

Times (Delhi)

सम (दिल्ली)

(Chandigarh)

Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

To 1 4 Sept

Two years into BJP regime, second chargesheet filed in irrigation scam

Gadkari's Ex-Aide, 4 Irrigation Officers & Contractor Named

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Nagpur: The probe into contracts awarded in the state's irrigation sector was back in focus on Saturday with the anti-corruption bureau (ACB) filing a chargesheet against five serving and retired government staff, including one who later became an aide of Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari. A source said the aide, Sanjay Kholapurkar, may have resigned from his post in Gadkari's office, but TOI could not confirm this.

Those chargesheeted were employed in Nagpur-based, government-run Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation (VIDC), which was to build irrigation canals in the region. The probe which began in 2014 after the BJP-coalition came to power looked at charges of inflated expenditure and procedural irregularities in awarding of tenders in 2007.

Accused gets bail

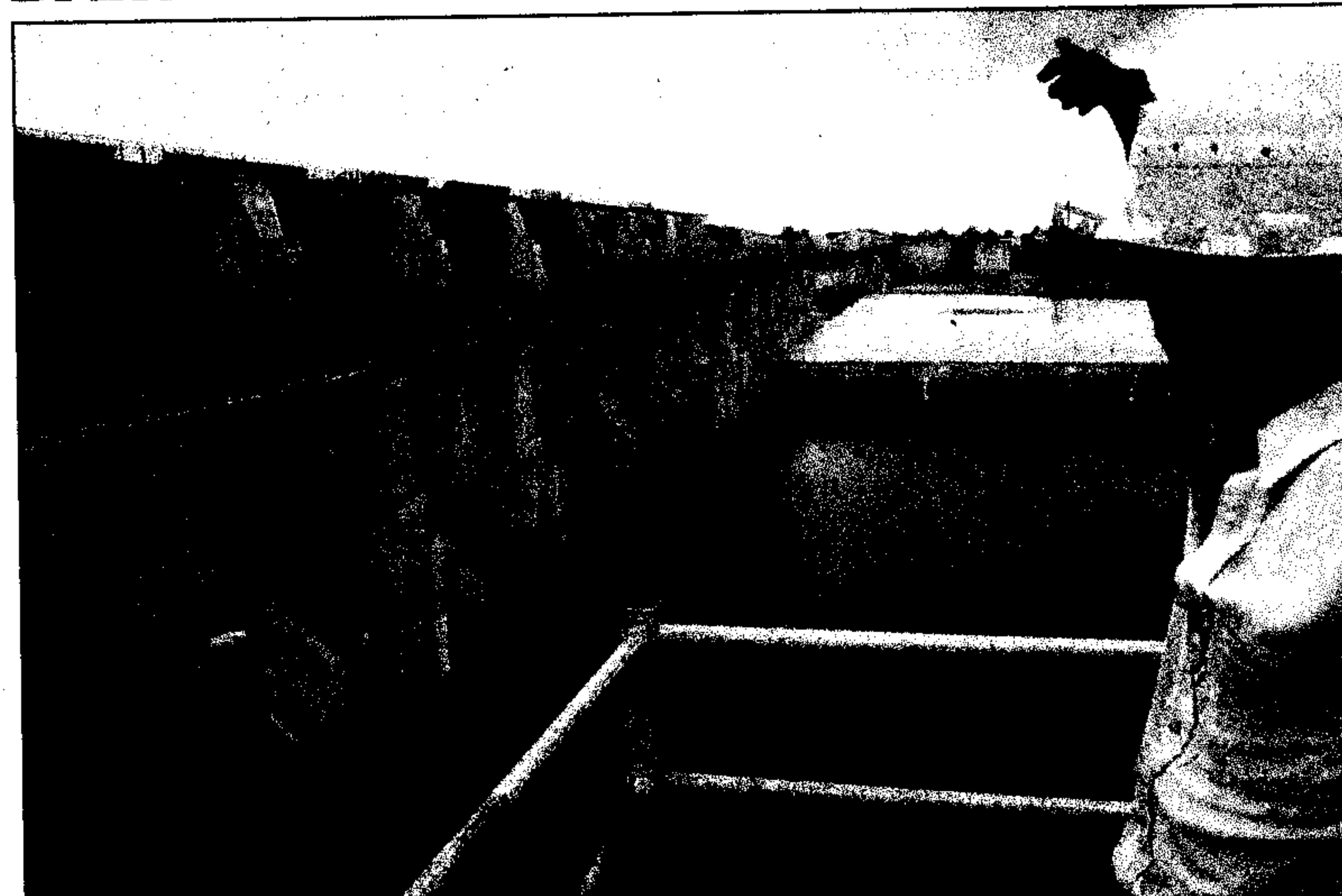
Apprehending arrest, Sanjay Kholapurkar had moved the Bombay HC's Nagpur bench. On Friday, Justice Sunil Shukre granted interim anticipatory bail. He was told to furnish a Rs 20,000 bond with a surety for the same amount in case of arrest and attend court proceedings.

Sanjay Kholapurkar's name along with that of two more VIDC officials, was not in the FIR registered by the ACB in February. The FIR named only chief engineer SR Suryawanshi and executive engineer Ramesh Wardhane. Five promoters of the contracting firm FA Constructions were also among the accused then.

Now six months later, the chargesheet names three more officials including Kholapurkar, who joined Gadkari's office after the BJP came to power in 2014, and leaves out all but one of the five promoters, Nisar Khatri, who held power of attorney. The chargesheet focuses on irregularities in an over Rs 100-crore deal to build the Ghodazari branch of the left bank canal of Gosikhurd dam. ACB superintendent of police Sanjay Darade said, "The officials illegally revised the tender cost by Rs 7.38 crore thereby causing a loss to VIDC. The then executive director of VIDC approved the revision and thus illegally benefitted the contractor."

"The bid scrutinizing committee members also illegally increased the marks of the contractor firm to award it the work," said deputy SP Milind Totre. The chargesheet is the fallout of a PIL filed by NGO Jan Manch against irregularities in irrigation contracts. The state had assured the Nagpur bench of the HC that it would conduct a fair probe. The ACB was supposed to file a chargesheet in 90 days. But it took six months after filing of the FIRs to do so. The ACB was investigating 40 tenders of the Gosikhurd

DAMMED STATE: THE FLOW OF MONEY



THE VIDARBHA CASE

➤ Anti-corruption bureau chargesheet 5 officers of Nagpur-based, state-run firm for inflating costs involved in building a network of irrigation canals

➤ Several projects to supply water to arid regions across Konkan, Vidarbha and Nashik under probe for expenditure, award of contracts to dubious firms after PIL by Jan Manch

THE PLAYERS

➤ Five serving and retired officers of Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corp named in chargesheet for a scam dating back to 2007. One of them is SL Kholapurkar, engineer who took VRS from govt service, became officer on special duty to union minister Nitin Gadkari in 2014 after BJP was elected to power

➤ Chargesheet also names Nisar Khatri of FA Constructions, which won over ₹100-crore deal to build branch of canal originating from Gosikhurd dam

MODUS OPERANDI

FA forged documents, submitted bogus work experience certificates. Got marks increased by scrutiny panel during bid evaluation process

SCALE OF THE SCAM

14 projects scrapped by present govt had budgets that steadily mounted to touch thousands of crores. For eg. Balganga irrigation scheme in Konkan had initial budget of ₹414 cr when commissioned by erstwhile Cong-NCP govt. With delays, costs escalated and revised estimate was pegged at ₹1,600 cr

THE TOI STORY

➤ TOI has reported on govt-contractor nexus in irrigation since 2009. It took up the issue again two years later and ran an investigative series that probed the reasons for escalation of costs and delays in execution of work

➤ Three erstwhile Cong-NCP ministers — Ajit Pawar, Sunil Tatkare, Chhagan Bhujbal — were at centre of controversy; probe was conducted by state anti-corruption bureau

BJP's promise to nail big names yet to be realised

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Mumbai: It's over two years since BJP's first chief minister in Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis, ordered an inquiry against erstwhile NCP ministers Ajit Pawar, Sunil Tatkare and Chhagan Bhujbal in connection with their alleged role in the irrigation scam. Four FIRs and two chargesheets later, the anti-corruption bureau (ACB) has so far nailed some mid-level officials and small contractor firms; the big names are yet to be named by investigators. Bhujbal and his nephew Sameer are in jail, but it's a case initiated by the Enforcement Directorate for alleged money laundering.

In the run-up to the 2014 assembly elections, corruption in the irrigation sector was the main poll plank of the BJP. Fadnavis and Vinod Tawde had claimed that the BJP had sufficient evidence to nail Ajit Pawar, Tatkare and Bhujbal.

PILs were filed before Bombay High Court as well as before the Nagpur bench demanding a probe into the allotment of irrigation contracts and for constructing Maharashtra Sadan in Delhi. During hearing of a PIL before the Nagpur bench, then advocate general Sunil Manohar had told the court that Fadnavis had granted permission for an open inquiry against Ajit Pawar, Tatkare and Bhujbal. However, the ACB has so far not fixed responsibility on Pawar or Tatkare.

Pawar and Tatkare are under investigation for allotment of contracts for 12 projects in the Konkan region and one each in Nashik and Vidarbha. Pawar was summoned in October 2015 to record a statement on the Balganga project, while Tatkare was called a day later for questioning on the Kondhane project. But so far ACB is yet to decide if they can be booked under the prevention of corruption act.

A senior bureaucrat said unless politicians are held accountable, the exercise would be futile. "ACB has so far booked more than a dozen irrigation department officials, but all of them retired long back," he said.

project that are above Rs 25 crore. The state recently cancelled tenders of 81 Gosikhurd project works over complaints of irregularities and sub-standard work. This includes tenders bagged by contractors like Abhay Sancheti and Mitesh Bangadia.

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News item/letter/article/editorial published on 22.09.2004 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

A a j (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

Mahadayi tribunal suggests talks

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Mahadayi Water Dispute Tribunal on Thursday suggested to Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra to resolve the dispute amicably through talks.

The tribunal, headed by JM Panchal, suggested that instead of seeking the Centre's intervention, chief ministers of the three warring states can hold talks and resolve the dispute cordially.

"There is nothing wrong in chief ministers of the three states discussing the issue for resolving it. This will also help save time and money," Panchal said during cross-examination of the witnesses. The hearing was adjourned to October 3.

The counsels for the three states, Mohan Katarki for Karnataka, Atmaram Nadakarni for Goa and Deepak Nargolkar for Maharashtra, agreed to communicate the tribunal's suggestion to the chief ministers concerned. The state government had filed a petition before the tribunal seeking 7.5 tmcft of water from the Mahadayi River to provide water for drinking and irrigation purposes to parts of Belagavi, Gadag and Hubballi-Dharwad region.

The petition was strongly opposed by Goa, which stated that the diversion of water would lead to destruction of the environment and also dry its lifeline, the Mandovi River.

People from north Karnataka have been holding protests seeking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention. The state government, too, urged the prime minister to convene a meeting.

CM says ready for talks with Goa, Maharashtra on Mahadayi dispute

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has welcomed the Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal's suggestion that the three riparian states of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa go for an out-of-court settlement by holding talks.

"The Karnataka government has been of the view that the dispute can be resolved through talks. I had repeatedly urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and help resolve the dispute through talks. I will again write to the prime minister and the chief ministers of Goa and Maharashtra... Karnataka is ready for talks," he said on Thursday, reacting to the tribunal's suggestion.

Siddaramaiah further said he would invite his Goa and Maharashtra counterparts to Bengaluru for talks. "I am

ready to go to Delhi if the prime minister extends an invitation. Holding talks is important, not the place," he added. The counsels for Goa and Maharashtra have informed the tribunal that they would advise their chief ministers to hold talks. It's a good development, he said.

Asked about the accusation that Chief Secretary Arvind Jadhav has encroached on government land, Siddaramaiah said the Union government had extended the former's term by three months (till September).

The state government has started the process to appoint a new chief secretary, he added. The chief minister further said he would go to Delhi on Friday to hold discussions with the Congress high command on appointing heads of various boards and corporations.

News Item/letter/article/editorial published on, 14 September 1966 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

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The Times of India (A)

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महानदी जल : विवाद नहीं सुलझा तो ट्रिब्यूनल में जाएंगे

रायपुर, (आशीष शर्मा): छत्तीसगढ़ और ओडिशा के बीच महानदी जल विवाद गहराता जा रहा है। इस मामले में दोनों ही राज्यों के बीच टकराव के हालात हैं। सहमति नहीं बनने की स्थिति में भी संशय का माहौल बना हुआ है। सूत्रों की मानें तो छत्तीसगढ़ भी अब ओडिशा के इंद्रावती बांध में बन रहे स्ट्रक्चर को लेकर आपत्ति कर सकता है। विवाद कायम रहा तो इस मामले में ट्रिब्यूनल के गठन की भी कवायदें शुरू हो सकती हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मामला और भी लंबा खिंच सकता है। पहले ही कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडू के बीच कावेरी जल विवाद सुलझा नहीं है।

संशय का माहौल

■ छ.ग.-ओडिशा में टकराव बढ़ा : बोर्ड के गठन पर अभी भी फैसला लम्बित

दोनों ही राज्यों का मामला ट्रिब्यूनल में है। इधर छत्तीसगढ़ और ओडिशा का मामला अभी केन्द्र सरकार के स्तर पर चर्चा के विकल्प पर टिका हुआ है। केन्द्रीय जल संसाधन मंत्री उमा भारती की मध्यस्थता में दोनों ही राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों के बीच 11 सितंबर को होने वाले बैठक को अहम माना जा रहा है। हालांकि इस बैठक में भी छत्तीसगढ़ अपना

पक्ष जोरदार ढंग से रखने की तैयारी में है। वहीं संयुक्त नियंत्रण बोर्ड के गठन को लेकर भी दबाव बढ़ा सकता है, लेकिन बोर्ड गठित करने के मामले में ओडिशा सरकार तैयार नहीं है। विवाद गहराने के बावजूद दोनों ही राज्यों के बीच अब तक आधिकारिक वार्ता तक नहीं हो पाई है। हालांकि इस मामले में केन्द्रीय जल आयोग के समक्ष दोनों राज्यों के मुख्य सचिवों की बैठक हो चुकी है। इस बैठक को भी बेनतीजा ही माना जा रहा है, इस बैठक में बोर्ड के गठन की सहमति को लेकर ओडिशा सरकार ने अब तक कोई संकेत नहीं दिए हैं।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on September 4, 2017 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

A a j (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

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

‘फरक्का बराज का दोबारा अध्ययन हो’



पटना | हिन्दुस्तान ब्यूरो

बिहार में बाढ़ की गंभीर समस्या को देखते हुए मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार ने फिर केंद्र से आग्रह किया है कि फरक्का बराज के औचित्य पर अध्ययन के लिए जल्द विशेषज्ञों की टीम दोबारा भेजे। उन्होंने शनिवार को ट्वीट कर कहा है कि

फरक्का बराज की उपयोगिता पर सवाल उठाने वाला मैं अकेला नहीं हूँ।

पश्चिम बंगाल के मुख्य अभियंता ने भी इसका विरोध किया था और कहा था कि यह बिहार में बाढ़ का कारण बनेगा। तब उन्हें पाकिस्तान का जासूस तक कहा गया था। मुख्यमंत्री ने विशेषज्ञों की बात को भी ट्वीट पर लिंक कर बताया है। उन्होंने कहा है कि मैं विशेषज्ञ नहीं हूँ, पर मैं फिर केंद्र से आग्रह करता हूँ कि

फरक्का बराज के औचित्य के अध्ययन का यह उचित समय है। फरक्का बराज की वजह से गंगा नदी में गाद का काफी जमाव हो रहा है। केंद्र सरकार नमामी गंगे कार्यक्रम पर फोकस कर रही है। पर गंगा की अविरलता को बाधित रखकर यह नहीं किया जा सकता है। गाद हटाने को प्रभावी राष्ट्रीय गाद प्रबंधन नीति जल्द बननी चाहिए, जो बिना पर्यावरण को क्षति पहुंचाए समस्या से निजात दिलाए।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on September 5.9.2016 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

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The Times of India (A)

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

उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश से निकलने वाली इन नदियों से बुंदेलखंड को पानी मिलेगा

केन और बेतवा नदी जुड़ेगी

तैयारी

मेरठ | निशांत कौशिक

केंद्र सरकार, पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के सपने को पूरा करने जा रही है। दो नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने वाली पहली योजना पर काम शुरू हो चुका है। उत्तर प्रदेश से निकलने वाली केन और मध्य प्रदेश से निकलने वाली बेतवा नदी को आपस में जोड़कर पूरे बुंदेलखंड को पानी दिया जाएगा। इससे दोनों राज्यों की छह लाख हेक्टेयर कृषि भूमि इस योजना से सिंचित होगी।

इस योजना की घोषणा रविवार को केंद्रीय जल संसाधन और नदी विकास, गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री मुजफ्फरनगर सांसद डॉ. संजीव बालियान ने अपने फेसबुक पेज



पर की। इस घोषणा के बाद हिन्दुस्तान से फोन पर हुई वार्ता में केंद्रीय राज्यमंत्री डॉ. संजीव बालियान ने कहा कि केंद्र का प्रयास है कि वह बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र में पानी की कमी को पूरा कर इस इलाके को

खुशहाल बनाएं। इसके लिए वह पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के सपने पर काम कर रहे हैं। देशभर में विभिन्न नदियों को जोड़ने की योजनाओं पर काम चल रहा है।

25 हजार करोड़ की योजना

नदी जोड़ने के इस प्रोजेक्ट पर करीब 25 हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे। इन नदियों को जोड़ने की इस योजना से बुंदेलखंड में जहां पानी की कमी पूरी हो जाएगी। वहीं मध्यप्रदेश को भी पूरा पानी मिलेगा। 6 लाख हेक्टेयर कृषि भूमि इस योजना से सिंचित की जाएगी। करीब 13 लाख 42 हजार लोगों को इस योजना से पीने का पानी भी उपलब्ध होगा। योजना के लिए लगभग पूरी तैयारी हो चुकी है और अब सिर्फ पर्यावरण विभाग, वाइल्ड लाइफ की एनओसी शेष है। एनओसी आते ही योजना पर काम तेज कर दिया जाएगा।

मध्य प्रदेश से निकलने वाली बेतवा नदी • फाइल फोटो

गौरतलब है कि देश में सबसे पहली योजना इसी साल शुरू होगी। इसके तहत उत्तर प्रदेश से निकलने वाली केन और मध्यप्रदेश से निकलने वाली बेतवा नदी को आपस में जोड़ा जाएगा।

दिनांक 4/9/1998 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

The Times (Delhi)
The Hindustan Times (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The New Indian Express (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
The Telegraph (Kolkata)
हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

19 more perish in the Bihar floods

NEW DELHI: Flood fury continued in Bihar with 19 more people perishing, taking the toll this season to 198, even as some parts of north India received light to moderate rainfall.

Patna accounted for the maximum 10 deaths, followed by Saran six, and one each in Lakhisarai, Samastipur and Begusarai, a statement by the Disaster Management Department said.

Floods have been caused mainly by the swollen Ganga, apart from other rain-fed rivers like Sone, Punpun, Burhi Gandak, Ghaghra, Kosi, affecting 41.90 lakh people in 2,179 villages of 12 districts. So far, 6.96 lakh people have been evacuated from these districts.

According to the Water Resources Department, the Ganga is witnessing a receding trend at Digha ghat, Gandhi ghat and Hathidah in Patna district and other places in Buxar, Munger and Bhagalpur districts.

But it is still flowing above the danger mark at Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur district.

Temperatures remained at



People on boat wade through flooded river in Didarganj area in Patna on Saturday. PTI

comfortable level in Patna and other parts of the state due to light rain, even as humidity remained high.

Patna received 6.3 mm rain since Friday and recorded a maximum temperature of 33.4 degrees Celsius.

In Himachal Pradesh, high altitude areas recorded mild snowfall while Palampur received moderate rainfall.

Una was the hottest in the region recording a maximum

temperature of 34.6 degrees Celsius.

Shimla recorded a high of 23.5 degrees Celsius.

In the national capital, the maximum temperature settled at 34.4 degrees Celsius, considered normal for the ongoing season.

The minimum temperature was recorded at 25 degrees Celsius, a notch below normal.

Light to moderate rain and thundershowers occurred at a

few places in eastern Uttar Pradesh and at isolated places over western parts of the state.

In West Bengal, the capital city and the districts witnessed widespread rainfall along with thundershower under the influence of the cyclonic circulation.

The MeT department warned of widespread rainfall across the state in the next two days under the influence of a developing low pressure in north-western part of Bay of Bengal.

"It is still a cyclonic circulation and is likely to form a low pressure. The indication is that the depression is likely to be formed in the north-western part of Bay of Bengal, Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand," Director of India Meteorological Department Kolkata G K Das said.

In Punjab and Haryana, joint capital Chandigarh recorded a maximum temperature of 33 degrees Celsius.

Ambala and Amritsar recorded a high of 32.5 degrees Celsius and 34 degrees Celsius.

PTI

दिनांक 31 सितम्बर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/बाद सम्बन्धी समाचार

The Times (Delhi)

The Hindustan (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The New (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Good rains in several parts of state

BENGALURU: A few districts in the state received good rainfall on Friday.

The coastal, Malnad and the semi-arid regions in Uttar Kannada district received moderate showers on Friday.

While intermittent rains lashed Karwar the entire day, Mundgod received heavy rains for a few hours. Bhatkal, Honnavar, Kumta, Ankola, Sirsi, Siddapur and Yellapur received light rains.

Hubballi and Dharwad received light rains in the morning and afternoon.

Mangaluru experienced drizzle in the morning, while the sky remained overcast throughout the day. Dakshina Kannada district received an average of 3.5 mm of rainfall

in the last 24 hours.

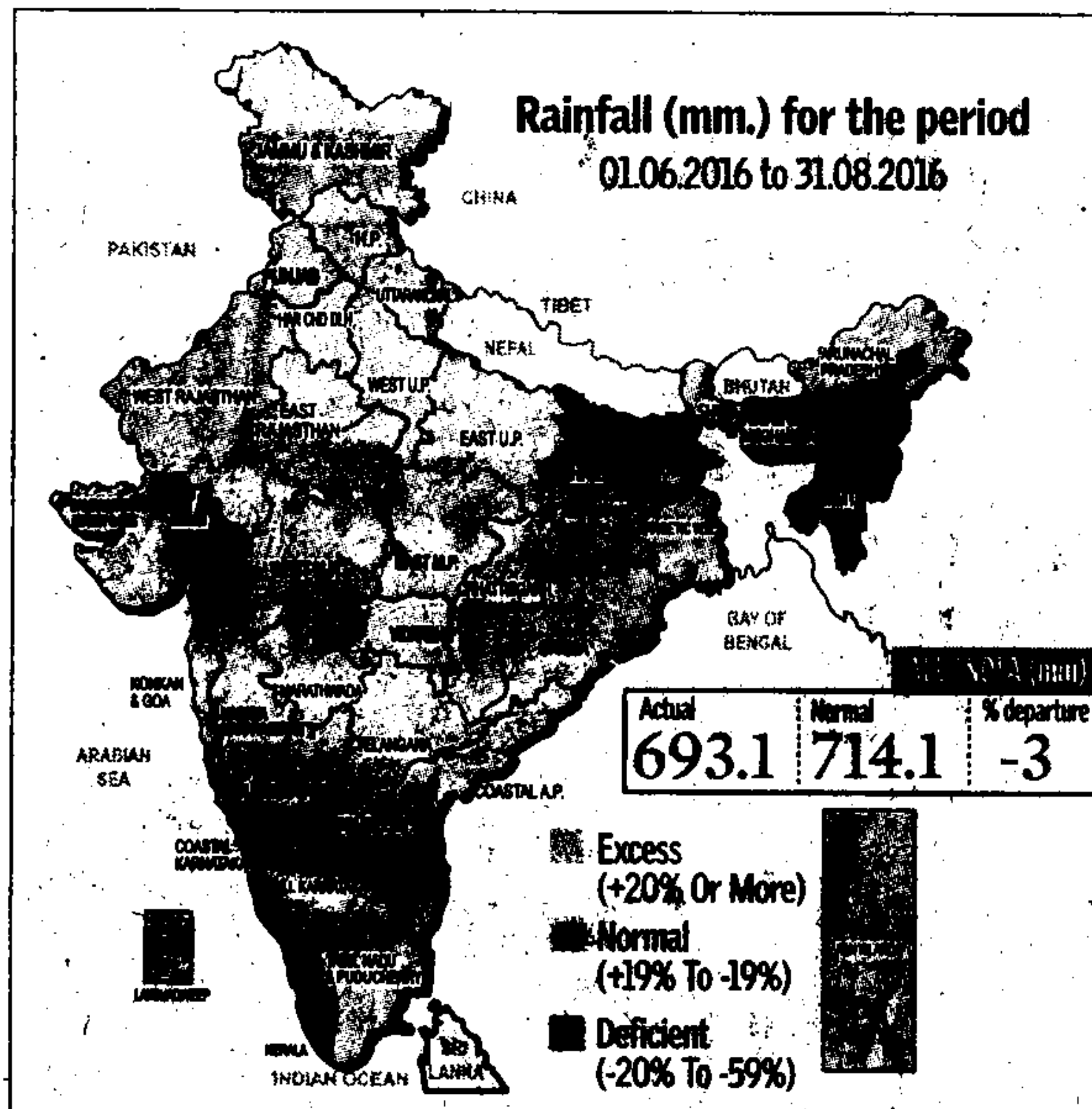
Kodagu district received an average of 6.39 mm rainfall. The water-level in the Harangi reservoir stood at 2,855 feet. The inflow of water was 1,411 cusecs while 600 cusecs water is released into the river.

Moderate rains lashed Malnad region in Shivamogga district on Friday. Thirthahalli, Hosanagar, Sagar, Bhadravathi, Shivamogga received moderate rains in the morning. Though several parts of the district witnessed cloudy weather throughout the day, there was no rainfall. The water-level in the Linganamakki dam rose to 1,793.55 feet against the maximum level of 1,819 feet. The inflow of water was 5,035 cusecs.

DH News Service

FROM PAGE ONE

IMD gets August forecast wrong



As *The Hindu* reported in July, the IMD is planning to shift next year to a forecast system that relies on a supercomputer-led dynamical weather-modelling. Moreover, unless September gets 150 per cent more rain than normal, it is unlikely that India will meet its forecast target of a 6 per cent surplus rain for the monsoon. So far, the all-India monsoon deficit as of August 31 was 3 per cent.

In June, the agency's updated forecast said India would receive 6 per cent more than the 89 cm it normally gets between June and September and that the August rain would be 4 per cent more than the 26 cm that the country usually gets. An error margin of 9 per cent is built into the IMD's forecasts of monthly rainfall but even so, an 8 per cent deficit lies well outside the margin of error. IMD officials said they were not perturbed by the August deficit because India, on the whole, had received well-distributed rain, and this had led to improved sowing.

Also, all forecast models — even global ones — expected a “stronger” La Nina, the converse of an El Nino and usually associated with good rain over India, to set in around August. So far La Nina has been extremely weak.

“The big deficiency we could not anticipate was the reduced rain in the South,” said D.S. Pai, Chief Forecaster, IMD, Pune.

“There were other factors such as a negative Indian Ocean dipole and an unfavourable Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) that obstructed La Nina.”

Both of these refer to phenomena in the seas surrounding India and global atmospheric disturbances known to affect the monsoon during July and August. Mr. Pai and B.P. Yadav, spokesperson, IMD, said the agency was unlikely to revise its numbers for the season, but Mr. Pai said India could “still end up with above normal rain” at the end of the season.

Monsoon break

Typically, the monsoon tends to take a “break” in July or August and this year, the break began around mid-August. As IMD's weather chart shows, India did not meet its weather quota even for a single day between August 12 and 30. Private forecaster Skymet has already revised its forecast for the monsoon downwards mid-August, and said India would not register surplus rain. “We don't expect much change in weather conditions for the rest of the month,” Jatin Singh, CEO, Skymet, said. “However, September is going to be better.”

On the back of successive droughts in 2014 and 2015 — because of one of the strongest El Ninos on record — weather agencies had said 2016 would be a good year because El Nino had receded.

दिनांक 21 सितम्बर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

(Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

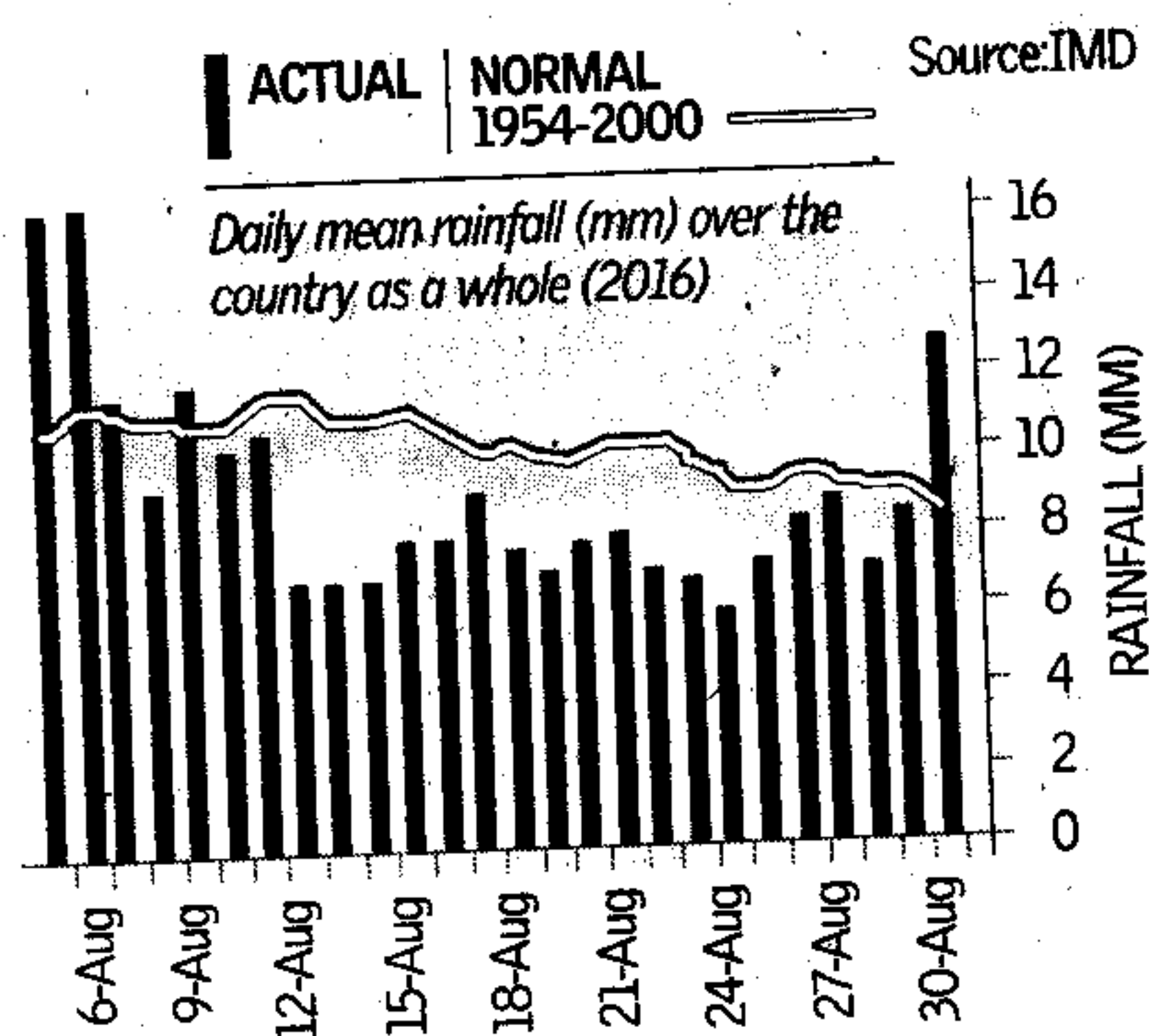
The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

IMD gets its August forecast wrong

WET SPELL PAUSED

Contrary to the forecast by weather tracker IMD for August, India got 8.5% less rain than what's normal for the month



8.5 % less rain than normal against prediction of excess

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has erred on its forecast for monsoon rain in August. In June, it said that India would get more rain than it usually did but as of August 31, the country got significantly less

— or 8.5 % less rain — than what's normal for the month, according to the IMD website.

While this wouldn't affect water availability for agriculture and the storage in reservoirs, it suggests that the agency's weather models are still not robust enough to capture changes in global climate that could affect the Indian monsoon.

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

The Hindu 2 Sep

37 lakh people affected; but 166 blocks in 27 districts stare at drought

Death toll in Bihar flood rises to 172

NEW DELHI: With four more deaths, the toll in Bihar floods on Thursday went up to 172.

Two deaths were reported at Begusarai and one each at Bhojpur and Samastipur, taking the toll to 172, a statement from the State Disaster Management Department said here. The statement added that 61 animals have also perished in the calamities so far.

Heavy rain lashed the national capital for the second consecutive day on Thursday.

The Safdarjung observatory, which had recorded 63.5 mm rainfall till 8.30 am, recorded 5.9 mm rainfall during the day, while the reading at the Palam observatory was 18.9 mm.

The maximum temperature settled at 31 degrees, three notches below normal, while the minimum was recorded at 25.2 degrees Celsius, a notch below normal, a Met official said.

Tough time

Commuters again faced a tough time in the morning rush hours. Traffic snarls were witnessed on roads leading to Gurgaon and Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport. Heavy rain-affected flight operations.

On Wednesday, the city had received the season's highest rainfall of 63.1 mm.

Swirling waters inundated 12 districts of Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Vaishali, Saran, Begusarai, Samastipur, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Munger, Bhagalpur and Katihar.

According to the Central

2 bodies found in Assam

The bodies of two women were found on Thursday morning, while two other members of the same family are yet to be traced after they were washed away in a landslide and floods in Assam's Cachar district, police said, *DHNS* reports from Guwahati. Four of a family were washed away on Wednesday night when their house was damaged in a landslide following heavy rain in the Kashiya-punji area of Bhubanpar, about 35 km from district headquarters Silchar.

Flood Control, the water level of the Ganga receded at Digha ghat, Gandhi ghat (both in Patna district) and Munger, but the river was flowing above the danger mark at Hathidah, Sahabganj and Farakka.

The Sone River was flowing 55 cm below the danger level at Maner in Patna district, a Central Water Commission statement said, adding that the Burhi Gandak was flowing 131 cm above the red mark at Khagaria.

A total of 37.7 lakh people were affected by floods in different parts of the state, the statement said. The swirling waters of the Ganga, Sone, Punpun, Burhi Gandak, Ghaghra, Kosi and other rivers have inundated 77 blocks and 2,029 villages, it added.

PTI



MUDDY RIDE: Vehicles wade through a waterlogged road at Palam Vihar after heavy rain in Gurgaon on Thursday. PTI

Heavy rain continues to lash Hyderabad

HYDERABAD: Heavy rain continued to lash Hyderabad for the second consecutive day on Thursday, leading to waterlogging and traffic jams in many areas of the city.

The incessant rain, which inundated over 200 low-lying areas in the city, claimed seven lives, including two infants and three women.

With the Met office forecasting another 24 hours of rain here and parts of Andhra Pradesh due to a weakening low pressure area, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, as a precautionary

measure lifted the gates of the Hussain Sagar (Tank Bund) for the first time in history and released 120 cusecs of water into the drains. With the water level in the man-made reservoir reaching its full capacity of 531.61 metres, authorities have evacuated residents close to the drains in Gandhinagar, Ashok Nagar, Chikkadpally and Amberpet areas.

Traffic snarls

Traffic was severely hit with most of the roads under knee-deep water, inconveniencing schoolchildren and office staff.

Panjagutta, Somajiguda, Ameerpet, Khairatabad, Mehdiapatnam and Dilsukhnagar witnessed traffic jams for hours.

As the South Central Railway cancelled 10 local trains with rainwater flooding the tracks, commuters were left stranded in several stations.

Meanwhile, due to the heavy inflow into the Krishna river from the catchment areas in Telangana, the water level in the Pulichintala project reached 47 metres, inundating two villages in Nalgonda district of Telangana. Even as Telan-

gana requested the Andhra Pradesh government to release water to the Prakasam barrage and subsequently to the Bay of Bengal, the Andhra government has plans to store at least 50 metres of water in Pulichintala, which could be later utilised to irrigate lakhs of acres in the delta area.

However, with 16,000 cusecs of water from the catchment areas of Munneru and Vajinapalli raising the levels in the Prakasam barrage, engineers released 2,900 cusecs of water into the Bay of Bengal.

DH News Service

दिनांक २ सितम्बर

को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Times (Delhi)

मन (दिल्ली)

(Chandigarh)

Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai) .

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)

The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

The Assam Tribune
Bihar flood toll rises to 172

PATNA, Sept 1: With four more deaths, the toll in Bihar floods today rose to 172 even as water level at many points in the swollen Ganga river receded.

Two fresh deaths were reported in Begusarai and one each in Bhojpur and Samastipur, taking the toll in the fresh round of flood in Ganga and other rivers to 172, a statement from state Disaster Management department said, adding that 61 animals have also perished in the calamity.

Swirling waters inundated 12 districts of Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Vaishali, Saran, Begusarai, Samastipur, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Munger, Bhagalpur and Katihar.

According to Central Flood Control, the water level of Ganga receded at Digha ghat, Gandhi ghat (both in Patna district) and Munger.

But, the water in Ganga was flowing above the danger level in Hathidah, Sahebganj and Farakka, it said.

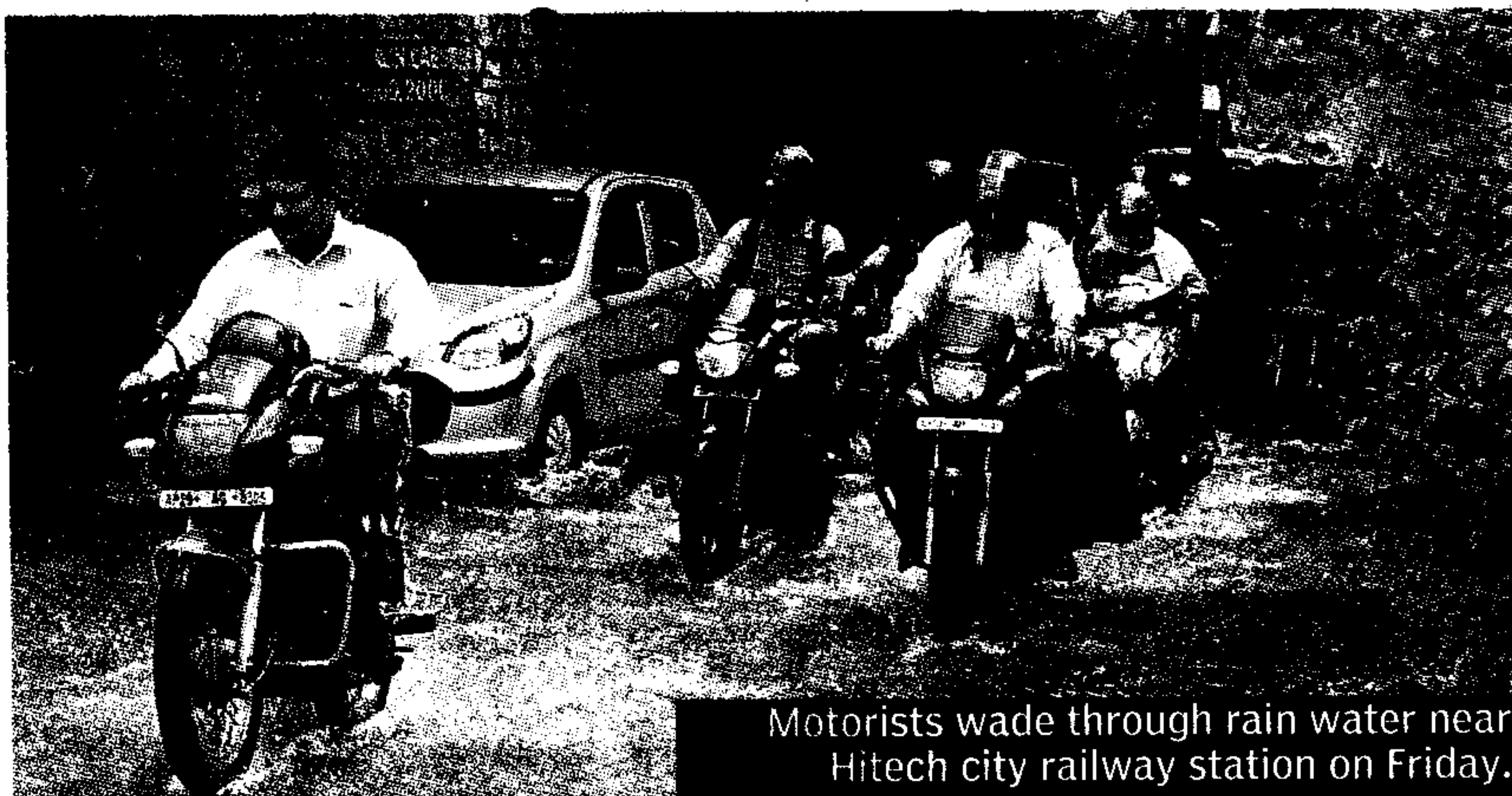
In other rivers, water was flowing 55 cm below the danger mark in Sone river at Maner in Patna district, the Central Water Commission statement said. - PTI

दिनांक 21/08/2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

The Times (Delhi)
 समाचार (दिल्ली)
 (Chandigarh)
 Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
 The Times of India (Mumbai)
 The Telegraph (Kolkata)
 हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
 The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
 Central Chronical (Bhopal)



Motorists wade through rain water near Hitech city railway station on Friday.

**AUGUST RAIN
 DAMAGE REPORT**

45,658 Potholes in an area of
 55.840 square metres

1,657

Water stag-
 nation points

594

Trees
 fell

1,020

Catch pit
 repairs

2,049

Manhole
 covers
 replacement

1,371

Manhole
 repairs

21

Wall
 collapse

₹22 crore Is the estimated amount for road repair

Rain weak in Sept. too

COREENA SUARES | DC
 HYDERABAD, SEPT. 2

The city weather bureau and Accuweather have forecast moderate rains in Hyderabad for a few days in September.

A similar pattern was witnessed in July and August wherein there was very light rain throughout the two months. However, the month ends saw very heavy rains.

On August 31, heavy rains upped the rainfall count from 4 cm to 11 cm for Hyderabad. It was

the same in July. Hyderabad, however, is still 41 per cent deficit when it comes to average rainfall.

For the next seven days, the IMD website has forecast a generally cloudy sky with possibilities of rain or thunderstorms or dust storms.

Accuweather meanwhile warns of showers on 3rd, 15th and 16th of September.

The Telangana State Planning Development Society, which is responsible for feeding government agencies with

weather bulletins, in its monthly report for September, has forecast only moderate rains on very few days.

The rainfall pattern was similar in July and August too.

Except for a day or two that recorded heavy showers, there wasn't much rain throughout the months.

Quthbullapur (2 cm), Serilingampally (2 cm) and Kukatpally (3 cm) received rains on Thursday night. An average of 1 cm was recorded in the city.

दिनांक 5 सितंबर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
मनोरंजन हिन्दुस्तान
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
The Telegraph (Kolkata)
हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)
The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)
Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

65 Aug Sept Met dept to issue alerts for severe winter this year

NEW DELHI: In a first, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) will issue winter forecast and cold wave alerts for the season from this year. The forecasts will be issued for December, January and February.

"By November end this year, we will be issuing winter forecast for the season," IMD director general KJ Ramesh said.

The IMD has been issuing monsoon forecasts for over 25 years. This will be the first time that the department will issue a forecast for the winter season. The IMD started forecasting warnings of "severe to very severe" heat waves during the summer season this year.

"Like the summer forecast where above normal temperature was important, the winter forecast will give a general outlay on whether the temperatures in the cold season will be 'above normal' or 'below normal'. We will be specifying which pockets are likely to expect below normal temperatures," Ramesh said.

PTI

दिनांक 2 सितम्बर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Times (Delhi)

सम (दिल्ली)

(Chandigarh)

Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

After floods, drought threat looms large over Bihar

PATNA: It's a double whammy for Bihar. While 11 districts face the threat of floods due to a surge in the Ganga, the remaining 27 districts, out of 38, are on the verge of being declared drought-hit.

The data procured from the Met department shows that Bihar has witnessed abysmally low rainfall this monsoon. Against a normal average rainfall of 803 mm, Bihar has received only 635.9 mm rain-

fall since June. As many as 166 block spread over 27 district are facing drought.

The Bihar government has asked its agriculture and Met departments to prepare a ground report about the 27 drought-hit districts so that a memorandum could be submitted to the Centre seeking financial aid. "We have sought a report about the 166 drought-hit blocks spread over 27 districts. After receiv-

ing the report, we will submit a memorandum to the Centre," said Anirudh Kumar, joint secretary, Disaster Management Department.

Strangely enough, a large area of Patna district, which faced flood threat till last week, is also affected by drought in the western and southern zones. This anomaly could be gauged from the fact that Lok Sabha MP from Patliputra, Ram Kripal Yadav,

who also happens to be Union Minister of State for Rural Development, has written to Nitish Kumar on how the people of his constituency have been facing drought despite the Sone river overflowing.

"Sone is overflowing, but water is not reaching the canal. In my constituency, farmers from Bikram, Maner, Paliganj, Dulhin Bazar, Naubatpur and Bihta are facing drought," stated Kripal's

letter, a copy of which was also marked to Bihar Chief Secretary Anjani Kumar Singh. Kripal has given a 48-hour ultimatum to the Nitish Kumar regime to arrange water, failing which he would sit on a hunger strike.

The state officials averred that deficiency in rainfall in the districts range from 40% to 66%. Sheohar tops the chart with 66% rain deficit, followed by Saharsa, Munger,

East Champaran, Sitamarhi and Patna.

Agriculture officials said the paddy that has been cultivated so far had started wilting under the dry spell. "We hoped for good rainfall after August 15. But despite the Met department's prediction, there is scanty rainfall in several districts," said an official, adding that Bihar was earlier declared drought-hit in 2013.

DH News Service

Heavy rains in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Sept 1: Heavy rains continued to lash the national capital for the second consecutive day today leading to water-logging and traffic jams in many areas of the city.

Delhi had yesterday recorded season's highest rainfall at 63.1 mm till 5.30 PM and the readings hovered around the same levels for overnight rains.

"The Safdarjung observatory had recorded 63.5 mm rainfall till 8.30 AM while the reading at Palam observatory was 55.6 mm," a MeT official said. - PTI

The Telegraph - 4 Sept
Met scans cyclonic circulation over Bay, issues 'heavy rain' alert for today

Downpour floods city, claims student

OUR BUREAU

Calcutta, Sept. 3: Heavy rain lashed large parts of the city and its adjoining areas today, claiming a life, drowning many roads and crippling traffic.

The weather department has predicted "heavy rainfall" tomorrow, too, the prediction hinging on the possibility of a cyclonic circulation over the Bay of Bengal intensifying into a low-pressure zone

Mohammad Akram, a first-year student in Howrah's Narasinha Dutt College, drowned in a pond on the campus after he failed to distinguish it from a waterlogged road around 3.30pm. Friends said he had gone to fetch a ball when he drowned. A team from the fire department fished out the body around 5.30pm.

In Calcutta, the roads that went under water included CR Avenue, Mahatma Gandhi Road, College Street and Camac Street. The ripple effect disrupted traffic on some other roads, too, such as JL Nehru Road and all the roads in the Maidan area.

A tree uprooted and blocked the Maniktala-bound flank of Vivekananda Road, in north Calcutta, around 1.10pm. "The road was cleared around 3.25pm. We had a harrowing time controlling traffic on the road. The uprooted tree hit traffic on CR Avenue, too," a police officer said.

Commuters were inconvenienced across the city. "It took me 45 minutes to reach Chandni Chowk from Shakespeare Sarani. On other days I cover the distance in 15-20 minutes," a businessman said.

"Police had temporarily closed the Park Street flyover. So, we had to take Mayo Road, which was chock-a-block with



vehicles. All roads in the Maidan area were clogged."

According to Calcutta Municipal Corporation (CMC) records, it rained more in north Calcutta than in the south. In Ultadanga, it rained 105mm between 11am and 2pm. Maniktala received 80.5mm, Belgachhia 87mm and Palmer Bazar 85mm during the period.

In south Calcutta, Ballygunge and Kalighat received 41.2mm and 13mm of rain, respectively, from 11am to 2pm. Behala received 73.4mm, the highest in south Calcutta.

Waterlogging, too, was less in south Calcutta than in the north. As for the extensive flooding in north Calcutta, a civic official said: "There is hardly any way to prevent wa-

terlogging if it rains so heavily in such a short period. The city's drainage system is capable of handling 6mm of rain per hour. Today, it rained much more."

The Alipore weather office attributed the rain to the combined effect of a cyclonic circulation over the north Bay of Bengal and a low-pressure trough stretching from north Bengal to Bangladesh.

A trough is an imaginary line joining low-pressure points. The atmospheric pressures of a cyclonic circulation and a low-pressure trough are lower than their surroundings, resulting in the formations drawing air — in this case moisture-laden air from the sea — towards themselves.

A weather department official said the cyclonic circula-

tion might intensify into a low-pressure zone and cause "heavy rainfall" in the city on Sunday. In meteorological parlance, heavy rainfall means 64-124mm of rain in a day.

The grim prediction has cast a cloud on the plans of Puja shoppers. "I had planned to do some shopping on Sunday. Now, I am keeping my fingers crossed," said a college student.

दिनांक 3 सितम्बर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

The Times (Delhi)

The Indian Express (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The New Indian (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

DH - 3 Sept Cauvery: State counters TN claims in Supreme Court

NEW DELHI: Karnataka on Friday told the Supreme Court that sharing water in the distress water year of 2016-17 has to be managed equitably by it and Tamil Nadu to protect the interests of farmers and drinking requirements of Bengaluru and other cities.

"The allegation of Tamil Nadu that its irrigation dependent on Mettur would suffer has no basis," the state mentioned in an affidavit filed to the Tamil Nadu's application for release of 50 tmcft of the Cauvery water. "During the distress year, both the states have to manage water on an equitable basis. As on August 31, 2016, the live storage at Mettur is 35.17 tmcft, which is sufficient by itself for the next 35 days at the rate of one tmcft

per day as admitted by the chief secretary of Tamil Nadu during the water year 2001-02, which was initially a distress year," Karnataka said. The state submitted that the likely flows at the inter-state border Biligundlu in the month of September would be minimum of 13 tmcft to 20 tmcft, since in the similar bad years of 2002-03, 2003-04, 2012-13 and 2015-16, the inflow was 13.774, 13.385, 20.759 and 22.345 tmcft respectively.

As on August 31, 2016 Karnataka has ensured 33.05 tmcft of water, despite the inflows into its four reservoirs of Harangi, Hemavathi, KRS and Kabini being less by 46.84% of the normal year, it said.

Resolution adopted

The Tamil Nadu Assembly on

Friday urged the Centre not allow Karnataka and Kerala to go ahead with their dam projects on the Cauvery river saying they will affect the state.

Reading out a resolution in this regard, Chief Minister J Jayalithaa told the Assembly that Karnataka is planning to construct a dam across the Cauvery at Mekedatu and Kerala has proposed to build a reservoir across Siruvani river, a tributary of the Cauvery, reports DHNS from Chennai.

"The Centre should not allow Karnataka to go ahead with its project concerning the state till the Cauvery Management Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee come into force and judicial references are finally settled," she said.

DH News Service