



## DOWNPOUR

Rain in the Capital on Wednesday. © SNS

# Dust storm, rain bring relief

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 14 October

A dust storm accompanied by rain today brought a great relief to the people in the Capital.

The maximum temperature was recorded at 34.9 degrees Celsius, two notches above the season's average while the minimum temperature was recorded at 25.6 degrees Celsius, six notches above the normal, according to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). However, there were no reports of disruption of metro services in the city.

The humidity level however oscillated between 57 and 75 per cent. In addition, IMD has predicted more rains during the night and for tomorrow.

"The skies will be partly cloudy. Light rain or thunderstorm would occur in some areas. Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 34 and 25 degrees Celsius respectively," said the MeT forecast.

Yesterday, the maximum temperature had settled at 35 degrees Celsius and the minimum temperature was recorded at 25 degrees Celsius.

## Academics

ABHINAV SINGH

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New Delhi, 14 October

Teachers and academics from different universities and colleges today gathered for a national assembly in 'Defence of Education' to protest against the education policies of the Central Government, claiming it to be corporate friendly aiming to privatise the whole education. They expressed concern over the government's commitment towards WTO-GATS, meant to invite private stakeholders in higher education who are only interested in making profit at the cost of quality.

"This is a deliberate attempt aimed at commercialisation of higher education. The systemic attack on education is meant to shift the education from being public funded to private hands, thus compromising its accessibility, quality and ethics," said Tar



# Rain spells more trouble for farmers

Standing paddy crop flattened; bags containing grain get drenched in mandis

**DEEPAKAMAL KAUR**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 14**

Sudden storm and rain around noon today wreaked havoc for farmers who had come to sell their produce at the main grain market here.

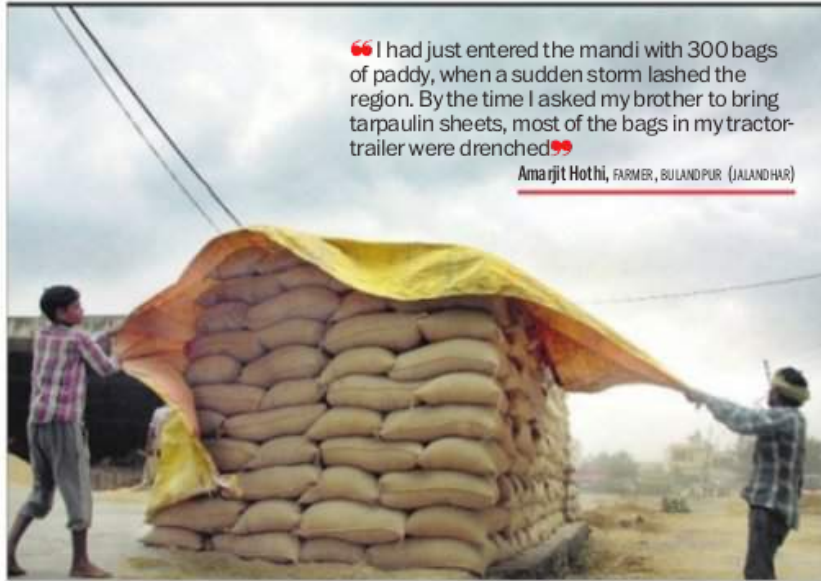
As most of the sheds were occupied by arhtiyas for stacking basmati and millet crops that had arrived recently, there was no covered space for the freshly arrived paddy bags. Those who had kept paddy open for getting it dried were the worst sufferers as the storm blew away the grain. Before peasants or labourers could arrange for tarpaulin sheets, their produce was already soaked in rain.

Amarjit Hothi, a farmer of Bulandpur village, said, "I had just entered the mandi with 300 bags of paddy, when a sudden storm lashed the region. By the time I asked my brother to bring tarpaulin sheets, most of the bags in my tractor-trailer were drenched. I have installed a weather application in my phone but there was no warning about the inclement weather this time. Now, it will take days to get the paddy dried before selling it off".

Tejinder Singh, another farmer from Kalyanpur, fumed, "I will now have to

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**Amarjit Hothi, FARMER, BULANDPUR (JALANDHAR)**



Labourers cover paddy bags with a tarpaulin sheet during a thunderstorm, at the Jalandhar grain market on Wednesday; and (below) a labourer tries to keep rainwater away from grain. TRIBUNE PHOTOS: SARABJIT SINGH

## Losses incurred

- Those who had kept paddy out in the open for getting it dried were the worst sufferers as the storm blew away the grain
- Before they could arrange tarpaulin sheets, their produce was already soaked in rain
- Farmers said they would have to spend extra money on labour to dry the produce and pack it all over again



shell out extra money for the labourers to dry and pack the produce all over again."

**Fatehgarh Sahib:** The unseasonal rain accompanied by high-velocity winds caused damage to crops in various parts of Fatehgarh Sahib district today.

Paddy crop, which was ready for harvesting, was flattened. The crop which was bought to the mandis too was damaged.

Nirmal Singh, a farmer of Kotla Fazal village, who had brought a part of his paddy crop to the Sirhind grain market said the sudden rain in the region would result in the delay in harvesting of the standing crop.

Sadhu Ram Bhatmajra, president, District Arhtiyas' Association, said water had entered the bags from the bottom as levelling had not been done by officials of the market committee.

Inderjit Singh Sandhu, chairman, Market Committee, Sirhind, said it was the responsibility of the arhtiyas to cover paddy which arrived in the market for sale. He said the committee had already submitted a proposal worth Rs 1.70 crore to the state government for draining out water and if the project got approved, the problem would be solved permanently.

# Scrap Renuka dam if Centre-HP row persists: SC

**Bhadra Sinha**

■ [bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com](mailto:bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com)

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court expressed its annoyance on Wednesday over a political fight between the Centre and Himachal Pradesh stalling a ₹5,400-crore dam that was to provide a fourth of Delhi's daily water supply, as it stayed possession of land for

the crucial project.

The venture should be scrapped if the stalemate does not end, said a bench of justice TS Thakur and justice Kurien Joseph, angry over the "apathy" and "indifference" of the two governments towards the inter-state project.

"The whole world knows that Delhi is not getting water

You (Centre and state) cannot fight with each other and kill a national project," the court said. "Please keep your political considerations aside when it comes to such projects."

Conceived to fulfill Delhi's twin needs of water and energy, the Renuka dam project in Himachal Pradesh has got caught in a bureaucratic fight between the

BJP-led Centre and the Congress-ruled state over funding.

The central government accused the state of not obtaining necessary sanctions from concerned ministries, a mandatory requirement for release of funds. The court gave the Centre four weeks to take a decision on how it would meet its liability.

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HINDUSTAN TIMES, INDORE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

# Scrap Renuka Dam plan if stalemate continues: SC

Bhadra Sinha

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**NEW DELHI:** Piqued over the stalling of ₹5,400 crore Renuka Dam Project due to political fight between the Centre and Himachal Pradesh Government, the Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed possession of land for the national project.

The project should be scrapped if the stalemate did not end, said a bench of Justice TS Thakur and Justice Kurien Joseph, angry over the "apathy" and "indifference" of the two governments towards the inter-state project.

Conceived to fulfil Delhi's twin needs of water and energy, the Renuka dam project in Himachal Pradesh has got caught in a bureaucratic fight between the Centre and the state over who shall fund it.

"The whole world knows that Delhi is not getting water. You (Centre and state) cannot fight with each other and kill a national project. Please keep your political considerations aside when it comes to such projects," the bench said.

"Even Faridabad, Noida and Gurgaon would have benefitted from the successful completion of this project. We would have appreciated if energies were

**THE RENUKA DAM PROJECT IN HP HAS GOT CAUGHT IN A BUREAUCRATIC FIGHT BETWEEN THE CENTRE AND STATE OVER WHO SHALL FUND IT**

focused towards completing the project instead of adopting a confrontationalist approach," it said.

The Centre accused the state of not obtaining required sanctions from the concerned ministries, one of the mandatory requirements for release of funds. The court gave the Centre four weeks to take a decision on how would it meet its liability.

The court was hearing HP government's petition claiming it was unable to pay compensation money to land-owners whose property has been acquired for the project. Himachal Pradesh blamed the Delhi Government and the Centre for not sharing the project cost, as promised under a memorandum of understanding.

Himachal Pradesh, which is the executing state for the project, faces contempt before the state high court. According to it, the state has already spent

₹289 crore of which ₹239.84 crore has been paid by the Delhi government. The Centre, which has to fund 90% of the project estimated to cost ₹3,500 crore in 2009, has not paid a single penny.

Upset to know that landowners didn't get money and even lost their property, the bench restrained the HP government from taking over possession of such land until the Centre arranged for funds. "The project cannot be allowed to be killed by any kind of apathy or indifference or the land-owners can be made to suffer," said the court.

Urging the two governments to take a quick decision to end the impasse, the bench noted any further delay could escalate the project cost, which is now estimated to be around ₹5,400 crore. It even cautioned the governments that the court might issue fresh directions under the new land acquisition law.

Construction of the dam was initially stalled after Haryana and Rajasthan refused to sign the agreement in 1994. According to the agreement signed in November 1994, Delhi would get the full supply of water from the Renuka dam till Kishau Dam and Lakhawar-Vyasi Dam projects become functional.

Pressman

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# Scrap Renuka dam if Centre-HP row can't be sorted out: SC

**Bhadra Sinha**

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## BRAHMAPUTRA PROJECTS MAY BE AFFECTED

Beijing, Oct. 13: An Indian Inter-Ministerial Expert Group on the Brahmaputra in 2013 said the dams were being built on the upper reaches and called for further monitoring considering their impact on the flow of waters to the lower reaches.

The IMEG noted that the three dams, Jiexu, Zangmu and Jiacha are within 25 km of each other and are 550 kms from the Indian border. India has been taking up the issue with China for the past few years the two countries reached.

Under the understanding reached in 2013, Chinese side agreed to provide more flood data of Brahmaputra from May to October instead of June to October.

India is concerned that if the waters are diverted, then projects on the Brahmaputra may get affected. — *PTI*

## Expect a colder than usual winter this year

**NEW DELHI:** After a deficient monsoon, Delhi could be in for a colder-than-usual winter.

"There is a possibility that winter this year will be a little harsher than usual," said a Met official, pointing to forecast patterns so far.

Evening showers on Wednesday, brought on by a western disturbance over Himachal Pradesh, seemed to signal a change in sea-

son in the city, which has been experiencing a hot October.

The weatherman forecast light rain on Thursday too, but said there would be no major change in the maximum temperature, which has hovered around the 35°C mark for the past week — two degrees above normal.

The Met official said scientists were also exploring the link between a strong El Niño and a

cold winter.

El Niño — "little boy" in Spanish — is a weather glitch marked by higher sea surface temperatures. Its effects can ripple around the world, from droughts in India to floods in Brazil.

According to several reports, weather forecasting agencies have forecast a harsh winter in Europe as well.

HTC

**The Times of India**

**Title : Run River Run**

**Author :**

**Location :**

**Article Date : 10/15/2015**

**China is damming the Brahmaputra, India needs a water sharing agreement**

Operationalisation of the \$1.5 billion Zangmu Hydropower Project marks the beginning of a series of Chinese dams on the Brahmaputra and other rivers originating in the Tibetan plateau. Disruption of water flows is not an immediate concern as the Chinese have assured that this is a run of the river project without any reservoirs to store water. But in the long term it is a serious concern for India, Bhutan and Bangladesh through which this mighty river flows on its long journey to the sea. The large number of dams China has planned on the Tibetan plateau will have major repercussions on environment and climate in the region.

Though India has made known its concerns about this, the Chinese have not been very responsive. Till now all that India has achieved is an agreement on the sharing of hydrological information on the flows of the Brahmaputra. But this is clearly not enough given that China is planning to build a few hundred new power projects in the Himalayas, including some major ones which plan to divert the water flows to eastern China, the repercussion of which could be disastrous for its neighbours.

This means that India must make the sharing of waters from the Himalayan rivers a priority issue with China, along with the boundary dispute and the trade imbalance. India has negotiated successful water sharing agreements with Pakistan and can repeat this with China. This would not only help build confidence on both sides for much bigger deals, including one that involves settling the boundary dispute, but will also diffuse the possibilities of waging new water wars as the scarcity of the resource intensifies in the coming decades.





Hindustan Times ( Delhi )

ਦਿਹਸਤਨ ਟਾਈਮਜ਼ ( ਦਿੱਲੀ )

The Tribune ( Chandigarh )

The Hindu ( Chennai )

The Assam Tribune ( Guwahati )

The Times of India ( Mumbai )

The Telegraph ( Kolkata )

ਫੀਗਰਫ ( ਕੋਲਕਾਤਾ )

The Deccan Herald ( Bengaluru )

The Deccan Chronicle ( Hyderabad )

Central Chronicle ( Bhopal )

# Expedite Renuka Dam project, SC tells Centre

R SEDHURAMAN

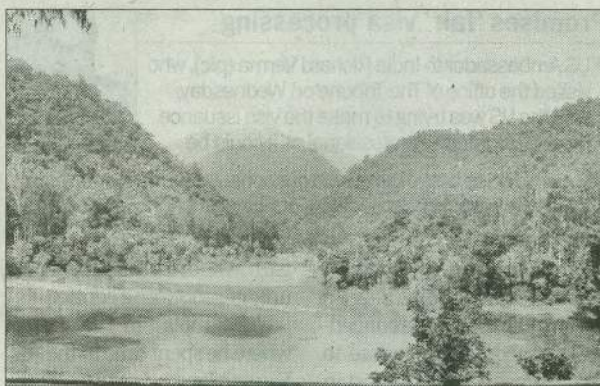
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 14

The Supreme Court today took the Centre to task for its inaction in the proposed construction of the Rs 5,242 crore Renuka Dam in Himachal Pradesh ever since the project was declared a national project in 2009.

A Bench, headed by Justice TS Thakur, asked Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar to come with concrete proposals within four weeks, including the state's demand for meeting the land acquisition cost.

Accepting the contention of senior advocate JS Attri, who argued for HP that the state had utilised the project funds, the Bench rejected the Centre's stand that the funds had been diverted to other heads.

Attri said the state had spent about Rs 270 crore so far - Rs 166 crore for acquiring land, Rs 29 crore for relocation and rehabilitation of



Renuka Lake in Sirmaur district. A FILE PHOTO

the oustees and Rs 25.5 crore on survey and related work, besides incurring overhead expenses of Rs 48 crore.

Of this, Rs 214.84 crore had been paid by the Delhi Jal Board since the dam is primarily meant for providing water to the national capital as per its entitlement and Rs 25 crore by Haryana, a riparian state of the Yamuna river. The project will come up across the Giri river, a tributary of Yamuna, in Sirmaur district.

Now that the dam has become a national project, the Centre will have to meet 90 per cent of the expenditure.

Today, the SC also said it would not quash any acquisition of land meant for the project. Attri had pleaded that funds were required to pay compensation to the farmers whose land was acquired for the project. Some land acquisitions would lapse soon unless the compensation was paid as directed by the Himachal

## State to get 40 mw

■ The state will get 40 mw of free electricity from the project

■ The pipeline from the dam to Delhi can also be utilised for sharing the Yamuna waters with Haryana, UP and Rajasthan

■ The SC has asked all states to cooperate in the construction of dam project

High Court, he pleaded.

The state also has a stake in the project as it will get 40 mw of electricity from the project free of cost. On July 9, the SC had issued notice to the Centre and the Delhi Government on the state's petition seeking Rs 1,981 crore to be paid to farmers and for meeting the project cost. HP has moved the SC as it is not in a position to pay further compensation to comply with an HC order passed on November 20, 2014.







Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India



# Science Express Climate Action Special

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**Shri Y. S. Chowdary**  
Hon'ble Minister of State  
for Science and Technology  
and Earth Sciences,  
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**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2015 | **Time:** 12.00 noon  
**Venue:** Delhi Safdarjung Station



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