

Central Water Commission
Water Systems Engineering Directorate

West Block II, wing No- 5
R K Puram, New Delhi-66
Dated 1.11.2018

Subject: Submission of News Clippings

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission; the soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As above.

P. J. Wason
1.11.18
SPA (Publicity)

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

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1/11/18

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1/11/18

For information to:

Chairman, CWC, New Delhi

Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at www.cwc.gov.in

o/c.

News item/letter/article/editorial Published on11/11/2018..... in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Time of India (New Delhi)
Indian Express
Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
The Hindu (New Delhi) ✓
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald
The Times of India (A)
Business standard
The Economic Times

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

Arunachal safe as China river barrier breaches again 11-11

1.7 km landslide-induced barrier created, says official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI

The Disaster Management Department in Arunachal Pradesh on Wednesday marked the central part of the State safe after water from Tibet's Yarlung Tsangpo river over-topped a landslide-induced barrier in the morning and started flowing downstream.

Landslide in Milin

A landslide in the Milin section of the river had created a 1.7 km barrier at 11 a.m. on October 29, temporarily blocking the flow of water towards Arunachal Pradesh. A landslide of bigger intensity in the same section on Oc-

tober 17 had created a 3.5 km barrier.

The Yarlung Tsangpo becomes the Siang after entering India and flows through three districts of Arunachal Pradesh — Upper Siang, Siang and East Siang — before meeting two other rivers to form the Brahmaputra in Assam downstream.

Water over-topping

"We received information from China via the Central Water Commission that the accumulated water began over-topping the Milin section barrier at 9.30 a.m. The water reached Tuting in Upper Siang at 5.55 p.m. and is likely to reach Pasighat (on

Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border) at 3 a.m. on Thursday," said Bidol Tayeng, Arunachal Pradesh Disaster Management Department secretary.

Second breach

Mr. Tayeng said that the force and volume of the water were less than that on October 19 when the barrier formed on Yarlung Tsangpo 13 days ago had breached.

However, the heads of the districts through which the Siang river meanders have been asked to ensure people do not venture out to the river for any purpose until the flow of water becomes normal.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 1/11/2018 in the

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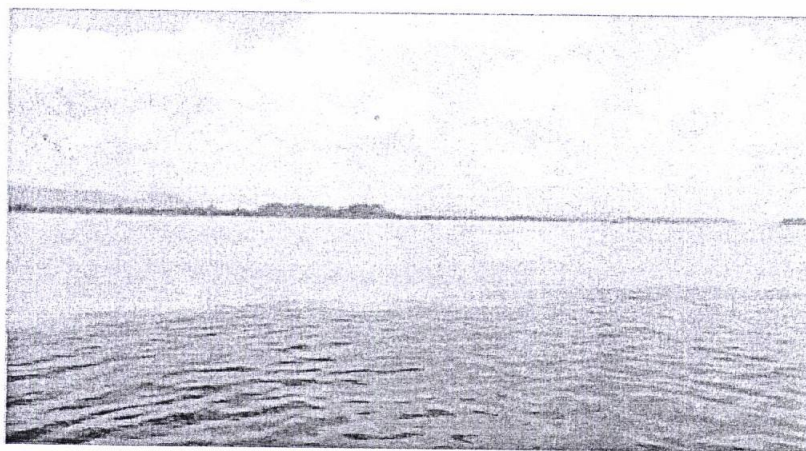
The Times of India (A)

Business Standard

Financial Express, Delhi

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

China again alerts India about possible Brahmaputra floods



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, October 31

FOR THE SECOND time in a fortnight, China has alerted India of a possible flood-like situation in the Brahmaputra river in Arunachal Pradesh after a landslide blocked water upstream in Tibet, a senior water resources ministry official said on Wednesday.

The alert of a landslide and subsequent formation of an artificial lake was given to India late on Monday evening separately through diplomatic channels and the mechanism under which China shares hydrological data on the Brahmaputra, the official added.

"As per latest information received from ##Chinese side, the estimated blocked water storage volume at landslide location (##Milin Section of ##Yarlung ##Zangpo in ##Chinese Territory) at 6.30 hrs IST (9 hrs Chinese time) on 31st Oct 2018 is 337 MCM," the Central Water Commission tweeted.

On October 17, China had communicated to India about a landslide near Jiala village in Milin county in the lower ranges of the Yarlung Tsangpo river in Tibet, which led to the formation of an artificial lake.

As the water started breaching the lake, the districts along the Brahmaputra river in Arunachal Pradesh were put on high alert for possible flash floods.

The Yarlung Tsangpo, as it is referred

The alert of a landslide and subsequent formation of an artificial lake was given to India on Monday evening through diplomatic channels and the mechanism under which China shares hydrological data on the Brahmaputra

to by China, is known as the Siang in Arunachal Pradesh and the Brahmaputra after it reaches Assam.

"This time the landslide occurred at the same place and has again led to creation of an artificial lake, which has now started breaching. However, the situation is not grave as it was a fortnight ago," he said.

From May, China resumed sharing hydrological data on the Brahmaputra and Sutlej rivers.

In April, the two sides had signed an agreement to share data on the Brahmaputra and Sutlej.

For the Brahmaputra river, data was shared by China from May 15, while it started sharing data for the Sutlej from June 1 until October 15.

However, the two recent events have taken place after the data-sharing period was over.

"The agreement also states that data has to be shared in case of an emergency and they (China) have done that," the official added.

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Draft bill on Ganga: Armed corps for protection of river

Jayashree Nandi

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NEW DELHI: The draft National River Ganga Bill 2018 has proposed the setting up of an armed 'Ganga Protection Corps', with the powers to arrest offenders who pollute it, to keep the river clean and help in its rejuvenation, according to government documents and people familiar with the matter.

The corps will be raised by the ministry of home affairs as demanded by the National Ganga Council, which is a panel of five experts with powers to issue directions on closure or regulation of industry and the construction of dams and other structures that affect continuous flow in the river, and to stop any activity causing pollution.

The Centre shared a copy of the draft bill, a copy of which is with Hindustan Times, with environmentalist GD Agarwal days before he died while on hunger strike on October 11. The bill aims

PUNISHABLE OFFENCES UNDER THE GANGA ACT INCLUDE SPOILING OR DEFACING GHATS OR STAIRS OR THROWING ANY "OFFENSIVE MATTER" IN THE RIVER

to rejuvenate Ganga to its "pristine stage and ensure its uninterrupted flow".

UP Singh, secretary, ministry of water resources, confirmed that the draft has been sent for interministerial circulation. "It will be finalised after all ministries have seen it," he said. According to the draft bill, the armed personnel will have powers to "arrest (offenders), take him or her in custody, or take him or her to the nearest police station". The long list of offences and penalties punishable under the Ganga Act include spoiling or defacing ghats or stairs or throw-

ing any "offensive matter" in the river. Other offences include stone quarrying, commercial fishing without permission, deforesting hill slopes or other sensitive areas, withdrawing groundwater for organised consumption through tube wells or industrial needs, among many others. These offences are punishable with imprisonment up to two years or fine of up to ₹50,000.

The offences and penalties come under the draft National River Ganga Bill 2018. The bill says the Centre will take control of management, regulation and development of the Ganga, and gives it the status of a national river. The bill declares that the Centre will take control of the management, regulation and development of Ganga as the river is of unique importance "ascribed to faith and reasons that are geographical, historical, sociocultural and economic is hereby given the status of a national river."

CONTINUED ON P9

Ganga HT-11

A contentious clause, section 54 of the bill on offences by companies, states that if an offence is committed by a company, every person who in charge of the company when the offence is committed and the company will be deemed guilty. But if the in-charge is able to prove that the offence was committed without his or her knowledge or that they exercised due diligence to prevent the offence, they will not be punished under the act.

"Section 54 first strongly puts the onus of those heading operations and activities of companies that are damaging the river. But then promptly adds a protective clause by saying that action will not be taken if the offence was taken without his or her knowledge. Heads of companies have to be made liable for inaction and illegalities," said Kanchi Kohli, legal researcher at the Centre for Policy Research (CPR).

She added that all rivers need attention. "Such proactive measures should apply to all rivers and river basins whether regarded sacred by a specific religion or not. One more authority might not be able to do away with all the problems existing legal frameworks face when it comes to ensuring environmental justice. This includes corruption, impunity and complete disregard for the laws of the land."

"The major issues are building barrages and diverting flow of the river, dredging to make way for

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Asian Age, Delhi

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Centre to ensure constant water flow in Ganga

ANIMESH SINGH
NEW DELHI, OCT 31

Even as the main crux of the NDA government's flagship programme 'National Mission of Clean Ganga' or 'Namami Gange' has been on construction of ghats and setting up of sewerage treatment plants (STPs) to decongest the holy river of industrial waste, the Centre is now also keen to

ensure that there is regular flow of water in it (the sobriquet coined is 'Aviral Ganga') and conservation of biodiversity in it.

During a recent review of the progress of the entire scheme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it was emphasised that while cleaning of ghats and setting up STPs are important components of the scheme, ensuring constant flow of water in the

It is important to ensure that judicious distribution of Ganga water is done

river — so that it can continue to remain a major source of drinking water for millions of towns and cities located alongside its shores — is also important. The NDA government has therefore made 'Aviral Ganga' an impor-

tant part of the Namami Gange programme, highly placed sources aware of the development said.

In a presentation made before the PM, the Water Resources Ministry is learnt to have underlined these aspects for long term conservation of the river, sources further informed.

Mr Modi, who reviewed the scheme last week, was informed by the ministry officials that owing to

diversion of water for industrial purposes and construction of barrages, the actual requirement of Ganga water needed for drinking purposes gets adversely affected and leads to scarcity.

It is therefore important to ensure that judicious distribution of Ganga water is done so that requirements of the common man are not affected.

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