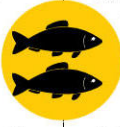


तापी के पानी में गंदगी से ऑक्सीजन ही नहीं बची ओएनजीसी से काँजवे तक खत्म हो गई मछलियां

जलीय प्राणियों के लिए कम से कम 4 मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर होनी चाहिए ऑक्सीजन, यहां 3 पहुंचा लेवल

कारण: केमिकल-जलकुंभी तापी की रोशनी रोक लेते हैं

नदी में बढ़ते प्रदूषण का प्रमुख कारण केमिकल है। इससे शहर के नजदीक तापी का पानी काला हो गया है। विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि पिछले 7 वर्षों में नदी में प्रदूषण की मात्रा तेजी से बढ़ी है। पानी की ऊपरी सतह पर एल्गी, जलकुंभी और अन्य वनस्पतियों के कारण पानी के भीतर तक न हवा जा पाती है, न रोशनी। ये वनस्पतियां पानी का ऑक्सीजन भी सोख लेती हैं। इससे सबसे ज्यादा परेशानी मछलियों को होती है।



जरूरत: ऑक्सीजन पांच मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर हो

एक्सपर्ट्स का कहना है कि तापी के पानी में ऑक्सीजन की कमी और गंदगी से मछलियों की मौत हो रही है। नदी में डाला जाने वाला कचरा ऊपरी हिस्से पर जम जाता है, जबकि निचले तल पर तरह-तरह की धातुओं का जमावड़ा हो जाता है। इससे पानी में ऑक्सीजन धीरे-धीरे कम होने लगती है। पानी में ऑक्सीजन कम से कम 5 मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर होनी चाहिए। मनपा ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में डिजॉल्व ऑक्सीजन लेवल 3 मिलीग्राम प्रति लीटर बताया है।



तापी में एल्गी की वजह से कम होता जा रहा है ऑक्सीजन लेवल

तापी नदी के पानी में एल्गी और फ्लाइंगो प्लेटेंट की मात्रा बढ़ने से पानी में ऑक्सीजन कम हो रही है।

एक्सपर्ट ब्यू



डॉ. किंजल संगानी,
एकॉटिक विभाग, यूनिवर्सिटी

यह एल्गी पानी में मिश्रित फास्फोरस और नाइट्रोजन जैसे पदार्थों की वजह से बढ़ते हैं। जब एल्गी मरता है तो उसे सड़ने के लिए ज्यादा ऑक्सीजन लगती है। शहर से निकलने वाले गंदे पानी में ज्यादा मात्रा में फास्फोरस होता है। नदी के पास जहां खेती होती है, वहां भी फास्फोरस का ज्यादा इस्तेमाल होता है। यह पानी में मिलकर एल्गी को पनपाता है।

ओएनजीसी के तेल खनन क्षेत्र में आग



महेसाणा. जिले की कडी तहसील के जयदेवपुरा गांव में ओएनजीसी के तेल खनन क्षेत्र में एक कुएं में शनिवार दोपहर में अचानक आग लग गई। आग के कारण धुएं के गुबार एक किलोमीटर दूर तक दिखाई दिए। सूत्रों के अनुसार जयदेवपुरा गांव में

ओएनजीसी के तेल खनन क्षेत्र में एक कुएं में शनिवार दोपहर में अचानक आग लगने के कारण आस-पास के निवासियों में अफरा-तफरी मच गई। तेल के कुएं के समीप ही कच्चे तेल का खनन किया जाता है। स्थानीय नागरिकों ने आग पर काबू पाने

का प्रयास किया लेकिन आग बेकाबू बन गई। आग के कारण धुएं के गुबार एक किलोमीटर दूर तक दिखाई देने लगे। सूचना मिलने पर ओएनजीसी के दो फायर फाइटर के साथ टीम मौके पर पहुंची और कड़ी मशक्कत के बाद आग पर काबू पाया।

Oil bulls hold their ground ahead of make-or-break OPEC summit

JESSICA SUMMERS & BEN FOLDY

16 March

OPEC can make or break oil's bull run, and hedge funds are betting the cartel will keep fueling the rally.

Money managers increased wagers on rising West Texas Intermediate and Brent crude prices to the highest since October ahead of a key meeting of top exporters in Azerbaijan over the weekend.

"As long as we come out of the weekend with stasis, the hedge funds will consider that a positive sign and will continue to support the bull run," said Ashley Petersen, an oil analyst at Stratas Advisors in New York.

As the producer group prepares for the gathering with allies including Russia, OPEC

has signalled commitment to its deal to cut output. That's helped spur a rally of more than 30 percent for both benchmarks since late December. Plus, sanctions on Iran and Venezuela have helped to tighten global oil supply.

WTI ended the week more than 4 percent higher, at \$58.52 a barrel, just pennies below a four-month high. Brent had a weekly gain of 2 percent, to \$67.16.

The weekend's agenda in Baku, Azerbaijan's capital, includes a meeting of Russia's Energy Minister Alexander Novak with his Saudi Arabian counterpart, Khalid Al-Falih. Their two countries, which together produce more than a fifth of the world's crude, are

key to the accord's success.

Saudi Arabia is said to have pledged a bigger-than-required cut in crude shipments to its customers in April, and the kingdom is leaning toward extending the output curbs

OPEC has signalled commitment to its deal to cut output

agreement into the second half of this year. Russia, in turn, has said it will speed up its progressive reduction of production.

"The speculative community is starting to get bullish," said Bill O'Grady, chief market strategist at Confluence Investment Management in St. Louis, Missouri. "The Saudis appear pretty committed to trying to keep supplies constrained and generally, if the Saudis are willing to put that out there, the rest of the cartel

usually goes along."

Hedge funds' WTI net-long position — the difference between bets on higher prices and wagers on a drop — climbed 4 percent to 157,648 futures and options in the week ended March 12, according to the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Longs rose for a third straight week, while shorts dropped 7 per cent during the period.

At the beginning of the year, there were fears that US production growth "was going to explode, demand is going to crumble, and what are we going to do with an excess of oil?," Petersen said. "Now, we're actually getting data that shows the sky isn't falling and positions are reacting accordingly."

BLOOMBERG

ऑयल चोरी के सातों आरोपियों को भेजा जेल

भिवाड़ी। कूड ऑयल में मिलावट व चोरी के मामले में गिरफ्तार सात आरोपियों को पुलिस ने न्यायालय में पेश किया, जहां से उन्हें जेल भेज दिया गया है। थाना प्रभारी बालाराम ने बताया कि गुरुवार को तेल में मिलावट व चोरी के मामले में नई दिल्ली निवासी संचालक रवि सहित उसके सहयोगी सुशील तथा टैंकर चालक अमरजीत निवासी गोरखपुर, परिचालक ज्ञान सिंह निवासी बास गांव गोरखपुर, कर्मचारी कुमार आनंद निवासी सिर सिया यूपी, दीपक निवासी भवुआ बिहार व राजकिशोर निवासी हरदेई यूपी को गिरफ्तार किया गया था।

US says door open for India to bring serious trade proposal to table

LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON, MARCH 16

OBSERVING THAT trade has been an area of frustration in bilateral ties, the US has said that the door is open if India is prepared to bring a serious proposal to the table to address the issues related to trade and market access.

The US in November last year revoked duty-free concessions on import of at least 50 Indian products, mostly from handloom and agriculture sectors, reflecting the Trump administration's tough stand on trade-related issues with New Delhi. A senior State Department official said Friday that the US is proud to be India's largest export market and most important economic partner.

"But we have struggled with regulatory issues that get in the way of the ease of doing business and market access for American companies and products," said the official. "Trade has frankly been an area of frustration in the relation-

ship, but the door is open if India is prepared to bring a serious proposal to the table," he said. Despite intensive engagement with the Government of India for nearly a year, India did not assure the US that it would provide equitable and reasonable access to its market, which led to its termination from the Generalised System of Preferences programme, the official said.

"While we were pleased that the growing US exports to India, largely crude oil and LNG, led to a 7.1 per cent reduction in our bilateral goods trade deficit last year, many structural challenges in our trade relationship have yet to be resolved," said the senior State Department official.

During the just concluded visit of the Foreign Secretary, while the focus was on strategic, defence and regional issues, in particular Pakistan and Afghanistan, but the visiting diplomat is believed to have been conveyed that the ball is in India's court on resolving the trade related issues. **PTI**

Bus owners seek subsidy for CNG shift, e-buses

Centre's green mobility scheme covers only State buses

JOHN L. PAUL
KOCHI

Private bus operators in Ernakulam district have sought government subsidy to shift to CNG as fuel and to purchase electric buses.

The demand comes in the wake of the fall in number of private buses in the State from 35,000 to 12,000 in a decade due to increasing operational expenses. The Centre's recent outlay of ₹10,000 crore to promote green mobility in the form of subsidy for electric vehicles and investment in recharging infrastructure during a three-year span, covers only 7,000 buses owned by State road transport corporations. In this, each e-bus that is priced up to ₹2 crore will get a subsidy of between ₹35 lakh and ₹60 lakh.

Though the subsidy scheme does not cover private buses, the Kochi Private Buses Operating Company - an umbrella body of seven companies that own 1,000 buses - held discussions with

■ The demand comes in the wake of the fall in number of private buses in the State from 35,000 to 12,000 in a decade

■ Expert suggests setting up of solar farms like the one in CIAL to source solar power to charge e-buses

manufacturers of e-buses and firms which specialise in retrofitting CNG kits in buses to rein in operational expenses.

The company's convener, K.B. Suneer, demanded that the government extend tax sops and subsidies to encourage operators to shift to electric and CNG-run buses. "Retrofitting CNG kit will cost around ₹5 lakh for a bus. The CNG costs ₹55 a kg and also boosts fuel efficiency by 25%. An e-bus costs up to ₹2 crore, of which over 50% is the cost of batteries and allied components. The average battery life is five

years, following which it has to be sold as scrap," he said.

Apart from subsidy, there must also be adequate number of terminals where fast recharging is possible. Till then, a battery-swap system wherein drained out batteries are exchanged for charged ones must be introduced, he said.

Expert's stance

A public transportation expert associated with the bus companies lamented that the Centre has limited the number of buses that can get subsidy to 7,000 during a three-year period. "On the contrary, 10 lakh two-wheelers and 55,000 four-wheelers would be covered under the green-mobility scheme. This is in conflict with the National Urban Transport Policy which emphasises the primacy of public transport," he said.

He also suggested setting up of solar farms like the one in CIAL to source solar power to charge e-buses.

ONGC organises second ONGC Para Games in Delhi



Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has organised the 2nd edition of the three-day ONGC Para Games 2018-19 at Thyagraj Stadium in New Delhi. The 1st edition of the event was organised by ONGC in 2017. ONGC is the only public sector enterprise to organise such para games, to promote the sporting talent of Persons with Disabilities (PwD).

ONGC has associated with the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) to organise the ONGC Para Games in a professional manner. The international format is being adopted to organise the games.

Sumit registers close win over Rafath

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 16

City's Sumit Talwar defeated Rafath Habib of Railways 4-3 (65-76 56-8 51-69(50) 79-44 27-70(54) 75(64)-22 69-51) in the best-of-7-frame round of 32 match during the CCI All India Open Snooker Championship, in Mumbai.

Top-ranked Pankaj Advani of ONGC had a routine day in

ALL INDIA SNOOKER

office as he strolled past India's number two ranked woman cueist Arantxa Sanchez of Pune by a clear 4-0 margin. Advani showed his class and compiled another century effort of 112 and two runs of 54 and 68 to post a 102-15 89-4 73-25 and 112-12

victory. Defending champion Brijesh Damani of Indian Oil maintained his impressive run of form to sideline Mumbai's Hasan by a facile 4-1 margin. Meanwhile, on a side table, Malkeet Singh of Railways recovered from the brink of defeat to overcome Kreishh Gurbaxani by a tight 4-3 margin. —TNS