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Statesman  
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Indian Express  
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Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

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

## Severe drought looms over Kerala

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
Thiruvananthapuram,  
30 October

A severe drought is looming large over Kerala as the state has received deficient rainfall during the south-west monsoon.

There has been a sharp decrease of rainfall to the tune of 34 per cent during the south-west monsoon, according to figures released by the Indian Meteorological Department here.

From June 1 this year to September 30, Kerala received 1,352.3 mm rains against the normal rainfall of 2,039.7 mm, a deficiency of 34 per cent.

There has been no rain in October and if this situation continues, there will be drought-like situation, IMD, Thiruvananthapuram Director S Sudevan, said.

"If the North East Monsoon fails then there will be problems in different sectors-

### MINUTIAE

■ There has been a sharp decrease of rainfall to the tune of 34 per cent during the south-west monsoon. There has been no rain in October

-Agriculture, Power etc", he said.

Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan, has also said that the state was heading for a "severe" drought as Kerala had received deficient rains in the south-west monsoon.

Though the north-east monsoon was yet to set in, the state had not received pre-monsoon showers, he said.

"A huge danger is lurking in the state in the form of drought as the south west monsoon was deficient", Vijayan had said at a function yesterday.

"If this situation con-

tinues, the state is heading for a severe drought. We need to take precautions," he had said.

To tackle the situation, the government was also keen to encourage rain water harvesting, he said.

There has been an average reduction of 22 per cent water in the state's dams when compared to the water storage in September last year. The state was also gearing up to take measures to tackle scarcity of drinking water which is likely to be faced by the state due to deficient monsoon, according to water resources minister Mathew P Thomas.

The government also has plans to rejuvenate at least 10,000 private temple ponds of the total 40,000 in the state. The chief minister had convened a high level meeting on October 13 to work out plans to meet the impending drought situation.

CRACKED FREE DRAINAGE THE CAUSE OF BIRDS

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## As winter nears, region rain-deficient

**VIJAY MOHAN**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 29**

At the start of the snow season in the Himalayas, precipitation in the northern region has been severely deficient. While the rainfall virtually eluded large areas, water level in major reservoirs also remains below normal.

In October, rainfall in Punjab has been 91 per cent below normal; in Himachal Pradesh, it has been deficient by 87 per cent, according to data available by the India Meteorological Department (IMD). In Haryana, the deviation from normal is minus 69 per cent.

### Dry October

- In October, rainfall in Punjab has been 91% below normal
- In Himachal, it has been deficient by 87%
- In Haryana, the deviation from normal is 69%

There are two major river basins in this region which are not only the source of fresh water but also have significant hydropower capacity. Rainfall in the upper Sutlej basin, which lies in the mountainous region of Himachal Pradesh, has been deficient by 73 per cent, while in the lower Sutlej

basin that lies in Punjab, the rainfall is 53 per cent below normal. The Beas basin has witnessed a shortfall of 89 per cent this month.

Reservoir water level in Himachal Pradesh is 19 per cent below normal for this time of the year, while in Punjab, it is three per cent below normal, according to data of the Central Water Commission. The Gobind Sagar on the Sutlej at Bhakra in Himachal, which is very important for irrigation as well as power generation, is filled up to only 66 per cent of its total capacity as compared to 90 per cent for the same time last year.

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29-10-16  
**गंगा किनारे  
कैप पर एतराज**

नई दिल्ली। गंगा और उसकी सहायकी नदियों के पास कैप लगाए जाने को लेकर उत्तराखण्ड के अधिकारियों को राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण ने कड़ी फटकार लगाई है। इन अधिकारियों पर कैप की गतिविधि के खिलाफ कार्रवाई में लापरवाही बरतने का आरोप है। एनजीटी मामले में प्रेश की गई रिपोर्ट से भी सतुष्ट नहीं है।

जस्टिस स्वतंत्र कुमार की अध्यक्षता वाली पीठ ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि कोई भी विभाग या सरकार पर्यावरण बचाने के मामले में गंभीर नहीं है। गंगा की सहायक नदियों के पास कैप लगाए जा रहे हैं, लेकिन अधिकारी कहते हैं कि कैप नहीं लगे। जो रिपोर्ट दाखिल की गई है, वह ऐसी है कि हम उसे फेंक दें। पीठ ने कहा कि कृपा करके हमारा उपहास करना बंद करें और अपनी जिम्मेदारी को समझें। गंगा और यमुना वन्य जीवन का आधार हैं और आप लोग कुछ नहीं कर रहे हैं। पीठ ने यह टिप्पणी गंगा की सहायक नदियों के करीब कैप लगाए जाने की दलील पर की है। (वि.सं.)

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The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad )

Central Chronical ( Bhopal )

## *The Hindu, 27.10.16* Increase in inflow revives hopes of farmers

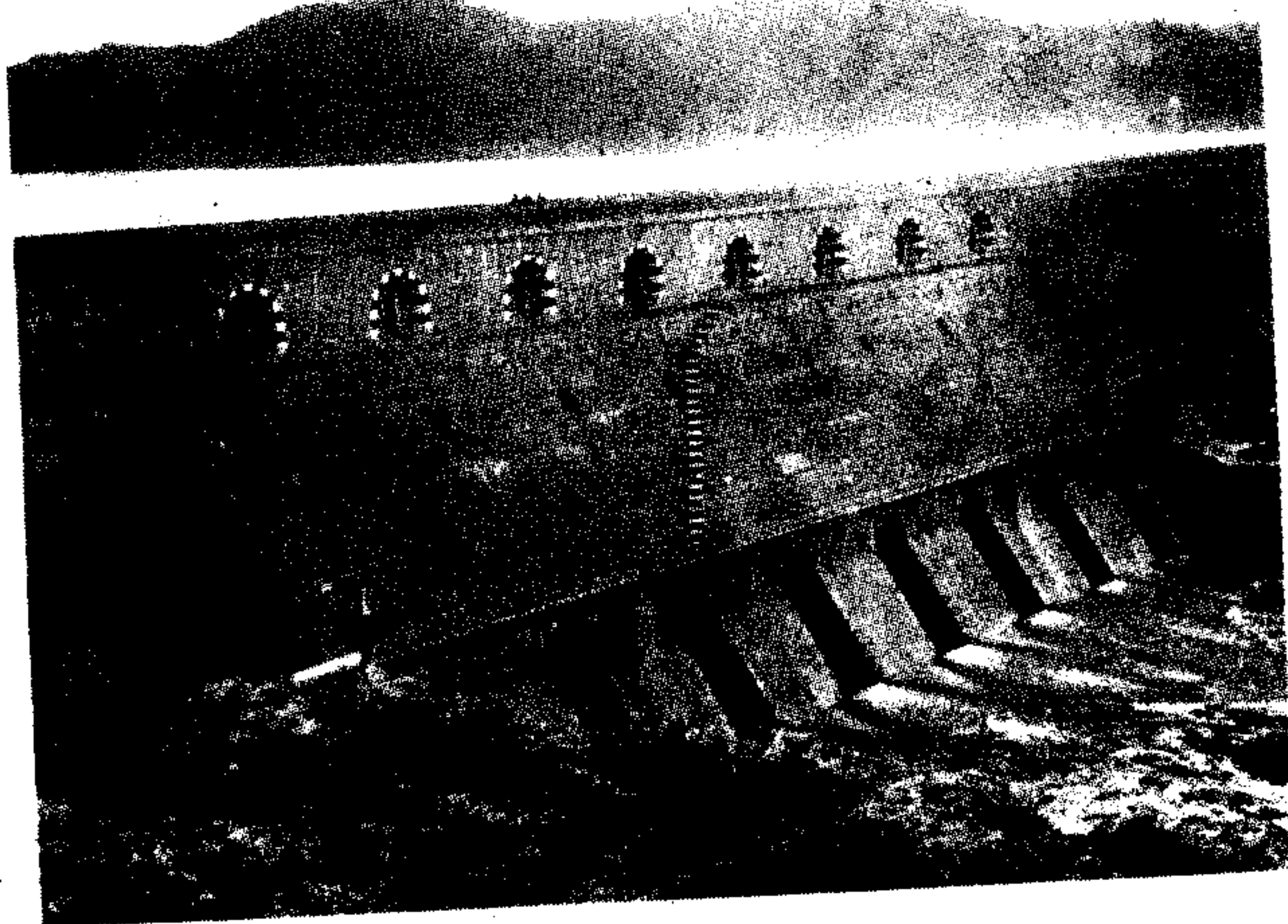
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**SALEM:** Even as the entire farming community and the official machinery were worried over the paltry inflow of water into Mettur Dam for the past one week, the fresh release of water from Krishnaraja Sagar dam in Karnataka, since Monday, has revived the hopes of both. Though the quantum of fresh release - about 2,000 cusecs according to the Public Works Department (PWD) sources here - is not expected to help completion of the ongoing Samba crop season in the 12 delta districts in the State to a big extent, the farmers are pinning their hopes on

the onset of monsoon to bring total relief to them.

The realisation of water in River Cauvery in Mettur Dam has been precariously low in the past one week. In particular, the inflow dipped to below 500 cusecs since October 21. The inflow remained at 484 cusecs, 310 cusecs, 322 cusecs, 148 cusecs and 125 cusecs in the last five days. The inflow into the dam was 148 cusecs on Wednesday.

The water released from Krishnaraja Sagar dam is expected to reach Mettur Dam in a day or two, the PWD sources said. The water level in Mettur Dam stood at 51.31 feet on Wednesday, against its full level of 120 feet.



Water released from Krishnaraja Sagar dam is expected to reach Mettur in a day or two.

दिनांक 28/10/16 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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# Kyant likely to lose sting, make way for monsoon

Met office says Chennai is likely to record up to 4 cm of rain tomorrow

K. LAKSHMI

**CHENNAI:** After a delay of nearly 10 days, the northeast monsoon may finally hit Tamil Nadu around October 30.

Cyclone Kyant, which formed around Tuesday, is set to become a deep depression and further weaken into a low pressure area by Friday morning.

The same weather system that was said to be detrimental for the arrival of the northeast monsoon will bring northeasterly winds and contribute to the onset of the monsoon.

Myanmar gave the current cyclone its name as part of the system developed to identify tropical cyclones that can be active for more than a week.

As the weather system over west-central Bay of Bengal will move west-southwestwards and become a low pressure area near south Andhra Pradesh, coastal parts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry will start receiving light rains on Friday.



The weather system over west-central Bay of Bengal will move west-south-westwards and become a low pressure area near south Andhra Pradesh — PHOTO: C.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

A wet Deepavali is on the cards over the State as rains are likely to increase. While northern parts of the State, including Chennai, will experience moderate rains up to 4 cm on Saturday, other parts of the State are likely to see scattered rainfall, according to S. Balachandran,

Director, Area Cyclone Warning Centre, Chennai.

"There will be a gradual increase in rainfall over the State from weekend. We may have monsoon arriving one day ahead or on October 31. The weakening of the weather system into a low pressure area and the favour-

able conditions over the Bay of Bengal will bring in the much awaited monsoon over the State," he added.

So far, Tamil Nadu has received 67 less rainfall in October: 5 cm against the average of 15.1 cm. The State is hoping the northeast monsoon would bridge the gap.

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## Action plan for flood management, covering 3,600 waterbodies, released

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**CHENNAI:** With the monsoon round the corner, a group of concerned citizens and organisations on Thursday released a document covering key aspects of flood management, reiterating the need for mapping 3,600 waterbodies in Chennai and its suburbs.

Releasing a draft of the document, MIDS Professor S. Janakarajan stressed the need for studying the urban and peri-urban water dynamics, interconnected hydrological conditions in Chennai, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts.

A study was conducted with support from various organisations, covering various aspects of flooding in the metropolitan area.

Pointing to the 80 per cent urbanisation in Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts, the study concluded there was a pressing need for protect-

ing waterbodies and catchment areas from encroachments. The government agencies are yet to draw a comprehensive hydro-geographic and elevation mapping, covering upstream districts.

Speakers at the event highlighted short-term and long-term action plans for restoring waterbodies and

### PREPARING FOR THE MONSOON

IS CHENNAI READY?

the legal mechanisms for protecting and maintaining them. They requested the government to form civil society groups or committees as empowered watchdogs to protect waterbodies. The purpose of the document was to bring to the attention of key policy makers the major issues and concerns arising out of the 2015 floods and to put forward a much-needed action

plan to be carried out in the long-term, Dr. Janakarajan said.

The recommendations of the study include the government undertaking a comprehensive survey of all waterbodies in and around the city; collecting information on the conditions of tanks and control structures, level of encroachments, level of desiltation, conditions and supply of surplus channels.

Also, mapping the ecological hotspots in the region and making them available to the public; mapping the population density and economic activity in the region; declaring Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts as ecologically sensitive and demarcating it as one mega watershed; protecting it from encroachments; linking Pulicat and Muttukkadu through Buckingham Canal and making it a waterway without sewage mixing with it.

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# Monsoon countdown: Manapakkam v

Channels are still a picture of neglect; local people complain

K. MANIKANDAN

**CHENNAI:** "It is the same old story here," a section of vexed residents of Manapakkam said, as they narrate the problems localities in the western suburbs of the Porur-Poonamallee belt face every year.

Be it Manapakkam, Mugalivakkam, Kolapakkam, Moulivakkam, or Ramapuram, residents in all these places have given up on the State government that has fallen short of implementing effective flood prevention measures.

## Dreading the monsoon

Professionals, pensioners and the new settlers alike living in this belt — that witnessed frenetic real estate development in the past decade due to launch of special economic zones with software companies — dread the day when the monsoon is expected to set in, which is a few days from now.

"We were miserable in 2005 and the following year. There has been no improvement over the last decade with 2015 seeing the worst of it," says R. Natarajan, a senior citizen of Manapakkam.

He was unable to enter his ground floor residence for three days and spent over a week clearing the slush and filth that had invaded his home from the overflowing Mugalivakkam channel.

"I was among the lucky ones, as there were some people who could not step out of their homes for over a week," he said.

Residents here are of the view that the creation of the Chennai Bypass and the con-



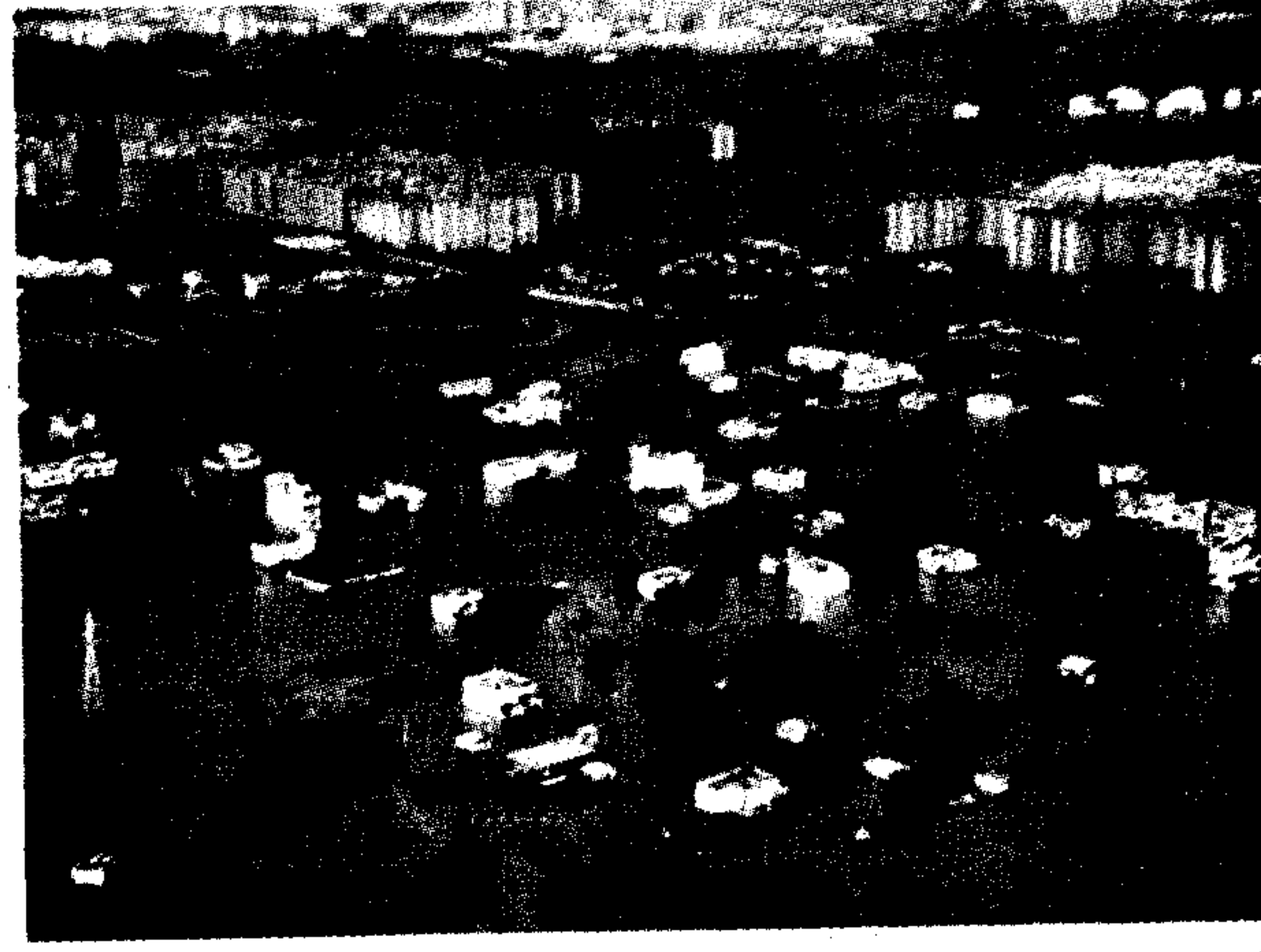
**ATTENTION NEEDED:** The poorly maintained Manapakkam channel that choked last year and led to the inundation of nearby areas needs immediate restoration; an aerial view of Manapakkam during the 2015 floods. — PHOTOS: K. MANIKANDAN AND S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

struction of massive high-rise residential and office complexes blocked the natural flow of rainwater into the Adyar river.

A group of residents carried out an independent audit of the 14-kilometre Manapakkam Canal that drains surplus water from Porur Lake into the Adyar river and the Mugalivakkam channel — a two-and-a-half-kilometre drain that joins the river at Manapakkam.

According to the residents, encroachments, accumulation of silt and growth of vegetation arrested the flow of water, resulting in inundation. "We expected the government to carry out desilting on a war-footing, but we were left disappointed. With just a handful of workers and earth-movers, it was impossible to get help," residents said.

The Manapakkam Channel has shrunk from 40 feet at its deepest point to less than six feet at many spots owing to encroachment of its bunds, residents alleged. With time ticking away towards the onset of the north east monsoon, the government wasted precious time and have not restored the channels, residents lament.



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## Officials say blunders corrected, nothing to fear

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**CHENNAI:** Some of the blunders that led to flooding in Manapakkam and the neighbouring areas last year have been rectified, claim officials of the Water Resources Department.

Work had been on for about a month now to improve the 15-km stretch of the Adyar river between Tiruneermalai and Jaffarkhanpet.

Housing colonies, such as L&T colony, RGL colony and IAS and IPS officers' colony, may not be affected this year, as efforts have been taken to raise the river bund by two metre for a distance of nearly 600 metres, they said.

Besides deploying equipment, including the ones mounted on floats to clear vegetation and desilt the river, efforts were on to strengthen the bund and widen it up to 60-70 metre in some portions like in Anakaputhur.

A retaining wall made of concrete has been built till the Manapakkam bridge, officials said. One of the main reasons for flooding of colonies near Manapakkam was the bridge that was

WRD officials say work is steadily progressing on a 15-km stretch of the Adyar river

washed away in the flash floods last year.

"We have improved the river bund near the Officers' Training Academy (OTA) and have also provided a ramp to the causeway for easy access to the training ground. This would ensure better access and also the free flow of water," said an official.

Moreover, shutters have been provided in some places to prevent riverwater from entering the colonies. These works were being carried out with the fund of Rs. 6.38 crore provided for improving the Adyar ahead of the monsoon.

However, efforts to improve the 12-km stretch between Jaffarkhanpet and the Adyar estuary had slowed down over the past few months. Though the eviction drive had begun and some improvement works were carried out, work had come to a standstill for want of funds.