

Editorial

Notwithstanding the El Nino-La Nina events, the southwest monsoon is on its way out with less than normal rainfall though the distribution is quite uneven: for example, in parts of Cauvery river basin—the focus of present political controversy—the rainfall has been deficit upto 60% leading to the low water level in Karnataka and hence serious issues in downstream Tamil Nadu. Such water-based politics make one wonder what is the ideal way to manage water, internationally (Indus, Brahmaputra and the Ganges) and nationally (of practically all river basins) which have been bone of contention across the region and no government at anytime has been able to address these issues squarely.

Interlinking of rivers on large scale is bound to be an environmental disaster as some countries have already found out and hope India will not do so—just a wishful thinking that is all!

Political scene in south Asia is highly charged up and as we have seen in the Middle East, without cooling down effort, this may lead to large scale pressures on our fragile environment. Hope wisdom will prevail on one and all.

We invite suggestions from readers to improve the *Journal* content, cover, review process etc. for better future services.

In the *Environmental News Futures*, there are interesting observations including artificially colour-coated living birds traded in India; drive to go solar energy in China and the fragile Arctic environment.

Have a happy reading.



(V. Subramanian)

Editor-in-Chief

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