

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

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

Dated 9.4.18.

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.

[Signature]
9.4.18
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director (Publication)

[Signature]
9/4/18

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

[Signature]

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

Why have protests erupted again over Cauvery?

What is the agitation for?

■ Tamil Nadu, which witnessed State-wide protests over the ban on jallikattu in January last year, is again in agitation mode. On Thursday, the Opposition parties, led by the DMK, organised a bandh against the Centre's failure to frame a scheme to implement the Cauvery water-sharing agreement set out in the February 16 judgment. Last Saturday, the AIADMK government moved the Supreme Court to initiate contempt proceedings against the Centre for its "wilful disobedience" in not implementing the verdict.

What is the 'scheme'?

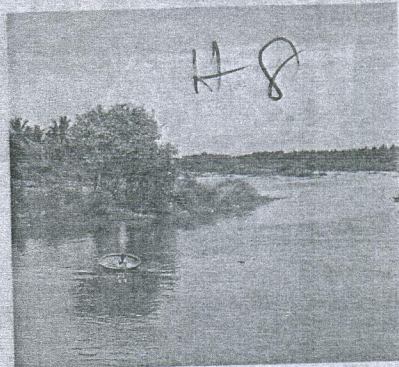
■ The 'scheme' is required for the implementation of the final order given by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in February 2007. While Tamil Nadu argues that the 'scheme' should have entailed setting up of the Cauvery Management Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee, Karnataka says there is no mention of a 'board' in the

court's order. Even on March 29, when the deadline lapsed, Tamil Nadu hoped against hope that the Centre would come out with a scheme, but that did not happen.

Why does TN want a Board?

■ The popular understanding is that the board, by itself, would ensure timely water release, as spelt out in the Tribunal's final order. The State's long-standing grouse against Karnataka is that it is not getting its share in right quantum and at the right time. This has been the situation despite the Tribunal's interim and final orders taking care of irrigation requirements.

Certain sections in the State felt aggrieved by the Supreme Court increasing Karnataka's share of water at the cost of Tamil Nadu. The overall share of Karnataka, which has gone up by 14.75 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft), now stands at 284.75 tmc ft, whereas that of Tamil Nadu is 404.25 tmc ft. It has become handy for the critics of the



Centre to allege that this is "yet another instance" of the Union government discriminating against Tamil Nadu. This argument is gaining attention in the absence of forceful articulation of a counter-view by the BJP.

Why did the Centre not oblige?

■ The Union government, in its clarificatory application filed in the Supreme Court after the deadline lapsed, re-

ferred to divergent views expressed by constituents of the Cauvery basin - Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Puducherry - over the judgment. Citing the Assembly elections in Karnataka and describing the Cauvery as a "very emotive issue" in that State, the Centre said the notification of a scheme at this juncture "would lead to massive public outrage, vitiate the election process and cause serious law and order problems." Seeking three more months, it wanted to know whether an implementation mechanism could be a "mixture of administrative and technical body," and could have functions, different from what had been recommended by the Tribunal in the February 2007 order.

Why is Cauvery important for T.N.?

■ Regarded as the lifeline of Tamil Nadu, the Cauvery is the only major river of the State, unlike Karnataka, the upper-riparian State in the river basin which also gets water from the Krishna and the Godavari.

The Cauvery also accounts for 70% of canal irrigation in Tamil Nadu. As many as 24.71 lakh acres have been recognised as the State's irrigated area under the Cauvery. In terms of paddy-sown area, the delta districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and four others, including Tiruchi and Pudukottai, account for nearly 40% of the total area in the State.

In terms of paddy production, they contribute 35% of the total crop. In 2014-15, of the 79.4 lakh tonnes of paddy, the seven districts produced 29.4 lakh tonnes. (Parts of Cuddalore, though considered part of the delta region, are not included here). In the past 10 years, the Cauvery has also become a major source of drinking water for a number of districts, including Ramana-thapuram and parts of Madurai and Dindigul in the south and Vellore in the north, apart from central and western districts of the State.

T. RAMAKRISHNAN

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 9.4.2018 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 Bhadrath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

Fear of drought in Srinagar amid 9-55 prolonged dry spell, advisories issued

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SRINAGAR, 8 APRIL

Along dry spell sent the mercury soaring in Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital of Srinagar, which recorded its hottest-ever March this year, and raised the spectre of drought-like conditions.

Authorities have advised farmers in many areas not to cultivate paddy - a water-intensive crop - and the agricultural department is preparing a contingency plan to deal with any eventuality.

"The Kashmir Valley has been witnessing above-normal maximum temperatures. Especially in the month of March, the day temperatures were eight to 11 notches above the normal," an official of the Meteorological Department told PTI here.

"Though there has been some relief in this month, the maximum temperature is still above the normal for this part of the year.

He said the valley recorded the hottest ever month of March this year and the maximum temperature broke the nearly five decade-old record."

On the last day of March this year, Srinagar recorded a maximum of 28.3 degrees Celsius, which was 10.7 degrees above the normal. It was the all time high recorded by the capital city in its recorded history. The last record the highest day temperature in Srinagar in the month of March - was 27.3 degrees Celsius on 27 March 1971, the official said.

He said while the day temperature across Kashmir was still above normal, some rainfall earlier this month had an

effect on the weather.

Deputy director, MET centre, Srinagar, Mukhtar Ahmad said Kashmir has been witnessing a dry spell since January and the Valley may continue to experience above normal maximum temperatures. There was not much rainfall or snow in January-February. Only about 20 per cent of rainfall has been there. He said March was also dry.

"The temperature has shot up because of the prolonged dry spell. The situation was worrisome and alarming as less rainfall would impact "almost everything", even causing forest fires as was recently seen, Ahmad said.



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

Rains up due to global warming: BBMB

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, 6 APRIL

7-51

Ruling out water shortage in northern states due to deficient rains in the future due to global warming, the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) on Friday said a study commissioned by it has confirmed that there will be increased rainfall in the near future due to global warming.

Addressing a Press conference on BBMB's achievements and activities during 2017-18, the board's chairman DK Sharma said the study conducted on the rain pattern in Himachal Pradesh has ruled out water scarcity till 2080.

"In fact, as per the study the rainfall is increasing. So in the time to come there will not be any shortfall in the availability of water," Sharma said.

The BBMB has created a Climate Change Cell by internal rearrangement of posts, to study the effect of changing climate on the catchments and to make projections of future scenario. The chairman said as of today, the reservoir level of Bhakra Dam is 1546.53 feet as compared to 1524.30 feet. "There is sufficient water in our reservoirs, so there will sufficient water available for Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan this summer," Sharma said.

Listing the board's achieve-

ments, the chairman said BBMB crossed the generation target of 9,360 million units fixed by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for the year 2017-18 on 27 January, 2018, one month before the year end.

The power generation from BBMB power house during 2017-18 was 10,881 million units which is 1,521 million units (16.25 per cent more) in comparison to the CEA's target of 9,360 MU for the period. "This splendid feat was achieved by maintaining all time high-plant availability of 99.17 per cent at BBMB Power Houses during 2017-18," Sharma said.

Sharma said the BBMB is in the process of supervisory con-

trol and data acquisition system (SCADA) to remote control its sites from Chandigarh which will result in the enhanced monitoring of the generating units as per the system requirement.

He said the BBMB has decided against bulk purchase of cement, petrol and diesel at project stations of BBMB which has helped in saving manpower and related overheads including wastage. Sharma said Finite Element Analysis of Bhakra Dam is being carried out. "The on-site investigation of property of dam concrete and rock mass has already been completed and the results indicate about 30 per cent more strength than the Design values," he said.

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

Maharashtra accepts report suggesting autonomy to water resources authority

Convert Irrigation development corporations into river basin agencies: report

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI

The State government has accepted a report on an integrated state water plan (ISWP) for Godavari basin, which proposes extending autonomy to the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA), on the lines of the Comptroller and Auditor General, for a better supervision of irrigation projects without interference from political bosses. The irrigation department has been under scrutiny over allegations of a multi-thousand crore scam for the last many years.

In another move, the report recommends scrapping of irrigation development corporations (IDCs) such as Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation, Konkan Irrigation Deve-

lopment Corporation, Tapi Irrigation Development Corporation, and Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation. The report suggests conversion of the IDCs into river basin agencies, which emphasise integrated river basin, sub-basin-wise development and management, and deal with surface and groundwater, and use of water for irrigation and non-irrigation purposes, unlike the IDCs, which carry a project-wise approach.

The move, if executed, could trigger a political controversy as the IDCs are accused of running under political orders.

The report said, "The MWRRA (in its present form) is not functioning like an independent quasi-judicial authority, despite having the powers. Its 100% dependence on the water resource



The irrigation department has been under scrutiny over allegations of multi-thousand crore scam. ■ FILE PHOTO

es department has put many indirect restrictions on the MWRRA. As a result, in the last 11 years, it has not been able to create a state water entitlement data base and an irrigation status report, and ensure preservation of water quality and restrictions on digging wells.

Pradeep Purandare, form-

er expert member, ISWP committee, said, "Extending autonomy would enable the MWRRA of effective control and supervising of irrigation projects. It would have its own administrative system and would be independent from the WRD."

The report was accepted in November 2017. This is the first of the five reports, with others being the ISWPs for Tapi sub-basin, Krishna sub-basin, for Narmada basin, and water plans for west flowing rivers.

Following the submission of all five reports, an report on ISWP for Maharashtra will be prepared, listing out all suggestions. The state water council, headed by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, and consisting of heads of 16 departments, will take a call on the implementation of the recommendations.

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

NGT notice to U.P. govt.

Failure to comply with orders on cleaning the Ganga

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has asked the Uttar Pradesh government to reply within a week as to why an environmental compensation should not be levied on it for failing to comply with orders pertaining to the discharge of untreated sewage water into the Ganga.

Compensation

A Bench headed by NGT acting chairperson Jawad Rahim on April 4 directed officials and authorities to "show cause why they not be directed to pay environmental compensation for non-compliance of the directions issued to them earlier. Further, to show cause why the tribunal should not direct prosecution of all



A filthy ghat on the banks of the Ganga. ■ FILE PHOTO

these respondents in accordance with law."

Earlier, the green panel had issued show cause notices and said "environment and public health does not fall in the govt's priority list" as it was "undisputed" that

the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board and the civic bodies had taken no action to prepare action plans pertaining to the cleaning of the river.

Authorities rapped

The tribunal also rapped the authorities for not complying with the orders issued by the panel in December 2016.

The directions came while the NGT was hearing a plea filed by the Central Pollution Control Board.

The Board sought directions to the UPPCB and the CEOs of the municipal councils to "prepare a plan of action to clean the Ganga and water bodies in a time-bound manner and recover the cost of preparation and execution of such plan of action from the polluters."

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

61% decline in groundwater over 10 yrs

Badri Chatterjee

■ badri.chatterjee@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Excess extraction of groundwater is to blame for the 61% decline in groundwater level in wells in India between 2007 and 2017, according to the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources.

"There needs to be a behavioural change as we do not appreciate the cost of water like we do for a commodity like oil," said P Nandakumaran, member (scientific), CGWB. "Urban areas are facing a threat with cities such as Chandigarh, Puducherry, Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru etc. all fac-

ing shortage due to growing urbanisation."

The main reasons for the decline recorded by CGWB as part of their study submitted in the Lok Sabha include inadequate rainfall, exceptionally high demand versus limited supply owing to rise in population, urbanisation and rise in industries. "It is currently a race against rising population and managing water resources and the key is to conserve through demand management," said Nandakumaran.

Nandakumaran said groundwater level across central and southern states were the main cause for concern owing to char-

acteristics of the terrain. "There are limited storage facilities owing to the hard rock terrain, along with the added disadvantage of lack of rainfall, especially in central Indian states.

While the amount of groundwater in north and northwest India, except Rajasthan, is high, the extraction, too, is higher for agriculture, mainly paddy. Eastern and northeastern states are doing well on that front," he said.

The drop in groundwater levels has enormous socio-economic and ecological implications, said hydrogeologist Himanshu Kulkarni, director, Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and

Management (ACWADAM), who has also been part of several central government committees on groundwater conservation.

"There is a need for different strategies to protect our alluvial systems, keeping in mind the over extraction of this resource," said Kulkarni. "Most of the programmes executed both on the state and central level focus on supply more than the demand, with little effort towards increasing the efficiency of groundwater use. Drinking water security should be the central goal. Policy decisions are needed on multiple fronts to focus on equitable demand for groundwater, its safety and sustainability."

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

कावेरी मुद्दे पर साथ आए रजनीकांत व कमल हासन

9.4.18

तमिलनाडु, (एजेंसी): तमिलनाडु में कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड की मांग लगातार बढ़ रही है। कावेरी जल विवाद के मुद्दे को लेकर रविवार को तमाम बड़े दक्षिण सिनेमा के स्टार एक मंच पर नजर आए। तमिलनाडु में कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड की मांग को लेकर एक्टर्स एसोसिएशन की ओर से आयोजित विरोध-प्रदर्शन में रजनीकांत, कमल हासन और धनुष सहित तमाम बड़ी हस्तियां एक साथ दिखीं। कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड के मामले में सुपरस्टार रजनीकांत ने आईपीएल की चेन्नै सुपर किंग्स की टीम से मैचों के दौरान काला फीता बांधकर विरोध करने की अपील की है।

रजनीकांत ने मीडिया से बात करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी से इस दिशा में तेजी से काम करते हुए जल्द ही बोर्ड का गठन करने की अपील की है। उन्होंने यह भी साफ



चेन्नई में रविवार को अभिनेता रजनीकांत और कमल हासन कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड की मांग को लेकर धरने पर बैठे हुए।

किया कि कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु के बीच कोई झगड़ा नहीं है। रजनी ने कहा, इस परेशानी में राज्य के लोग, चाहें किसान हों या एक्टर्स,

एक साथ खड़े हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि पानी की समस्या बहुत बड़ी होती है क्योंकि इसके बिना जीवन संभव नहीं। केंद्र सरकार पर बोर्ड को लेकर

लगाए जा रहे आरोपों के बीच रजनी ने कहा है कि केंद्र मामले में देरी कर रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि लोगों की मांगें जायज हैं और केंद्र को यह समझना चाहिए।

राज्य में उठ रही बहिष्कार करने की मांग पर रजनी ने कहा कि उन्हें नहीं लगता कि कावेरी विवाद के बीच आईपीएल खेला जाना चाहिए। हालांकि, उन्होंने खिलाड़ियों और प्रबंधकों से राज्य की इस समस्या में साथ खड़े होने की अपील की। उन्होंने कहा, अगर खिलाड़ी आईपीएल खेलने का फैसला करते हैं तो चेन्नै सुपरकिंग्स के खिलाड़ी अपने हाथ पर काला फीता बांधकर विरोध जरूर करें। आपको बता दें कि वल्लुवर कोर्टम में कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड की मांग को लेकर तमिल फिल्म इंडस्ट्री रविवार को प्रदर्शन कर रही है।