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How the Indus Treaty was signed

- [K. V. Padmanabhan](#)



Notes from the unpublished diary of India's Acting High Commissioner in Karachi, Pakistan, during the signing of the Indus Water Treaty in September 1960.

Amongst the more prominent of the problems that bedevilled relations between India and Pakistan was the Indus Waters dispute. This was a legacy of the Partition. The line dividing the two Punjabs cut right across the Indus canal systems developed over a hundred years. Pakistan found that the headwaters of the main canals were on the Indian side of the border. All the five tributaries of the Indus also originated in India and flowed through Indian territory in the upper reaches. Even before Partition, Sindh and Punjab had witnessed wrangles over the sharing of the waters of these rivers.

The situation worsened after the holocaust of the Partition. There were hysterical cries in Pakistan for taking up arms to defend their rights over the waters. Fortunately, an arbiter came forward in the garb of the World Bank that eventually succeeded in thrashing out a settlement. The main credit should go to Eugene Black, the World Bank president.

Demarcating boundaries

While the negotiations about the sharing of the canal waters were going on, officials from both countries were grappling with the demarcation of boundaries that had defied solution all those years. These disputes had arisen over the interpretation of the award of Radcliffe. Two teams were sent out by India to tackle the thorny problem [in 1959]. The discussions the Indians held with their Pakistani counterparts were in a spirit of friendship and cordiality hitherto unheard of in Pakistan. To a large extent, this was due to the fact that the leaders of the respective teams were old friends and college mates from pre-Partition Lahore. The leader on the Indian side was Sardar Swaran Singh; General Khalid Shaikh led the Pakistani team. Once these two men established their rapport, they left the details to their principal advisors: on the Indian side M.J. Desai, and on the other side Sikander Ali Baig. Once it was established that the main purpose of the exercise was to achieve maximum agreement and that neither side was out to steal an unfair advantage, it was easier to work out a solution. It was found that neither India nor Pakistan had an overwhelming case to be made on its stand on a particular dispute. One side gracefully conceded the other's claim were valid, and that was that. In this way the two negotiating teams were able to settle a number of irritants in this field and pave the way for a period of real détente between the two countries.

However, some [issues] proved to be intractable. One of these was the dispute regarding the Rann of Kutch. As neither side gave way, it was decided to leave it for further negotiations through routine diplomatic channels. Subsequently, Pakistan was to take the law into its own hands and send a raiding force into the territory only to be halted by Indian Army units. The dispute was then put to international arbitration, as a result of which India agreed to give up a part of the disputed area to Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Ayub Khan had taken another bold step. This was the decision to stop over at Palam airport in New Delhi [in September, 1959] during one of his periodic visits to Dacca, to meet the Indian Prime Minister. He was no doubt prompted to do so by Rajeshwar Dayal, the Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan who had received prior approval from Delhi. The Pakistani President deserves full credit for following it through with good grace and aplomb. The Palam meeting, that lasted for nearly two hours, went well. At the end, a brief statement was issued in which the leaders emphasised the need to conduct relations in a rational and planned manner. It was also agreed that outstanding issues should be settled in accordance with justice and fair play, in a spirit of friendliness and cooperation. Later, when speaking to the Press, Ayub Khan stressed the need for re-appraisals, for forgetting and forgiving, and for a more realistic and rational approach to settling disputes that had tarnished relations between the two neighbour states. For a few moments, the ice seemed to be broken. Right-thinking people on both sides appeared to heave a sigh of relief.

Nehru's visit to Pakistan

Soon it was clear that bigger things were in the offing. The protracted negotiations about the distribution of the canal waters were drawing to a close. The agreement on the canal waters was the biggest single achievement to date between the two countries, and it was decided to have it signed with due pomp and show. This provided an appropriate opportunity for the Indian Prime Minister to reciprocate Ayub Khan's stopover at Palam and to demonstrate the friendly relations that were developing between the two countries. The historic visit of Pandit Nehru from September 19 to September 23, 1960, was to be his last visit to Pakistan.

While the arrangements of the visit were under discussion, Rajeshwar Dayal had to leave Pakistan. The task of organising Panditji's visit fell on my shoulders. Fortunately, I had very able colleagues to help me.

Prime Minister Nehru's visit commenced on a rather low key. The welcome at Karachi was formal and correct, but not enthusiastic. The decorations along the route from the airport to the presidential palace were minimal. By contrast, a lot of the local populace had gathered along the streets to have a glimpse of Panditji. But they did not cheer him. It was evident that the military authorities had ordained it that way.

The same evening was the signing of the Indus Waters Treaty. This was done with due decorum and solemnity. Nehru signed on behalf of India, Ayub Khan on behalf of Pakistan, and William Iliff, the vice-president of the World Bank, on behalf of the Bank. The treaty was based on the principle that after a transitional period of 10 years, extendable to 13 at the request of Pakistan, the three eastern rivers, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej, would be exclusively allocated to India, while the western rivers, Indus, Jhelum and Chenab, would be allocated exclusively to Pakistan except for certain limited uses by India in the upstream areas. During the transition period, Pakistan would undertake a system of works, part of which would replace from the western rivers such irrigation uses in Pakistan as had hitherto been met from the eastern rivers. While the system of works was under construction, India would continue to supply water from the eastern rivers according to the agreed programme. The Indus works programme was estimated to cost around \$1,070 million, of which \$870 million was to be spent in Pakistan. It was a colossal undertaking.

Once the signing ceremony was over everyone breathed a sigh of relief. What had been an insurmountable problem was out of the way. Could one proceed to other items on the agenda? This was the nagging question that troubled the advisers on either side. Panditji had brought a team of advisers that included Desai, the Commonwealth Secretary, an able administrator, and a tough negotiator. Ayub Khan had great respect for his abilities.

However, the discussions that followed proved to be desultory and unproductive. It was clear that neither side was prepared for any major concessions. We talked primarily of trade between the two countries and for cooperation in economic spheres. A number of ideas were thrown out. Ayub Khan in a generous mood offered to divert the waters of the Indus River to the parched areas of Rajasthan by erecting a barrage in the lower reaches of the river; also to supply the Sui natural gas from Balochistan to the Bombay area.

The Indian side in its turn agreed to consider sympathetically the proposal enabling Pakistan to run a through-train across India connecting Lahore and Dacca. Even cooperation and co-ordination in the military fields came under discussion. India expressed concern about Chinese activities on the northern border of Kashmir and emphasised the concern they felt about a possible threat to Pakistan also from them.

Ayub Khan, without batting an eyelid, shook his head gravely and promised to study the question with his military advisors. Little did the Indian side suspect that Pakistan would be handing over to the Chinese sizeable chunks of the territory in the northern part of Kashmir in return for China's support of Pakistan's claim for the annexation of Jammu and Kashmir.

In fact, all our bilateral discussions and grandiose schemes came to practically nothing because of Pakistan's insistence that India should make substantial concessions with regard to Kashmir. Thereby ended another chapter in the unfulfilled agenda of cooperation between India and Pakistan.

K.V. Padmanabhan was in the Indian Foreign Service. Born in 1911, he passed away in 1992.

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Delhi's revocation of Indus treaty will be an act of war, warns Aziz

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: Pakistan said on Tuesday that India cannot unilaterally revoke the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty and that doing so would be seen as an "act of war".

Sartaj Aziz, foreign affairs adviser to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, told this to the Pakistan senate on Tuesday. He was quoted in Dawn as saying, "The Indus Waters Treaty is perhaps the most successful water treaty ever conducted between the two countries. Its provocation can be taken as an act of war or a hostile act against Pakistan."

There's no provision of suspension in the treaty while the World Bank is its guarantor, Aziz said, adding that if India annuls it unilaterally, Islamabad could go to the International court of Justice (ICJ).

Ultras hurl grenade at SSB camp in J&K

A grenade was lobbed by suspected militants at a camp of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) in Srinagar on Tuesday evening but no one was injured. Officials said the grenade landed about 15 metres from the camp's first sentry post. "The grenade blast did not hurt any personnel present at the post. Police and SSB reinforcements have been rushed to the spot from Soura," an official said. The camp lodges the 47th battalion of the force, deployed in the area for security duties, he added. PTI

Islamabad could go to the International court of Justice (ICJ). "The treaty is binding on

Arms seized from militant hideout

Security forces busted a militant hideout in a forest area in Doda district, J&K, on Tuesday, and seized a huge cache of arms and ammunition. A search operation was launched in the Linga Manjmi area and a "natural terrorist hideout" located, a police spokesman said. An AK-47 and eight 12 bore rifles, an under-barrel grenade-launcher were among the weapons seized. It is suspected that the arms were hidden by militants who have either been killed or have shifted base. PTI

both the countries and there's no provision of unilateral exit from it. It was not su-

spended even during wars between the two countries and there's no reason to believe that it would not remain intact in future," he said.

Aziz said Pakistan was also considering to brief the five permanent member-countries of the Security Council and the international community about the dangers posed to the treaty by India.

Pakistan's reaction followed PM Modi's comment that "blood and water cannot flow together" during a meeting to discuss the treaty.

The move is being seen in Islamabad as an attempt to cause irreparable economic loss to Pakistan. India has the advantage to increase the use of waters flowing into the Indus, Chenab and Jhelum rivers, experts said.

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The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

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Centre to J&K: Suggest ways to fully tap rivers flowing into Pak

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State to submit report on hydel scope of Indus, Jhelum and Chenab

SAMAAN LATEEF

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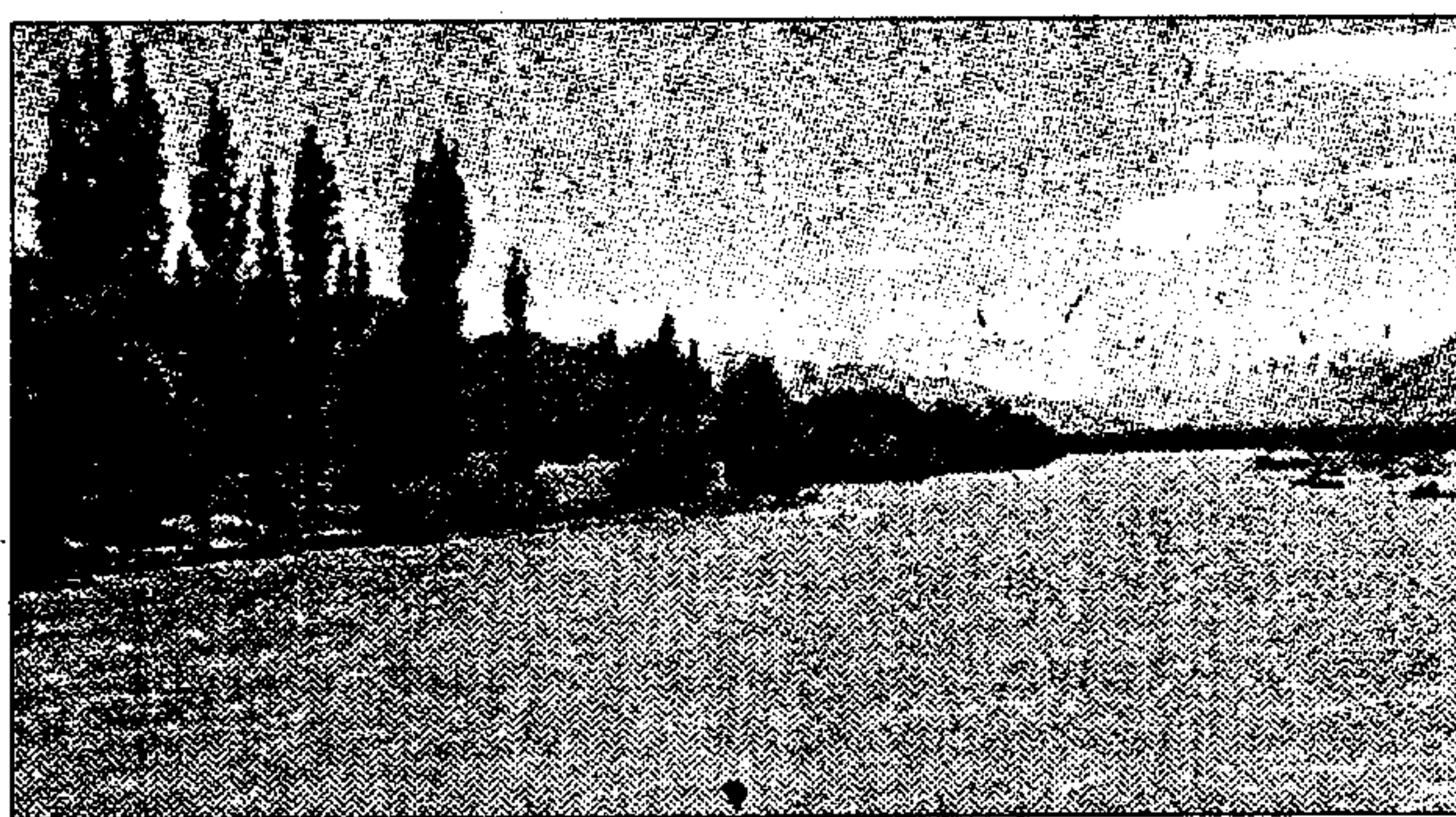
SRINAGAR SEPTEMBER 27

Amid heightened tension between India and Pakistan, the Central government has sought a detailed report from Jammu and Kashmir to suggest ways and means for maximum exploitation of water of three large western rivers falling under the World Bank-brokered 1960 Indus Water Treaty (IWT) between the two countries.

The Centre has asked the J&K Government to explain within one week the scope of enhanced power generation and irrigation from these rivers which flow into Pakistan through the state.

"We received a communication from the Union government on Monday evening to suggest widened scope for exploitation of rivers on which Pakistan has exclusive rights under the IWT," a senior state government official told The Tribune.

The IWT, which was signed by Prime Minister Jawahar-



The Indus flowing through Choglamsar in Leh. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Power potential

- J&K has 20,000 megawatt (MW) of hydro power potential and only 3263.46 MW has been exploited to date.
- The government has identified 16,475 MW of hydro power potential, comprising 11,283 MW in the Chenab basin, 3,084 MW in the Jhelum basin, 500 MW in the Ravi basin and 1608 MW in the Indus basin.
- The 3263.46 MW exploited so far consists of 1,211.96 MW in the state sector from 21 power projects, 2009 MW in the Central sector from seven projects and 42.5 MW in the private sector from four projects.

lal Nehru and Pakistan president Ayub Khan in September 1960, is a water-sharing mechanism to regulate the flow of the Indus and its five tributaries - Jhelum, Chenab,

Ravi, Beas and Sutlej - between India and Pakistan.

Under the treaty, India received exclusive rights of use of waters from the Indus and its eastward-flow-

ing tributaries Ravi, Beas and Sutlej before they enter Pakistan, whereas Pakistan has rights to three large western rivers that first flow through J&K - Indus, Jhelum and Chenab.

Following the Uri attack that left 18 soldiers dead, New Delhi is weighing both military and non-military options to give a befitting response to Islamabad. To review the IWT, the Prime Minister on Monday chaired a meeting with National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar, the Water Resources Secretary and senior PMO officials in New Delhi.

Following the meeting, the J&K Government was asked to submit the detailed report within a week, the official said. Under the IWT, an official said J&K can't store water on the main rivers but it can generate unlimited hydropower from run-of-the-river power plants, the officials said.

दिनांक 28/9/16 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)

SC toughens stand on K'taka over Cauvery water to TN

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A day after the Karnataka assembly passed a resolution opposing release of more water from Cauvery, the Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered the state government to provide 6,000 cusecs of water to its neighbour Tamil Nadu for three days from September 28.

Although a bench headed by Justice Dipak Misra refused to issue orders against Karnataka for defying its earlier order to release water, the bench indicated that it might crack the whip in future to "uphold the majesty

and dignity" of its order.

The court called for a political solution to the impasse by convening a meeting of the chief ministers and the Centre.

It told attorney general Mukul Rohatgi to facilitate a meeting of the executive heads over the next two days to find a resolution to the impasse and inform the court about the outcome on Friday. Rohatgi said the Centre was prepared to facilitate such a meeting.

The court said it asked for such a meeting not because it could not pass appropriate orders to maintain the rule of law, but because it thought it appropriate that there has

to be a discussion.

Senior advocate Fali S. Nariman, appearing for Karnataka, and senior counsel Shekhar Naphade, for Tamil Nadu, agreed with the court's advice.

The bench said the water shall be released despite the resolution passed by the assembly.

Naphade asked the court not to hear Karnataka until it releases the water, saying the state was "defying the orders of this court".

Nariman said Karnataka was willing to implement the order towards November-end when the state gets sufficient water from the north-east monsoon.

Release Cauvery water for 3 days, SC tells Karnataka

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court directed Karnataka on Tuesday to release 6,000 cusecs of Cauvery water from September 28 for three days to Tamil Nadu, after the state assembly passed a resolution against any discharge because of monsoon failure.

A bench called for a political solution to the century old impasse over sharing of Cauvery water and asked attorney general Mukul Rohatgi to convene a meeting of the chief ministers of the two states and the Centre over the next two days.

The water shall be released despite the assembly resolution, the court said.

The court didn't punish Karnataka on Tuesday for defying its earlier order, but hinted it might crack the whip in the future.

FULL REPORT » P8

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Give 6,000 cusecs to T.N. for 3 days, Karnataka told

We are sure that State
will obey the order,
says Supreme Court

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

NEW DELHI: Enforcing its authority as the final arbiter of inter-State river water disputes, the Supreme Court on Tuesday ignored the Karnataka legislature's resolution to not share Cauvery water and directed the State to release 6,000 cusecs of water to neighbouring Tamil Nadu for the next three days.

"We direct the State of Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs of water from September 28, 2016. We are sure that the State of Karnataka shall obey the order without any kind of impediment, obstruction or any other attitude till we take up the matter on September 30, 2016," the Bench of Justices Dipak Misra and U.U. Lalit said.

To be adjusted later

It said this release of water would be adjusted in the eventual adjudication of the inter-State dispute.

The court entrusted Attorney-General Mukul Rohatgi to meanwhile facilitate talks between the "Executive Heads" of the two States in an effort to melt hostilities.



Karnataka claims the storage in the KRS dam in Mandya is just enough for drinking purposes. — PHOTO : V SREENIVASA MURTHY

Jayalithaa meets officials in hospital

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu CM Jayalithaa, undergoing treatment at Apollo Hospitals here, convened a meeting with officials on Tuesday. She was apprised of developments in the hearing of the pleas filed by the State government in the Supreme Court.

The A-G said the Centre would arrange the meeting, "provided both agree to come."

'Not a sign of weakness'

The Bench made it clear that the call for talks was only a way of offering the carrot

Karnataka Cabinet to discuss stand

BENGALURU: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Tuesday that he was yet to read the Supreme Court order in the Cauvery water dispute. The Cabinet is also expected to meet on Wednesday to discuss and decide on the government's stand. PAGE 2

before using the stick. In its order, the apex court observed that a call for talks should not be interpreted by the States as the judiciary's powerlessness.

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Former SC judges say resolution is ill-advised

LEGAL
CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Former Supreme Court judges have termed the resolution passed by the two Houses of Karnataka on September 23, to deny Tamil Nadu Cauvery water, an ill-advised misadventure. They say the resolution is no match for the constitutional might of the Supreme Court as the final arbiter of inter-State water disputes.

Former Supreme Court judge K.T. Thomas said the resolution "is only fit to be kept in the records of the Karnataka legislature and has no authority".

"At best, the resolution can be treated as an expression of opinion or a criticism of the Supreme Court's order. Everyone has the right to criticise a court order. But the Supreme Court is the final authority in resolving inter-State water disputes," he said on Tuesday.

"The Supreme Court's mandate to be the final arbiter of inter-State water disputes is derived from the Constitution itself, not even Parliament. The constitutional makers gave the Supreme Court this power to prevent a situation in which one State will pass a resolution against the other and a constitutional crisis will ensue," former SC judge K.S. Radhakrishnan said.

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Troubled waters

By holding a meeting on the Indus Waters Treaty and scheduling another later this week on MFN (Most Favoured Nation) status to Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has signalled his intent to examine all the non-military options before the government for a strong response to the Uri attack. "Blood and Water cannot flow together," he is reported to have said. However, after the meeting, officials made it clear that the IWT will hold, at least for the moment. Instead, the Centre drew up a list of measures to optimise use of the Indus waters, that India has so far failed to do. The fact is that abrogating the IWT is a non-starter as an option, and the holding of the meeting at this juncture ill-considered. For one, it confused the message in Mr. Modi's Kozhikode speech, appealing to Pakistani citizens' better instincts to "wage a war on poverty". More important, the 1960 treaty for the Indus and five tributaries flowing from India to Pakistan was brokered by the World Bank (then, the IBRD), and has held through wars and conflicts along the Line of Control. Revoking it would threaten regional stability and India's credibility globally. It remains unclear what India intends to do with the "western" rivers in question beyond the short-term plan to irrigate Jammu and Kashmir's fields better. Dams required to hold the course of the tributaries of the Indus to alter water levels to Pakistan dramatically would take more than a decade to build. Given the environmental and geopolitical consequences of such actions, they are unlikely to elicit any international funding.

It is clear that the Centre didn't think through its next steps when it declared with a grand flourish, amplified by frenzied television headlines, that the Prime Minister would "review" the Treaty. But it did limit the potential damage by bringing down the heated rhetoric with a rational analysis on the Treaty. It would be wise if India proceeds with a sense of pragmatic caution in making further statements on Pakistan — for instance, revoking the MFN status will hardly punish Pakistan's economy given the low levels of bilateral trade. Terrorist attacks such as the one at Uri require a combination of measured but firm responses, rather than weighing every option in full public view. India cannot also ignore the fact that the Uri attack has exposed the need to shore up its defences. As India has realised time and again, its response to provocation must carry the message that the country is dependable and not given to irrational, irresponsible actions that its neighbour is often prone to.

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■ Sartaj Aziz

VIOLATING INDUS WATER TREATY WILL BE AN ACT OF WAR: AZIZ

Rezaul Lashkar
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Pakistan can approach the United Nations and the International Court of Justice if India violates the Indus Waters Treaty, its top foreign policy adviser said on Tuesday, warning that such a move can be treated as "an act of war".

Reviewing the 56-year-old pact that governs rivers flowing into Pakistan is part of retributive measures India is said to be considering to avenge an attack on an army base in Uri, Kashmir. New Delhi says the September 18 attack, which killed 18 soldiers, originated from Pakistan. "The international law states that India cannot unilaterally separate itself from the treaty," Sartaj Aziz said, briefing the National Assembly or lower house of parliament on the treaty.

The treaty brokered by the World Bank was not suspended even during wars and the Kargil and Siachen conflicts, he said. If India revokes or violates the treaty, Pakistan can approach the UN Security Council or the International Court of Justice, he added, according to reports in the Pakistani media. "Between the two countries, this act of revocation can be taken as an act of war," he said.

Disagreements over how to share the waters of the Indus and other rivers have dogged relations between the nuclear-armed arch-rivals since Independence in 1947. The dispute looks set to be re-ignited after PM Narendra Modi told officials on Monday that India should use more of the rivers' resources. Later, Pakistan's National Assembly also unanimously passed a resolution condemning India's assertion at the UNGA that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India.

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India must reclaim its right over J&K rivers

Pakistan cannot expect the Indus Waters Treaty to survive eternally if it refuses to honour the 1972 Simla peace pact

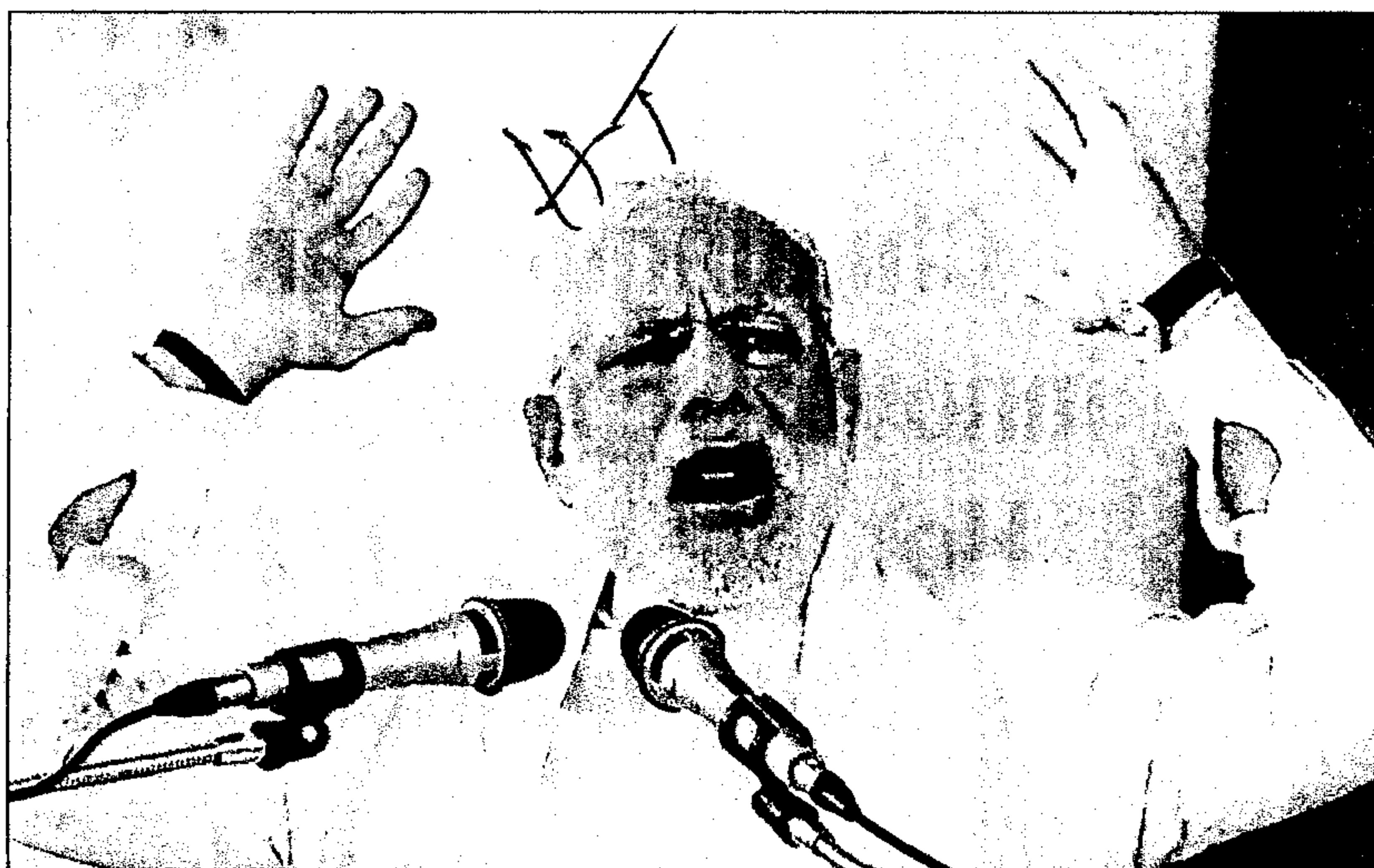
Brahma Chellaney

Be careful what you wish for: Not content with Pakistan enjoying a water-sharing arrangement with India that is by far the world's most generous, the country's Senate passed a unanimous resolution in March that declared: "This House recommends that the Government should revisit Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), 1960, in order to make new provisions in the treaty so that Pakistan may get more water for its rivers". Little did the parliamentarians know that India would heed that call by revisiting the pact, which lopsidedly reserves for the lower riparian 80.52% of the total waters of the six-river Indus system, or 167.2 billion cubic metres of the aggregate 207.6 billion cubic metres average yearly flows. Thinking it was trading water for peace through the IWT, a naïve India even contributed \$173.63 million for dam and other water projects in Pakistan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to review IWT arrangements, including India's rights and obligations, extends to suspending the Permanent Indus Commission. The commission has done little more than run regular consultative meetings between its two commissioners, each of whom acts on behalf of his country. In the aftermath of the December 2001 Parliament attack by five Pakistani gunmen, India suspended any commission meeting. But this marks the first occasion that India has set in motion a reappraisal of the IWT, forming an inter-ministerial panel.

If an inherently unequal water treaty is to endure, the direction of the Pakistan-India relationship needs to change towards respecting all bilateral commitments. Pakistan cannot expect the IWT to survive eternally if it refuses to honour the terms of the central treaty governing bilateral relations — the 1972 peace pact signed at Simla. It also flouts its subsequent commitments not to allow its territory to be used for cross-border terrorism. Rights and obligations under the older IWT cannot override the terms of the Simla treaty, which provides the essential basis for all peaceful cooperation, including mandating the Line of Control's inviolability and dispute settlement by bilateral means.

Today, Pakistan, refusing to accept international norms of interstate behaviour, demands rights without responsibilities. It wages an undeclared war by terror to bleed the upper riparian while insisting that its target perpetually be munificent on water sharing. Just because a scofflaw State has



• PM Narendra Modi has rightly warned: 'Blood and water cannot flow simultaneously' PM

enjoyed unparalleled water largesse for 56 years does not mean that such generosity by the upper riparian must last forever. Indeed, Pakistan challenges the very fundamentals of international law by seeking to repay its co-riparian's water munificence with blood.

Like Lady Macbeth in William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Pakistan's terrorism-exporting generals must ask themselves whether all the waters flowing in the Indus system would "wash this blood clean" from their hands. Modi has rightly warned: "Blood and water cannot flow simultaneously". In fact, Pakistan's roguish conduct has armed India with the lawful option to invoke Article 62 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties to dissolve the IWT. In the interim, it could suspend the treaty's implementation.

The purpose of any potential IWT-related action by India would not be to cut off water flows to Pakistan. Rivers flow from mountains to oceans or large lakes, and no nation can completely undo the laws of nature. Rather, the action would be aimed at India regaining sovereignty over the Jammu and Kashmir rivers, which the IWT has reserved for Pakistan's use by limiting India's full sovereignty to the three smaller rivers flowing south of J&K. No other modern treaty has partitioned rivers in such a blatant, neo-colonial manner.

By reclaiming its basic right over the J&K rivers, India could fashion water as an instrument of leverage to bring Pakistan to heel. Even a 10% diminution in transboundary water flows would hurt Pakistan, whose

debt-ridden economy is reliant on earnings from agricultural exports, especially water-intensive rice and cotton. Pakistan's per capita water use is almost 80% higher than India's.

To deter India from employing its water leverage, the bugbear of Chinese retaliation has been invented. The plain fact is that China has little clout in the Indus basin: Four of the six rivers (including the two with the largest transboundary flows into Pakistan, the Chenab and the Jhelum) originate in India — three of them in Himachal Pradesh alone. The other two, the main Indus stream and the Sutlej, begin as small rivers in Tibet and collect their main water in India.

China, which rejects water sharing even as a concept, is already doing whatever it wishes in other transnational basins. From the Brahmaputra and the Arun (Kosi) to the Mekong and the Salween, China is reengineering transboundary flows by building cascades of dams, with little regard for downstream impacts in Asia.

For India, reclaiming its leverage in the Indus basin is a cheaper option to reform Pakistan's behaviour than fighting a war. Indeed, India's best bet to end cross-border terrorism is employing 'peaceful' options — from diplomatically isolating Pakistan and mounting riparian pressures to waging economic, cyber and asymmetric warfare. Modi's IWT re-examination is a step in the right direction.

Brahma Chellaney is the author of Water, Peace, and War and Water: Asia's New Battleground. The views expressed are personal.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 10/04/2016 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
A a j (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

Parched Latur now has enough water for 5 yrs

Syed.Rizwanullah
@timesgroup.com

Aurangabad: The water train chugging into Latur to meet the city's drinking water requirement is unlikely to recur at least in the next five years, said officials.

Unprecedented heavy showers that lashed Marathwada over the past few days have helped increase water levels in all resources, including the Manjara dam, which is considered the life-line for Latur.

The Manjara dam, which has a storage capacity of 9,000 million cubic feet, was in dead storage since 2012 till a few weeks ago. With the dam filled up to 97% of its capacity, officials have started discharging water from it. Though the rains receded on Monday, water from the catchment areas continued to flow into the dam, which is situated about 80 km from .

Latur's daily water requirement stands at 60 million litres, and considering the consecutive years of drought, the government had started supplying water to the city through a train from Miraj in Sangli district. The severe drought had brought industries to a grinding halt and severely affected trade and business in the city.

"Manjra dam is now filled up to 100% of its storage capacity. Lower Terna, another major dam, is also almost full ... and the storage we presently have, is enough to last for about five years,"



Residents wait in front of the water train in drought-hit Latur in this April photo. (Below) Sluice gates of the Manjara dam were opened on Monday after it exceeded its storage capacity

said Mohammed Sarfaraz, a senior geologist at the ground water survey and development agency in Latur. He added that the groundwater table, which had dropped by 3.5 metres, had made a significant recovery and was rising constantly.

Latur district disaster management officer Saqueb Osmani said the problem of drinking water supply for Latur and its nearby areas would be closed chapter at least for now. "The Manjra dam and other barrages supplying water to Latur are filled to capacity," he said.

A number of NGOs had rushed to Latur to imple-

ment different schemes to desilt, deepen and widen the water bodies that had run dry across the district.

Latur district collector Pandurang Pole said that after the drought, most farmers had shifted from sugarcane to other crops. But due to good rains, some might think of growing sugarcane.

Interestingly, Latur's civic body cannot immediately fetch water from its pumping station at Manjara dam. The 800 kv transformer installed by it was recently stolen from the dam's vicinity. A tender has been floated by the civic body for a new transformer.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 8 September 2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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Blitz

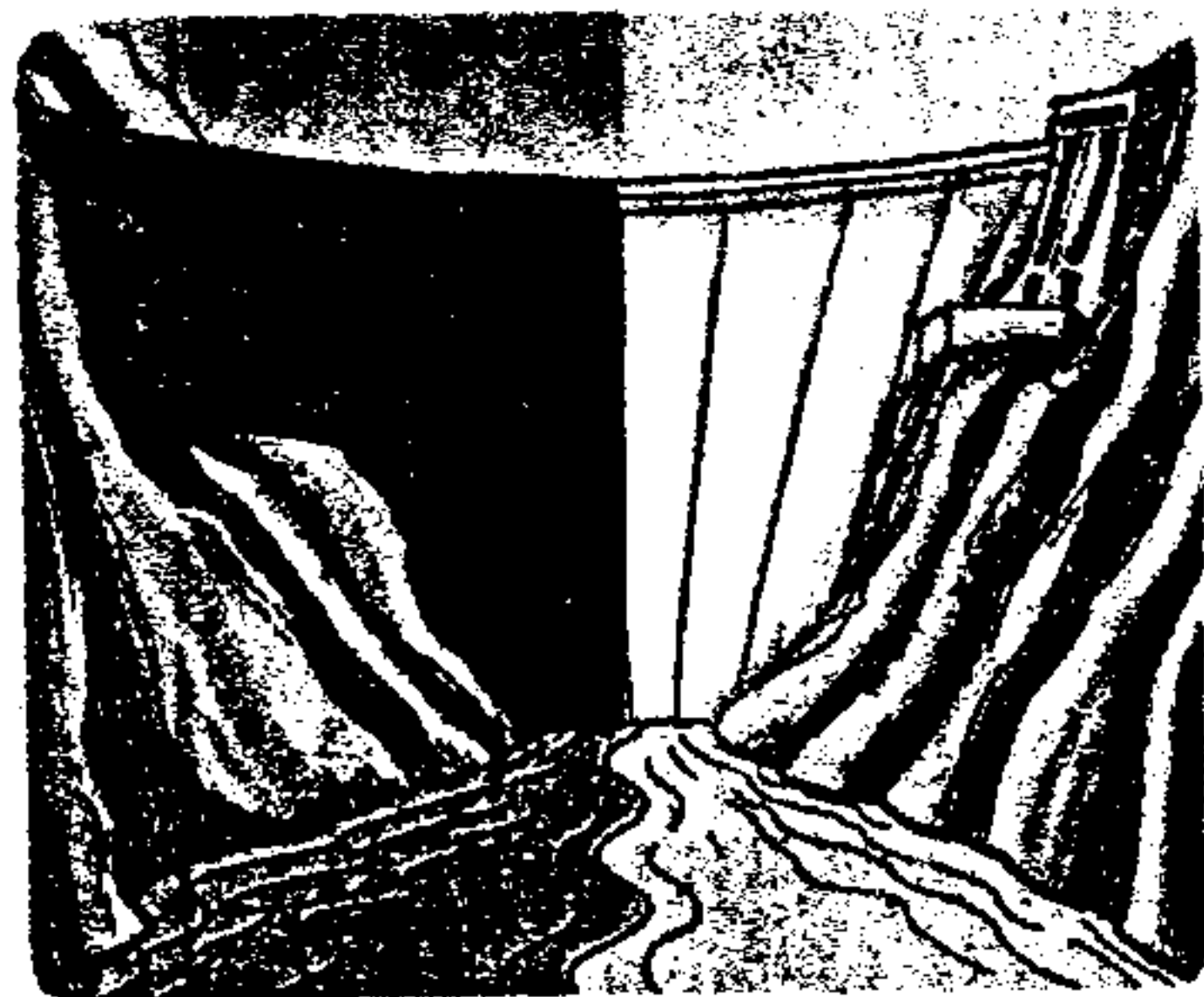
and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

Blood And Water

*New Delhi is looking for pressure points
to make Pakistan pay a price*

With foreign minister Sushma Swaraj's speech at the UN General Assembly, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi convening meetings on the Indus Water Treaty as well as MFN trade benefits Pakistan enjoys from India, the broad outlines of India's response to the Uri terrorist attack are becoming clear. India is looking at pressure points that can increase the cost to Pakistan for pursuing asymmetrical warfare against India. This can be a smart, 21st century way of getting Pakistan to drop terror as a foreign policy tool.

One of these is calling out Pakistan for providing safe havens to global terrorists, and Swaraj's reference in her UN speech to how UN-designated terrorists roam free in Pakistan is a way of doing that. Second, Pakistan often invokes a human rights narrative against India and it is easy to highlight Pakistan's much worse human rights violations: Human Rights Watch, for example, has just put out a report saying Pakistan's police killed 2,000 people in fake encounters in 2015 alone.



If India revokes MFN Pakistan's exports to India will be affected, but these don't amount to much. A stronger signal has been sent by India's steps on the Indus Water Treaty, where Modi has said "blood and water can't flow together". The government has decided to suspend meetings of the Indus Water Commission, saying they can be resumed

only in the absence of terrorism. Second, India grossly under-utilises its share of Indus river waters even under the terms of the treaty; this share can be stepped up without violating the treaty. Completing the Chenab's dams will take time but becomes in effect a slow-maturing pressure point. India can be receptive to Pakistan's complaints about the dams hurting its agriculture provided Pakistan is responsive, over time, to India's demand of dismantling its terror infrastructure.

This strategy can work if pursued in a holistic and consistent fashion. But that requires the NDA government to take some steps at home as well. First, it must strengthen homeland security and border defences. Second, it must improve the political atmosphere at home. There have been too many recent instances of bigotry vitiating the communal atmosphere, ranging from inflammatory statements by BJP leaders, to cow vigilantes acting with impunity, to BJP state governments passing and enforcing draconian laws regulating people's diets. These have contributed to unrest in Kashmir, leading Pakistan to manoeuvre for advantage. India needs to stop scoring these self-goals.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 6 September 2016 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
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Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

Mahanadi joust

The bitter irony posed by nature's bounty is palpable from Farakka in West Bengal to Cauvery in the South via the Mahanadi that flows through Odisha and Chhattisgarh. And it is the construction of dams and barrages and the release of water that is the thread ~ now increasingly furious ~ that determines the flow. The raging controversy over the Mahanadi appears to have erupted exactly 15 years after a certain Arjun Sethi, the Biju Janata Dal's water resources minister in the Vajpayee cabinet, had raised the inter-state issue in Parliament. No action was taken since 2001 despite chief minister Naveen Patnaik's assurance to the Assembly. The administration in Bhubaneswar would appear to have woken up rather late in the day, particularly after barrages have been constructed across the river by Chhattisgarh, which state incidentally was also formed 15 years ago. Matters have now come to a head following the Centre's suggestion to constitute a "joint control board", an inter-state mechanism on water-sharing that was readily accepted by Chhattisgarh... but rejected by Odisha. Also turned down is the Union water resources ministry's proposal to form an expert committee. Odisha does have a point when it cavils that it was not consulted before the constructions came up. It has blamed the neighbouring state of unilateral action; the construction of barrages was tacitly condoned both by the Congress-led UPA government and the BJP-headed NDA dispensation. Small wonder that Mr Patnaik has accused both the Congress and the BJP of "creating" the Mahanadi controversy. Indeed, the "non-monsoon flow" of the river is particularly critical as 15 out of the 30 districts, including in impoverished western Odisha, are dependant on the river water. So too are the essential segments of irrigation and power and agriculture in the wider perspective. The net result has been a political conflict of interest. As he bared his angst in the Assembly, Mr Patnaik was seemingly anxious to make the Mahanadi a BJD issue prior to the panchayat elections next February. It is hard not to wonder whether the state is fighting a losing battle, most particularly in the context of the Chief Minister's grouse that the BJP government at the Centre has been "siding with the party's government in Chhattisgarh for political reasons".

On closer reflection, both states are at fault. Chhattisgarh's cardinal mistake was to have constructed the barrages unilaterally. It had also misled both the Centre and Odisha by emitting a misleading signal of intent. The government in Raipur had projected the barrages as "minor irrigation projects" to circumvent the need for the Central Water Commission's approval. In point of fact, the barrages belong to the medium irrigation segment. There is considerable politics over Mahanadi; far too little of inter-state cooperation. Any river deserves better.

दिनांक २७.०९.१९९९ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

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The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

To 1- 27 Sept

Blood and water can't flow simultaneously, says Modi

Indus Panel Meetings With Pak Suspended

Indrani Bagchi &
Vishwa Mohan | TNN

New Delhi: Taking the offensive right into the heart of Pakistan, India decided on Monday to suspend the meetings of the Indus Water commission and explore ways to use its share of water of rivers flowing into Pakistan besides hinting that it could revive the construction of Tulbul project in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Blood and water cannot flow simultaneously," PM Narendra Modi told a meeting

► **FULL COVERAGE: P 12, 13**

where the decisions designed to make Pakistan pay for the attack on the Uri Army camp were taken, extending the retaliation against the strike beyond efforts to isolate Pakistan diplomatically. In fact, sources said India could even consider walking out of the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) if Pakistan does not rein in terrorists, adding that the water-sharing pact is not sacrosanct.

MAY GO AHEAD WITH TULBUL PROJECT

- Govt feels water resources, not covered by the treaty, were being made available to Pak due to India's 'goodwill'. **This can't continue in light of the Uri attack**
- Inter-ministerial task forces to examine treaty urgently. Will consider implications of reconsidering treaty. **No more meetings of Indus water commission**
- India to consider going ahead with Tulbul navigation project suspended since 1987. **Will allow movement of goods and people on Jhelum.** Pak claims this violates treaty
- Use of **resources from western tributaries to be maximised.** Of 18,600 MW capacity, India utilising just 3,034 MW. Projects of 2,526 MW under construction, 5,846 MW at advanced stage
- Treaty provides for sharing of water of Beas, Ravi, Sutlej, Indus, Chenab and Jhelum



Nod for hi-tech security at LoC

The Centre has given 'in principle' approval to recommendations of the Madhukar Gupta panel for use of a grid-based system, satellites, optimised force deployment, enhanced intelligence, and local police along the border with Pakistan, **reports Neeraj Chauhan. P 13**

India announced a series of actions on the IWT, seen as "incredibly generous to Pakistan", which would substantia-

lly increase its usage of the three rivers—Indus, Jhelum and Chenab—which feed Pakistan. India is entitled to use 20%

'J&K youth died of pellet injury'

The row over the death of Shabir Mir, a Kashmiri youth whose body was exhumed on the SC's order after his parents alleged he had been shot at home by a cop, has ended with the post-mortem report concluding that he had died of a pellet injury, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary. P 13**

of the three rivers, a provision it has not availed of so far.

► **Dispute settlement, P 13**

दिनांक २७/९/१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)
Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

Deccan Herald, 27/9/16

After 47 years, water level hits rock bottom at KRS

KRISHNARAJA SAGAR (MANDYA DISTRICT): The Krishnaraja Sagar dam now resembles more of a rocky terrain in the dry districts of north Karnataka rather than a reservoir. The present storage of water that could be utilised is 10.2 tmcft against a total storage of 49.45 tmcft. The depletion in the water level has exposed the terrain on the rock bottom of the reservoir.

According to sources in the Water Resources department, this is the first time since 1969 that expanses of the terrain especially on the eastern and western side of the reservoir have become visible. Lack of rains during the south-west monsoon has led to the present situation.

Interacting with reporters who visited the reservoir on Monday, Chief Engineer, Irrigation (South Zone), B Shivashankar, said that two tmcft of water was required per month to meet the drinking water need of Mysuru, Bengaluru and other towns as well as the villages in the Cauvery basin.

Preserving the water to meet the drinking need till

May next is certainly a tough task. The nearly empty reservoir would have gone bone dry had water release to Tamil Nadu continued, official sources said.

The state government has stopped release of water to the neighbouring state since September 23. The Supreme Court had ordered that the water be released till September 27.

If the available water is not conserved, it is going to be tough even to get drinking water in the basin area.

The inflow into the KRS is just 1,185 cusecs/day, while the outflow is 220 cusecs.

The KRS reservoir premises on Monday resembled a fortress on the eve of the Supreme Court taking up a petition submitted by the state government seeking modification of its September 20 order. Personnel from the state police, Rapid Action Force and also para-military force have been deployed outside the reservoir. The police are geared up to handle one lakh people at a time in case they try to barge into this high-security area to protest against further release of water.

DH News Service



दिनांक २६/९/१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

The Tribune, 28/9/16

Ignoring House resolution, SC tells K'taka to release riverwater to TN

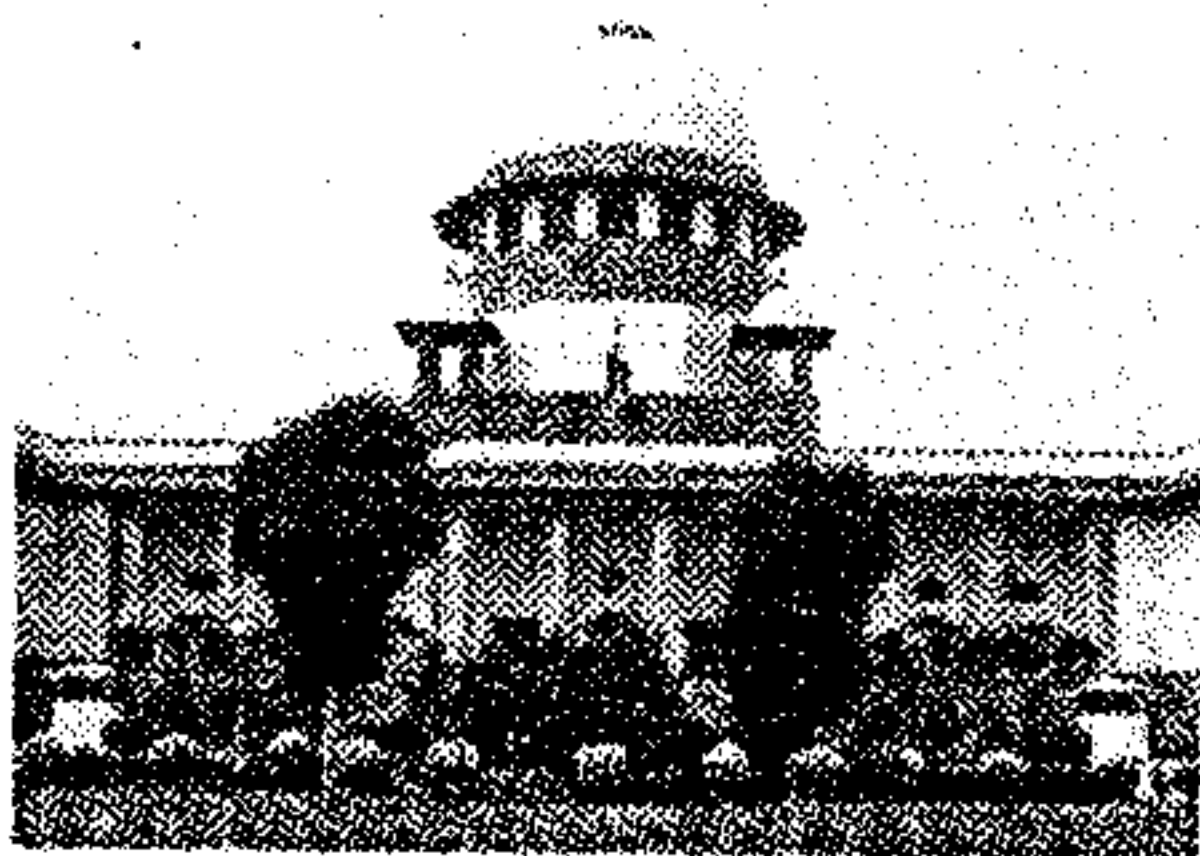
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

The Supreme Court today directed Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu, ignoring the state Assembly's resolution to stop water supply to the neighbouring state.

"The water shall be released despite the resolution...We ingeminate and repeat at the cost of repetition that the direction for the release of water has been passed for the coming three days despite the resolution passed," a Bench comprising Justices Dipak

The water shall be released despite the resolution...We ingeminate and repeat at the cost of repetition that the direction for the release of water has been passed for the coming three days despite the resolution. — SC Bench



Misra and UU Lalit said in an order and posted the next hearing for September 30.

Both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu agreed to sit across the table to find an amicable solution to the vexed problem, while the Centre offered to play mediator.

On September 20, the apex court had asked Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs of water for Tamil Nadu for a week, but the supply was stopped following the Assembly resolution mandating release only for drinking purposes in Bangaluru and other cities.

दिनांक 28.11.2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

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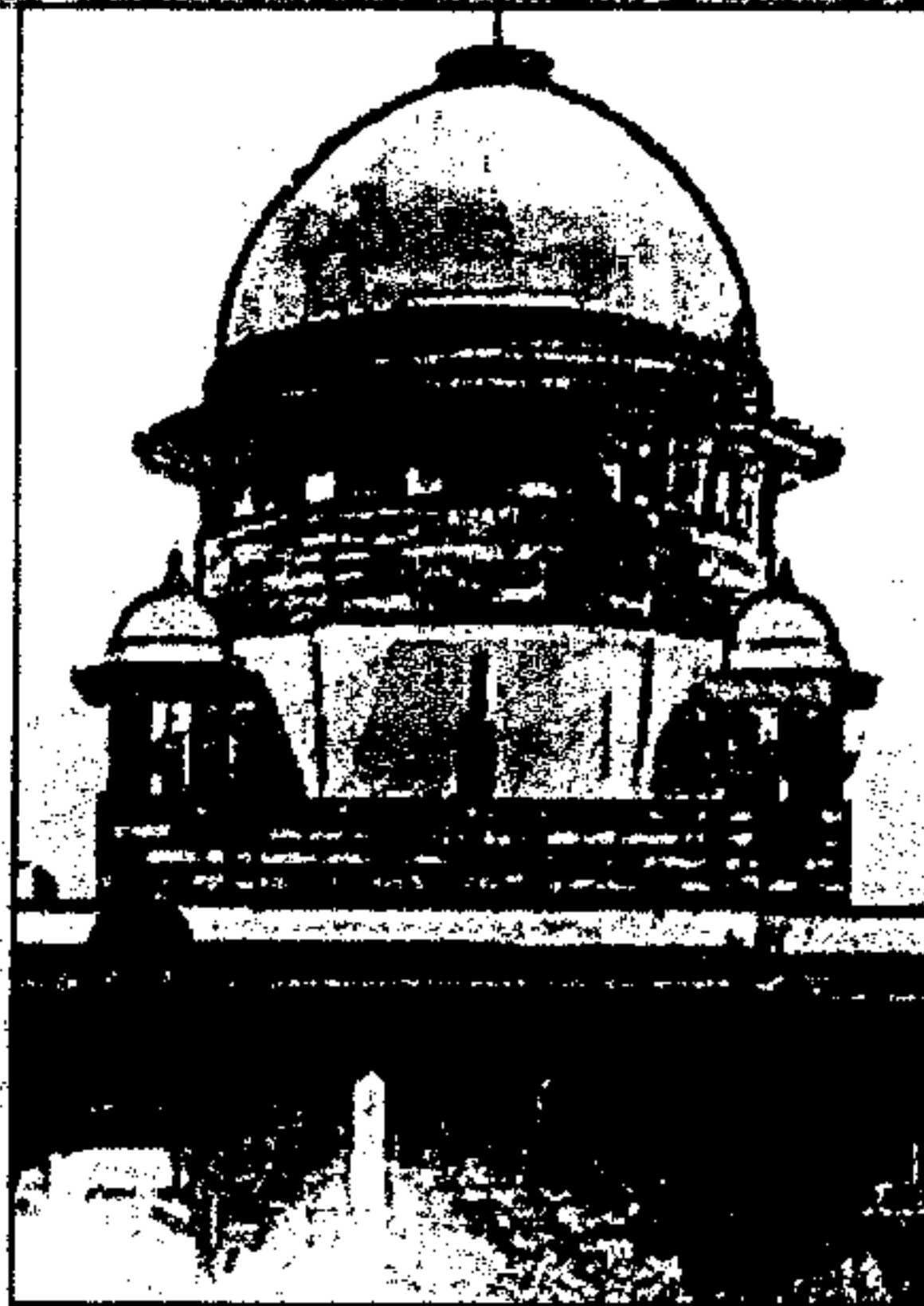
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)

Central Chronical (Bhopal)

नवभारत टाइम्स, 28/11/16

राजनीतिक तरीके से सुलझे कावेरी मसला

■ विस, नई दिल्ली : कावेरी जल विवाद मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक बार फिर कर्नाटक सरकार से कहा कि वह शुकवार तक तमिलनाडु को 6 हजार क्यूसेक पानी रोजाना रिलीज करे। कोर्ट ने कहा कि मामले में राजनीतिक समाधान की जरूरत है। अदालत ने केंद्र से कहा कि वह दोनों राज्यों के सीएम की इस मामले में मीटिंग बुलाएं। कर्नाटक असेंबली ने प्रस्ताव पारित कर पानी सप्लाई करने में असमर्थता जाहिर की थी। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में तमिलनाडु सरकार की ओर से दलील दी गई थी कि अदालत के आदेश का पहले कर्नाटक पालन करे उसके बाद भी उसकी बात की सुनवाई सुप्रीम कोर्ट में हो। कोर्ट ने अटॉर्नी जनरल मुकुल रोहतगी से कहा कि केंद्र के साथ दोनों राज्यों के प्रमुखों की बैठक बुलाई जाए। जब मामले में कोर्ट अपना ऑर्डर लिखवा रही थी, उसी बीच कर्नाटक सरकार की ओर से पेश



वकील ने पानी रिलीज करने के ऑर्डर का विरोध किया और कहा कि इससे टकराव होगा। वहीं तमिलनाडु के वकील ने कहा कि कोर्ट के आदेश का पालन नहीं किए जाने के मामले में कर्नाटक का रवैया सही नहीं है। वहीं ईटी के मुताबिक ऑल पार्टी मीटिंग के बाद कर्नाटक पानी देने के लिए मान सकता है।

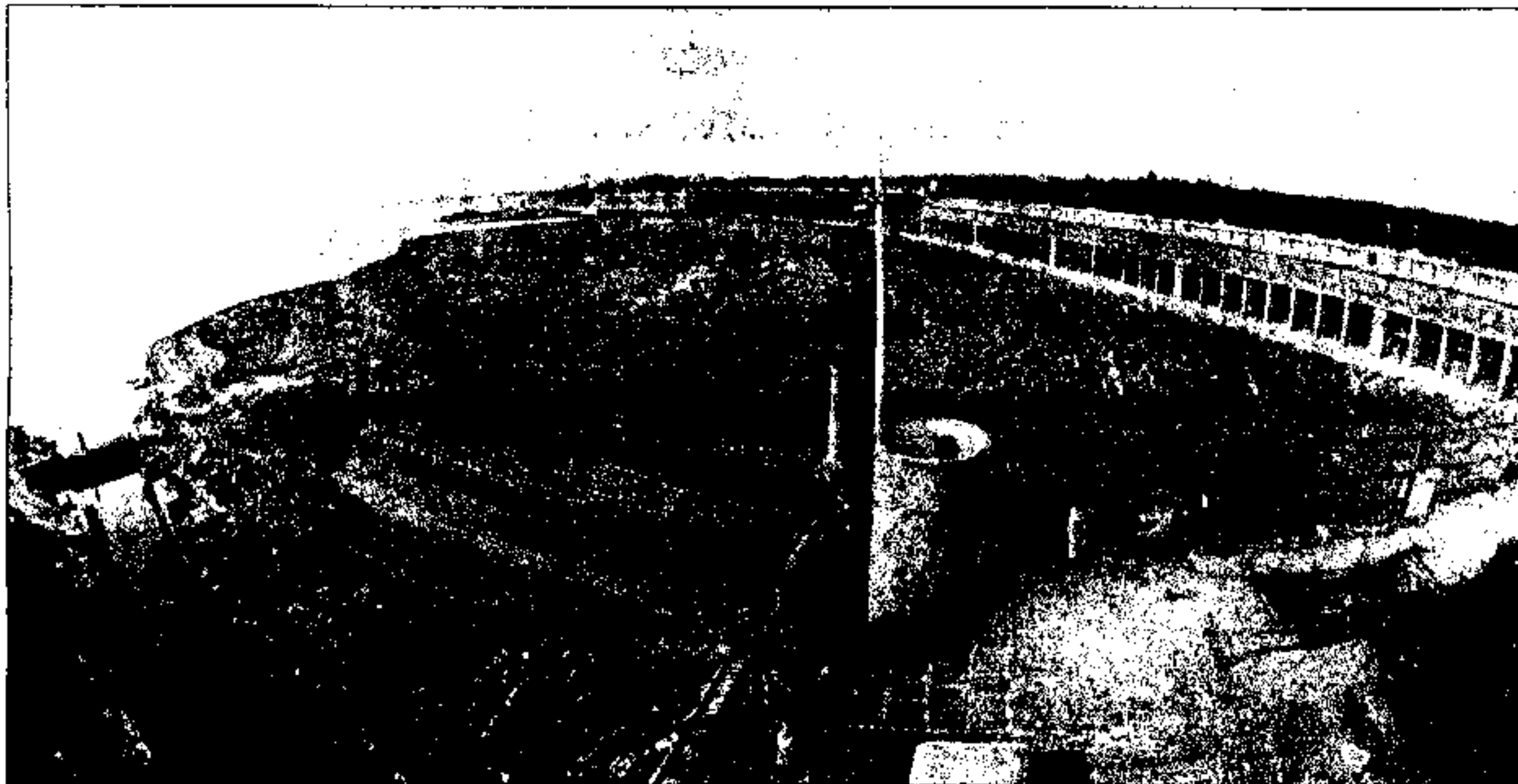
दिनांक २७/११/२०१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

Deccan Herald, 27/11/2016



The depleting water level at the KRS reservoir on Monday.

DH PHOTO/ANAND BAKSHI

State urges SC to modify Cauvery order

NEW DELHI: Karnataka on Monday urged the Supreme Court to modify its September 20 order, directing it to release 6,000 cusecs of Cauvery water per day to Tamil Nadu.

"Permit the state before the end of the season (Jan 31, 2017) to account for (and to release) the quantity of water directed to be released by the court's order dated 20.9.2016 and direct accordingly," Karnataka said in its plea. The Supreme Court is to resume the hearing on the release of water on Tuesday.

Karnataka further submitted, "In a year of insufficient rainfall and distress, the state is nonetheless obliged to reserve water for supply to its inhabitants at the national standards norms – namely 135 litres per capita (per day) in urban areas and 70 litres per capita (per day) in rural areas. In discussions between the representatives of the government and the irrigation authorities of the state on September 16, it was decided to take steps to ensure drinking water to inhabitants in the Cauvery basin."

Maintaining that the order

for the release of 6,000 cusecs should be treated as arrears or shortfall to be cleared at the end of season, the state also pointed at the resolution passed by the Karnataka Legislature for meeting the drinking requirements.

Karnataka said the live storage at Mettur dam was 50.04 tmcft as on September 20 and 48.31 tmcft as on September 24, and asserted that it was adequate for Tamil Nadu to meet the requirements for the samba crop. It also submitted that the Northeast monsoon was also expected to be normal which would reduce dependence on Mettur.

Karnataka has already ensured 52.2 tmcft on the border between June 1 and September 25. It said it was reasonably anticipated that the available water at the end of the season would be 90.32 tmcft, which is much more than the highest-ever quantity drawn from the Mettur dam by Tamil Nadu for irrigation. Even in the worst monsoon years (2003-04), the water drawn by the neighbour state was 50.71 tmcft.

» Cauvery, Page 8

State urges SC to modify...

Cauvery, from Page 1

Tamil Nadu, for its part, so filed an application asking the court not to hear Karnataka for its "conscious refusal" to release water, or to make good the shortfall by giving the court's directions on September 5, 12 and 20. Contending that Karnataka was acting as a judge in its own cause, Tamil Nadu sought to protect its prestige and dignity of the

apex court was at stake and if the Karnataka government believed that their partisan interests should prevail over the interests of the other state, the result would be total anarchy.

Tamil Nadu contended that the functionaries of Karnataka seemed to believe they can defy with impunity the apex court's orders and treat them with contempt.

» H News Service

दिनांक २७/९/१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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DeccanChronicle, 27/9/16

Lucky escape for biker swept away in waters

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD SEPT. 26

A 35-year-old man had a miraculous escape after being swept away by floodwaters in Medchal on Monday morning.

Mr Venu was washed away while riding to Medchal to fetch drinking water. Locals managed to rescue him though his bike was washed away.

The incident took place when he was crossing the overflowing Kistapur stream. After riding for some distance, due to the heavy flow of water, his bike got stuck. Before he could react, he fell in the water along with the bike and was swept away.



A TV screen grab shows biker Venu and his vehicle struggling in the water.

However, locals standing on either sides of the culvert rushed in and rescued him, but the bike disappeared in the flow.

दिनांक २७.९.१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Deccan chronicle, 27/9/16

CITY| FLOODS

■ **20 flats still submerged in Bandari Layout area**

Rain fury ebbs, relief ops on

KAMALAPATHI RAO H. | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 26

With the city getting some respite from the rain, various departments started relief activities in flooded localities on Monday.

Two deaths were reported due to rains in Medak district and two others were rescued by the public after falling into nalas. Farmer Balaiah, 50, was electrocuted in his agricultural field while switching on a water pump while ward member Mallesham of Naguladevulapally village in Hathnura mandal of Medak district died after falling in flowing water.

One Venu was rescued by the public after he fell into the Medchal Pedda Cheruvu with his motorcycle while crossing the bund. Another person was rescued by locals after he fell into a nala at East Anandbagh in the city.

An old house at Madannapet collapsed due to the rains though no casualties were recorded.

Meanwhile around 20 apartments at Bandari



Floodwaters still remained on the streets and in some houses of Alwal on Monday.

— DC

Layout near Kukatpally are still submerged. Fire service personnel are still pumping water from these apartments at road numbers 9 and 10. Kukatpally fire officials said that the task would be completed by Tuesday based on the

weather condition

GHMC officials however said pumping out water from cellars of all apartments on road number 8 of Bandari Layout was complete and the families had returned to their flats from relief camps and relatives'

● Two deaths were reported due to rains in Medak district and two others were rescued by the public after falling into drains. An old house collapsed at Madannapet due to the heavy rains

● Farmer Balaiah, 50, was electrocuted in his agricultural field while switching on a pump while ward member Mallesham of Naguladevulapally village in Hathnura mandal of Medak district died after falling into flowing water.

houses.

Relief operations are continuing at Dharani Nagar at Alwynn Colony near Kukatpally, Nizampet, Alwal, Bowenpally and a few localities of Old City.

Meanwhile, heavy rains on Sunday night at the IT corridor led to waterlogging at Cyber Towers, Kothaguda Junction, Gachibowli and Serilingampally. The road at Serilingampally near the ZP High School railway underbridge is still under water.

दिनांक २६/९/१६ को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

The Hindu, 26/9/16
**State urges Karnataka to abide
by SC order on water release**

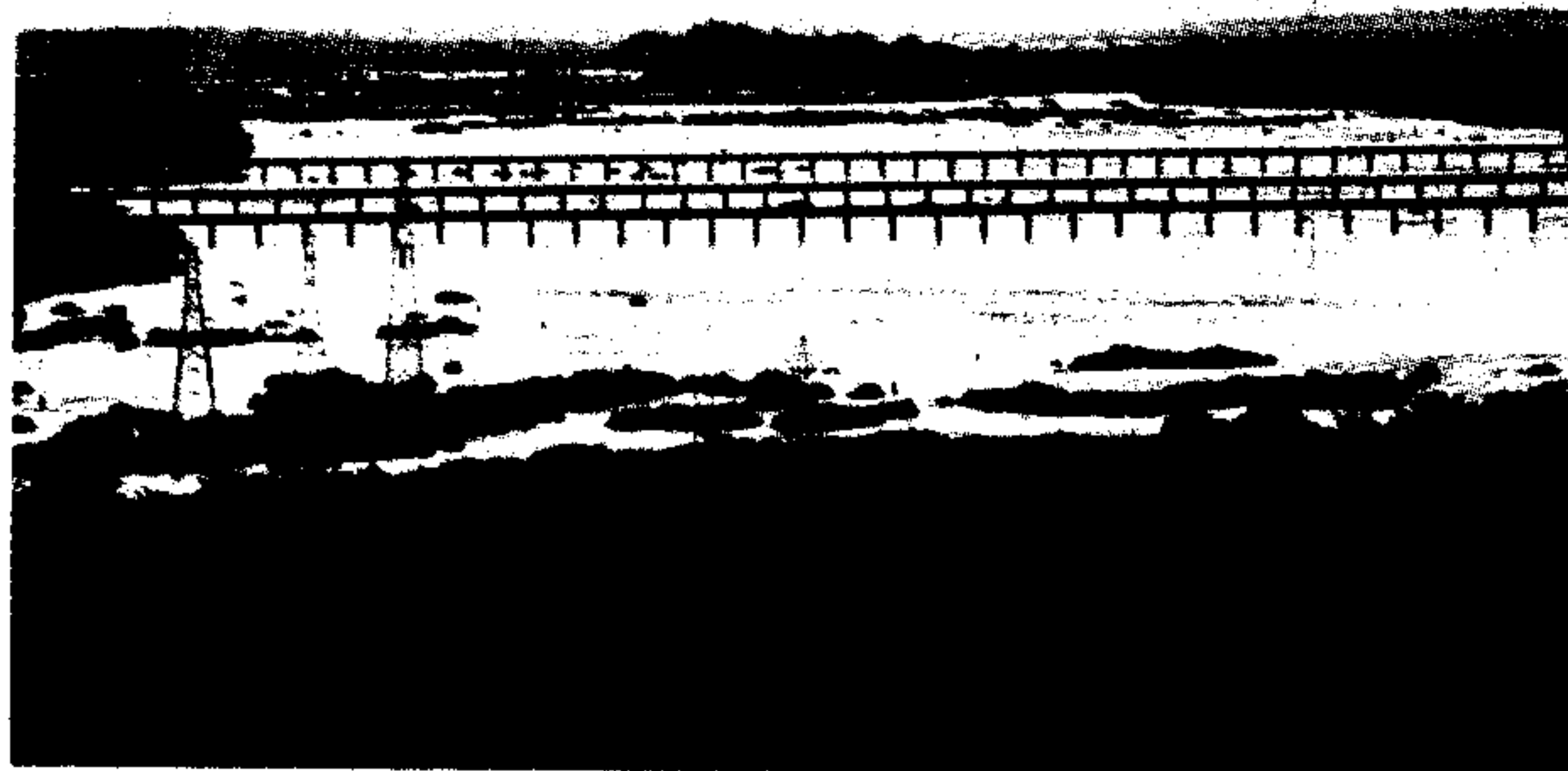
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu has urged Karnataka to release Cauvery water as directed by the Supreme Court last week.

Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary P. Rama Mohan Rao has written to his Karnataka counterpart Arvind Jadhav in this regard.

In the letter, he is believed to have referred to Karnataka's "violation" of the court's order.

The Supreme Court had asked Karnataka to release 6,000 cubic feet of water per second (cusecs) till September 27.



The Supreme Court had asked Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs till September 27.

Last Friday, the Karnataka legislature adopted a resolution that Cauvery water would not be drawn for any purpose

other than drinking.

The court is slated to have its next hearing on the Cauvery issue on September 27.

The Hindu, 26/9/16

IAF choppers rescue 24 stranded labourers

Workers from Odisha & Bihar were marooned after water level rose in Manjeera river in Telangana

R. AVADHANI
P. RAM MOHAN

SANGAREDDY/NIZAMSAGAR: All 24 labourers stranded at Tekulagadda in the fast-swelling Manjeera river since Friday evening were airlifted by two Indian Air Force helicopters on Sunday morning. Rains have, meanwhile, boosted prospects of the rabi crop here.

Wing Commander Sukhinder and his colleagues from Air Force Station, Hakimpet, in Ranga Reddy district flew four helicopter sorties to airlift the labourers from Odisha and Bihar from Tekulagadda near Yedupayala in Papannapet mandal. The rescue operation lasted 40 minutes. It started at 7.40 a.m. and ended at 8.20 a.m. The airlifted labourers were dropped near Vanadurga Bhavani temple, where they were provided temporary shelter.

Deputy Speaker M. Padma Devender Reddy, Collector D. Ronald Rose and Revenue Divisional Officer M. Nagesh supervised the rescue operation on the site.

Sukhchand Mandal, a labourer from Odisha who was rescued said, "In the middle of the night water started reaching the camp site where we have temporary huts. We



SAFE AT LAST: Labourers after being airlifted by a helicopter from Tekulagadda. — PHOTO: MOHD ARIF

were terrified and spent the night in fear. We were relieved after seeing the efforts made by the authorities and become confident that we would be saved. Once helicopters arrived, we were rescued in 40 minutes."

The Deputy Speaker added, "Despite heavy flooding and rain, Air Force officials led by Wing Commander Sukhinder took the risk and rescued the labourers. The

rescued labourers are being offered food and shelter and if they wish they would be sent home after a medical check."

Mr. Nagesh said doctors from Papannapet primary health centre had reached Yedupayala to examine those rescued.

With heavy flows continuing, roads connecting Medak town are almost disconnected. At several places

water was overflowing bridges hampering movement of traffic.

Nizamsagar water

A festive mood permeated the air as people made a beeline to the historic Nizamsagar dam to cheer Minister for Agriculture Pocharam Srinivas Reddy as he opened 12 out of its 48 gates to let out 60,000 cusecs of water into the Manjeera

river on Sunday evening.

With the project receiving heavy inflows after 10 years farmers are very happy as it created hope on solving the water problem for cultivation in the forthcoming rabi season.

The water from the reservoir was spared for drinking purposes only in the last three years as it had no surplus to cater to agriculture.

With over 2 lakh cusecs flowing into the Nizamsagar Project from Singur project it is likely to get filled to its capacity at 17.80 tmcft in a day or two.

As of now, the dam contains 12 tmcft. In the current kharif season, farmers transplanted paddy only in 10 per cent of its 2.75 lakh acre ayacut that too where borewell water was available.

Full level

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Srinivas Reddy said that except Nagarjunasagar, all 78 major and medium irrigation projects in the State touched full level of water welcoming good days to people.

Farmers were jubilant as this water would be of great help to the rabi.

Agriculture which was in crisis following the long dry spell would get revived henceforth, he said.

North Karnataka reels under floods

KARNATAKA BUREAU

KALABURAGI/BIDAR: With forecast for more rain till September 28, North Karnataka continues to reel under severe floods. Five lives have been lost so far and damage caused to nearly 1,260 houses in Bidar and 1,331 houses in Kalaburagi in the last three days.

Although there was some respite from rain on Sunday, the danger of additional release of water from Dhanegaon barrage in Maharashtra into the Manjra river loomed large as farmers on both banks of the river were in fear of their fields being flooded or cattle being washed away.

Three rescue teams of NDRF comprising 84 personnel have been deployed in flood-prone areas. The team deployed at Kalaburagi evacuated 21 marooned persons.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who was scheduled to conduct an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas in Bidar and Kalaburagi on Sunday, had to cancel owing to the inclement weather. He is likely to visit the areas on Tuesday.

दिनांक २७ सितम्बर को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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INDIA STAYS WITH TREATY, STILL CORNERS PAKISTAN

Here are **three** ways New Delhi plans to use provisions in the Indus water treaty to turn the heat on Islamabad

Decision & Implication

1 Meetings of 'Permanent Indus Commission' suspended

» A first, the commission met even during the 1965 and 1971 wars
IMPLICATION | Pakistan at a dead end. Here's how:

- Treaty provides for three-stage grievance redress. Disputes first raised at meetings (two a year). If unresolved, dispute is referred to neutral expert World Bank appoints. If that too fails, sides can apply for arbitration by the UN's court of arbitration
- If the first stage of dispute redressal is suspended, the other two steps cannot kick in. This leads to a dead end for Pakistan

2 Restart TULBUL project

» Tulbul project was suspended in 1987 after Pakistan objected. This suspension will now be reviewed

IMPLICATION | India gets to control Jhelum water, impact Pak agriculture

- Project can create problems for Pak's triple-canal project that connects Jhelum-Chenab with Upper Bari Doab Canal
- With a barrage, India controls release

of water into Jhelum, which could trigger a flood or drought in POK and Pakistan. Serious implications for agriculture in Pakistan

3 An interministerial task force

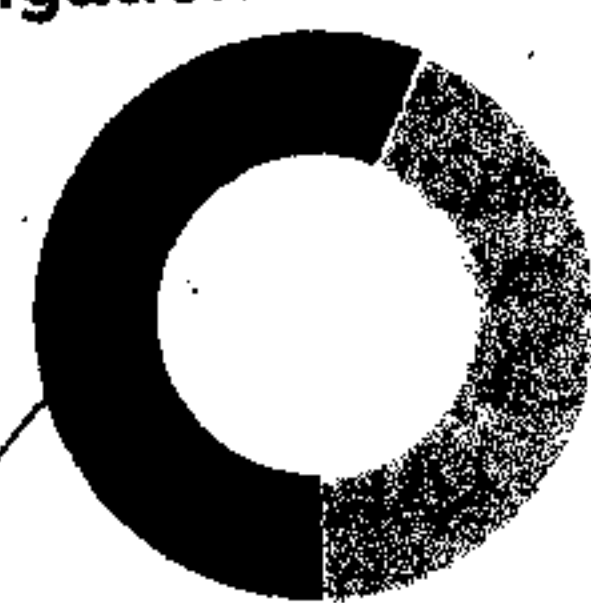
» This will look into India's rights on the western rivers of Jhelum, Sutlej & Indus that carry 135 MAF* of water

IMPLICATION

India grossly under-utilises its entitlement under the 1960-treaty where it can use all the waters of the Jhelum, Chenab and Indus

India can build up in J&K

Treaty allows 1.3 million acres of irrigation



Actual area irrigated **Only 0.8 million acres**

18,600 MW hydel power can be generated

Only 3,034 MW developed

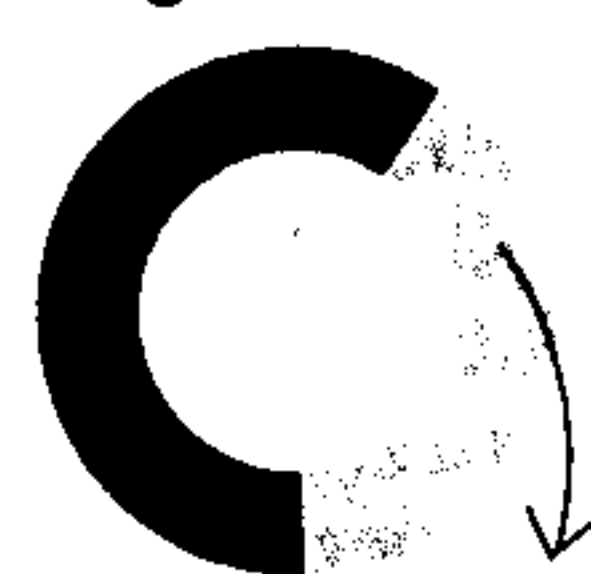


Room for further projects to generate 7,194 MW

Hydel infra for 2,526 MW under construction. Projects on anvil for another 5,846 MW. $2,526 + 5,846 = 11,406$ MW



Pakistan has only two dams on these rivers: **Tarbella and Mangla**



More than 40% of Indus river's water flows into the sea

Treaty allows **Storage of 3.6 *million-acre-feet (maf)** of Jhelum, Indus, Chenab

Actual storage | **Practically none**

Three dams on Chenab: Pakaldul, Bursar and Sawakot will be expedited. Pakaldul & Bursar will get all approvals by December

What reviving the Tulbul Project means

- The Tulbul project is a "navigation lock-cum-control structure" at the mouth of the lake, **located on the Jhelum river**
- It is a key intra-state channel to ferry state's goods & people. To sustain navigation through the year a minimum depth of water in the lake is necessary
- The idea to ensure year-round navigation along the **20-km stretch from Anantnag to Srinagar and Baramulla**, and on the **22 km-stretch between Sopore and Baramulla** that becomes non-navigable in winter with water depth of only 2.5 ft
- The project envisages water release from lake to maintain minimum draught of 4.5 feet in Jhelum
- India had started constructing a 439 feet long barrage at the lake's mouth
- Pakistan objected and construction was halted in 1987

PAK'S IRRIGATION LIFELINE

Pakistan gets **80%** of the Indus river system's water. Of its total water resources, 76% arise from outside its territory; for India this share is 34%

The Indus system of rivers has 3 eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas and Sutlej are with India). **3 western ones with Pakistan (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab)**

The treaty says India has to let the **western rivers** flow but can use its water for domestic & farm work and for hydel power



Deccan Herald, 27/9/16



The flood water has entered the Uttaradi Mutt, which houses the 'brindavana' of saint Jaya-teertha, at Malkhed in Sedam taluk of Kalaburagi district. DH PHOTO

Rain continues to wreak havoc in Kalaburagi district

BENGALURU: Rains continued to lash Kalaburagi district on Monday. Rivers Ben-nethora and Kagina continued to be in spate, submerging bridges at many places in the district. Standing crops in 35,000 hectares, including tur on 25,000 hectares, were damaged.

Other crops affected are black gram, soyabean, bajra and sesame.

The Malkhed bridge, across River Kagina, in Sedam taluk on the interstate Ribbanahalli-Waghdhari national highway was opened for traffic on Monday. The Dandoti bridge, also across River Kagina, in Chittapur taluk is still submerged.

Power and water supply to many villages in the district are affected as pumphouses and electricity poles are submerged in flood water, leaving people distraught. Many of them are largely confined to their houses. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will visit the flood-affected Kanasuru and Hebbala villages in Chittapur taluk on Tuesday.

Normal life was affected in Davangere city and other parts of the district following moderate rains on Monday.

The downpour started in the city at 3 pm and continued till 5 pm, leading to waterlogging on the roads.

The water level in several lakes in the district has increased due to the showers in the last one week.

The showers lashing Karwar and other parts of Uttara Kan-



Muthaga village in Chittapur taluk is marooned by the overflowing River Kagina. DH PHOTO

Aerial survey by CM today

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is scheduled to conduct an aerial survey of flood-affected places in Kalaburagi and Bidar districts on Tuesday.

Sources in the chief minister's office said Siddaramaiah is scheduled to leave Bengaluru at around 12.30 pm in a special flight. He is scheduled to tour Kalaburagi first and later, Bidar district. He is scheduled to return to Bengaluru at around 8 pm.

Torrential rains that lashed many parts of Hyderabad Karnataka had caused widespread damage in these two districts. Four people had lost their lives in Bidar district.

nada district for the past one week receded on Monday.

Rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, lashed Hagaribommanahalli town in Ballari district for around 30 minutes in the evening. There has been no rain here in the past three months.

Mysuru city experienced light showers for about 10 min-

utes on Monday evening, taking everybody by surprise. Though it was slightly cloudy since morning, it was sunny in the afternoon.

Similarly, Maddur town too received rains for about 10 minutes in the evening. As it was cloudy, more rains were expected during the night.

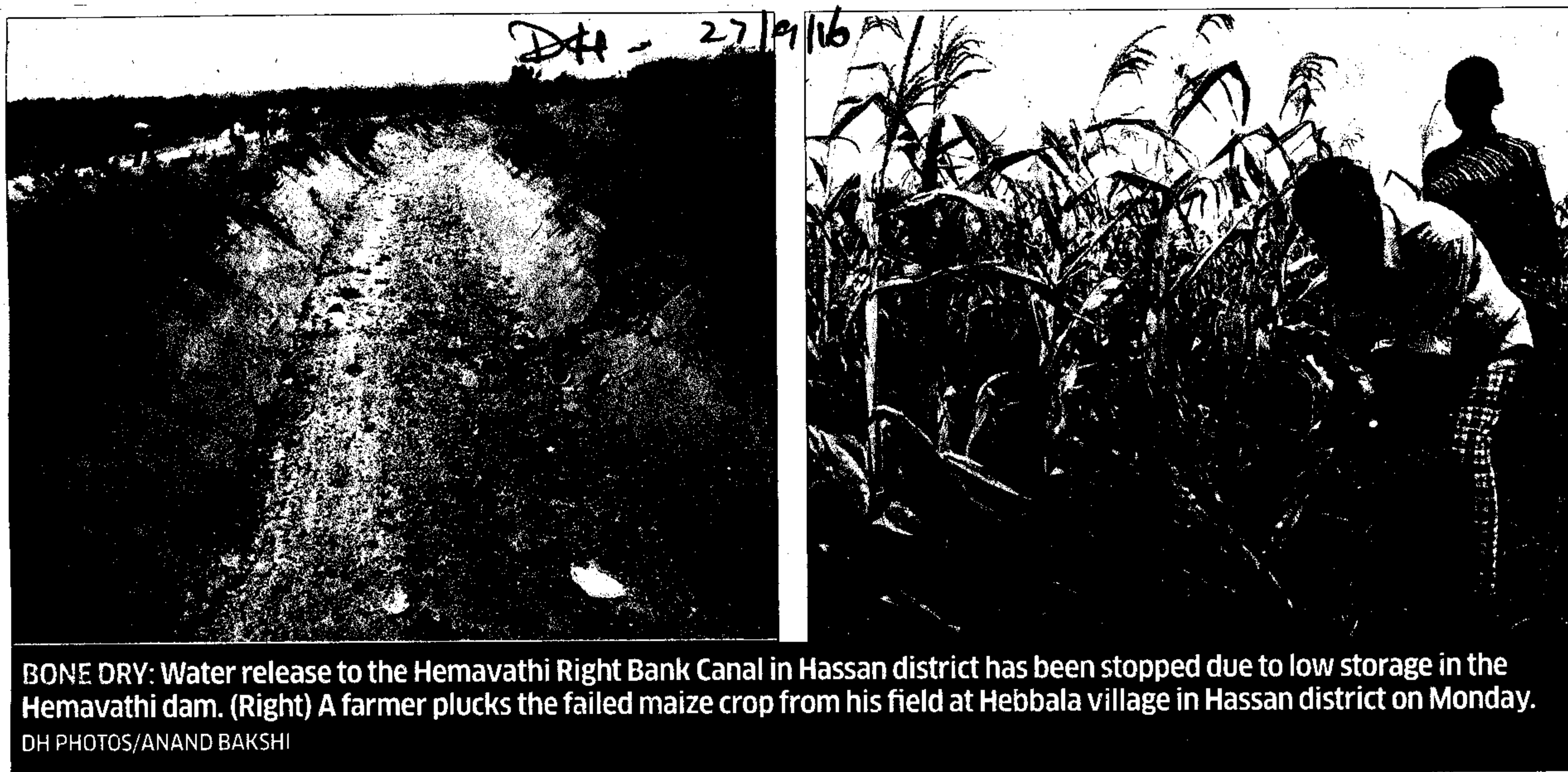
DH News Service

दिनांक 27.7.2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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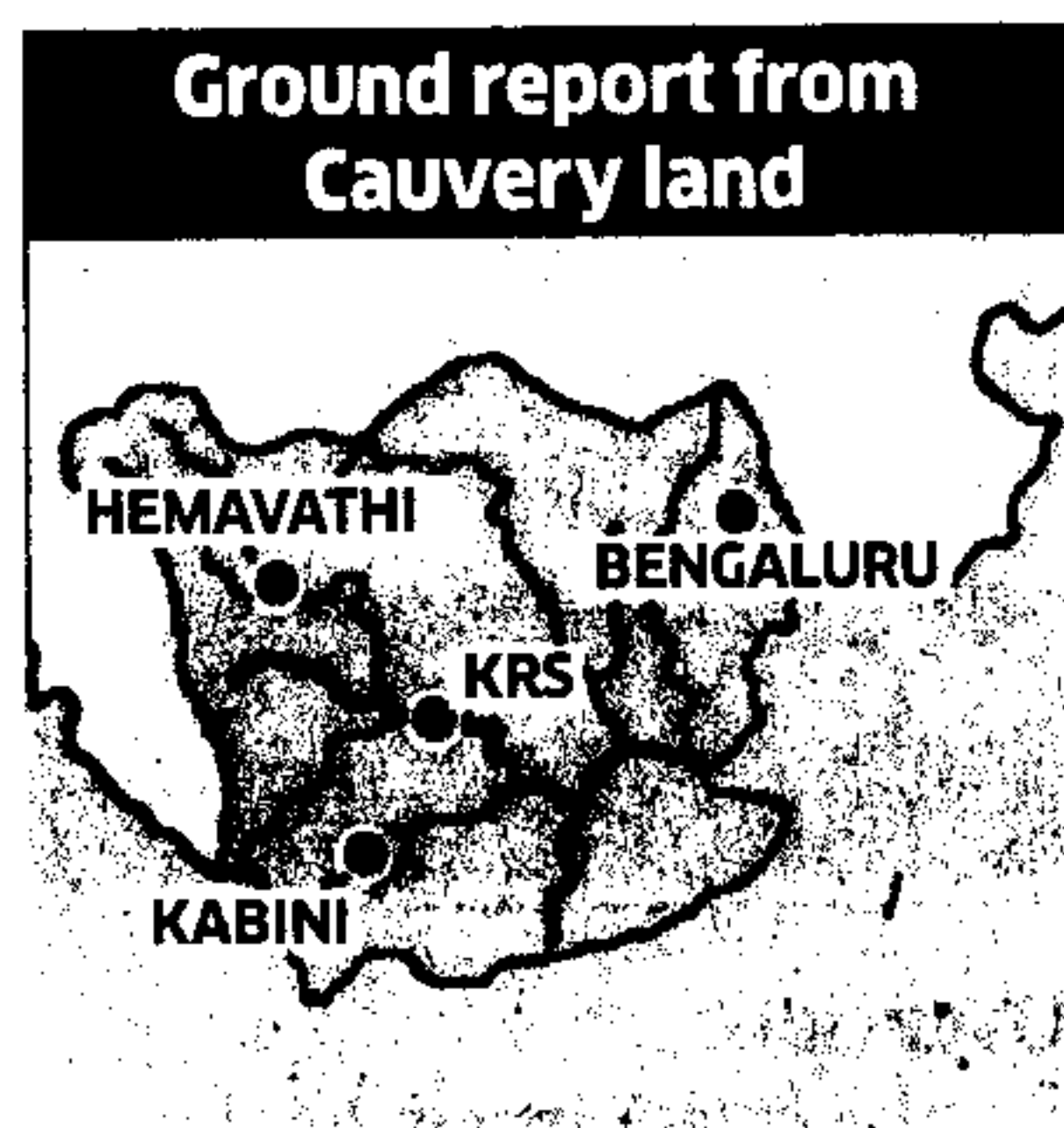
BONE DRY: Water release to the Hemavathi Right Bank Canal in Hassan district has been stopped due to low storage in the Hemavathi dam. (Right) A farmer plucks the failed maize crop from his field at Hebbala village in Hassan district on Monday.
DH PHOTOS/ANAND BAKSHI

For want of water, crops on 9,000 acres may wilt

Farmers in Hassan suffer as advisory not to take up sowing came late

Vijesh Kamath

HASSAN: Farmers of Arkalgud and Holenarsipur taluks in the district, who are dependent on the Cauvery's tributary Hemavathi, were advised in August not to go in for sowing this season.



WATER LEVELS

RESERVOIR	LIVE STORAGE IN TMCFT
KRS	10.201 (70.08)
Kabini	8.029 (45.75)
Harangi	5.121 (40.430)
Hemavathi	6.334 (40.430)
Total	29.686 (176.69)

(Note: Figures in bracket are of water availability last year. An estimated 30 tmcft is required to ensure drinking water supply to people in the Cauvery basin and Bengaluru city till May next. Data: Karnataka government)

The Hemavathi Right Bank Canal is the lifeline for agriculture to these taluks. The advisory came from the government as the water level in the Hemavathi reservoir at Gorur was barely sufficient for drinking needs. Such advisories should have been issued by the government to farmers in June itself. By the time the government realised that it can no way provide water for irrigation while allowing releasing Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu, it was too late.

While some farmers had already begun sowing activities by June-July itself, some ignored the advisory and took up sowing. Water was released into the canal for filling tanks and multi-village drinking water schemes between August 12 and September 16. But the

quantum was insufficient for cultivation which requires four months of water supply.

The result: Nearly 9,000 acres of standing crops including paddy, maize, ginger and sugarcane among others will be lost in Arkalgud alone.

In an interaction with this reporter, Yoga Gowda, a farmer of Byachanahalli in the taluk who owns four acres said he ignored the advisory and went in for sowing paddy as he was badly in need of agricultural income. Today, he stands to lose around Rs 80,000 he spent on sowing and fertilizers. (On an average, an acre yields around 20 quintals of paddy in the Cauvery basin).

"I took the risk as I have no other source of income. I was

hoping that rains would come to my rescue. But, today I have lost everything," Yoga Gowda said. The water level in the Hemavathi reservoir on Monday stood at around seven tmcft of which only 3.303 tmcft can be utilised as the rest is dead storage. The total capacity of the reservoir is 37.103 tmcft.

In the neighbouring Holenarsipur taluk, farmers are facing a similar plight. Kumar of Ankanahalli village stands to lose his potato crop on a half-acre-plot. The plants have already dried up and his investment of Rs 15,000 on seeds and fertilizers has been lost.

"Our crops are wilting in front of us and we are helpless. Water that could have saved at least some portion of our crops has flowed into Tamil Nadu during the last few weeks.

"It is a good thing that water release to the neighbouring state has been stopped," he said.

There are many Yoga Gowdas in the Hemavathi aicut (command) area. The plight of farmers, by and large, is same in all villages, be it Hassan or Mandya. They do not have much hope left for this season because the monsoon has receded.

DH News Service

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THE HINDU • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

The Hindu, 27/9/16

KCR says delay in dam work led to flooding

Following Mid Manair Dam breach, CM cancels contract and asks officials to hand over project to 'competent' agency

K.M. DAYASHANKAR

KARIMNAGAR: Alleging that the delay in the construction of Mid Manair Dam (MMD) by contractors led to the breach of the earth dam, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao cancelled the contract and ordered fresh tendering process for MMD work.

The Chief Minister, who visited Karimnagar town on Monday, reviewed the flood situation with Ministers T. Harish Rao and Etala Rajender, Chief Whip Koppula Eshwar, district MPs and legislators. He also conducted an aerial survey of the MMD and Sripada Yellampalli projects.

The Mid Manair earth dam, constructed as part of the SRSP flood canal project, was breached following deluge on Sunday night. The MMD was expected to act as



ALARMING SITUATION: Mid Manair dam overflowing in Karimnagar district on Sunday. — PHOTO. THAKUR AJAY PAL SINGH

a balancing reservoir for the proposed Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project.

Incessant rains

Following incessant rains and copious inflows into the MMD, the flood water overflowed from the spillway and the earth dam on Sunday, forcing the district authorities to evacuate land oustees of

the project. The irrigation authorities had planned to store 3 tmcft of water in the MMD. However, following the 130-metre breach to the earth dam, the entire water in the reservoir flowed to the LMD reservoir.

Talking to mediapersons, the Chief Minister said the MMD breached due to heavy inflows and incomplete

earth dam work. He told the officials to ensure that the work was given to a competent agency. He said all 12,000 villagers who were shifted to rehabilitation centres on Sunday returned to their villages as the flood water receded.

Alleging that the Congress government had delayed the payment of compensation to land oustees, the Chief Minister also announced distribution of compensation to children of land oustees who are 21 and above.

As per the new order, individuals who are 21 and above would get Rs. 2 lakh compensation. It would cost the State exchequer an additional amount of Rs. 114 crore. The Chief Minister said the scheme would benefit 4,231 land oustees of the MMD and 1,447 of the Sripada Yellampalli project.

1,000 evacuated in Karimnagar

HYDERABAD: With heavy downpour pummeling Telangana over the past few days, the authorities are keeping a watch on the flood situation even as over 1,000 villagers were evacuated in Karimnagar district.

"Over 1,000 villagers staying in six villages near the Mid Manair dam, which was overflowing, were evacuated on Sunday evening. It was a precautionary evacuation ... the situation has now improved and they will be sent back," Special Chief Secretary (Revenue) Pra-deep Chandra said on

Monday.

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao on Sunday directed his ministerial colleagues to stay in their districts to monitor the flood situation and supervise relief and rehabilitation work. In view of the flood situation, Mr. Rao cancelled the Cabinet meeting scheduled for Monday and asked the Ministers to work in coordination with district-level officials. He

further directed the Warangal district administration to be on high alert as Godavari was in full spate. — PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published on September 28.9.2016 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

A a j (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने केंद्र और दोनों राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों की बैठक बुलाने का आह्वान किया

छह हजार क्यूसेक पानी दे कर्नाटक

कांग्रेस सांसदों ने की पीएम से की मांग

पानी
पर आग

नई दिल्ली | एजेंसी

कावेरी जल विवाद में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मंगलवार को कर्नाटक से शुक्रवार तक तमिलनाडु के लिए 6000 क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ने को कहा है। इसके साथ ही न्यायालय ने मौजूदा गतिरोध के राजनीतिक हल के लिए केंद्र और दोनों राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों की एक बैठक बुलाने का आह्वान किया।

तमिलनाडु ने न्यायालय से अनुरोध किया कि न्यायालय के पहले के आदेशों का कर्नाटक द्वारा पालन किए जाने के बाद ही उस राज्य की बात सुनी जाए। न्यायालय ने एटार्नी जनरल मुकुल रोहतगी से गतिरोध का हल निकालने के लिए केंद्र के साथ दोनों राज्यों के कार्यकारी प्रमुखों की बैठक संभव बनाने को कहा। पीठ ने बैठक के नतीजे



बंगलूरु में मंगलवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश के बाद मुख्यमंत्री के सरकारी आवास पर तैनात रैपिड एक्शन फोर्स । • प्रेस

के बारे में 30 सितंबर को अवगत कराने को कहा। मामले में अगली सुनवाई 30 सितंबर को होगी।

न्यायमूर्ति दीपक मिश्रा और यूयू ललित की पीठ ने कहा, विधानसभा द्वारा पारित संकल्प के बावजूद, हमें यह उचित लगता है कि कर्नाटक तीन

दिनों में तमिलनाडु के लिए 6,000 क्यूसेक पानी छोड़े। पीठ द्वारा दिए जा रहे निर्देश के बीच कर्नाटक की ओर से पेश वरिष्ठ वकील एफएस नरीमन ने राज्य को पानी छोड़ने के किसी निर्देश का विरोध किया। उन्होंने कहा, इसमें कोई तर्क नहीं है और आदेश सीधे

टकराव के समान है। तमिलनाडु की ओर से पेश वरिष्ठ वकील शेखर नफाडे ने कर्नाटक पर विघ्नकारी और हठी रवैया अपनाने का आरोप लगाया। नफाडे ने कहा कि तमिलनाडु इस मुकदमेबाजी से थक गया है। उन्होंने कहा कि राज्य को उसके वैध अधिकार

नई दिल्ली। कावेरी के मुद्दे पर कांग्रेस ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी से हस्तक्षेप की मांग की है। कर्नाटक के पार्टी सांसदों ने प्रधानमंत्री से कावेरी जल विवाद मामले का सौहार्दपूर्ण समाधान निकालने के लिए दोनों राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों की बैठक बुलाने की अपील की है।

कांग्रेस के कर्नाटक से लोकसभा और राज्यसभा सांसदों ने कावेरी मामले पर संसद परिसर में गांधी प्रतिमा के सामने प्रदर्शन किया। लोकसभा सांसद डीके सुरेश ने कहा कि हमने प्रधानमंत्री से फौरन कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु के मुख्यमंत्रियों की बैठक बुलाने की अपील की है। कर्नाटक के कांग्रेस सांसद कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड बनाने के भी खिलाफ हैं। प्रधानमंत्री को लिखे अपने पत्र में उन्होंने कावेरी प्रबंधन बोर्ड नहीं बनाने की अपील की है।

नहीं मिल रहे हैं। पीठ ने दोनों राज्यों से सहयोग करने को कहा। पीठ ने कहा, हम एक संघीय ढांचे में हैं और भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में, कोई राज्य यह नहीं कह सकता कि वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश का पालन नहीं करेगा। संघीय सहयोग होना चाहिए।

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 Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

CAUVERY WATER DISPUTE

Follow order, release water: SC to K'taka

Centre invites CMs of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu for talks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

NEGATING THE effect of the resolution passed by the Karnataka legislature, the Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered it to release 6,000 cusecs of Cauvery river water every day to Tamil Nadu for three days, starting Wednesday.

A bench of Justices Dipak Misra and Uday U Lalit also asked the Central government to facilitate a meeting of the executive heads of both states over the next two days to help them find a resolution to the impasse.

Accordingly, the Centre later in the day invited the chief ministers of both states for talks with Union Water Resources Minister Uma Bharati in Delhi on Thursday.

The bench requested Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi to help the two states find a meeting ground but clarified that it was being done only to enable them to iron out differences politically and not because the court felt handicapped in implementing its order.

"We have asked for this not because this court cannot adjudicate or pass appropriate orders in accordance with law to maintain and sustain the rule of law and majesty of law, which are elan vital of our constitutional law. But prior to that we have

State Cabinet meets today

Bengaluru: The Karnataka government will convene a meeting of the state Cabinet Wednesday to consider the Supreme Court's directive to release 6,000 cusecs of water from the Cauvery to Tamil Nadu. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, "The priority is for drinking water according to our national water policy. An order to release water must be seen in this context." **ENS**

thought it appropriate that there has to be discussion regard being had to the conceptual federalism prevalent in our democratic body polity," it maintained.

The bench also reminded Karnataka that a state's duties were not confined to its own people but also to fellow states in a federal democracy, and that compliance with the court orders was imperative.

"We direct the State of Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs of water from tomorrow i.e. 28th September, 2016. We are sure that the State of Karnataka shall obey the order without any kind of imped-

iment, obstruction or any other attitude till we take up the matter on 30th September, 2016. Needless to say, the water that has been released will be adjusted in the eventual adjudication," it directed.

Representing Karnataka, senior advocate Fali S Nariman pointed out that a resolution was passed by both the houses of the Karnataka Assembly to defer the release of water. At this, effectively nullifying the resolution, the court ordered: "The water shall be released despite the resolution... we have issued this direction keeping in mind the deliberation that has taken place and, therefore, we think it appropriate that the State of Karnataka shall follow the order passed by us. We ingeminate and repeat at the cost of repetition that the direction for release of water has been passed for the coming three days despite the resolution passed."

The hearing saw heated arguments from both sides. While the order was being dictated, Nariman opposed the directions, saying there was no logic in them and the order amounted to a direct confrontation. Tamil Nadu's lawyer Shekhar Naphade accused Karnataka of an "obstructionist and obstinate" attitude and non-compliance with the court orders.

The court will hear the case next on September 30.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on September 28.9.2016 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

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M.P.Chronicle

A a j (Hindi)

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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

By Jupiter! Proof of water plumes on moon

Hubble telescope spots more evidence in the planet's satellite Europa

MIAMI: More evidence of possible water plumes erupting from the surface of Jupiter's icy moon Europa has been spotted using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, the U.S. space agency said on Monday.

Europa, one of more than 50 moons circling the gas giant, is considered by NASA as a "top candidate" for life elsewhere in the solar system because it is believed to possess a massive, salty, sub-surface ocean that is twice the size of Earth's.

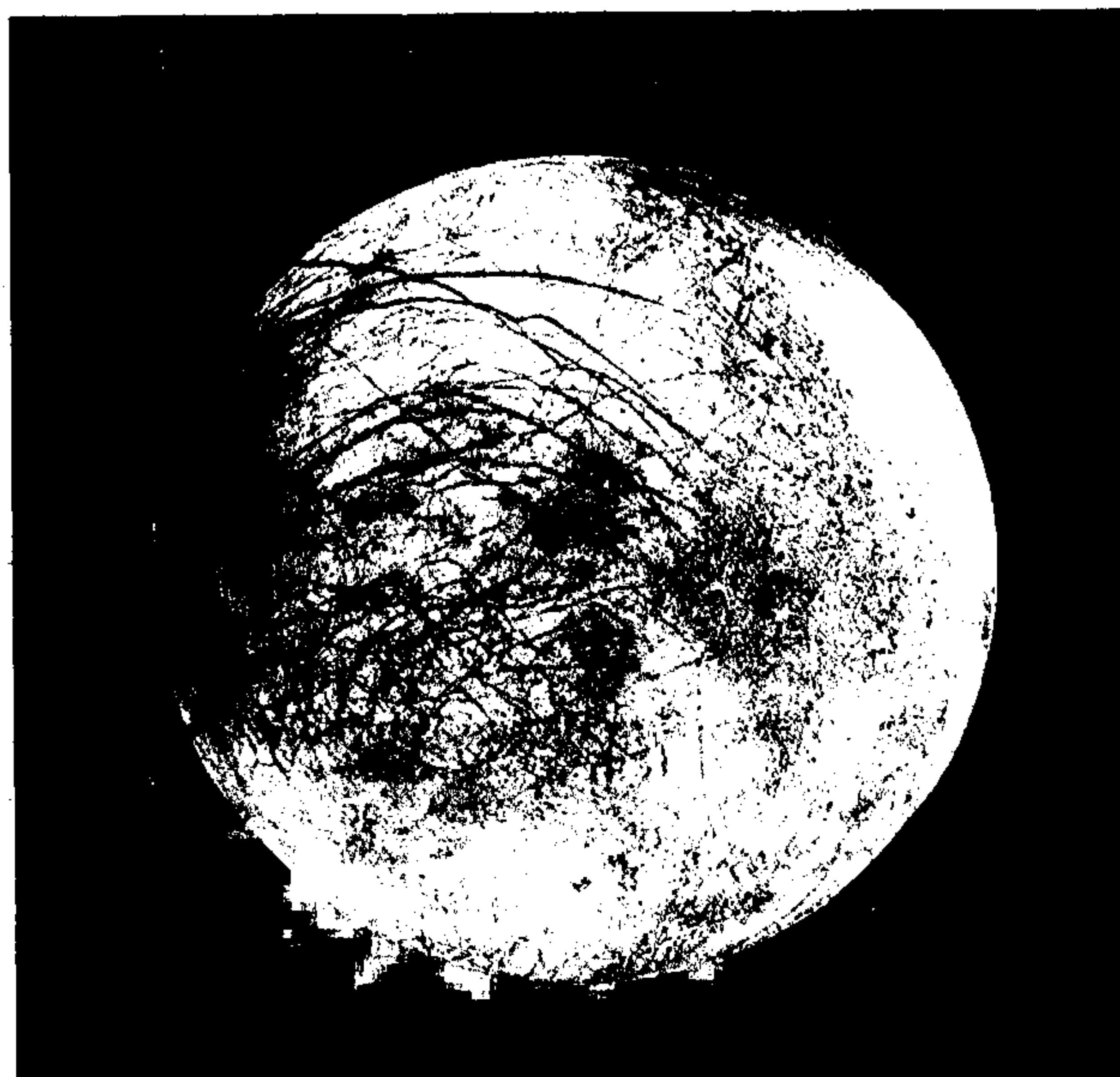
The latest finding has given scientists fresh hope that a robotic spacecraft could one day fly past these potential plumes and learn about their contents without having to drill kilometres deep into the moon's icy shell.

"Today, we are presenting new Hubble evidence for water vapour plumes being expelled from the icy surface of Europa," William Sparks, astronomer with the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, told reporters on a conference call.

Using ultraviolet images taken by Hubble, a space telescope that was launched in 1990, the potential plumes are seen around the southern edge of Europa and appear as "dark fingers or patches of possible absorption," Mr. Sparks said.

Three separate occasions

They were spotted on three separate occasions over the course of 15 months in 2014 when scientists observed Europa passing in front of Jupiter. The potential plumes were only observed three out of 10 times when Europa passed by Jupiter, suggesting that the



PROMISING FIND: A composite image released by NASA shows suspected plumes of water vapour erupting at the 7 o'clock position (bottom left) of the planet's moon Europa. — PHOTO: AFP

eruptions are intermittent, he said. They also appeared to emerge near the same places, mostly along Europa's southern edge, where a previous team of scientists in 2012 — using a different instrument aboard Hubble — detected evidence of water vapour reaching more than 160 km into space.

"If plumes exist, this is an exciting finding because it potentially gives easier access to the ocean below," said Mr. Sparks.

However, he cautioned that more evidence is needed for scientists to be certain, whether by more Hubble observations, or by some independent observing technique.

"I do want to stress that the observations are at the limit of what Hubble can do," he added. "We do not claim to have proven the existence

of plumes but rather to have contributed evidence that such activity may be present," said Mr. Sparks.

Future mission

NASA announced last year that it intends to send a robotic spacecraft, equipped with a suite of scientific instruments, to circle Europa in the 2020s. This mission will not seek to find life, but will measure the habitability of Europa, to see if conditions exist that could sustain living organisms on the moon that orbits Jupiter every three and a half days.

Last year, data from Hubble confirmed that Jupiter's largest moon, Ganymede, has an underground ocean that with more water than Earth's, broadening the hunt for places in the solar system where life might be able to exist. — AFP