

Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi - 66.

Dated 1.05.2018

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

P. Mahesh
1.5.18
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

[Signature]
Deputy Director (Publication)

[Signature]
01/05/2018

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
uploaded at www.cwc.nic.in

O/C

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 29.4.2018 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC

PROJECT KISHANGANGA

■ 3-unit, 330 MW power project, to produce 1,713 units of electricity annually

■ Winter temperatures at dam site: around -23 degrees C

■ In Sept 2007, approved cost Rs 3,642.04 crore; by March 2018, Rs 5,750 crore

■ Spread over 379 hectares across two Valleys

■ 23.24 km of tunnel dug through rock, including first successful use of Tunnel Boring Machine in Himalayas

(as provided by NHPC project director)

TIMELINE

2005-06: NHPC begins work

APRIL 2006: As Pak objects to storage-cum-hydroelectric project, India rejigs design, lowers dam height from 97 metres to 37, makes it run-of-the river project

2010: Pak goes to Permanent Court of Arbitration

FEB 2013: The court gives partial ruling upholding India's main contention that it has the right to divert waters in a non-consumptive way for optimal generation of power

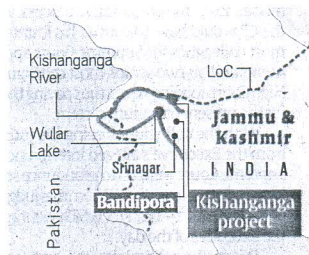
DEC 2013: Court's "final award" in India's favour

SEPT 2016: Pak approaches World Bank over dam design

NOV 2016: For the first time, Pak fires shells near dam site

DEC 2016: World Bank asks India, Pak to settle the matter

MARCH 2018: All three units at power project are commissioned



IT IS about as far from his Jharkhand home as Sanjay Kumar, 42, could have imagined. And it could not be more different from the 45-48 degrees C summers in Rajasthan where he worked earlier. When Kumar arrived in the freezing cold of Gurez in November 2009, snow covered his work site — a river below and the rock face of a mountain above. Within days, there was fresh snowfall, and temperatures plummeted to -23 degrees C.

"We were told there was a market beyond the campsite, and we could buy essentials there. A colleague and I tried walking to it, but gave up after a few steps," says Kumar.

There were about 100-120 of them at the site, and living arrangements, inside containers, were basic. A few hundred metres away, at the Army camp, the artillery guns with their barrels, all pointing in one direction, left no one in doubt about where they were: a few hundred metres from the Line of Control.

"I used to look at these mountains on both sides and think, *yahan dam kya, kuch bhi nahin ban sakta* (forget the dam, nothing can be built here)," Kumar recalls.

Nine years later, and after as many twists and bends as in the Kishanganga, a tributary of the Jhelum river on which it stands, that dam has now been built. It is the first in a chain of several components, spread from Gurez to Bandipora in Jammu & Kashmir, that together make the Rs 5,750 crore Kishanganga Hydro Electric Project (KHEP).

The three unit-330 MW power project, work on which began under UPA-I, was commissioned by the NHPC in March. But the power generation has been stopped for now as workers race to give the finishing touches, which includes plugging leaks in the tunnel detected during the commissioning, in time for a May inauguration by PM Narendra Modi.

The project will produce 1,713 units of



A section of the 23.24-km-long tunnel between Gurez and Bandipora, dug out by the Tunnel Boring Machine, providing all-weather access

electricity annually — in power generation terms, small change. But that is hardly the main point of KHEP, that has been a bone of contention between India and Pakistan since its announcement more than a decade ago — it was stalled once by an international court of arbitration, and ran into a shelling scare in 2016. Pakistan continues to object to it.

Besides being a showpiece feat of engineering in the Himalayan heights, and a successful "inter-basin" transfer of water from the Gurez Valley to the Kashmir Valley, KHEP is an assertion by India over the territory of J&K and over its resources. And from top to bottom, everyone understands that the "power" from the project means more than electricity, and expresses it in their own way.

"More than its commercial value, this is a project of great strategic value. It is an assertion of India's rights under the Indus Waters Treaty," says Amresh Kumar, the project General Manager, NHPC, referring to the 1960 river water sharing pact with Pakistan. He said the Army had "constantly been with us to boost the morale and security of workers".

Sanjay Kumar, a senior time keeper at the dam site for Hindustan Construction Company, which executed the project for the NHPC, says watching the dam come up has been a matter of pride. "Many times I felt like a soldier myself, performing a national duty.

Otherwise you can't last here."

■ ■ ■

Starkly beautiful, Gurez was once part of the ancient silk route and Kashmir's gateway to Gilgit-Baltistan. Located at around 8,000 ft (2,580 mts) it is normally cut off from the rest of J&K for upto six months of the year. While the dam was under construction, men and material had to be transported by military helicopters.

"Workers could not work in the open, it was difficult to hold or touch the material. We had to face avalanches, we had medical emergencies that had to be airlifted," says A I Benny, HCC's Project Manager for the KHEP.

HCC adopted Russian methods of working in winter: a half-hour break after every two hours of work, moving all the workers to a specially heated up portion of the tunnel that was being bored then, and giving them something hot and sweet to drink. Those who had done a 12-hour shift, from 8 am to 8 pm, could report to work slightly late the next day. The entry to the tunnel was closed with steel plates and air-curtains to cut off icy winds, while work on the dam wall and spillway channels was carried out under tarpaulins with heaters. To mix concrete for the dam wall, water was heated to 50 degrees,

↓
2

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express ✓

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

A a j (Hindi)

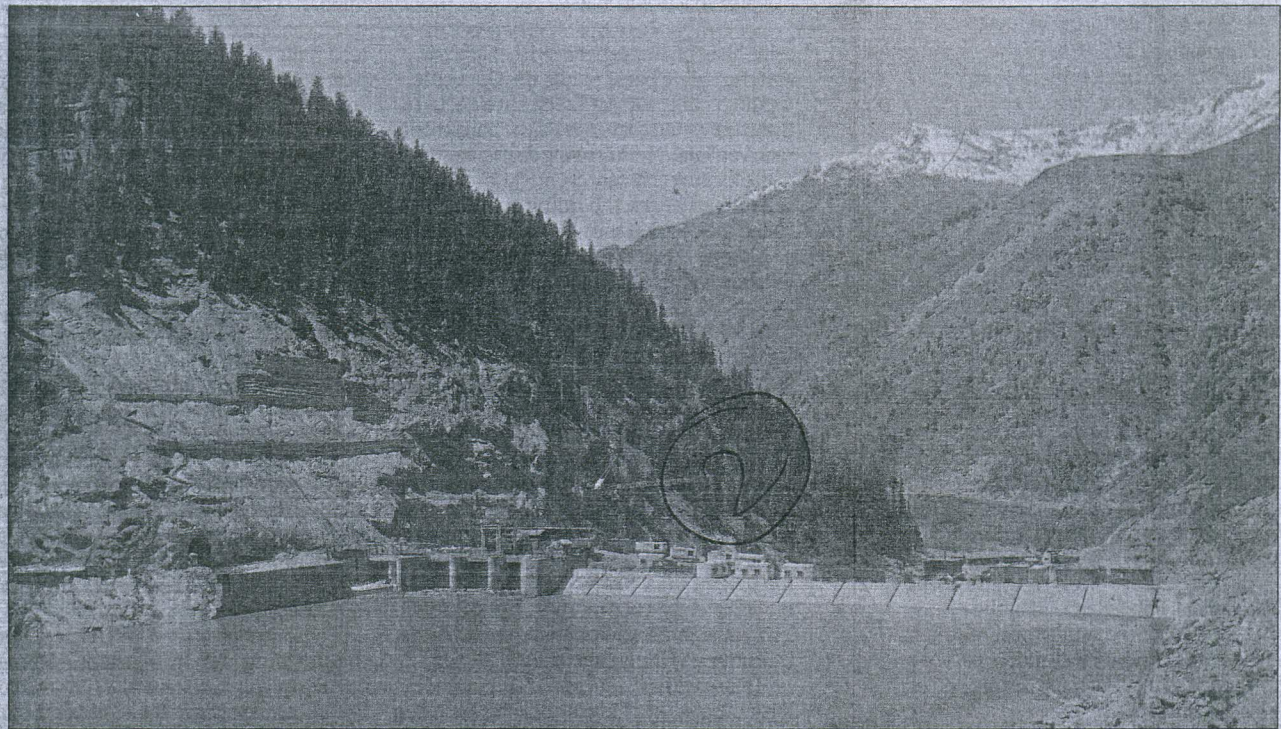
Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhadrath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC



(Top) The surge shaft dug 108 metres into mountainside; the project is built on the Kishanganga river, a tributary of Jhelum

Continued

16.02

so that it was the required 10 degrees at the time of pouring. Site supervisors also conducted motivational meetings twice a day.

In November 2016, when there was heavy shelling from the Pakistani side, some 18 shells fell on either side of the dam site, Sanjay Kumar recalls. "All of us ran into the tunnel, villagers also took shelter there," Kumar says. That was the only time, he adds, that he experienced this hazard of working at the LoC.

But even more challenging than the weather was transporting the state-of-the-art Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) up to Bandipora. Its parts were transported in 160 containers. "The biggest issue we faced was to bring the cutter from the Jammu side through the Jawahar Tunnel because of its height. We had to deflate the truck tyres to get a few more inches at the top," says Benny.

Working like a giant earthworm, the Italian TBM burrowed 14.5 km of tunnel through rock towards Gurez from Bandipora,

even as it fixed concrete segments on the walls. From the Gurez end, the traditional drill blast method was used to bore 9 km of the tunnel. Starting May 2011, it took more than 30 months for the entire 23.24 km tunnel to be completed. According to the engineers at the site, this was also the first time a TBM was used successfully in the Himalayas.

Once the tunnel was built, it provided an all-weather access route to Gurez, cutting the distance by one-fourth, and making it far easier to transport material from Bandipora to the dam site. Loco engines pulled carriages loaded with material up and down. Many times, locals too hitched rides on this "train".

For another component, the surge shaft — to moderate the flow and absorb a sudden increase in water pressure before the water left the tunnel to enter the pressure shaft — workers dug 108 m vertically down into a mountain side.

The dam is built in an area that falls in

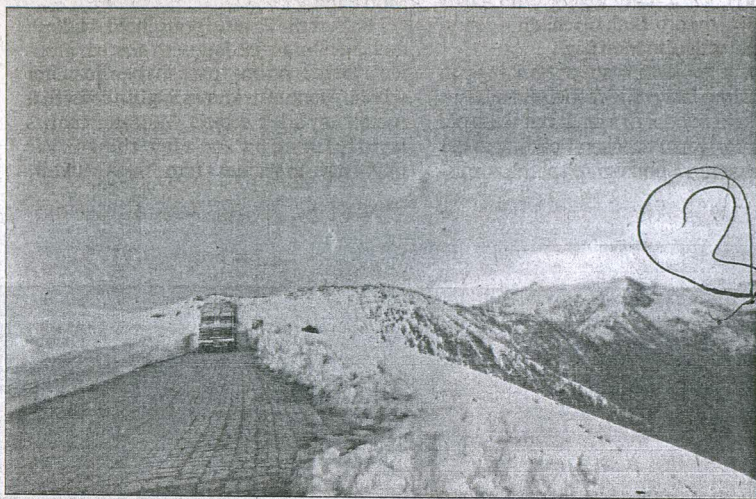
seismic zone 4. Officials from Halcrow, the British company that designed the project, say it is built to withstand such seismic activity. "The NHPC got a study done by IIT Roorkee, and our design is based on their findings," says Atul Agarwal, Kishanganga project manager at the design consultancy.

■ ■ ■

Simply put, KHEP diverts water from the Kishanganga, uses it to generate electricity, and then sends it back through a different route to the river at the point where it merges with the Jhelum in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. When India announced its intention to build the project in 2005-06, Pakistan challenged the planned diversion under the terms of the Indus Waters Treaty, red-flagging the impact on its own 1,000 MW Neelum-Jhelum Hydro-Electric Project (NJHEP), under construction downstream of

New Delhi

↓
B



Razdan Pass, the only access road to Gurez where the Kishanganga dam is located. Gurez remains cut off from J&K for upto six months of the year

Continued

the same river in PoK where it is known as the Neelum. Pakistan contended that its project was conceived in 1989.

The World Bank-brokered Indus Waters Treaty, the most enduring agreement between India and Pakistan, lays down that Pakistan will have "unrestricted use of all waters of the Western Rivers", namely the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab and their tributaries, while giving India the same rights over the three Eastern rivers, the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej and their tributaries.

Under the Treaty, India may use the waters of the Western rivers in "non-consumptive" ways. That includes "run of the river" hydel projects, which do not change the course of the river and do not deplete the water level downstream.

In 2010, Pakistan took the matter to the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, which stayed the project for three years. In a set of two "awards" in 2013, the Court ruled that the KHEP was "a Run-of-River Plant within the meaning of the Indus Waters Treaty and that India may accordingly divert water from the Kishanganga/Neelum River for power generation." However, the Court also decided that India is under an obligation to "construct and operate the KHEP in such a way as to maintain a minimum flow of water in the Kishanganga/Neelum River,"

which was decided as 9 cumecs. Before the matter went to the Court, India had already decided to lower the height of the dam from the planned 98 m to 37 m.

The ruling was a landmark victory for India, and work began full swing on the project once again.

But it did not end there. In August 2016, Pakistan asked the World Bank to appoint a Court of Arbitration into the design of the Kishanganga project, as well another project on the Chenab, the 850 MW Ratle project, which it claimed were violations of the Indus Waters Treaty. India's contention was that as the objections were technical in nature, the matter should be decided by a neutral expert, one notch lower in the conflict resolution mechanism provided by the Treaty.

The World Bank set in motion both processes, but after objections raised both by India and Pakistan that the two could arrive at contradictory findings, thus endangering the Treaty, the World Bank paused both, and held several rounds of talks, the last of which took place in September 2017.

After the NHPC commissioned all three KHEP units last month, Pakistan wrote to the World Bank, demanding that it ensure that India abides by the Treaty. On the Indian side, though, officials are sanguine. "Kishanganga is now fait accompli. Pakistan is reconciled to

it," said one official, pointing out that the intended target of its 2016 demand for a court of arbitration and its continuing objections to Kishanganga was not so much this project but Ratle. Indeed, Pakistan too commissioned one unit of the NJHEP earlier this month.



In Bandipora, the shattered glass on a vehicle used by the HCC attests to what the locals of Mantrigam, the village where the construction company and the NHPC have site offices, think. "I changed the glass twice, now I have just let this be," says the vehicle's driver. "People here get irritated seeing anything Indian," says another Kashmiri working at the site office. The temporary offices of the HCC at Mantrigam have grills to protect the windows from the stoning. Staff says it happens with such regularity that they are used to it. "It's not really about us. Some of them are working with us. But when Hurriyat calls a protest in Srinagar, people are out on the roads here too throwing stones; and we are an easy target," said one staff member.

"What are we getting out of this project?" is a common question among locals.

"Our land was acquired at low prices. They promised us jobs, but that remained only talk," says Mohammed Maqbool Tantray of Kralpora, where the power house and switchboard of the KHEP are located. When the construction work was on at full swing, the project employed 1,400 workers, plus another 800 semi-skilled and unskilled workers from the villages around through sub-contractors. Even now, it employs about 200-250 people from the area.

Tantray himself is a sub-contractor. "Every family in the village has a member still working at the site. But these are small contract jobs. What we want are permanent jobs. The project will go on, but they need to compensate us for taking our land," he says.

According to the NHPC, there are 801 "project affected families" — 171 in the powerhouse area in Kralpora, and 610 in the dam area in Gurez. The compensation payouts have created an undercurrent of resentment between the two regions, as well as between families that are "fully affected" and those "partially affected."

In Kralpora, Tantray says all the families have united to go to court and demand that there should be no differentiation in the relief package offered. "Everyone should get Rs 15

lakh," says Tantray.

The higher compensations paid to affected families in Gurez has created bitterness. "In Bandipora they have a better MLA, and the divisional commissioner was also a Gurezi," Tantray says. The resentment has only increased as the affected families in Gurez have chosen to resettle in Bandipora. In village Sheikhpora, there is an entire neighbourhood of resettled people from Gurez. A new mosque is being constructed because the old one no longer has room for the increased number of people in the village.

"They have it good both ways," says a Bandipora resident, who describes people from Gurez as "*kattar Hindustani*" because many of them are in the Army or are seen to help the Army.

Gurezis, on the other hand, complain that they received too little. In village Mastan Khopri in Gurez, where 13 homes got submerged due to the dam waters, Mohammed Yasin says he received Rs 35 lakh for his house and Rs 5.75 lakh for each of the five kanals he lost. He now lives in Bandipora, but is constructing a shop in Gurez.

"No amount of money can compensate for what I have lost. Living in Bandipora is not like living in my village in Gurez," says Yasin.

Mohammed Bhaktawar Mir, the contractor in charge of building the mosque in Sheikhpora, says he got cheated of his rightful compensation because he was adjudged to be partially affected rather than fully affected. "My petition is in the DC's office," he says.

Amresh Kumar of the NHPC says the compensation and benefits for Kishanganga project affected families "are the best in the country" and the same model is being adopted at other sites.

But now, there are new, more worrying fears in Bandipora, about water seeping out from the tunnel. In March, when all three units of the project were commissioned, there was flooding on farm land in Kralpora. "Our apple trees are going to die, because the water hasn't stopped flowing since," says Halima Begum, pointing to the water still coursing down the slopes near the family's apple orchard. "The Horticulture Department was supposed to send a team to assess the damage but they haven't shown up yet."

Engineers at the site say it is a "minor" glitch. "The tunnel was immediately drained, and we are carrying out grouting work now to plug the leaks. There's bound to be a little seepage," says Benny.

Then, there are other larger questions. The perceived lack of agency over the state's resources is right at the top on the list of "betrayals" that Kashmir nurses against Delhi. In Kashmir, there is widespread anger that while the 3,000 MW of hydel electricity generated in their state is sufficient to meet the state's needs, it has no control over two-thirds of this, produced by NHPC in its seven projects in J&K. The growing demand that these projects be "returned" to the people of J&K was even reflected in the ruling PDP-BJP's Agenda for the Alliance.

As in every NHPC project, 12 per cent of the power from Kishanganga will be given to the host state as "royalty", apart from an extra 1 per cent for "local development". The rest will go into the national grid, while J&K suffers from crippling power shortages. A state Power Department official says there was a proposal for the J&K government to buy KHEP-generated electricity from the NHPC at Rs 4.35 per unit, "which is not viable for us."

"There is a general perception in Kashmir and even in Jammu that this 12 per cent is not enough and NHPC is exploiting the inability of the state to generate the required financial resources for harnessing its identified hydropower potential," said Shakil A Romshoo, Professor and Head of the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Kashmir.

Romshoo says if the Centre could be more "accommodative" of the power needs of J&K, and enhanced the royalty from its present 12 per cent, there was "potential to generate goodwill for the Indian Union in J&K."

He also rues a lost opportunity for India-Pakistan co-operation in J&K. "Instead of building two projects, it would have been far better, if India and Pakistan invoked Article 7 of the Indus Waters Treaty and built a single hydropower project. It would have generated enormous goodwill," he says.

The people in Gurez, meanwhile, have "just one wish" — for a road tunnel between Bandipora and their valley, just like the one bored into the mountain for the dam. "You cannot imagine how useful the tunnel was for the people in Gurez," 30-year-old Ghulam Mustafa Pintoo says. "You can't believe how easy it became to travel between Gurez and Bandipora, winter or summer. Now they are going to fill it with water. But we need that tunnel. Ask them to build one more."

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Elitz

and documented at Bhadrath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC

SYL: INLD-BSP's Jail Bharo agitation from today



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, 30 APRIL

The Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) and its alliance partner in Haryana, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) will launch a 'Jail Bharo' agitation from Tuesday to demand the completion of Satluj Yamuna Link (SYL) canal so that the state gets its due share of water from Punjab.

Beginning from Bhiwani on 1 May, the Jail Bharo agitation will be then be carried out in other districts Yamunanagar (4 May), Nuh (8 May), Kurukshetra (18 May), Fatehabad (22 May), Palwal (25 May and Kaithal). The INLD intends to carry on this agitation at each district, block and village.

While announcing this on Monday, leader of the Opposition, Abhay Singh Chautala said both parties (INLD-BSP) will actively participate in the 'jail bharo' agitation beginning tomorrow to press for the early completion of the SYL canal. He also added that from now onwards both the parties will jointly push for the success of their agendas for social and economic justice.

After having entered into an alliance, the INLD and BSP will hold a joint meeting of their working committees

in Kurukshetra on 2nd May to discuss in detail about all aspects of the alliance between the two forces as well as the challenges before the combine in the state.

Chautala said the alliance was about to bring a revolutionary change in the politics of the state. Both the parties are primarily the champions of the rural classes be they the farmers belonging to all castes, the exploited and suppressed sections of the society, the Dalits and the hard working laboring classes of the industry and the farms. Their coming together is a natural progression in the direction of securing justice for these classes, he said.

Chautala also informed that both the parties will jointly demand for the compensation for the wheat destroyed by fire in the fields this season. "Crores of rupees of wheat crop have been lost to fire and the farmers need to be compensated for these losses," he said.

The Leader of the Opposition added that INLD and BSP have always stood up to those who exploited the weak, the corrupt as well as communal forces. It is because of the coming together of the INLD and BSP that both the BJP and Congress feel threatened as they see their support base eroded, he added.

Hindustan Times ✓

Statesman ✓

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

Mercury on rise in the city, respite likely in two days 1-57



IAN S

NEW DELHI, 30 APRIL

The national capital on Monday recorded a maximum temperature of 40 degrees Celsius, a notch above the season's average, with weather analysts forecasting a further rise but holding out a promise of respite by Wednesday night.

At some places, the mercury crossed 40 degrees, with Palam sizzling at 41.5 degrees, Ayanagar at 41.2 and Narela at 41 degrees Celsius respectively.

Despite the light rains towards Sunday evening, Monday's minimum temperature was 25 degrees Celsius, a notch above the season's average. Delhi, till 8.30 am on Monday, recorded 1.1 mm rainfall, said the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Mercury is set to rise on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon, say the weather analysts. According to IMD, while Tuesday will remain warm with marginal rise in mercury, light rains may bring some respite towards Wednesday evening and Thursday.

"Another weather system is supposed to bring a spell of rains in Punjab, hilly states, western Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. This will have effects towards Wednesday evening to Friday," Mahesh Palawat, director private weather agency Skymet told IANS. The humidity on Monday hovered around 24 to 60 per cent.

Sunday's maximum temperature was recorded at 40.4 degrees, two notches above the season's average while the minimum temperature was 27.6, four notches up. Monday's air quality was tagged 'poor', with Air Quality Index (AQI) at 206 on a scale of 0 to 500.

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

IN THE SUPREME COURT THIS WEEK

Cauvery water row up for hearing

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Cauvery water dispute is one of the important hearings that will take place before the Supreme Court this week. The Centre is likely to seek an extension on setting up a mechanism to sort out the dispute over the sharing of the river water between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Its application, asking for more time, is expected to come up for hearing before a bench led by Chief Justice Dipak Misra on May 3.

As per an earlier court order, the time to prepare a draft scheme ends on May 3. Last week, the Centre had requested the CJI to list the application for a hearing. The request was

OTHER CASES

- The court will also hear pleas against its judgment allegedly diluting the SC/ST law, meant to protect the members of the community
- Another case of dispute over sharing of Yamuna water between Delhi and Haryana will be heard.
- The J&K High Court Bar Association's (Srinagar) petition against the use of pellet guns by security forces is also listed

allowed. Whether the Centre will get an extension or not will be known only on the date of hearing. In its written submissions before the court, the Cen-

tre had requested the SC to defer the implementation of its Cauvery verdict — allocating share of river water to the states — till the Karnataka elections, saying it was an emotive issue for the people of the state.

The second crucial hearing for the Centre pertains to the court's judgment diluting the SC/ST law, meant to protect members of the community. On the request of attorney general KK Venugopal, a bench headed by justice AK Goel had agreed to hear the Centre's review petition in the coming week.

The Centre wants the court to reconsider its verdict because "dilution" of the stringent provisions of the Act has resulted in "great damage" to the country. It has caused anger and a sense

of disharmony among people, the Centre said in a written statement given to the court against the judgment.

Another case of water dispute will be heard by a bench headed by justice MB Lokur. Delhi and Haryana have to inform the court of the settlement they have arrived at over the sharing of Yamuna water.

The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association's (Srinagar) petition against the use of pellet guns by security forces in the Valley is also listed for hearing in the top court. The lawyers' body has been pressing for a ban on the pellets that left several stone pelters handicapped during protests in 2016 after the death of Hizbul Mujahideen militant Burhan Wahi.

Starved of water in the nation's capital

30S



**BHARAT DOGRA
AND REENA MEHTA**

It is widely agreed that in conditions of high inequality governments can contribute to reducing the burden by ensuring better access to basic facilities to the poor. This is particularly true in the case of a life sustaining need like water. Unfortunately, In India's capital city it is the poorest people who pay the highest costs for the water crisis because of the overall shortage as well as supply of poor quality and polluted water. This was the grim reality which we saw when we visited four resettlement colonies and slums in outer Delhi.

Bawana resettlement colony (F, G, H Blocks) is inhabited largely by unorganized sector workers. The drinking water situation here is worrying. Several persons complained

that they suffered joint and bone pains because they consumed contaminated water. In this context attention may be drawn to recent news reports that discharge of untreated industrial effluents in nullahs and water bodies of Bawana is leading to contamination of groundwater. Most people here depend on groundwater. Due to the failure of the government to provide water to this colony, most people living here have to pay money to others to obtain water for drinking as well as other needs.

Anand Kumar, a well-informed resident of the colony told us that the quality of water has been declining after the water table declined beyond a point. Unless large schemes to provide clean drinking water are taken up, water related problems are likely to increase.

Bawana JJ Colony (in front of L

Block) is inhabited by people who were evicted from Paschim Vihar, 25 km away, about 15 years back. Due to a failure of government planning, none of these evictees could legally get the plot of land promised at the time of their resettlement. After being transported here these households were left to fend for themselves. Since then they have worked hard to build temporary houses and arrange basic means of sustenance.

They do not have any water supply for their own. So they have to pay for all their water needs. Despite this, they face many uncertainties and difficulties in meeting their water needs. They can hardly afford to choose and hence have to accept low quality water.

Devraj, a socially conscious youth, said that at a time when income levels are very low, people have to pay Rs 200 per month to peo-

ple in another colony just to get for their daily needs. Then they have to spend a lot of time and effort to fetch this water. Women and children have to bear the main burden for this. As this water is of poor quality, they have to spend more on water for drinking and cooking.

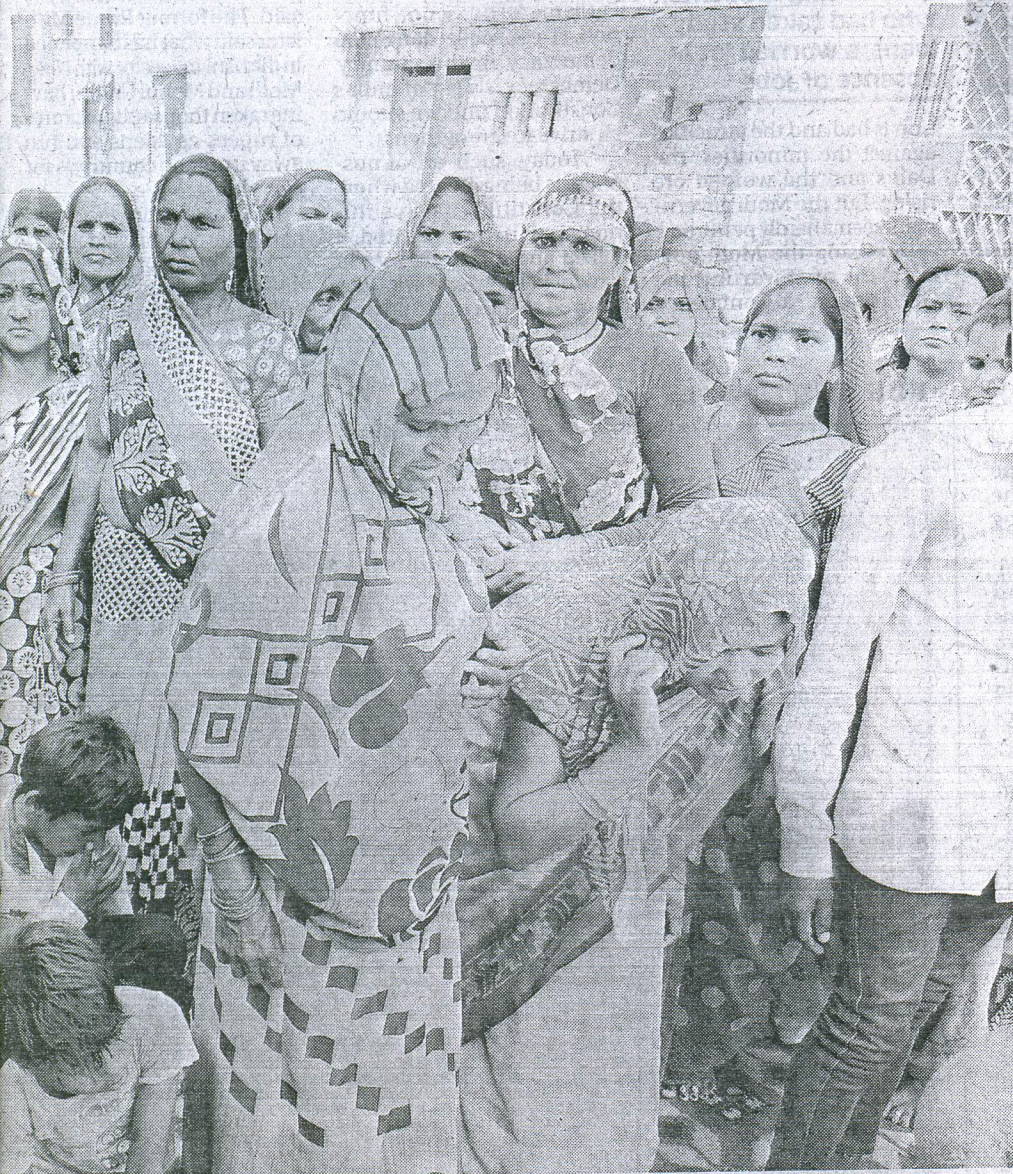
Shahbad Dairy resettlement colony is inhabited by people who were evicted from the Shalimar area. The quality of drinking water from the taps is often poor and frequently found to be foul smelling. One tanker provides an alternative supply of water but this is hard to access and there are frequent fire accidents. People have to walk long distances to get clean drinking water but face many obstructions.

While we were talking to Janaki, a resident, said, "You

20.4.2018 *Shahbad*

of water in on's capital

30 ST



smell the water we get in our taps." She went inside her home, brought a glass of water and insisted that we smell it. It was indeed very foul smelling. Nagina, another resident, said: "It appears that the groundwater here has got contaminated with the polluted water of some nullah and that is why we are getting this terrible water."

When we asked some school children about the quality of water in their school, they said it was not drinkable and they carry their water bottle from home.

C-2 Sector-27 Resettlement Colony, Rohini is inhabited by people evicted from the Kirti Nagar-Mayapuri area. People here say that only about 25 per cent of the evicted persons were allotted plots while others were left to their own fate. As the water quality in the colony is poor many people have to buy water.

Such a worrisome situation of water shortage and poor quality at a time when summer has just started draws attention to the wider failure of the government in meeting the most basic need of people. If this is the situation in the national capital, one can imagine what the situation is likely to be in many remote parts of the country.

The difficulties which the poor have to face in meeting this most basic need can be seen at four levels. Firstly, there is the overall attitude of neglect towards habitations of the poorest people, particularly those who were evicted.

Secondly, this can also be seen from the overall low allocations for urban poor people and the poor utilisation of these meager allocations. During 2015-16, for example, the Union budget allocated Rs. 5,635 crore to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation but only Rs. 1,761 crore was actually spent. The increase in the budget of the Ministry of Urban Development has been dominated by metro rail projects while more basic priorities for weaker sections have stagnated. At one stage the share of metro projects in the Ministry's budget was reported to be around 50 per cent.

Thirdly, the high levels of water pollution affect the poor people in peri-urban areas more as here environmental regulation is at much lower levels and some of the most polluting industries are located here. In the absence of piped water schemes and the supporting infrastructure, the poor depend more on groundwater and this is contaminated by seepage and mixing with harmful industrial effluents.

While the above three factors exist all over the country, the fourth factor has a special relevance in the context of Delhi as here a multiplicity of authorities and confused, overlapping, unclear responsibilities of various agencies make it more easy to evade responsibility and pass the buck, particularly when the silent victims are poor and helpless people.

The writers are freelance journalists specialising in development issues.

ed joint and bone
y consumed conta-
this context atten-
own to recent news
charge of untreated
nts in nullahs and
awana is leading to
groundwater. Most
nd on groundwater.
of the government
to this colony, most
have to pay money
n water for drinking
needs.

ar, a well-informed
lony told us that the
has been declining
ble declined beyond
rge schemes to pro-
ing water are taken
problems are likely

colony (in front of L

Block) is inhabited by people who were evicted from Paschim Vihar, 25 km away, about 15 years back. Due to a failure of government planning, none of these evictees could legally get the plot of land promised at the time of their resettlement. After being transported here these households were left to fend for themselves. Since then they have worked hard to build temporary houses and arrange basic means of sustenance.

They do not have any water supply of their own. So they have to pay for all their water needs. Despite this, they face many uncertainties and difficulties in meeting their water needs. They can hardly afford to choose and hence have to accept low quality water.

Devraj, a socially conscious youth, said that at a time when income levels are very low, people have to pay Rs 200 per month to peo-

ple in another colony just to get water for their daily needs. Then they have to spend a lot of time and effort to fetch this water. Women and children have to bear the main burden for this. As this water is of poor quality, they have to spend more on water for drinking and cooking.

Shahbad Dairy resettlement colony is inhabited by people who were evicted from the Shalimar Bagh area. The quality of drinking water from the taps is often poor and is frequently found to be foul smelling. One tanker provides an alternative supply of water but this is hardly adequate and there are frequent fights to access the limited water. Many people walk long distances in search of clean drinking water but face many obstructions.

While we were talking to them, Janaki, a resident, said, "You must

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
Tribune
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle
Aaj (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

मौजूदा हालात का सर्वेक्षण कराने की कवायद

जलाशयों-एनिकटों और नहरों की क्षमता जांचेगा जल संसाधन विभाग



पत्रिका

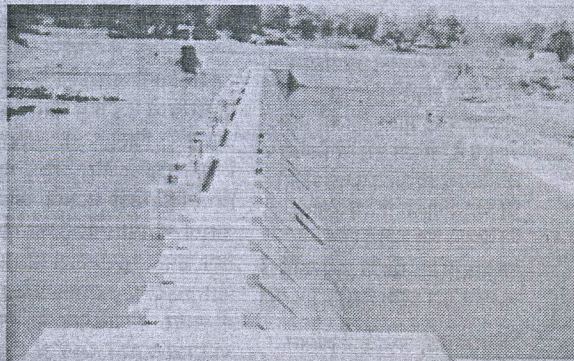
न्यूज पंच

सर्वेक्षण के आधार पर तय होगी मरम्मत की कार्ययोजना

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क

rajasthanpatrika.com

रायपुर. राज्य गठन के बाद पहली बार जल संसाधन विभाग अपने जलाशयों, एनिकटों, व्यपवर्तन योजनाओं और नहर प्रणालियों की क्षमता जांचने निकला है। इसके लिए विभाग अपने एक हजार से अधिक इंजीनियरों को एक साथ मैदान में उतारेगा। तय किया गया है कि 26 मई तक सभी संरचनाओं की मौजूदा स्थिति, उनकी प्रस्तावित और मौजूदा क्षमता आदि का पूरा ब्योरा विभागीय मुख्यालय को मिल जाएगा। अगले कुछ दिनों में उनकी ग्रेडिंग के बाद मरम्मत और पुनर्निर्माण की कार्ययोजना भी बन जाएगी। इस कार्ययोजना के अधिकांश हिस्से को बरसात से पहले अमली जामा भी पहनाने की बात की जा रही है। योजना में इंजीनियरों के प्रशिक्षण की शुरुआत मंगलवार से हो रही है। जल संसाधन विभाग के अफसरों का



प्राथमिकता तय कर होगा काम

कहना है, यह सर्वेक्षण पूरा हो जाने पर उनके पास प्रत्येक संरचना की वास्तविक स्थिति की तस्वीर होगी। उनके आधार पर बनी मरम्मत की कार्ययोजना ज्यादा कारगर होगी।

ऐसे होगा सर्वेक्षण : विभाग उप अभियंताओं और सहायक अभियंताओं को सर्वेक्षण का प्रशिक्षण देगा। यह काम 10 मई तक पूरा करना है। एक मोबाइल ऐप बनाया गया है, इसमें रियल टाइम सूचनाएं दर्ज होंगी। एक अभियंता को करीब 5 संरचनाओं की जांच करनी होगी। मौके पर जाकर उसकी फोटो लेना, उनकी लंबाई, ऊंचाई, जल भराव क्षमता, पिछले पांच वर्षों के सिंचाई के आंकड़े, जल भराव

कम लागत पर अधिक सिंचाई क्षमता वाली परियोजनाओं को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी। डी ग्रेड वाली परियोजनाओं को सी में लाने की प्राथमिकता होगी। स्थानीय प्रशासन से बात कर विभागीय मरम्मत मद, मनरेगा, जिला खविज निधि अथवा जन सहयोग से इनकी मरम्मत की जानी है।

के आंकड़ों के साथ संरचना की जिओ कोडिंग करनी होगी। मरम्मत की जरूरत होने पर तकनीकी प्रस्ताव और डिजाइन भेजना होगा।

इसके बाद होगी ग्रेडिंग : सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट का प्रमुख अभियंता कार्यालय में गठित सेंट्रल प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट में परीक्षण होगा। यह काम प्रमुख अभियंता की अध्यक्षता में गठित एक कोर टीम करेगी। इसमें मुख्य अभियंता, अधिक्षण अभियंता और कार्यपालन अभियंता स्तर के तकनीकी लोग होंगे। इसमें परियोजना को ग्रेडिंग दी जाएगी। जिन परियोजनाओं की वास्तविक क्षमता प्रस्तावित क्षमता के 80 प्रतिशत या अधिक है, उन्हें ए ग्रेड।

क्यों पड़ी जरूरत

वरिष्ठ अफसरों का कहना है कि समय के साथ जलाशयों-नहरों की क्षमता में कमी आई है। कागजों में 20 लाख हेक्टेयर की सिंचाई क्षमता है। वास्तव में केवल 13 लाख हेक्टेयर तक पानी पहुंच पाता है। सभी जलाशय, एनिकट और नहरें पूरी क्षमता से काम करने लगे तो इस 7 लाख हेक्टेयर के अंतर को पाटा जा सकता है। उसके अलावा निस्तारी और औद्योगिक प्रयोजनों के लिए भी पानी उपलब्ध होगा।

60 से 80 प्रतिशत के बीच वालों को बी ग्रेड, 40 से 60 प्रतिशत वालों को सी ग्रेड और 0 से 40 प्रतिशत वाली परियोजनाओं को डी ग्रेड दिया जाना है।

ऐसा पहली बार होने जा रहा है। सर्वेक्षण के बाद हमारे पास वास्तविक आंकड़े और कार्ययोजना होगी। जिओ टैगिंग होने के बाद हम सेटेलाइट इमेज के जरिए उन संरचनाओं की हर समय निगरानी कर पाएंगे। जलाशय-नहरें पूरी क्षमता से काम करें तो बड़े क्षेत्रफल को सिंचाई सुविधा दी जा सकेगी।

सोनमणि वोरा, सचिव, जल संसाधन विभाग