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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. Lakshmi
11.4.18
SPA (Publicity)

Encl: As stated above.

Deputy Director (Publication)

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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 Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC

A fresh deadline

Devise a viable Cauvery scheme soon,
stop disruptive protests

The Centre cannot continue to evade its legal obligation to create a mechanism to implement the Supreme Court's final verdict in the Cauvery dispute. This was the broad message conveyed by the court on Monday when it admonished the government for failing to frame a scheme within the six-week time limit given earlier. For the Centre, it was embarrassing to be asked to demonstrate its *bona fides* by submitting a draft scheme for the court's consideration by May 3. The court's frustration was evident, as the Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India was surprised and disappointed that the Centre had not put a scheme in place or sought an early clarification. It is obvious that a decree on the sharing of water requires a mechanism to give effect to it. It is an evasion of responsibility on the Centre's part to set off a round of litigation just to determine the nature of such a mechanism. At the same time, it is easy to understand the reluctance of the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government at the Centre. It clearly fears that framing a scheme may adversely affect its prospects in Karnataka, which goes to the polls next month. In the conflict between duty and electoral considerations, the BJP has chosen the latter.

It is a matter of satisfaction that the apex court has indicated that it will pass a binding order soon. The Centre should redeem itself by complying with the latest order. Meanwhile, the ambiguity over whether 'scheme' refers to or differs from the 'Cauvery Management Board' envisaged in the Cauvery Tribunal's order has caused great disquiet in Tamil Nadu. This raises the question whether the court should have allowed an element of ambiguity in its judgment by referring to a 'scheme', while not expressly modifying the portion of the Tribunal's order that talks of a 'Cauvery Management Board' and a 'Cauvery Water Regulation Committee'. This is why even the court's appeal for peace has not assuaged sentiments in Tamil Nadu, where tempers are soaring in some quarters. Unfortunately, a fringe has taken centre stage, focussing almost their entire protest on the Indian Premier League tournament. As a political tactic, threatening a hugely popular cricket tournament is bound to attract national attention. If this is what some of the protestors wanted, then they have succeeded in their objective, even if this has come at the cost of some disruption. However, targeting the IPL is irrational. If the premise is that fun and entertainment are inappropriate in this time of crisis, why pick on one tournament alone? Moreover, IPL matches have nothing to do with the Cauvery dispute; more importantly, they have nothing to do with either the Centre or the State. Choosing a soft target may bring high visibility, but it makes no sense to mix a serious inter-State dispute with sport and entertainment – certainly not in a disruptive and violent manner.

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More rain forecast, growers on tenterhooks

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, APRIL 10

Farmers are on tenterhooks as the Meteorological Department has predicted thunderstorm and moderate to heavy rainfall across Punjab during the next 48 hours, even as the wheat crop, 90 per cent of which has reached the harvest-

ing stage, largely escaped damage during Tuesday's rain.

"There is no lodging of crop in the Nakodar area so far, but we are worried about the next few days. If rain alone lashes the crop, it will tolerate as it is at its last stage. But if rain is accompanied by gusty winds, then there can be a huge loss due to lodging of the crop and

the resultant discolouration of the grain," said Gurmail Singh, a Nakodar-based farmer.

"The next 48 hours can see thunderstorms accompanied by winds at isolated places mainly due to western disturbances," indicates the Meteorological Centre, Chandigarh.

Dr Naresh Gulati, Jalandhar-based farm expert, said

Tuesday night rainfall and thunders led to lodging of crop at certain places in Punjab, but by and large the crop sustained the weather attack.

"There is no possibility of any damage or discolouration of the grain at places where wheat was sown late like in the potato or vegetable belts," said Dr Gulati.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 11.4.2018 in the

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Board could be judicial or administrative, says official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The proposed arrangement to apportion Cauvery waters could be a "judicial or even administrative board," said U.P. Singh, Secretary, Union Water Resources Ministry. "Whether it's called a Cauvery Management Board or an Authority doesn't really matter," he said on

the sidelines of a press conference on Tuesday.

His comments come a day after the Supreme Court reprimanded the Centre for not putting in place a scheme to ensure water distribution among Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry in line with its orders.

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'Board could be judicial or administrative'

The Supreme Court has directed the Centre to submit a draft scheme by May 3. Mr. Singh said there was "clarity" on how the government could proceed with constituting members of the scheme. However, there wouldn't be fresh discussions with States as everyone's views were already communicated.

The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) in an earlier order had said that the CMB ought to be headed by a Chief Engineer with at least 20 years of experience.

The CWDT had prescribed the setting up of a CMB and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) to monitor the implementation of its order.

The CMB would monitor the storage position in the Cauvery basin and the trend of rainfall, to assess the likely inflows for distribution among the States. The CWRC will ensure the Tribunal's order is carried out.

The CMB envisaged three

full-time members including a chairman.

It was also to consist of six part-time members, four of whom will be from the riparian States of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

Another official told *The Hindu* that while a "broad framework was ready" the matter still pending before the Water Ministry was on "defining" the powers of the various members of the proposed Board. "After the SC verdict of February, we got representations from all concerned States. So everyone's concerns have to be accommodated and the scope of the powers of members needs to be defined."

On Monday, the three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra expressed its disappointment over the Centre's lack of resolve to play its part in ending the water conflict between neighbours, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

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Rain lashes Valley for third day, snowfall in Sonamarg

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, APRIL 10 11. Intermittent rainfall continued in the city here and in other districts of the Kashmir valley for the third consecutive day on Tuesday while Sonamarg resort received fresh snowfall.

The downpour, which began on Sunday, has continued intermittently across the Valley and significantly brought down the soaring mercury which was causing the day temperature to rise by nearly eight to 10 degrees above normal. Srinagar received 29.5 mm rainfall during the first two days, and the downpour continued for the third day.

Fresh snowfall draped central Kashmir's Sonamarg resort, a meadow stopover

Expect thundershowers

The forecast issued by the Srinagar Meteorological Centre said light rain and thundershower would continue in Srinagar on Wednesday while light to moderate rainfall was expected at most places of the state during the next 24 hours. The precipitation is likely to decrease from Wednesday evening onwards.

along the Srinagar-Leh highway which was recently opened to traffic after remaining shut for nearly four months, an official of the Meteorological Department said.

The forecast issued by the Srinagar Meteorological Centre said light rain and thundershower would continue in the city on Wednesday while

light to moderate rainfall was expected at most places of the state during the next 24 hours. The precipitation is likely to decrease from Wednesday evening onwards. North Kashmir's Gulmarg resort recorded the maximum rainfall (27.4 mm) in the region during the last 24 hours till Tuesday morning. In the last two days, the resort received 55 mm rainfall. The higher reaches of Gulmarg also received snowfall, the official said.

The latest rainy spell has kindled hope among farmers who were facing a drought-like situation in the region. The state's agriculture department had earlier issued an advisory to farmers to avoid cultivation of water-intensive crops.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 11.04.2018 in the

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'Cauvery water is the main source for farmers of both states, if it should be shared distress should also be shared'

Public anger in Tamil Nadu has come to a boil after the Centre failed to meet a Supreme Court deadline to constitute a Cauvery management scheme to execute its verdict on the sharing of river water between riparian states. Mannargudi S Ranganathan, general secretary of Cauvery Delta Farmers Association and the original petitioner in 1983, talks to Julie Mariappan about the complexities involved and the attempt by farmers in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to bridge the gap:

■ Why is the Cauvery dispute spiralling and how do we end it?

Centuries ago, there was less agriculture on the Karnataka side and the Cauvery water was almost totally available for farmers in Tamil Nadu. The Chola kings developed the delta region, and you can still see every channel in the delta named after a Chola prince or a princess.

The chemistry of allocation changed after the enactment of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, along linguistic lines. Karnataka insisted on taking more water. The mindset of people changed. A rude shock came in the form of land reform laws and water use by riparian states, in the wake of the well-known Helsinki Rules (on the uses of waters of international rivers, recognising equitable use of water by each basin state), depriving farmers their birth right. The dispute is psychologically-driven. All we need is the mentality to resolve the issue. This is easily possible. At least 38% of the total

population of the (Cauvery) delta is landless labour, and a majority belong to scheduled castes. Agriculture is the only sector that can provide labour for millions.

■ Was the Centre justified in asking for three more months to formulate the scheme?

No. The final award of the tribunal of 2007 has the essence of the mechanism to distribute water. It clearly states that the mechanism is Cauvery Management Board (CMB). From the beginning, not a single solution given for management of Cauvery has been accepted by Karnataka.

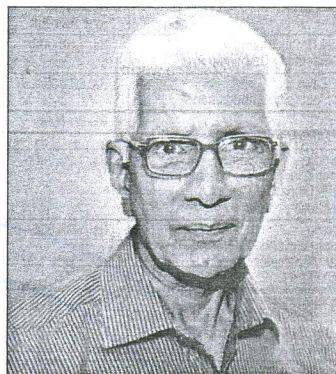
The Cauvery Monitoring Committee set up with bureaucrats from Union water resources ministry and that of basin states could do little, despite holding talks. On the suggestion of the Supreme Court that Cauvery needs a political authority controlled by the PM as its chairman and CMs of the riparian states as members, Cauvery River Authority was set up. It turned out to be futile. J Jayalalithaa called this toothless.

When you have a tribunal order which is explicit, why should they (Centre) call for a scheme?

■ What difference does the name make?

CMB and scheme are different. Scheme may mean that you evolve some other method.

The tribunal has recommended this board on the lines of Bhakra Beas Management Board, which is success-



fully functioning for four states.

Southwest monsoon is the most prevalent monsoon in the country, except in Tamil Nadu. The second monsoon, north-east, is destructive in the state, pouring for just a week or less. But Karnataka has been reducing the flow since 1983 during the short-term kuruvai (April-July) season, allowing only the surplus water to flow to Tamil Nadu. The (Cauvery) delta, which accounts for 40% of total production in the state, suffers.

■ How would you rate the success of your Cauvery Family involving farmers in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka? What is it doing to end the dispute?

Cauvery Family was constituted in 2003-04 to find a solution after the 1990s experience of destruction of properties

of Tamils in Karnataka. A handful of people from various walks of life, under the leadership of Justice VR Krishna Iyer met in Bengaluru and decided to exchange knowledge and experience in agriculture and water use. We had advisers like the late Union water resources secretary Ramaswamy R Iyer. Both would have met not less than ten times. Cauvery Family is redundant today, but not destroyed. We are not functioning due to political interferences from Karnataka. How could we act when we have destructive elements around who look like they may even assault us? Having said that, members of both sides are still in touch with each other. We are called in during crises, but not invited during normal times.

■ What is your advice to farmers on the two sides and the state governments?

Crisis is not a permanent feature. Crisis is man-made and should be avoided. We should have integrity to put an end to man-made crises. Technology-based development is most needed for crisis management. That means don't depend on paddy where there is lesser water. Try to have, as far as possible, alternative crops. A correct strategy based on experience and technology will make us live better in future.

Cauvery water is the main source for farmers of both the states. If it should be shared, distress should also be shared. Not only mental and physical distress, but also economic distress.

कावेरी का जल और किसान संकट

4-11-18

कावेरी नदी के जल बंटवारे को लेकर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के आदेश की अवहेलना जिस तरह केन्द्र सरकार ने संसद के बजट सत्र के दूसरे चरण के चलते की है उससे पूरे देश में यह सन्देश चला गया है कि सरकार किसानों की समस्याओं को चुनावी चौसर की तराजू पर रखकर तोलती है। किसानों के खेतों में बिना पानी के कुछ भी पैदा नहीं हो सकता और सिंचाई के लिए पर्याप्त पानी न मिलने से उसकी खेतों में खड़ी फसल कभी पूरी उपज नहीं दे सकती। विगत 16 फरवरी को सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने आदेश दिया था कि छह सप्ताहों अर्थात् 29 मार्च तक केन्द्र सरकार कर्नाटक, तमिलनाडु, केरल व पुडुचेरी के मध्य कावेरी नदी का जल बंटवारा करने हेतु एक प्रबन्धन मंडल का गठन कर दे और उसके बताये फार्मूले के अनुरूप जल का बंटवारा करे। संसद के बजट सत्र का दूसरा चरण 5 मार्च से शुरू होकर 6 अप्रैल तक चला और इस मुद्दे पर तमिलनाडु की अन्नाद्रमुक पार्टी के सांसद पूरे सत्र में लोकसभा में अध्यक्ष के आसन के निकट आकर 'वी वांट जस्टिस' के नारे लगाते रहे और हो-हो की आवाजें निकालते रहे। वास्तव में प्रबन्धन मंडल के गठन की मंजूरी संसद को नहीं देनी थी। यह पूरी तरह एक अधिशासी फैसला था मगर सरकार ने 30 मार्च को सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में पुनर्विचार याचिका दाखिल कर दी जिसकी सुनवाई 9 अप्रैल को हुई। इसमें सरकार की तरफ से कहा गया कि कर्नाटक के चुनावों को देखते हुए माननीय न्यायालय अपने आदेश के पालन की तिथि तीन महीने आगे कर दे जबकि यह हकीकत है कि कर्नाटक के चुनावों की तारीख घोषित करते हुए मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त ने साफ कर दिया था कि न्यायालय के आदेश की अनुपालना में आदर्श चुनाव आचार संहिता आड़े नहीं आएगी। इससे स्पष्ट था कि सरकार यदि चाहती तो जल प्रबन्धन बोर्ड का गठन कर सकती थी। पिछले कई दशकों से कर्नाटक व तमिलनाडु के बीच में कावेरी नदी के पानी के बंटवारे को लेकर जो विवाद चल रहा था उसे सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने चारों राज्यों के बीच उनके हिस्से के वाजिब पानी का बंटवारा करके निपटा दिया मगर इस बार केन्द्र सरकार अपना दायित्व पूरा करने से पीछे केवल इसलिए हट गई कि कहीं 12 मई को कर्नाटक में होने वाले विधानसभा चुनावों पर इसका प्रभाव न पड़े। इसके साथ ही संसद में इस मुद्दे को लेकर जिस तरह तमिलनाडु की अन्नाद्रमुक पार्टी सांसदों ने परोक्ष रूप से सत्ताधारी पार्टी

सवाल कर्नाटक या तमिलनाडु का नहीं बल्कि भारत का है क्योंकि किसान चाहे किसी भी राज्य का हो, धरती का सीना चीर कर अन्न उगाता है और उसके लिए जल जरूरी होता है। अतः चुनाव तो आते-जाते रहेंगे मगर प्यासी धरती बिना जल के हरी-भरी नहीं रह सकती इसलिए सबसे पहले इसी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। कर्नाटक में कोई भी पार्टी जीते या हारे मगर किसान नहीं हारना चाहिए।

भाजपा की मदद शोर-शराबा और हंगामा खड़ा करके की उससे सरकार के खिलाफ विपक्षी दलों द्वारा रखा जाने वाला अविश्वास प्रस्ताव विचारार्थ स्वीकृत नहीं किया गया क्योंकि लोकसभा में व्यवस्था न बन पाने को इसकी अध्यक्ष ने प्रमुख कारण बताया। इससे कहीं न कहीं यह संदेश गया कि केन्द्र सरकार जानबूझ कर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के आदेश का पालन करना नहीं चाहती क्योंकि एक तरफ उसे कर्नाटक में अपनी पार्टी भाजपा का चुनावी भविष्य देखना था और दूसरी तरफ स्वयं अपना चेहरा साफ दिखाये रखना था। हालांकि इस राजनीति में संसद का चेहरा जरूर दागदार हो गया जिसमें 5 मार्च से 6 अप्रैल तक एक दिन भी कामकाज कायदे से नहीं हो सका परन्तु 9 अप्रैल को सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने केन्द्र सरकार को आदेश दिया है कि वह आगामी 3 मई तक जल बंटवारे के बारे में एक स्कीम तैयार करके उसके सामने पेश हो जिससे कावेरी नदी का जल उसी प्रकार से चारों राज्यों के बीच में बंट सके जिसकी घोषणा 16 फरवरी को न्यायालय ने की थी। मुख्य न्यायाधीश की अध्यक्षता वाली तीन सदस्यीय पीठ ने यह तो साफ कर दिया कि वह सरकार को और आगे तीन महीने स्कीम तैयार करने के लिए नहीं देगी। उसे अब 3 मई को स्कीम का खाका तैयार करके न्यायालय के पास आना चाहिए जिससे यह पता लग सके कि उसकी इस बारे में नीयत नेक है। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने कर्नाटक को पिछले राज्य नदी जल पंचाट के फैसले से हटकर कर्नाटक को थोड़ा अधिक पानी दिया था और बेंगलुरु शहर के लिए पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने हेतु यह परिवर्तन किया था। तमिलनाडु के हिस्से में पानी को थोड़ा कम किया गया था मगर इसकी भरपाई कावेरी के तटवर्ती इलाकों से भूमिगत जल निकालने की इजाजत देकर की गई थी। हालांकि तमिलनाडु में इस फैसले को लेकर थोड़ा गुस्सा था किन्तु इसके बावजूद न्यायालय के फैसले को सभी राज्य मानने को तैयार थे तो केन्द्र ने अपना पेंच लगा दिया। जाहिर तौर पर गर्मियां शुरू होने पर जल संकट गहराता है जिससे ऐतिहासिक रूप से कावेरी नदी के जल पर निर्भर तमिलनाडु के किसानों का व्याकुल होना स्वाभाविक है। कावेरी को दक्षिण की जीवनदायिनी सलिला इसलिए कहा गया है कि यह यहाँ के सूखे इलाकों को हरा-भरा बनाती है। सवाल कर्नाटक या तमिलनाडु का नहीं बल्कि भारत का है क्योंकि किसान चाहे किसी भी राज्य का हो, धरती का सीना चीर कर अन्न उगाता है और उसके लिए जल जरूरी होता है। अतः चुनाव तो आते-जाते रहेंगे मगर प्यासी धरती बिना जल के हरी-भरी नहीं रह सकती इसलिए सबसे पहले इसी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। कर्नाटक में कोई भी पार्टी जीते या हारे मगर किसान नहीं हारना चाहिए।

Rangab 1000

H. U. 18

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

सिंचाई पर कावेरी के पानी संबंधी आशंकाओं को दूर किया केन्द्र ने

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा) : केंद्र सरकार ने कावेरी जल प्रबंधन बोर्ड गठित नहीं होने के कारण तमिलनाडु को कावेरी बेसिन के जलाशयों से सिंचाई के लिये पानी जारी नहीं किये जाने संबंधी आशंकाओं को दूर करते हुए कहा कि फरवरी से मई माह के बीच नदी में केवल पर्यावरण प्रवाह बनाये रखने के लिये बांध से पानी जारी किया जायेगा। जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्रालय के सचिव यू पी सिंह ने संवाददाताओं से कहा कि कावेरी जल विवाद न्यायाधिकरण (सीडब्ल्यूडीटी) के फैसले के तहत फरवरी से मई माह के बीच नदी में केवल पारिस्थितिकी प्रवाह बनाये रखने के लिये बांध से पानी जारी किया जायेगा और किसी अन्य उद्देश्य के लिये नहीं।

उनकी यह टिप्पणी ऐसे समय में आई है जब तमिलनाडु के किसान कावेरी जल प्रबंधन बोर्ड के गठन की मांग और सिंचाई उद्देश्य के लिये पानी उपलब्ध नहीं होने को लेकर शिकायत कर रहे हैं। सिंह ने कहा कि कुछ लोग इसे ऐसे पेश कर रहे हैं जैसे कि अभी पानी जारी करने की त्वरित जरूरत हो। इस विषय को इस रूप में पेश किया जा रहा है जैसे कि कावेरी जल प्रबंधन बोर्ड नहीं गठित होने से पानी जारी ही नहीं किया जा रहा हो। उन्होंने कहा कि इसलिये वह पहले स्पष्ट कर देना चाहते हैं कि इन चार महीनों (फरवरी से मई) के बीच पानी पारिस्थितिकी प्रवाह बनाये रखने के लिये जारी किया

कावेरी जल मसला

- शीर्ष अदालत ने तब तक तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक और अन्य पक्षकारों से शांति बनाये रखना सुनिश्चित करने को कहा था

जायेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि सिंचाई के लिये पानी केवल जून से जनवरी माह के बीच जारी किया जायेगा।

उल्लेखनीय है कि सोमवार को उच्चतम न्यायालय ने कावेरी मामले की सुनवाई करते हुए केंद्र सरकार से कावेरी प्रबंधन योजना का मसौदा तीन मई तक तैयार करने को कहा था।

शीर्ष अदालत ने तब तक तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक और अन्य पक्षकारों से शांति बनाये रखना सुनिश्चित करने को कहा था। इस बारे में पूछे जाने पर जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण मंत्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल ने कहा कि योजना का मसौदा बनाने की प्रक्रिया जारी है।

मंत्रालय ने 16 से 31 मार्च तक चले स्वच्छता पखवाड़ा का ब्यौरा दिया और जल संरक्षण के महत्व को रेखांकित किया। इस अवसर पर जल संसाधन राज्य मंत्री सत्यपाल सिंह भी मौजूद थे।

4.जु.18-11-4-18