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INDIA-BANGLADESH TIES

Teesta deal in joint statement

Modi says Tipaimukh project will not be taken forward in its present form

Suvojit Bagchi

One of the key contentious issues between India and Bangladesh — the sharing of Teesta river waters — finally made it to the joint statement, reaffirming India's commitment to settle the issue "as soon as possible."

According to the statement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi "conveyed that deliberations are under way involving all stakeholders with regard to conclusion of the Interim Agreements" on at least two rivers, Teesta and Feni. While it was not very different from what was said in the joint statement in 2011, there was one critical difference. In 2015, the Chief Minister of West Bengal visited Bangladesh and participated in key meetings.

Later in the evening, Mr. Modi said he would "make it [Teesta deal] happen." "We should not lose hope ever about this deal," he added.

India, however, addressed another long-standing demand of its neighbour — to

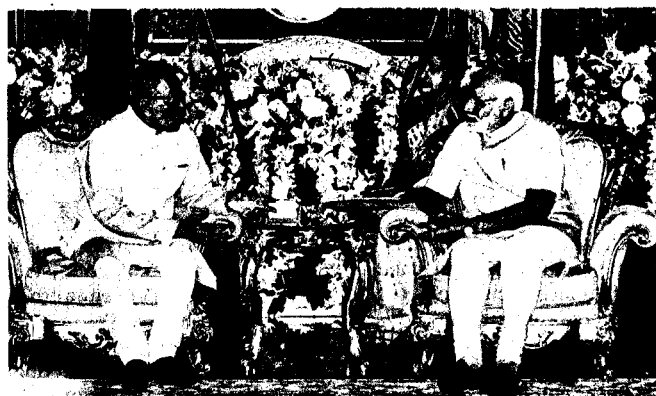
stop the construction of the Tipaimukh Hydro-Electric Power Project on the Barak river on the eastern edge of Bangladesh.

Tipaimukh project

"Prime Minister Modi also conveyed that the Tipaimukh project is not likely to be taken forward in its present form due to statutory requirements on the Indian side, and that India would not take any unilateral decision that may adversely impact Bangladesh," the statement said. Besides, the statement reiterated India's earlier position of not initiating "any unilateral decision on the Himalayan component of their river-interlinking project which may affect Bangladesh."

The two countries signed and exchanged 22 instruments, including four agreements, three protocols, 14 memoranda of understanding (MoUs) and one letter of consent on a range of issues.

Much stress was laid on augmenting power generation and supply. The Palatna project will



Bangladesh President Abdul Hamid with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the presidential residence in Dhaka on Sunday. — PHOTO AFP

be operational and 100 MW of power will go to Bangladesh, while overall supply will be augmented from 500 to 1,000 MW. "Both sides welcomed the consensus to evacuate power from the north-eastern region of India (Rangia/Rowta) to Muzaffargarh of India through Bangladesh," the statement said.

Both sides also claimed to have made substantial advance in connectivity. India will get access to its north-eastern States through Bangladesh, while Bangladesh

will have access to Nepal and Bhutan. Moreover, the Bangladesh shipping industry will substantially gain from an agreement on waterways connectivity. India has also agreed to "remove all barriers to ensure unfettered bilateral trade (to)...narrow the trade imbalance." India will now provide a second credit line of \$2 billion to the neighbouring country.

■ MODI'S DAY IN DHAKA | EDITORIAL

BNP, Jamaat hold different views on Modi's visit

Suvojit bagchi

DHAKA: The key Opposition parties of Bangladesh — the Bangladesh Nationalist party (BNP) and the Jamaat-e-Islami — are in a loose alliance, but have absolutely diametrically opposite views of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bangladesh visit.

While the BNP thinks that the visit was "well-intended," the Jamaat said that it has only facilitated "India's interest." Prime Minister Modi concluded his trip on Sunday night with a speech to the civil society, where he said that countries would grow together in future. "If your neighbour's wall is not strong, your wall — which is adjacent to your neighbours — will collapse, howsoever strong it may be," said Mr. Modi. One of the key

It has only facilitated India's interest, says Jamaat

advisers of BNP A.K. Mahmud Chowdhury said that he liked Mr. Modi's speech. "His intentions are noble."

"We need to look at the big picture and Mr. Modi has indeed come up with a clear vision. He spoke about strengthening bi-lateral relationship, while also focusing on regional growth in every sector...this is what the doctors have ordered for Bangladesh," he said.

He refused to put his finger on any one particular issue — like water sharing — which has not met the expectation of Bangladesh. "Everyone wants those things and so do we."

Deliberations are on for conclusion of interim agreements on water sharing

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 8/6/15 in the

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Water sharing not a political issue: Modi

Dhaka: "I am of the view that birds, air and water — these three do not need to have visas at all," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday while emphasising that the long-pending Teesta water-sharing pact should not be made a political issue and be dealt with from a humanitarian perspective.

In a public address organised by Dhaka University, Modi said he was positive about finding a solution.

"On the basis of humanitarian approach, we should try and find a solution and I am sure we will be able to do that together and will be able to find ways to resolve it," Modi said. The issue had figured prominently during the delegation level talks Modi had with Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina.

Teesta water is crucial for Bangladesh, especially in the leanest period from December to March, when the water flow often temporarily comes down to less than 1,000 cusecs from 5,000 cusecs. PTI

Teesta hurdle dampens Bangla media's euphoria over Modi visit

Dwaipayan Ghosh
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Kolkata: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's maiden visit to Dhaka hogged the limelight across Bangladeshi media. While TV channels followed his every move and dissected his speeches, most newspapers dedicated their front pages and editorials to the visit.

However, amid the euphoria, the politically challenging solution to the Teesta water crisis found enough mention, with at least two papers saying they were "saddened" by Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee's "studied silence" on the issue.

This was evident on Saturday itself. The Daily Star's banner headline read 'Modi Flies in Today, Hopes so High', while Bengali daily Prothom Alo hailed 'A visit of High Hopes'. On Sunday, the Star headlined the visit as the 'Dawn of a New Era'.



He is PM Modi's 1971 Bangladesh Liberation hero—'V' for Vajpayee.

Two other issues — Modi's "confidence" in finding a Teesta solution and the news of huge investments in Bangladesh by Reliance and the Adanis — made their way to the front page.

The Daily Observer chose to look into the future. Highlighting Modi's assurance on a Teesta solution, its front-page headline read: 'India to solve Teesta, Feniriver water issue: Modi'.

Prothom Alo wrote a long editorial on the ramifications of the visit, dwelling on why it had drawn more interest than the one by former PM Manmohan Singh.

However, there was a tinge of disappointment in the manner the Teesta problem was not proactively discussed. While the

Daily Observer carried a long story on Sunday about the drastic fall in the Teesta water level and how it was affecting the environment, a Daily Star editorial ('No breakthrough in Teesta')

was more direct: it said the Bengal CM's silence on the matter had hurt Bangladeshis, especially after her promises in February. "Mamata Banerjee's assurance in February this year, during her last visit, that we should have faith in her on the Teesta water-sharing deal was a very positive signal for us that a seemingly intractable problem was going to be resolved at last. We are disappointed that we heard nothing from her in this regard till going to press. The resolution seems not likely soon, primarily because of Paschim Banga's politics," the paper wrote. "While Modi's confidence on Teesta is heartening, it is predicated on the support of Paschim Banga. Thus our call to Paschim Banga chief minister — rise above petty party politics for the sake of good neighbourliness," it wrote.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

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DEPRESSION OVER ARABIAN SEA

IMD SAYS IT WILL INTENSIFY WITHIN 24 HOURS; MAHARASHTRA, KONKAN AND GOA COASTS IN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 7 June

India Meteorological Department (IMD) is closely monitoring a depression that has developed over the Arabian Sea and is expected to turn into a "deep depression", bringing heavy rains in Maharashtra, Goa and Gujarat.

Such a phenomenon affects the progress of monsoon, weather experts said.

IMD is yet to term it as a "cyclonic storm", but Skymet, a private weather forecasting agency, has said that the "depression" has already developed into a "deep depression" and is rapidly gaining strength, showing features of a "tropical storm".

"Latest satellite imagery and observations indicate that a depression has formed



over east-central Arabian Sea and lay centred at 08:30 hours IST today, June 7, about 690 km southwest of Mumbai, 740 km south-southwest of Veraval (Gujarat) and 1230 km south-east of Masirah Island (Oman).

"It would move north-northwestwards and inten-

sify further into a deep depression during next 24 hours. Strong winds speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph would prevail along and off Maharashtra, Konkan and Goa coasts during next 48 hours. Sea condition would be rough along and off Maharashtra, Konkan and Goa coasts

8/s
during the same period," IMD said.

It has categorised cyclones in various degrees, starting with "depression" and "deep depression", followed by a "cyclonic storm".

"We are monitoring the progress of the depression. It would be difficult to say if this would affect the progress of monsoon. At times, such patterns help give more moisture to the monsoon winds and help in progress.

"But there have been times when it has affected the progress of monsoon. Last year, cyclonic storm Nanauk in Arabian Ocean affected the progress of monsoon. It was supposed to hit Mumbai by June 10, but finally arrived on June 15," said Krishnanand Hosalkar, Deputy Director General, IMD.

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राजधानी दिल्ली समेत 15 शहरों में लू का प्रकोप बढ़ा

दि-8-6-15

नई दिल्ली | संजय शर्मा

दिल्ली, लखनऊ, पटना, भोपाल, जयपुर समेत देश के 17 शहरों में लू की अवधि और तीव्रता बढ़ी है। इन शहरों के 40 साल के आंकड़ों के अध्ययन के आधार पर विज्ञानियों ने यह निष्कर्ष निकाला है। इसका कारण जलवायु परिवर्तन और अंधाधुंध शहरीकरण को माना गया है।

आईआईटी गांधीनगर के सहायक प्रोफेसर विमल मिश्र की अगुवाई में भारतीय-अमेरिकी विज्ञानियों ने जो अध्ययन किया, उसके मुताबिक भारत सहित तमाम देशों में लू तीव्र हुई है। मिश्र के साथ अध्ययन में अनूप आर गांगुली (नार्थईस्टर्न यूनिवर्सिटी अमेरिका), बर्ट निजस्सेन (यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ कैलीफोर्निया, लास एंजेलिस) और डेनिस पी लेट्टेनेमेयर (यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ वाशिंगटन) शामिल थे। हिन्दी पट्टी के शहरों के अलावा अमृतसर, अहमदाबाद, नागपुर, भुवनेश्वर, मुंबई, पुणे, हैदराबाद, चेन्नई, मंगलौर, बेंगलुरु, तिरुवनंतपुरम और कोच्चि शहर के आंकड़ों पर शोध किया गया। दुनियाभर के 217 शहरों समेत इन सभी भारतीय शहरों में हवाई अड्डों के

मुख्य निष्कर्ष

- 40** साल में पांच साल सबसे ज्यादा लू वाले रहे। इनमें चार साल तो चालू सदी में दर्ज किए गए। ये साल हैं 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012।
- 60** प्रतिशत शहरों में ठंडी हवाओं वाले दिन कम हुए। 17 प्रतिशत में अति गरम दिन बढ़े हैं। 10 फीसदी शहरों में सालाना आधार पर गरम दिन दर्ज किए गए।

तेजी से विकसित और विशाल होते शहरों में छोटे-मोटे वॉटर, स्थानीय स्तर पर उठने वाली आंधियां कम हो गई हैं। कंक्रीट के शहर में इनकी स्थितियां बन ही नहीं पाती हैं। लिहाजा ठंडी हवाओं की जगह गरम हवाओं ने ले ली है।

—विमल मिश्र, सहायक प्रोफेसर आईआईटी, गांधीनगर



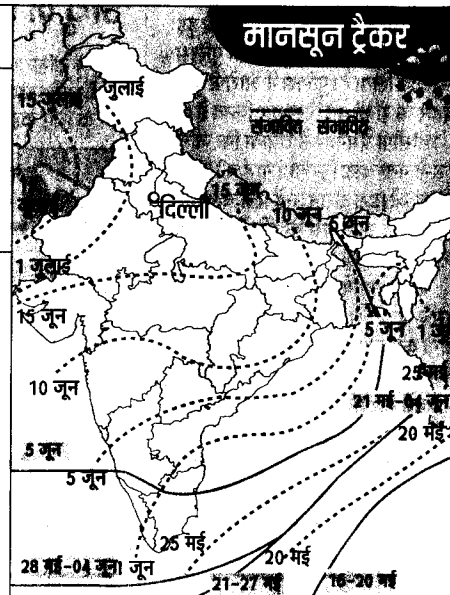
लू से मरने वालों में 61 फीसदी बढ़ोतरी 2004-2013 के बीच देश में लू से हुई मौतों 61 फीसदी बढ़ी है। 2002 से 2014 के बीच 6,529 लोगों की जान लू के कारण गई। इनमें से 5,544 लोग आंध्र प्रदेश और ओडिशा में मरे।

पास के 1973 से 2012 तक के तापमान में गैर शहरी इलाकों से तुलना की गई।

इससे पता चला कि तेजी से बढ़ता शहरीकरण ही लू की स्थिति पैदा कर रहा है। दोनों जगहों पर दिन-रात के तापमान में बड़ा फर्क दिखाई दिया। अध्ययनकर्ता विमल मिश्र ने

‘हिन्दुस्तान’ को बताया कि देश के इन सभी शहरों में गरम दिन और गरम रातों की संख्या में इजाफा हुआ है। सालाना और मौसमी तापमान 0.5 से 1.0 डिग्री सेल्सियस बढ़ा है। भले ही अंकों के लिहाज से यह ज्यादा प्रतीत न हो, पर इसका असर जबरदस्त हुआ है।

मानसून ट्रैकर



उत्तरी राज्यों में देर से आ सकता है मानसून

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

मानसून की कछुआ चाल से उत्तर भारत में इसके तय समय पर पहुंचने की उम्मीदें धूमिल होने लगी हैं। मौसम विभाग हालांकि इस बारे में स्पष्ट तौर पर कुछ भी कहने से बच रहा है, लेकिन पांच जून को केरल पहुंचने वाला मानसून अभी भी आगे नहीं बढ़ सका है।

मौसम विभाग के अनुसार, पिछले दो दिनों के दौरान मानसून की रफ्तार में यदि थोड़ी प्रगति हुई है, तो वह पूर्वोत्तर में है जहां धुबरी और गंगटोक तक मानसून पहुंच गया है, जबकि केरल से आंध्र और तमिलनाडु की ओर मानसून अभी भी नहीं

बढ़ पाया है। आमतौर पर दस जून तक मानसून केरल और उसके बाद 12 जून तक झारखंड एवं बिहार तथा 15 जून तक यूपी में प्रवेश कर जाता है, लेकिन इस बार धीमी चाल शंका पैदा कर रही है।

मानसून की रफ्तार कमजोर होने के कारण वैज्ञानिकों की उम्मीदें इस बार पश्चिम विक्षोभ पर टिकी हैं, जो उत्तर से आते हैं। नौ जून को फिर एक पश्चिमी विक्षोभ आने की संभावना है। विक्षोभों से उत्तर-पश्चिम भारत में अच्छी बारिश हो जाती है। इधर, बार-बार पश्चिमी विक्षोभ आ रहे हैं, जो बारिश की पूर्ति भी कर रहे हैं, लेकिन देखना यह है कि वह क्रम कब तक बना रहता है।

स्काईमेट ने की सामान्य मानसून की भविष्यवाणी

मौसम की भविष्यवाणी करने वाली निजी एजेंसी स्काईमेट ने अनुमान लगाया है कि इस वर्ष मानसून सामान्य रहेगा। स्काईमेट ने अलनीनो प्रभाव को ज्यादा महत्व न देते हुए कहा कि इससे बारिश पर असर पड़ने की गुंजाइश काफी कम है। अलनीनो से असामान्य वार्मिंग की स्थिति पैदा होती है। इससे दुनिया के विभिन्न हिस्सों में बाढ़ और सूखे की स्थिति बनती है।

पश्चिमी तट पर भारी बारिश की संभावना

मौसम विभाग को अरब सागर में गहरे दबाव क्षेत्र में तब्दील होने की संभावना है, जिससे महाराष्ट्र, गोवा और गुजरात में भारी बारिश हो सकती है। मौसम विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, इससे मानसून की प्रगति प्रभावित होती है। विभाग ने इसे चक्रवाती तूफान नहीं बताया है, लेकिन स्काईमेट का कहना है कि दबाव गहरे दबाव में परिवर्तित हो चुका है और मजबूत होता जा रहा है, जिसमें चक्रवाती तूफान के लक्षण दिख रहे हैं।

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A new dynamic is in motion

The Teesta waters treaty remains an irritant in the PM's otherwise productive Dhaka visit

The atmospherics could not have been better. **ourtake** Bangladesh's PM Sheikh Hasina broke with protocol to receive Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the airport. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee's flight was declared a VIP one and Dhaka airspace cleared for it. The substantive part of the visit matched the warmth on display with the ratification of the historic land boundary agreement, putting to rest a 41 year-old dispute and ending the stateless status of 50,000 people in 61 enclaves. The 4,096-km border has long been a thorn in the side of relations between the two countries. Another major step has been in India getting access to the ports of Chittagong and Mongla for its cargo vessels. At present, Indian ships have to go to Singapore, offload their cargo and then have it sent back to Bangladesh, an exercise which takes up to 40 days. With the new development, it will now take a week. But the more significant aspect is that Chittagong port was developed by the Chinese in its bid to expand its influence in the region and as part of its string of pearls strategy.

A slew of economic measures like a \$2 billion line of credit from India and release of more power to Bangladesh have been reciprocated in the form India-specific SEZs. But the one outstanding and emotive issue, that of the Teesta waters-sharing deal, remains elusive. For Mr Modi, the key to making this work is in getting Ms Banerjee on board and he has made every effort to ensure that she is on the same page as him. In 2011, during then PM Manmohan Singh's Dhaka visit, the agreement was scuttled after Ms Banerjee raised objections. As of now, West Bengal is unable to utilise the Teesta waters owing to lack of infrastructure for irrigation. The future of the agreement lies in domestic politics. With the assembly elections in West Bengal next year, it is unlikely that the PM will push her too hard. However, the Centre may make some financial concessions to her, and that will make it easier to get her on board.

The other important area of cooperation with Bangladesh is in the field of intelligence sharing about the insurgent activity in the border areas. Bangladesh has been tough on any anti-Indian activity being conducted on its soil, and Mr Modi clearly hopes to build on that. As far as Mr Modi's neighbourhood outreach goes, this visit has been one of the most productive so far.

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

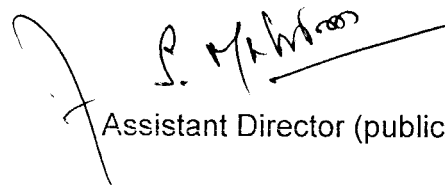
725(A), North, Sewa Bhawan,
R.K. Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 8/6/15

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

date 8/6, 7/6 & 6/6/2015.

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Assistant Director (publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Editor, Bhagirath (English) & Publicity

Director (T.D.)

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,
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