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M.P.Chronicle  
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Indian Nation  
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The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

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# Govt to fast-track Indus basin irrigation projects

T-24-P-10

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

Amid growing strain in Indo-Pak ties, the government is planning to fast-track four projects in the Indus river basin to increase the irrigation area in Jammu and Kashmir by nearly 2.05 lakh acres.

The move comes weeks after India decided to "exploit to the maximum" the water of Pakistan-controlled rivers, including Jhelum, as per the Indus Water Treaty (IWT).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had last month chaired a meeting to review the 56-year-old IWT in the aftermath of the Uri attack, asserting that "blood and water cannot flow together".

Of these four projects, three — Tral Irrigation Project in

## 'Move already planned'

■ Sources said the four projects were part of the efforts to irrigate larger swathes across the country by completing small/medium 99 irrigation projects and had nothing to do with the Uri attack and LoC aggression

■ "These (projects) were already worked out. But we do want to bring optimum land under irrigated area as per the deadlines worked out," they said

Pulwama, Prakachik Khows Canal in Kargil and restoration and modernisation of the main Ravi Canal in Jammu's Sambha and Kathua — are expected to be completed by this fiscal. The fourth project

of Rajpora Lift Irrigation is planned to be completed by December 2019.

While the first three projects will help irrigate around 1.45 lakh acres of land, the Rajpora Lift Irrigation is expected to help irrigate around 59,305 acres of land.

All these works are expected to cost Rs 117 crore for which money will be raised by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

"Until now, as per the J&K records, 7 lakh acres of land is irrigated in the state. This is a very small number. So, the government is trying to complete work on these projects to increase the size of the total irrigated area in the state," sources said. ■

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## DURGA PUJA

# Yamuna pollution spiked during idol immersion but river cleaning helped

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

A REPORT on the pollution levels in the Yamuna before, during and after idol immersion during Durga Puja shows that pollution levels were highest during the time of immersion, but quick action and a river cleaning plan meant most pollutants were fished out within three days.

Samples for the Delhi Pollution Control Committee report, released on Wednesday, were collected from six ghats. One sample was picked up on October 7, before the immersion. One was picked up on October 11, the day of the immersion, and one was picked up on October 14, three days after the immersion.

The report states that while pollution indicators such as biological oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD) and total suspended solids (TSS) shot up during the immersion, their levels came down considerably three days later — in some cases, they were equal to what they were before the immersion.

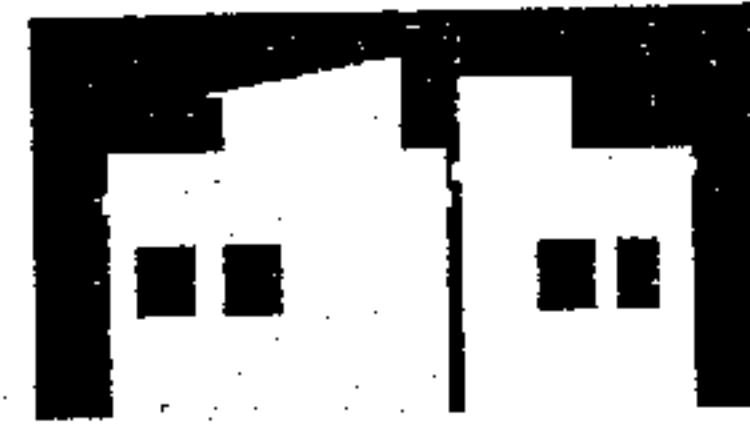
The report indicates that while the immersion took the pollution up, its impact was not as drastic three days later.

At Kudesia Ghat, for example, the COD was 25 before immersion, 38 during immersion and 30 after immersion. While no chromium was detected before or after immersion, its value was 0.074 during immersion.

At Shyam Ghat, the TSS was 38 before immersion but dropped to 26 after the cleaning.

The Delhi government had made elaborate plans to clean the river after the event and several people, including contractual labourers, showed up for the exercise.

TE-24  
P-9



## FIGURING THE CITY

### The immersion effect

Pollution levels in the Yamuna before, during and after idol immersion during Durga Puja last week

#### KUDESIA GHAT

	TSS	BOD	COD	TDS
Oct 7	56	25	80	609
Oct 11	102	38	120	640
Oct 14	58	30	100	689

#### KALINDIKUNJ

Oct 7	36	20	68	689
Oct 11	106	28	72	653
Oct 14	48	24	80	677

■ TSS: Total suspended solids      ■ BOD: Biological oxygen demand  
 ■ COD: Chemical oxygen demand    ■ TDS: Total dissolved solids  
 (all values are in mg/l; water is purer if values are lower)



Source: Delhi Pollution Control Committee

Compiled by MALLICA JOSHI

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# Cyclonic storm likely to move towards Odisha: MeT office <sup>24. 11</sup> P-8

Depression over Bay of Bengal has moved east-north-eastwards

STAFF REPORTER

**BHUBANESWAR:** Odisha is keeping its fingers crossed over prospects of occurrence of a possible cyclonic storm along its coast as a depression over east-central Bay of Bengal heading towards Myanmar could re-curve towards the State.

"The depression over east-central Bay of Bengal moved east-north-eastwards and intensified into a deep depression. The system lay centred at 950 km east-southeast of Gopalpur. The system is most likely to intensify into a cyclonic

storm during next 24 hours," S. C. Sahu, Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre, here on Sunday.

Mr. Sahu said, "it will move north-eastwards and reach close to north Myanmar coast by Sunday night. Thereafter, it will re-curve initially north-north-westwards skirting Myanmar coast and then north-westwards towards northwest Bay of Bengal."

"A clear picture would emerge within next 24 hours. But, meteorological model indicates that there is fair chance of system veering towards Odisha coast,"

he pointed out.

Indian Meteorological Department, Odisha, apprehends that central and north districts could be pounded under the impact of the atmospheric system by October 26 or 27.

Unlike previous storms like Phailin and Hudhud that had hit Odisha coast in 2013 and 2014 respectively, chances of the present system becoming severe were less, Mr. Sahu said, explaining, "previous storms had intensified as those had travelled quite a good distance from south Andaman sea before hitting the coast.

As far as this system is concerned, the distance is not that much. We think this could intensify into cyclonic storm or its next stage."

Meanwhile, the Odisha government said it was ready to face any eventuality.

"IMD has not given any clear information about the system hitting Odisha coast. The picture would become clear by Monday evening. However, as a precaution, farmers are advised to keep their harvest at safe place by October 27," said P. K. Mohapatra, Special Relief Commissioner.

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# Govt to extend its free-water scheme to NDMC areas

press trust of india

NEW DELHI, 22 OCT: The Delhi government today decided to extend its scheme of providing up to 20,000 litres of water free of cost to New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) areas, and also approved a proposal to set up more mohalla clinics in the national capital.

Announcing the Cabinet's decision, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, the water scheme will be applicable to the NDMC areas from the date on which it was implemented in rest of Delhi. Water bills paid by residents of New Delhi area after that date will be refunded to them.

New Delhi area is the Assembly constituency of Kejriwal.

After coming to power in February last year, the AAP government had announced free-water scheme of 20,000 litres to every household in Delhi. However,

**Water bills paid  
by residents of  
New Delhi area  
after that date  
will be refunded  
to them**

the scheme could not be implemented in New Delhi area as it falls under the jurisdiction of NDMC.

Apart from this, the Chief Minister also directed Health Minister Satyendar Jain to convene a meeting of all other ministers for identification of land available with various departments of Delhi government where new Mohalla Clinics can be set-up. The Cabinet also decided to improve the condition of Chhath Puja Ghats in the national capital.

Departments concerned - PWD, DSIIDC, Irrigation and Flood Control - have been directed to make elaborate arrangements for Chhath Puja at around 180 ghats where it is performed, a senior government official said.

The Chief Minister said the Cabinet has decided to make the Irrigation and Flood Control Department the nodal agency to survey these ghats, and as per requirement make these permanent before the next year's puja. The Cabinet also decided to increase in the bed capacity of the under-construction hospital at Ambedkar Nagar. "The cabinet has decided to increase the bed capacity of the under-construction hospital at Ambedkar Nagar (Dakshinpuri) from 200 to 600 beds, following its redesigning. The estimated cost of setting-up this hospital has now been revised to Rs 180 crore," Kejriwal said here.

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## World Bank pat for Almatti dam



WINNING LAURELS: A file photo of the renovation work at the Almatti dam.

FIROZ ROZINDAR 22/11

**VIJAYAPURA:** Almatti dam, one of the largest reservoirs in Karnataka, was chosen for the World Bank's Award of Excellence for best utilisation of funds for renovation to enhance the strength of the dam. The World Bank had granted Rs.72 crore to the Krishna Bhagya Jal Nigam Limited to prevent seepage which could damage the dam.

According to the officials of Nigam, the project was taken up under the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) for strengthening the reservoir

which is over five decades old. While similar work was carried out in more than 250 dams across 10 States, Almatti was chosen for the award, officials said.

### First set of repairs

The foundation stone of 123 tmc capacity dam was laid in 1964. However, the project was completed in 2000 and water storage began in 2002. "This is the first renovation work for the dam and it was taken up under the DRIP scheme by the Union government," the officials said.

With funds released in February, the renovation

work began in March and was completed in June when the water level in the dam was low. Three different tenders were allotted to agencies which used high-end equipment from Japan and Germany, the officials said. After completion, the officials of World Bank visited the site to assess whether the prescribed norms had been followed.

"The certificate mentions that the award is given in recognition of the excellence in quality of rehabilitation works and compliance with statutory regulatory and environment requirements," the officials said.

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# Centre releases first instalment of ₹1,500 cr for irrigation programme

ST-078-7

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
New Delhi, 21 October

The Centre today released the first instalment of Rs 1,500 crore central assistance to states to expedite the works of 99 prioritised irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) that would cover drought-prone areas of the country.

"The release of the funds would mark a beginning for these 99 prioritised projects. The total cost of the projects is estimated at Rs 77,595 crores, spread in over 18 states," said the Union minister for water resources, river development and Ganga rejuvenation, Ms Uma Bharti.

She said total funds required for completion of all the 99 identified projects have been estimated at Rs



*The release of the funds would mark a beginning for these 99 prioritised projects. The total cost of the projects is estimated at Rs 77,595 crores*

**UMA BHARTI**

77,595 crore (Rs 48,546 crore for project works and Rs 29,049 crore for CAD works) with estimated Central Assistance (CA) of Rs 31,342 crore. The projects are likely to irri-

gated around 76.03 lakh hectare, she said.

The projects were envisaged by NABARD laying special emphasis to almost all drought prone districts of 18 states, mostly where farmers suicide rate is comparatively high, the minister said. "It would go a long way to contain the incidents of suicide by farmers," she said, hoping that with regular monitoring and speedy implementation, the government would be able to complete all the 99 projects well ahead of the schedule.

The Union government had launched the AIBP in 1996-97 to provide Central assistance to major and medium irrigation projects in the country, with the objective to accelerate implementation of such projects which were beyond resource capability of the

states or were in advanced stage of completion. Priority was given to those projects which were started in pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period and also to those which were benefitting tribal and drought prone areas.

From 1999-2000 onwards, Central Loan Assistance under AIBP was also extended to minor surface irrigation projects (SMI) of special category states (North Eastern states & hilly states of Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and projects benefiting KBK districts of Orissa).

Since the inception of AIBP, 297 irrigation and multi purpose projects have been included for funding. Out of which 143 projects have been completed and 5 projects were foreclosed, the minister said.

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# 100 शहरों का कचरा गिर रहा है गंगा में

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क

up.patrika.com

लखनऊ. पीएम मोदी के नमामि गंगे प्रोजेक्ट को बड़ा झटका वैज्ञानिकों के शोध से लग सकता है। शोध में यह सामने आया है की गंगा में 100 शहरों का कचरा बहाया जा रहा है। यह खुलासा सीएसआईआर आईआईटीआर में चल रहे राष्ट्रिय वैज्ञानिक संगोष्ठी में हुआ।

इस कार्यक्रम में बताया गया की अंतरिक्ष में भी लगातार प्रदूषण बढ़ रहा है। कार्यक्रम में पर्यावरण प्रदूषण पर चर्चा में



आईआईटीआर के निदेशक आलोक धवन ने बताया कि इससे पर्यावरण को काफी क्षति हुई है। जल, वायु ही नहीं यहां तक कि आंतरिक्ष भी प्रदूषित हो रहा है। गंगा प्रदूषण की बात करें तो भारत में 100 से अधिक नगरों का कचरा सीधे गंगा नदी

मूर्ति विसर्जन से नदियां प्रभावित

डॉक्टर शुभांगी ने जल संरक्षण पर कहा कि पीओपी मूर्ति के विसर्जन से देश की प्रमुख नदियां प्रदूषित होती जा रही हैं। नदी में पाए जाने वाले जीवों के लिए लगातार खतरा बढ़ रहा है। नदियों और झीलों में भारी धातुओं के अध्ययन के बाद पता चला कि 42 जातियों तथा 60 प्रजातियों की मछलियों पर संकट है। वहीं मुख्य अतिथि प्रोफेसर प्रमोद टण्डन ने बताया कि केवल पृथ्वी पर जल, वायु ही नहीं, अंतरिक्ष भी प्रदूषित हो रहा है। प्रदूषण मुक्त भारत बनाने की पहल होनी चाहिए। इसमें सभी का सहयोग होना चाहिए। कुछ देशों ने प्रदूषण को खत्म करने को अच्छा प्रबंधन किया है।

में बहा दिया जाता है। इससे नमामि गंगे प्रोजेक्ट को नुकसान पहुंच सकता है। डॉ. पूनम कक्कड़ और डॉ. कौसर महमूद ने बताया कि अमोनिया व कार्बन मोनोक्साइड से आज पर्यावरण

को नुकसान पहुंच रहा है। बताया कि बाहरी तथा भीतरी प्रदूषण आज के समय में एक ज्वलन समस्या है। इसके नियंत्रण के लिए प्रदूषण का आंकलन किया जाना चाहिए।

1. नाकं... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi )  
नवभारत टाइम्स ( दिल्ली )  
The Tribune ( Chandigarh )  
The Hindu ( 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 )

# Realisation at Mettur hits a new low

Farmers fear release of water for only 50 days won't be enough to save samba crop

SYED MUTAHAR SAQAF

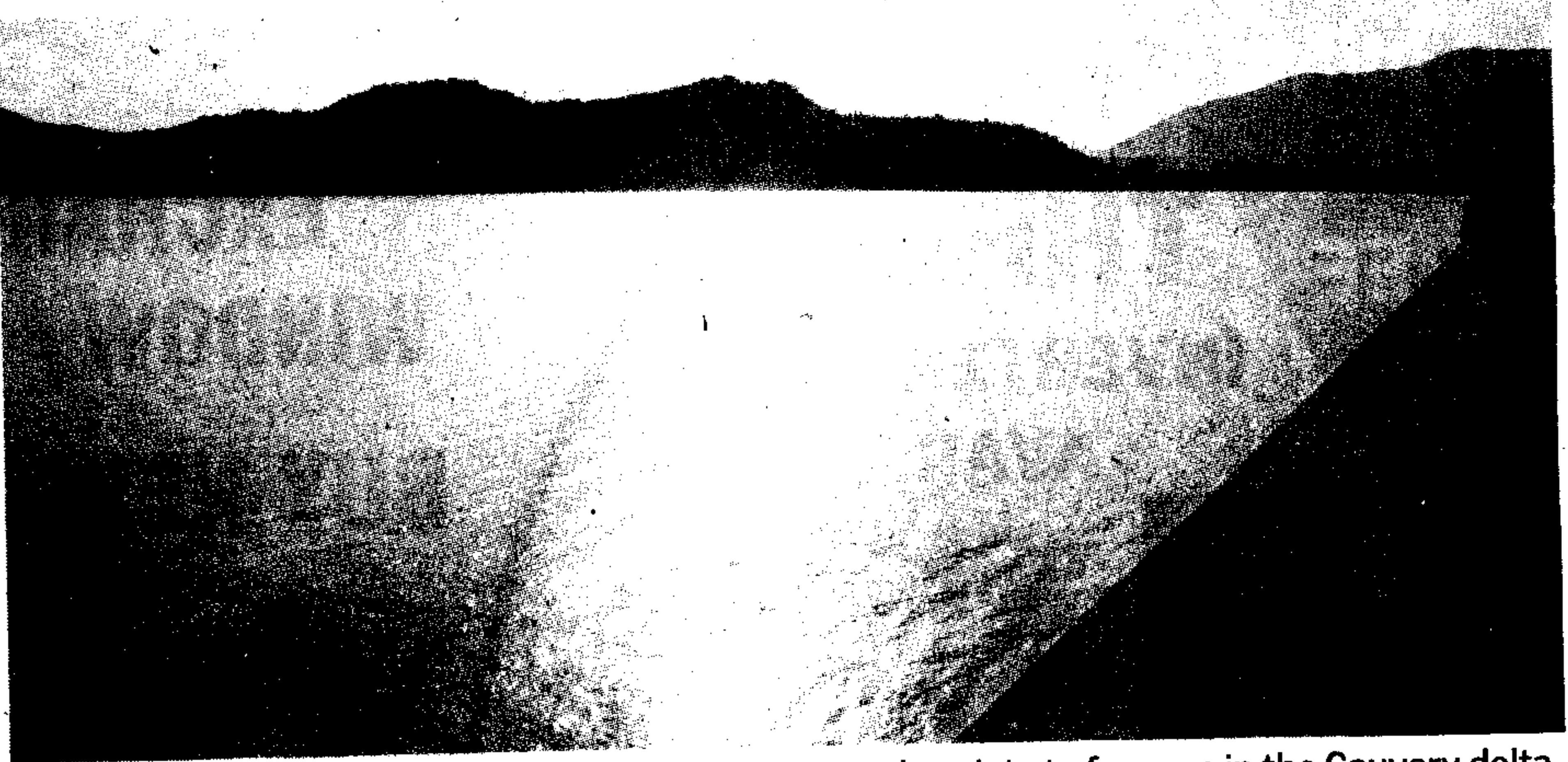
**SALEM:** The realisation of water in River Cauvery at Mettur dam dipped to a paltry 484 cusecs on Friday morning, leading to a serious concern among the entire farming community of the State and the official machinery alike.

On October 18, the Supreme Court had directed the Karnataka government to keep releasing 2,000 cusecs of water every day till further orders, which the Karnataka Government has preferred to defy, citing poor storage in the State's reservoirs.

The apex court's direction followed a report submitted by the high-level technical committee constituted by it to assess the ground realities in the Cauvery basin.

With poor realisation in the last one week, the water level at the Mettur dam went down to 58.78 feet on Friday, against the full level of 120 feet. The storage level was 23,786 tmc against the dam's full capacity of 93.47 tmc. The dam received 1,642 cusecs on Wednesday (October 19) and 1,017 cusecs on Thursday (October 20).

About 12,000 cusecs are being discharged from the dam since the sluices of the Stanley Reservoir in Mettur were opened on September 20 for the samba crop season.



The steep fall in the inflow into Mettur Dam has caused anxiety to farmers in the Cauvery delta districts. — FILE PHOTO: E. LAKSHMI NARAYAN

On three days (October 13 to 15), the discharge was increased to 18,000 cusecs to enable the water to reach the tail-end areas. The customary water release period is from June 12 to January 28 (230 days) for kuruvai, samba and thaladi crops.

## Will last only for 20 days

With the water level depleting at the rate of one foot a day, the available quantity is expected to last only for the next 20 days for the ongoing samba season, according to Public Works Department sources here. The apprehension of farmers is that the release of water for just 50 days will in no way help in saving the samba crop.

P. R. Pandian, president of the All Farmers Associations Organisation Committee, who expressed concerns in this regard, demanded immediate release of 100 tmc of water from Karnataka reservoirs for completing the samba cultivation.

The Karnataka Government, which released about 15,000 cusecs of water from Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini reservoirs continuously for 10 days from September 6, later closed the shutters. Following this, the Mettur dam managed to realise between 600 cusecs to 800 cusecs alone for about 10 days by September end, leading to a panic situation.

PWD sources said that

usually, water is released from the dam till the dam level reached 30 feet mark. The storage of water till 30 feet mark was for meeting the drinking water needs of about 25 districts in the State.

The sources said that water was being discharged from the dam even when the level reached below the 30-foot mark on at least three occasions in the last three decades. In 1986, water was released from the dam till the level reached 11 feet. Again, in 2003, water was released for kuruvai, samba and thaladi farm activities in the delta region till the level reached 28 feet. In 2013 too, water was released till the level reached 29.14 feet.



दिनांक २१.१०.८८... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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DC - 21887.

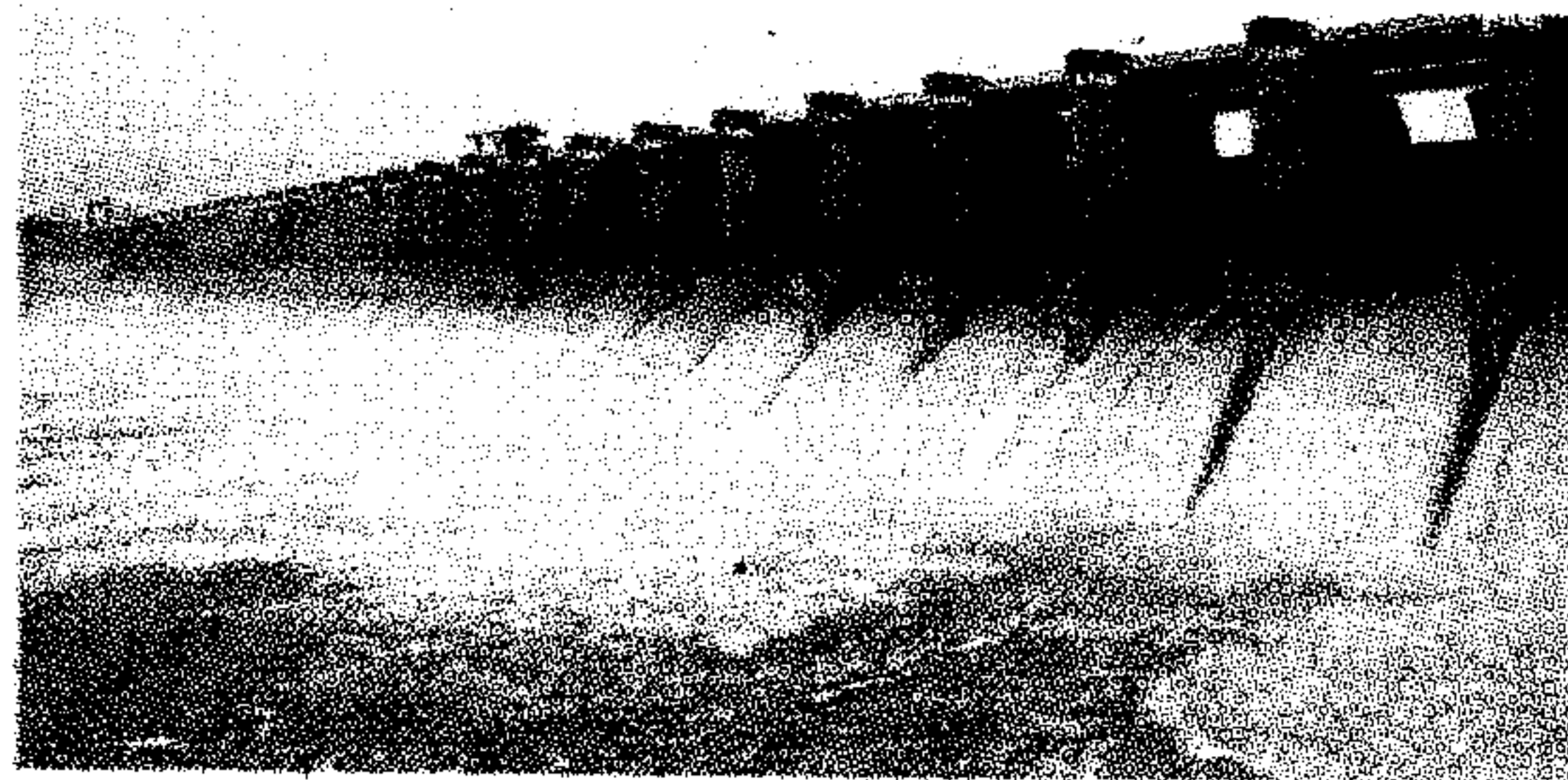
# TS likely to appeal award

## States unhappy with KWDT-2 award, mull remedies

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 20

With the Justice Brijesh Kumar Tribunal settling the pending issue on review of KWDT-2 (Krishna Waters Disputes Tribunal-2) award in its verdict of Wednesday and chances of Maharashtra and Karnataka going to Supreme Court with a fresh plea seeking vacation of the stay against notification by Central government, both TS and AP are now mulling legal remedies to prolong the litigation.

TS Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has convened a Cabinet meeting on Friday to take stock of the issue and decide how to proceed further. He has invited irrigation advisor R. Vidyasagara Rao, A-G K. Ramakrishna Reddy and additional A-G T. Ramachandra Rao along



The Almatti dam.

with inter-state water disputes wing officials and engineers-in-chief for the meeting.

According to sources AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu spoke to A-G D. Srinivas for arranging a meeting with legal experts on how to go about it, as the AP government feels that being the lower riparian state in Krishna river basin, it would have to suffer more.

However, both the governments feel that sooner or later both the

upper states will move the Apex Court for vacation of the stay. If they succeed in that effort and the Centre notifies the KWDT-2 award in the gazette, the impact of this development would be felt immediately as Karnataka has been permitted to raise Almatti Dam height from the existing 524 meters to 529 meters to impound 170 tmc ft more as per KWDT-2 final award.

Present capacity of Almatti Dam is about 130 tmc ft and past experie-

nce is that Karnataka does not release water from Almatti-Narayanpur Dams to projects downstream till they attain full level. "In case KWDT-2 is operationalised, we can forget about any further releases from these dams in khariff season, the inflow pattern will be adversely affected. Besides raising Almatti dam height, Karnataka is also thinking of building Upper Bhadra project upstream Tungabhadra dam to store more water citing heavy siltage," a senior official said.

According to sources, the TS government seems to have decided to file a SLP against the Brijesh Kumar Tribunal pronouncement on Section 89 application in Supreme Court. It is also mulling various options to further delay the legal process.