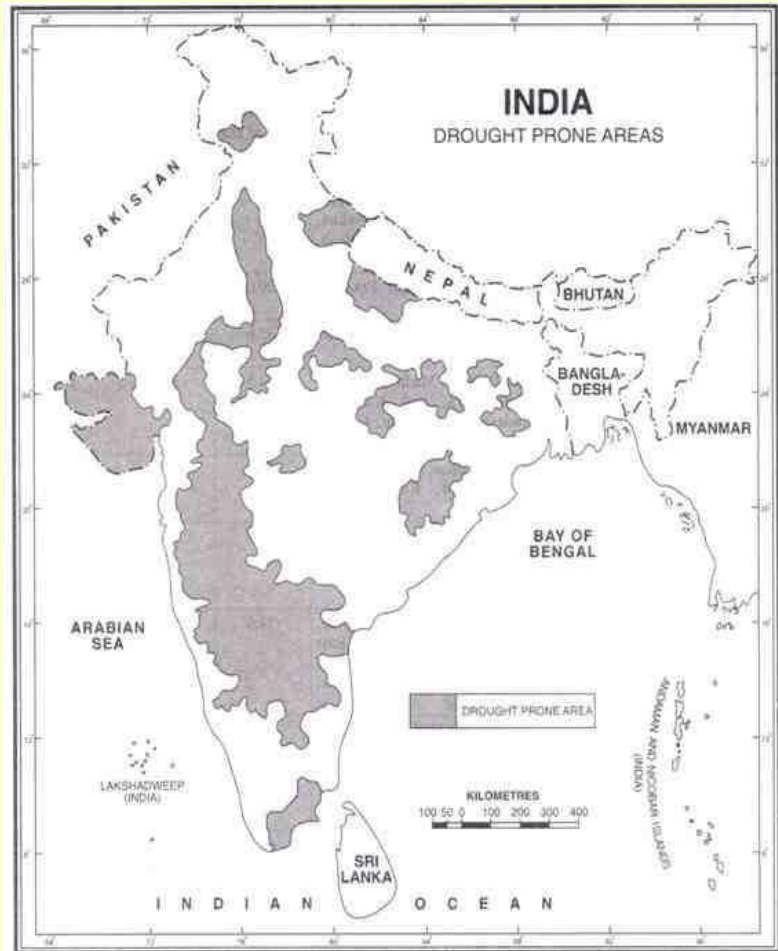


FIG. 8.12. India : Drought Prone Areas

On the water security front, there would be shortages of water in some regions and surplus in other areas due to erratic rainfall and climate change. According to some studies, water security is very high over central India and in some north-eastern states. Climate change is already increasing climate refugees, as it is impacting their livelihoods across various regions in the country. The impacts because of droughts are already being felt and it is extreme across human populations.

Impact of drought on poor:

Drought produces a complex web of impacts, both direct and indirect on the poor people. The direct impacts are reduced crop, rangeland, and forest productivity, increased fire hazard, reduced water levels, increased livestock and wildlife mortality rates and damage to wildlife and fish habitat.

As a result of these direct impacts, it exacerbates on



The above factor leads to unemployment, increases credit risk for financial institutions, capital shortfalls, and eventual loss of tax revenue for local, state and federal governments. In some cases, local shortages of certain goods results in importing these goods from outside the drought-stricken region.

Reduced water supply impairs the navigability of rivers and results in increased transportation costs because products must be

transported by alternative means. On the environmental front, drought damages to plant and animal species, wildlife habitat, and air and water quality, forest and range fires, degradation of landscape quality, loss of biodiversity, and soil erosion.

the poor, as a reduction in crop rangeland will result in reduced income for farmers and agribusiness, increased prices for food and timber, unemployment, reduced tax revenues because of reduced expenditures, foreclosures on bank loans to farmers and businesses, migration and disaster relief programs. The various types of drought impacts can be categorized as

- a) Economic impacts.
- b) Environmental impacts; and
- c) Social impacts.

At times, these effects are short-term, conditions returning to normal following the end of the drought.

In case of harsh environment, the environmental effects last for some time and may even become permanent. The degradation of landscape quality, including increased soil erosion, may lead to a more permanent loss of biological productivity.

The economic impacts are harsher, as they occur in agriculture, as this sector is dependent on surface and groundwater supplies. In addition to losses in yields and in crops and livestock production, drought is associated with insect infestations, plant diseases and wind erosion. On the poor, income loss is an important indicator, as it is an impact of drought. The reduced income for farmers produces a ripple effect and people who provide goods and services to farmers can face reduced business.



Droughts are Reality!

From early 2000 onwards, severe droughts affected vast areas of South Asia, including Western India, Southern and Central Pakistan.



Social impacts involve public safety, health, conflicts between water users, reduced quality of life and inequities in the distribution of impacts and disaster relief. Many of the impacts identified as economic and environmental have social components as well. Migration is usually to urban areas within the stressed area, or to regions outside the drought area.

Migration may even be to adjacent countries. When the drought is abated, the migrants seldom return home, depriving rural areas of valuable human resources. The drought migrants place increasing

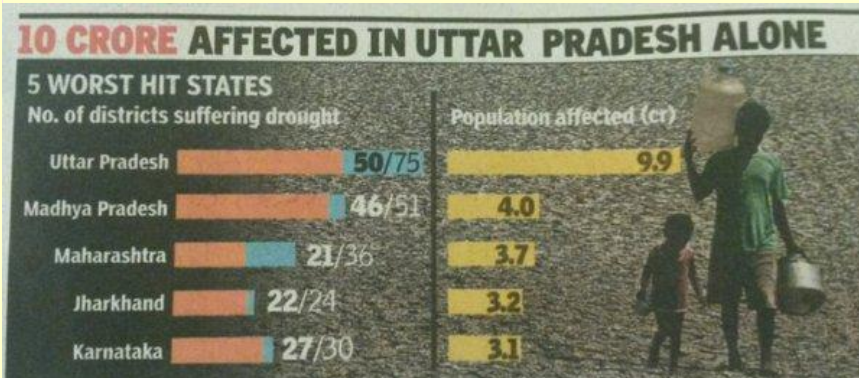
pressure on the social infrastructure of the urban areas, leading to increased poverty and social unrest.

As drought represents a major constraint on food production and about 23 million hectares are drought-prone, representing a fifth of the total rice area of the region. Drought is showing its impacts on farmers' livelihoods in these areas and the economic costs of drought are and can be enormous.

With continuous drought situation across the country, its effect on human societies has now become multidimensional. Drought has now become

a recurring climatic event and a global phenomenon, having varied features differing from region to region. It can be addressed provided we individuals come together to mitigate drought and raise our sensitivities towards the less-privileged.

How to arrest drought:

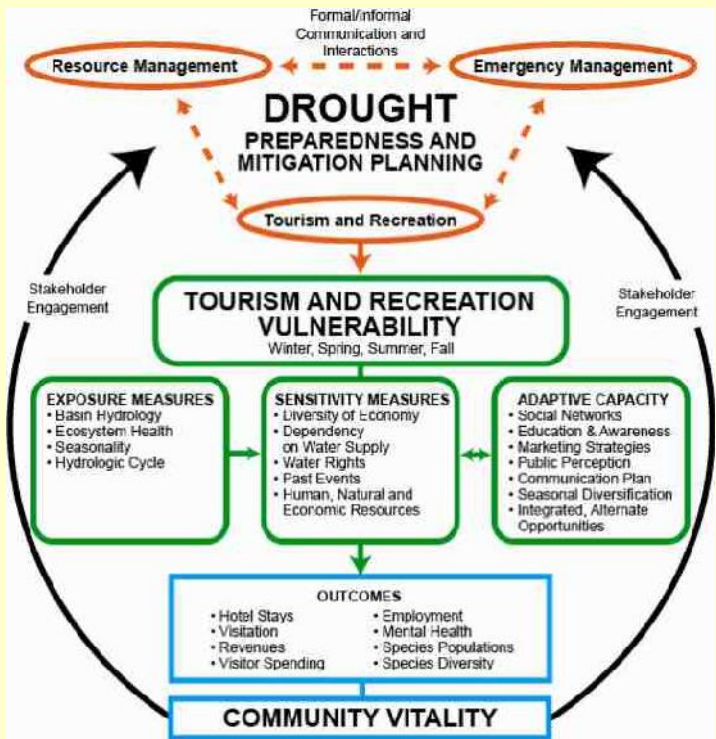


Drought to some extent can be mitigated as investments can be flowed into water storage capacity to benefit from increased river flowing during spring and later compensate for lower flows. Crop diversification should be promoted, through government schemes and increase more efficient water use, improve soil management practices together with the development of drought-resistant crops, which could help in reduction of some of the negative impacts. To arrest climate refugees, migration and conflict, government should promote and boost local livelihoods. Improvements in irrigation systems should be enhanced, water harvesting techniques and more-efficient agricultural water management systems should be aggressively promoted, followed by regional cooperation on water issues.

Drought is different from other natural disasters, so it is difficult to determine its effects as it accumulates slowly over a considerable period of time and may linger for years after the event is terminated. Thus, this being so complex an issue, with high adverse impacts on many sectors of the economy and reach far beyond the geographical boundaries; we need a comprehensive drought mitigation plan and regional co-ordination to arrest drought.

Conclusion:

Drought, over the years, has become a recurring phenomena affecting agriculture and livelihoods of



millions of farmers and agriculture labourers and many others. The socio-economic impact of drought is now enormous. The growing increase on wage income, asset depletion and public relief are the major mechanisms being used to meet the shortfall in income, and the significance of the above strategies is attaining its importance in India. But sadly, these coping mechanisms are inadequate in preventing reduction in income, especially of poor and vulnerable groups. ❖

Individual Enterprise



Coconut Selling

Collective Enterprise



Paper Products Making by Amrutha Sree SHG

The Lazy Farmer

The rain gods had been smiling the whole night. The roads were muddy and the potholes were filled to the brim. It was the day for the market and Raju the farmer was riding his cart along the country road. He had to reach the market early so that he can sell his hay. It was very difficult for the horses to drag the load through the deep mud. On his journey suddenly the wheels of the horse cart sank into the mire.



The more the horses pulled, the deeper the wheel sank. Raju climbed down from his seat and stood beside his cart. He searched all around but could not find anyone around to help him. Cursing his bad luck, he looked dejected and defeated. He didn't make the slightest effort to get down on the wheel and lift it up by himself. Instead he started cursing his luck for what happened. Looking up at the sky, he started shouting at God, "I am so unlucky! Why has this happened to me? Oh God, come down to help me."

He asked Raju, "Do you think you can move the chariot by simply looking at it and whining about it? Nobody will help you unless you make some effort to help yourself. Did you try to get the wheel out of the pothole by yourself? Get up and put your shoulder to wheel and you will soon find the way out."

Raju was ashamed of himself. He bent down and put his shoulder to the wheel and urged on the horses. In no time the wheel was out of the mire. Raju learnt his lesson. He thanked God and carried on his journey happily.

Moral: God helps those who help themselves. ❖

After a long wait, God finally appeared before Raju.

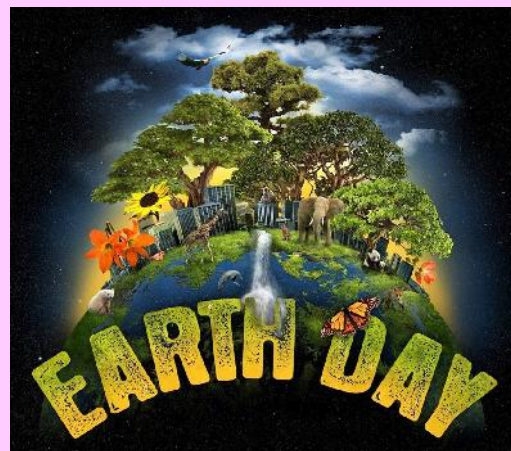
Source: <http://www.moralstories.org/>

Social Enterprise



School for Special Children by Sweekaar

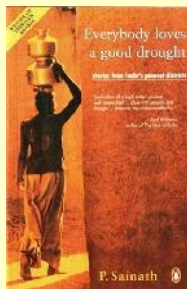
Important Day



22 April Earth Day

Everybody Loves a Good Drought

The book **'Everybody loves a good drought: Stories from India's Poorest Districts—** was written by Palagumi Sainath, a great scholar and journalist. This book describes the situation of poor people and their poverty. Of the 312 million people below the poverty line in India, the majority of poor people do not have proper facilities; 26 million of people are displaced by different development projects; and 13 million suffer from TB. The book reflects upon the study of the poorest of the poor, how poor manage their life, how they are sustaining their life and what efforts they have been applying to overcome their problems. The individuals who figure in this book typify the lives and aspirations of a large section of Indian society and their stories present us with the true face of development. It provides us with the insights on socio-political conditions from the grassroots perspectives.



The featured incidents in the book fall under the categories of reasonless development project schemes, Health & Education, money matters, crimes committed against the people, Water problems etc. with statistical data of the development activities. Though the places featured were kind of expected, the extent of the situation was truly an eye-opener.

The stories, on one hand, reflect the desolate picture of the bureaucracy, corruption, exploitation and extremely unjust behavior of the state. On the other hand, the book reflects the resistance and pride of the people.

The book awakens you to exploitative networks, and to the denial of basic resources to the poor, the incredible level of land grab and even more incredible level of displacement of human beings. This book is very useful to students, scholars, researches, and citizens of India who want to understand the country's problems. ❖

Globalization and the Middle Classes in India

Globalisation and the Middle Classes in India: The Social and Cultural Impact of Neoliberal Reforms (Routledge Contemporary South Asia):



This book covers the important gaps of existing economic liberalization and globalization of India. It provides the ethnographic data which is affected by neoliberal globalization. It describes the ethnographic field work and interviews, and reveals how the globalization affects the middle class.

The book analyses the economic and cultural dimensions of the globalization in India. It examines how the globalization impacts the middle class at the level of household expenditure, debt, employment, gender relations etc. It is very useful to scholars, students of sociology and social anthropology, and development workers. ❖

State of India's Livelihoods Report 2015

'State of India's Livelihoods Report 2015:'
Authors: Girija Srinivasan, Narasimhan Srinivasan



The book discusses the contemporary issues of livelihoods. It analyses case studies, and inspects the performance of private and Government programmes.

The SOIL report describes the effects of legislations on livelihoods. It also examines the policies and funding frameworks through the budget allocations and designs new policies.

It gives an assessment of flagship programmes, and an in-depth study of various livelihoods such as farming and non-farming sectors. It also covers the skill development activities in the country, such as handloom, handicrafts etc. This report addresses the emerging policies by the Government. ❖

e-links

VCA : http://sfacindia.com/PDFs/SFAC_Value-Chain-Analysis.pdf

Sub-sector : <http://www.nsdindia.org/sites/default/files/files/Textile-and-Clothing.pdf>

e-book : <https://idl-bnc.idrc.ca/dspace/bitstream/10625/45947/1/IDL-45947.pdf>

v-book : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2AfG-KjEIs>

Supplements

Legendary Effort : http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/529-supple-legendary-effort-rti-

Kshetram : http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/531-supple-kshetram--thar-desert-april-16

Livelihoods Management Notes: http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/532-supple-livelihoods-management-notes-interventions-april-16

e-course; e-livelihoods learning course : Capsule No: 258—277

e-course

http://aksharakriti.org/magazines/doc_download/530-e-courseapril-16-capsule-no-258-to-277

'Yoga'kshemam

Happy Ugaadi!

Happy New Year!

Happy Rama Navami!

Remembered the Founder Architect of Modern India, Dr BR Ambedkar.

Be in the Moment!

Be with Krsna!

Gina Lake's "Loving in the Moment" suggests –

- ♦ We can see the divine in each other and one another.
- ♦ Our conscious and unconscious ideas interfere and come in the way.
- ♦ We often see the other not as s/he actually is, but as we suppose s/he is.
- ♦ If we drop into the core of our Being, we find co-existence of oneness and love; and we can build from there.
- ♦ We need to live from a deeper place, the Essence. Essence has 'intentions' for us in this lifetime and they involve relationships with others. We need to catch up with them.
- ♦ Essence knows how to live with love and grace.
- ♦ We are one with everything that exists. Oneness is our nature and we need to discover it. It is possible through twoness. It is possible through experience of separation.
- ♦ True love bleeds through into this sense of separation and beckons us back to our natural state, with awareness and appreciation of our individuality and uniqueness.
- ♦ Love breaks the spell of the egoic state of consciousness and releases us from the pain of separation. It is the love from relationship that ultimately frees us.
- ♦ Despite the challenges the relationships pose, they are the arena in which love is developed.
- ♦ The ego cannot coexist with love. When we are expressing love, we are aligned with Essence.
- ♦ Essence has more opportunities to be experienced in relationship because the desire for relationship creates an openness to love. To return to Essence, we need to learn to love. We are programmed to return to Essence through love.
- ♦ We are here to experience differences and the resulting conflict because that's one way we learn to love. The pain of difficult relationships motivates us to

overcome our barriers to loving. We learn to see what is lovable in. We fall in love with their Essence and learn to overlook their imperfections and ego.

- ♦ Some people have a more refined ego and personality. They have learned to be kind, polite, and considerate. When people behave kindly and lovingly, Essence is expressing itself through them, and they are easy to love as a result.
- ♦ If you behave lovingly, others respond lovingly, regardless of whether or not you actually feel loving. This is like practicing good behavior. Whether good behavior comes from actual goodness or not is not as important as the behavior itself.
- ♦ It is better if the behavior flows from love and goodwill. But if it doesn't, it's still fine.
- ♦ We learn to love by being loved. We open up as the ego is disarmed. It breaks through the egoic state of consciousness and evokes love in us, which brings us into alignment with Essence and with the other qualities of Essence: peace, joy, serenity, happiness, kindness, compassion, patience, and fortitude etc.
- ♦ Therefore, love is the greatest gift we can give another. Love is the gift that allows others to relax and return to Essence and the true happiness and peace that are rightfully ours. Even loving acts and words are so powerful to change our consciousness and the consciousness of others.

G Muralidhar

We seek return to our Essence. We seek this Love for us. We seek these loving thoughts, words and acts for us. We seek joy for us. Let us be together. Let us flow together. Let us do together. Let us celebrate together. Let us celebrate the spirit of life in us together. Let us live the spirit of life together.

Let us remember Nara and Naarayan; Krsna and Krsna; Radha and Krsna; Yashoda and Krsna; People and Krsna; Cows and Krsna; Gopikas and Krsna; Satya and Krsna; Rukmini and Krsna; Flute and Krsna.....

We rejoice and Universe rejoices in reciprocation.

This is the yogam.

Can we be there? **Yes, if we pursue Atma Yoga.** If we are loving! If we are acting love! If we are expressing love! If we are thinking, saying and showing love! If we are acknowledging and experiencing love! If we are willing! If we are with the nature in its various hues and forms! If we are in now and here! If we are practicing! Krsna confirms love is the surest way to oneness with the universe.

Join us in the world of yoga – for joyous opening up and living our Essence into the universe – towards nijayogasiddhi. You will not regret it. ❖



ALPL invites interns for six months in livelihoods and development sector. Interested candidates may please send your Curriculum Vitae to following e-mail id:
venkat.kolagari@gmail.com
aksharkriti@gmail.com



livelihoods

Building rural entrepreneurs