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P. Maheshwari
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The Hindu
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M.P. Chronicle
A & J (Hindi)
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The Times of India (A)
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'Will call off bandh if PM intervenes on Mahadayi'

Modi will be in Bengaluru on Feb. 4 for the Karnataka BJP's 'Parivarthana Yatra'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

Pro-Kannada outfits on Wednesday said they would call off their proposed 'Bengaluru bandh' on February 4, if Prime Minister Narendra Modi intervened to solve the Mahadayi river water sharing issue with neighbouring Goa, as demanded by them.

However, they would go ahead with it Mr. Modi did not intervene to find a solution, Vatal Nagaraj, who heads 'Kannada Okkoota', an umbrella organisation of Kannada bodies, said.

"We will observe a Bengaluru bandh on February 4 if the Prime Minister fails to give us any relief. If he makes any announcement prior to



A file photo of pro-Kannada activists led by Vatal Nagaraj taking out a protest rally. • V. GREENIVASA MURTHY

that, then we will call it off," he told PTI.

Mr. Modi will be in the city on February 4 to participate in the concluding ceremony of Karnataka BJP's 'Parivarthana Yatra', a State-wide

programme against the Congress government.

A State-wide bandh was observed by the outfits on the issue on January 25.

Mr. Nagaraj said the outfit held discussions on Wednesday

with farmers from Naragund, Navalgund and drought affected regions of North Karnataka.

Amit Shah criticised

"BJP national president Amit Shah too has not spoken a word on the Mahadayi water issue," he said.

Meanwhile, BJP MP Prah-lad Joshi, addressing a public meeting in Koppal, flayed the remarks of Mr. Nagaraj, saying "he has no idea about the problems faced by the State on the issue."

Karnataka, which has locked horns with Goa on sharing Mahadayi river water, is seeking release of 7.56 tmcft water for the Kalasa-Banduri Nala project.

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City sees warmest January days in 12 yrs

Avg Max Temp 1.7°C Higher Than Normal

Amit Bhattacharya
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: If you missed peak winter chill this January, here's the reason why. In the absence of adequate rain and snow in north India, the average day temperature during the month was 1.7 degrees higher than normal, making it the warmest January in Delhi in 12 years if day conditions are considered.

The average maximum temperature in January this year was a warm 22.2 degrees Celsius, with day temperatures remaining higher than normal on as many as 23 days of the month. The city last saw war-

mer daytime conditions in January in 2006, when the average maximum was slightly higher at 22.4 degrees C, the warmest in 25 years.

This year, therefore, saw the second warmest day conditions in January in a quarter century.

"There was just a single spell of rain and snow in north India during the entire month whereas three wet spells are normal. As a result, we had mainly clear skies over Delhi this January, which raised day temperatures," said Kuldeep Srivastava, head of IMD's Regional Weather Forecasting Centre here.

The absence of snow also meant that winds sweeping in from the north weren't the usual icy northwesterlies that bring chill into the region, Srivastava said.

A look at weather conditions in recent years tells the story of just how warm the past month was. In 2015, for instance, the average maximum January temperature was 17.9 degrees C, more than 4 notches below this year's average. In the past two Januarys, which too were warmer than normal, the average maximums were 21.6 and 21.1 degrees C, respectively. The coldest January in the past 25 years (in terms of day conditions) was in 2003, when the average maximum was just 17.6 degrees C.

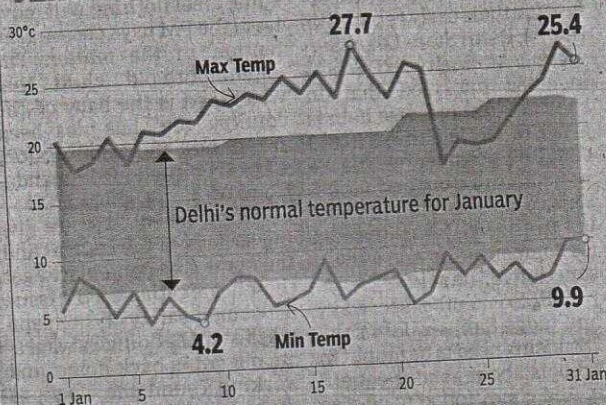
However, nights were far from warm this January. The clear skies that raised day temperatures during the month allowed heat to dissipate into the atmosphere at night, making nights colder than normal.

The average minimum temperature was a shade lower than 7 degrees C, around 0.5 degrees below normal. In fact, it was the lowest average minimum temperature in January in five years.

"The nights were mostly clear and hence cold. Northerly winds blew for most of the month. While these helped keep temperatures low, the winds were not chilly enough for extreme cold conditions to set in," Srivastava said.

The lowest temperature during the month was 4.2 degrees C on January 6. By contrast, the lowest January temperature in recent years was 1.9 degrees C, recorded on January 18, 2013.

TEMPS MAXED NORMAL ON 23 DAYS



Warmest Jans Since 1992

	Avg Max Temp (°C)
2006	22.4
2018	22.1
2009	21.7
1994	21.6
2016	21.6

Nights Remained Cold

6.96°C | Avg minimum temp this month
7.58°C | Normal minimum for Jan
➤ 5yrs since avg minimum was lower than this year

1/12/18

III 116

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Testing waters

We need to evolve credible and institutionalised practices to resolve inter-State river disputes



SRINIVAS CHOKKAKULA

Last week, the Supreme Court directed the Centre to constitute a tribunal within a month to adjudicate the Mahanadi river water dispute between Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The Centre had resisted constituting a tribunal, instead advocating a political resolution through talks. During the recent winter session of Parliament, the Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari had even asked Odisha to engage with Chhattisgarh through his or the Prime Minister's office. Odisha, however, insisted on a legal route. Why was the Centre unsuccessful? It is time we invest in right, credible and institutionalised practices for enabling inter-State mediation, coordination and cooperation.

Political rationalities

To be clear, there is little doubt about substantive reasons for contention over the Mahanadi between Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The States' escalation of the dispute for pursuing their respective interests is legitimate. However, the underlying political rationalities of actors present a typical paradox of multi-party federal democracies that produce the stalemate. This is for two reasons.

The first is the political opportunism in federal democracies. The parties in power in both States – the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Chhattisgarh and the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in Odisha – will be fighting tough elections in 2018 and 2019. As both have been in power for long, they will have to survive anti-incumbency. Both need fresh grounds for political mobilisation, and the Mahanadi dispute is an enticing opportunity. The governments cannot afford to be seen as compromising their respective States' interests. On the other hand, parties in opposition find it rewarding to accuse the governments of compromising the States' interests.

The second is the political subjectivity of the contemporary Indian state. The mechanism of the Centre's mediation before constituting a tribunal for adjudication – prescribed by the current Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 – is outdated. This was conceived when a single party dominated Indian politics, and the Centre could exercise power and influence over States. The times are different now (though with a different kind of single-party dominance). The Centre-States engagement has turned politically subjective with polarised and assertive regional powers. The BJD is unlikely to trust

a BJP-led Central government's initiatives – irrespective of how sincere those efforts might be. The challenge thus is securing credibility of mediation practices – of institutionalising neutrality and objectivity.

Inter-State cooperation

Odisha's unwillingness to engage in talks might not be for political reasons. It can be for the uncertainties associated with the apparent ad hoc framing of the practice of mediation by the Centre. Much of the failure of Mr. Gadkari's efforts may be attributed to this. Inter-State river waters governance is a classic case of collision between Central and State powers. This conundrum of federal governance is not new.

Jenna Bednar recalls a warning by James Madison, considered the father of the U.S. Constitution, way back in 1821: "The Gordian Knot of the Constitution seems to lie in the problem of collision between the federal & State powers... If the knot cannot be untied by the text of the Constitution it ought not, certainly, to be cut by any political Alexander." We have to rely on the Constitution to untie the knot, and cannot resort to the Alexander's sword, as the legend goes.

The success or failure of the 'political Alexanders' efforts, as attempted by Mr. Gadkari, would be politically subjective and contingent. They may, more likely, lead to more tribunals. For better outcomes, it is imperative that we look for more credible forms of inter-State engagement. This, however, has not been an explicit strategy in our policy-making. Instead, inter-State cooperation has always been approached from the other direction – by resolving disputes. Here is a telling contrast. The Act of 1956 for resolving disputes has been amended at least a dozen times since its inception. But the River Boards Act, 1956, drafted simultaneously for inter-State collaboration, has not been amended even once since then.

The drive for political resolution suggests a welcome realisation to push the envelope beyond legal routes. But the practices need to be structured within the constitutional realm. For example, the mediation practices may be structured under the Inter-State Council, provided by the Constitution for the exclusive purpose of inter-State coordination. This has to be, however, part of a larger ecosystem for enabling and nurturing inter-State cooperation, which will involve policy reforms (such as revisiting River Boards Act). The ecosystem has to enable not just inter-State dialogue for collaboration, but also other goals of executing agreements and projects for river development, conservation and restoration.

Srinivas Chokkakula is a Fellow with the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

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नदियों में प्रदूषित पानी रोकने और मुआवजा दिलाने की गुहार...

पत्रिका-
-1-2-18

प्रदूषण का दंश : नदी बचाने किसान सत्याग्रह की राह पर, जोधपुर में जुटे तीन जिलों के किसान

पाली/जोधपुर. मारवाड़ के पाली, जोधपुर व बालोतरा में स्थापित औद्योगिक इकाइयों से निकलने वाले प्रदूषित पानी के नदियों में प्रवाहित होने से पाली की बांडी नदी, बालोतरा की लूणी, जोधपुर की जोजरी नदी व बांडी-नेहड़ा बांध को लगातार नुकसान पहुंच रहा है।

इन्हें बचाने की गुहार को लेकर मंगलवार को किसान पर्यावरण संघर्ष समिति के बैनर तले तीनों जिलों के सैकड़ों किसानों ने संभाग मुख्यालय पर कलक्ट्रेट कार्यालय के बाहर धरना देकर



सत्याग्रह किया। इसके बाद राज्यपाल व सरकार के नाम एडीएम को ज्ञापन सौंपा। इसमें इन नदियों में प्रदूषित पानी रोकने और प्रभावित किसानों को मुआवजा दिलाने की मांग की गई। सुबह

संघर्ष समिति अध्यक्ष पुखराज पटेल, उपाध्यक्ष गंगादान चारण, गिरधारीराम चौधरी, महामंत्री महावीर सिंह सुकरलाई के नेतृत्व में पाली, जालोर व बालोतरा के किसान कलक्ट्रेट कार्यालय पहुंचे

और धरना दे दिया। सुकरलाई ने उपवास रख धरना दिया। धरना स्थल पर सम्बोधित करते हुए सुकरलाई ने कहा कि एनजीटी, हाईकोर्ट, मानवाधिकार आयोग, राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मण्डल व जिला मजिस्ट्रेट न्यायालय के कई निर्णय के बावजूद इन नदियों में टैक्सटाइल इकाइयों का प्रदूषित पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। ये नदियां मारवाड़ के लिए संजीवनी थी, लेकिन अब प्रदूषित पानी से नदियां व आस-पास के किसानों की जमीनें खराब हो गईं। सैकड़ों किसान बेरोजगार हो गए।

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चार बड़ी नदियों को राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग घोषित किया

जम्मू @ पत्रिका. केंद्र
सरकार ने जम्मू कश्मीर में
झेलम, चेनाब, सिंधु और रावी
जैसी चार बड़ी नदियों को
राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग घोषित किया
है। इससे अंतरदेशीय नौवहन
को गति मिलेगी और जल
परिवहन तथा पर्यटन को
बढ़ावा मिलेगा। राज्य सरकार
ने यह बात कही। राज्य के
लोक स्वास्थ्य इंजीनियर,
सिंचाई तथा बाढ़ नियंत्रण मंत्री
शाम लाल चौधरी ने कहा कि
इसे चरणबद्ध तरीके से
विकसित किया जाएगा।

1-1-18

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पंजाब-1-2-18
**भूकंप के झटकों से
थर्राया उत्तर भारत**

नई दिल्ली, (एजेंसी):
उत्तरी अफगानिस्तान में
बुधवार दोपहर आए
शक्तिशाली भूकंप से
दिल्ली तक सिहरन दौड़
गई। अफगानिस्तान के

तीव्रता
6.1
केन्द्र
हिन्दुकुश पर्वत

हिंदुकुश पर्वतों में आए 6.1 तीव्रता के इस
भूकंप से पाकिस्तान के क्वेटा में एक बच्ची
की मौत की खबर है। रिपोटर्स के मुताबिक
अफगानिस्तान के साथ ही पाकिस्तान के
बलूचिस्तान में भूकंप से मुकसान हुआ है।
कई मकानों में दरारें आई हैं। इसके साथ ही
कुछ लोगों के घायल होने की भी खबर है।
अफगानिस्तान में आए इस भूकंप की तीव्रता
इतनी ज्यादा थी कि इसके झटके पूरे उत्तर
भारत में महसूस किए गए।