



Water Feeder

A Monthly Dose of Odia Water News

An Initiative of **Odisha State Center, FPWCI, Baitarani Initiative, Shristi & Odisha Water Forum**

Water Feeder is a compilation and analysis of water-related news published in Odia and local English dailies with an objective to help water professionals and enthusiasts to capture and comprehend issues and conflicts around water (through eyes of media). It also provides geographical, seasonal and media perspectives of water issues and conflicts with respect to Odisha.

This monthly feed of Water news is an attempt to stimulate interest, thoughts and actions on water issues in the state apart from feeding research and academic pursuits. We have had very encouraging response to the humble 1st Feeder we circulated among selected individuals and e-groups.

Past Issues of Water Feeder

1. [May 2009](#)
2. [June 2009](#)

This third issue presents water 'News Analysis' from 5 major Odia Dailies and one English daily for the month of July 2009. Each of these news items have been tagged and put in a searchable database, which will be shortly uploaded in the net along with scanned copy of each news item. We look forward your comments and Feedbacks (Pl send your response to baitarani@gmail.com).

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News Pour in July

Notwithstanding with monsoonal aberrations, news on water issues and conflicts seem to have heavily poured in July in Odisha. Arrival of flood flooded the newspapers flood news (more than 700 in no) and thus taking the total number of water related news in these 6 news papers to more than 800 in this month. This was a giant leap considering coverage of 140 and 109 news items in May and June respectively.

The water conflicts, as obvious in the flood related news were around issues of embankments, communication-disruption, loss of life and properties, flood-relief and flood-politics. This apart, month also witnessed reporting of inter-state water conflicts in a big way with about 21 news reported on Polavaram, Subarnarekha and Indravati-barrage projects involving AP, Jharkhand and Chhatisgarh respectively. Conflicts around drinking water and pollution as well as concerns around ground water and choking of water bodies continued to be reported in this month, though with relatively lesser frequency and intensity. Highlights of conflict around drinking water were involvement of women folk in that. While on culture-front, devotees thronging Shiva temple with new (flood) water in rivers was the main focus, a case of deity being displaced due to flood was also drew the media attention.

1 Water Issues & Conflicts

1.1 Water Pollution – Increasing Concerns & Runoff contributions

In the first few days of July, till the heavy rains started lashing, the concerns over pollution of water bodies were dotting the headlines. The issue of water pollution in Taladanda canal with heading “Taladanda water has become poison, authority careless” in *'The Pragatibadi'* 05-08-09 along with photograph was really a matter of great concern. Similarly the water pollution in river Baitarani due to drainage from local small industries and piggery in Bhadrak was presented in *'The Khabara'* (13-07-09). Another news covered by same *The Khabara* with heading “*Kharasrota* has turned into river of poison” on 06-07-09 presented the other facet of water pollution . Not only the pre monsoon but the monsoon period also made the problem worse with water logging and over flow of drains and wastes entering common places with runoff. Particularly the problem in the SCB hospital was one worst picture of such condition. In the cities like Bhubaneswar, Cuttack etc. where drainage problem is an every day problem, the severe rain

made the problem of water pollution more serious. Another sensitive issue reported in ***The Dharitri*** on 20-08-09 was about the flow of black colored pollutants from nearby industrial areas in to agricultural land in Odaopada block of Dhenkanal district. It has lead to the degradation of soil quality besides raising many other issues in the localities.

1.2 Ground Water – Depletion Worries

Although the month of July witnessed rain almost through out the state but certain statistics and status report on ground water quite alarming. ***The Samaj*** reported on 03-07-09 about “ground water level falling in 24 districts”. Ground water has started receding even in the areas with having ample reserves. Over all, the ground water level has fallen 2.77 m deep in 2008 than the year 2007. On the other hand the non responsiveness of authority was also criticized by dailies like *The Dharitri*, *The Khabar*, and *The Samaja* pointing out the lacuna in progress and renovations of ponds and reservoirs as well as in the related survey work.

1.3 Inter-state water conflict: State machinery gearing up

In this month, three key inter-state water disputes also drew media attention

Polavoram politics:- With an attempt to nullify Orissa’s stiff opposition to Polavaram Project, the state Congress Govt of Andhra requested P.M. Manamohan Singh to declare the project as an National Project , which would clear all the obstruction. But as the media reports came in, the under- pressure State govt. of Orissa responded strongly on the issue. The Orissa’s MPs opposed the issue in the national parliament. Chief Minister of Orissa met the Prime Minister and apprised him of the state’s stand. But at the same time, the media reports came in that the A.P. state govt in a media conference, made mockery of Orissa’s demand and opposition. With such attempts becoming frequent, public at large in Orissa has started now demanding creation of an inter-state water tribunal to solve Polavaram issue.

Subarnarekha project: Similarly the Orissa C.M. has also demanded Jharkhand to complete the Subarnarekha Project as soon as possible. Here it is noteworthy that this project will help Orissa to supplement its water demand.

Indravati Barrage Project Issue at Jaanra: Orissa and Chhatisgarh were in dispute centering water distribution and dam project on Indravati river near Jaanra in South Orissa

border and it was pending at the Central Water Commission. In the month of July the CWC dismissed Orissa's demand with its order in support of Chhatishgarh. The state govt has declared to take further legal steps.

1.4 Drinking water: Conflicts continued over safe and adequate access

In spite of the monsoon entry, some places were still facing severe shortage of drinking water in the month of July. The situation of physical scarcity till 10/12th July gave way to problems of drinking water due to flood in many areas.

In first phase *certain direct conflicts were reported for drinking water, out of which many had a gender-perspective-*

- The local women to come to the road demanding drinking water-**The Pragatibadi** -6/7/09
- Woman attacked for water - **The Dharitri** 15.07.09
- Women demonstrate for water supply in Rourkela - **The Khabar** 4.07.09.
- People warned to go for protest against non-supply of drinking water. **The Khabar** 11.07.09/

On the other hand till first and second weeks of July the issue of shortage of drinking water was coming in from the areas like Cuttack Sadar, Kanasha (Puri), Jaipur of Koraput district, Kendrapara, Barhampur like places. Another big issue i.e., demand of pipe drinking water supply was also found in month of July. Particularly the Govt. decision to supply pipe drinking water to fluoride affected area of 727 villages in about 18 districts came in on July 15 as a plan. The issue of non-completion of drinking projects was also reported from few places.

Similarly during flood, the issue of pollution of water and issue of safe drinking water was raised in Puri, Belloguntha, Bhanjanagar like areas and road obstructions took place.

At last but not the least, the duplicate pouched water business in Cuttack and lack of action of authorities was also found in **The Samaj** on 15th July 2009.

1.5 Power Production

The first few days of July experienced the shortage of electricity supply. The first July news in **The Samaj** "Water scarcity at Hirakud- electricity generation stopped" explains the severity of power shortage. On the other hand drastic fall in water level in Satiguda dam near Jeypore that supplies water to Upper Kolab hydroelectricity project was also another matter of concern in July.

Analyzing the reservoir operation, water levels and power production trends in Hirakud and trying to compare the water availability for irrigation, industry and power, an article in Dharitri (By Bimal Pandya) went on to raise questions about the priorities of water allocation by asking 'Hirakud for whom' (The Dharitri – 14-07-09)

1.6 Water and Culture:

The month of July in Hindu religious belief is the month of worshipping lord Shiva with pouring water on Shiva linga. This July, devotees in different colours of typical 'Kaudia' dress were found thronging in thousand numbers to Shiva temples carrying new water from river on their shoulders. It is believed that worshipping lord Shiva with water of Ganga River on Monday brings luck and prosperity. As it is also believed that all the rivers are joined to Ganga, so people in thousand numbers bring water from different river banks to worship the God.

With flood coming in the God and Goddess were also found to be helpless victims. Almost all the Oriya Dailies reported about the entry of flood water into Bhattarika Temple making the Goddess displaced on 21.07.2009. Archeological Monuments also suffered heavily due to excess rain and water logging. (The Sambad 28.07.2009)

On food front, Indian Express's news on 'Hilsa Missing from Menu' on 10.07.2009 was disappointing for Hilsa loving Bengalis and Odias.

1.7 Man-Animal conflict around Water: Crocs on man haunt

In July, incidents of crocodile attack on human and livestock were witnessed around Aul-Rajkanika of Kendrapara district in rivers like Baitarani, Brahamani, Kani, Kharasrota etc. Here it is noteworthy that in last 20 years around 35 people have been killed by croc attack living 128 injured.

1.8 Renovation of Water bodies: Urban beautification and wetland suffocations

The Chief Minister's attempt to renovate and develop *Bindu Sagar* in Bhubaneswar has been lauded as a novel approach in the general public but it has also been suggested that not only the Bindu Sagar but all those old and glorious ponds and reservoirs should be taken care of.

At the same time the issue of development of Lake *Ansupa* remaining pending at centre was reported by **The Khabar** on 09.07.09. The illegal encroachment of natural canals in Chandaka area has to be taken care of as reported by both **The Khabar** and **The Pragatibadi**. Having highlighted the fate of Kuanria reservoir land under Mafia encroachment on 3rd July, **The Samabad** went on caution 'Shrinking water bodies, threat to Bolangir' on 30.07.2009

1.9 Irrigation: Repetition of promises hardly translated

With Hirakud reservoir almost empty in the beginning of the month, water for irrigation versus other uses became a state level political issue. At Mahanga also, the Congress Party warned to go on strike in absence of water supply for agriculture.

With lack of water available for kharif irrigation, in many areas the demand of subsidy and waiver on loan and irrigational tax came out. Answering to a question on irrigation in the assembly, the state Cabinet Minister for agriculture said – '46% of agricultural field of the state are only irrigated. Similarly in 186 blocks, the irrigational ratio is less than 35% in this year. Government aims to provide irrigational facilities to 0.92 Lakh hectare farm lands this year'.

1.10 Sea ingression: High tide affecting villages and agriculture

High tides were witnessed in the Coastal Orissa this month, particularly in Jagatisinghpur and Puri districts. At Paradeep, the high tides kept the port town highly affected with around 500 houses water logged. Particularly the lack of drainage system in labour slums and colonies was the major problem. In Brahmagiri area of Puri District two houses were washed out in high tides. Similarly the fishermen habitations in Konark were cut off from outer world being water logged due to high tides.

1.11 River Front: Linking River to changing routes

Down sides of river-linking was highlighted this month through news on how the union of Tel, Hati, and Utei rivers have created flood in Kesinga. (**The Khabar** 24.07.2009) Changing route of river and menace of river bank erosion was reported in the news 'Harachandi River changed the route and entered the Village' in **the Sambad** on 01.07.2009. Threat to rivers from mining was underlined in news by **the Khabar** (3.07.2009). At the same time the Pragatibadi also reported about dispute around the Dead Alaka River's area and boundary. (05.07.2009)

2 Special Section: Flood Furies & Emerging Conflicts

2.1 Flood in July: A summary of News

The flood in July and the flood news were dominated with news from certain rivers like Nagabali and Bansadhara in Rayagada and Koraput; Badanadi in Bhanjanagar; Dahuka in Nayagarh; Kangshabangsha in Soro; Devi in Puri and Khurda; Hati in Kalahandi etc. etc. Similarly Dhanua canal System in Narsinghpur area and Kumbhira canal in Anugul District were the other water resources that brought devastation in the surrounding areas. Other big rivers like Brahmani, Baitarani etc were not fully flooded and caused problem only in weak embankment areas. Mahanadi, the largest river was almost out of flood. Except that many other small rivers in different areas also brought misfortune to Orissa people. It was observed that Mahanadi was in news only for increasing water level. Similarly different areas and places in the districts like Nayagarh Puri, Ganjam, Bolangir, Rayagada, Cuttack Khurda, Kendrapara, Anugul, Dhenkanl Balasore largely faced problem of communication and being cut off from outer world. The problem of water logging was also another concern in the above districts. Similarly agricultural fields were also seriously affected due to the above flood

Due to lack proper drainage system and water logging problem many disease like typhoid, dysentery, diarrhea and malaria were extensively observed. The death toll due to the flood and related causes were around 55. At Nayagarh a passenger Bus was washed away by flood current leaving 8 persons dead. Water logging in cities like Cuttack and Bhubaneswar became a serious problem due to lack of proper drainage facilities. Different archeological and religious places like Konark, Bhatarika, Dhabelewar, Kantilo Nilamadhab, Lokanath in Bhanjanagar and certain temples in Bhubaneswar were directly affected by flood and water logging. Shortages of electricity supply in rural Orissa worsened the situation to a great extent.

Flood relief was one of main cause of conflicts in affected areas. Demonstrations, road obstructions, Gheraos were observed. This first flood of the year created around 35 breaches in Ganjam District and 25 breaches in Nayagarh District. In many places the bridges being washed

out led the problem of communication. The bus services between Koraput and certain areas connecting Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur etc was maintained Via- Andhra Pradesh. Expecting excessive of flood, schools in Balasore were declared closed for two days. Death due to wall collapse was another cause of life loss in this year flood. The month of July experienced around three low pressures.

2.2 Low pressure

The flood in the month of July was more due to low pressure rain rather than monsoon effect. Although this year monsoon came little late, to the end of June But that was not so strong and did not last for too long. But at the same time the month of July faced 3 to 4 strongly concentrated low pressures. These low pressures were mainly oriented to south, south central, south east, bringing severe rain and flood. Along with that it also rained heavily in other parts of Orissa along with little flood in certain places in Coastal Orissa and North Orissa. The three low pressures took place in second, third and forth weeks of the month of July and played a nasty game for the state.

2.3 Embankments: The Flood Savoires or Perpetuators!

Although the embankment is not an everyday issue but as the month witnessed serious flood, this issue was in limelight. Before the flood approached, the state Govt. had declared about 23 very sensitive and 702 sensitive embankments in different river throughout the states. This needed immediate attentions towards flood control. Keeping the spirit up, **The Samaj** reporting on Puri district wrote, "With approaching flood many breaches of last year flood are open" on rivers like *Daya, Bhargabi, Malaguni, Kedula, Luna, Kushabhadra, Devi, Rajua, Prachi* etc. Similarly reporting on severe flood in Nayagarh district **The Khabar** wrote on the breaches on rivers of Nayagarh district like *Dahuka, Kusumi, Lunighara, Duanta, Kuanaria, Butanga* etc. The issue of embankments were also highlighted on rivers like *Malaguni* and *Daya* in Kanasha area in Puri, *Dhanua* canal of Tigiria and Narasingpur area, Chitrotpala and Luna in Salipur- Nischintacoli blocks of Cuttack, Kandala in Kantapada Block, river *Kani* in Patamundai, *Mahanadi and Paika* in tirtol area, *Devi* and *Candal* river in Niali area, river *Rajua* and *Malaguni* in Khurda area, *Devi* and *Daya* rivers in Bharmagiri, Astaranga areas, *Kaligiri* and *Mahanadi* in Bhapur area, *Badanadi* in Bhanjanagar, *Bada salunki* in Phulabani, *Bhramani, Baitarani and Kharosrota* in Aul Rajkanika and Rajnagar of Kendrapara, River *Jhalai* in Dhannagar, river *Indravati, Bamsadhara and Nagabali* in Rayagada and Koraput along with *Hati and Tel* rivers in Kalahandi.

In many places like Jajpur, Nayagarh people stage demonstrations and road obstruction for repair of river embankments. Similarly embankments collapsed in many rivers like *Baitarani*, *Kochila*, *Bhargavi*. Areas like Bhapur Balikuda and many more were pushed into fear and havoc. On one side it was claimed by state govt. of taking strong steps to take care of embankment issues whereas many river embankments were found of waiting for repairing for a long time.

Another issue also came in on the proposed ring bandh on rivers *Bhargavi*, *Birupa*, and *Kelua*. It was reported that the saving the island of villages within these three reservoirs could spell tragedy for the down stream area. **The Pragatibadi** on 22.07.2009 had also reported on Taladanda canal where in spite of prevailing flood situation, soil lifting activities were going on illegally. The news was published with a photo of the situations.

2.4 Communication Disruption

High floods not only cuts off communication, it also damages the routes severely through scouring action of the high speed current. This first flood of this year brought similar effect in the large parts of Orissa. The flood water from river breaches as well as from unplanned and almost absent drainage systems made many places disconnected from the outer world. Particularly the areas like Koraput, Rayagada, Bhawanipatana , Kalahandi Sunabeda, Nabarangpur etc. having very limited communication routes faced great difficulties. Buses from Koraput to Bhubaneswar, Cuttack Berhampur etc. cities were moving via Andhra Pradesh. Similarly the severe flood in river Hati brought national highway – 201 to stop, living large part of north and south Orissa disconnected. On the other hand in coastal Orissa, areas like Rajakanika , Pattamundai Patakura, Banki, Tangi and parts of Balasore district were largely cut off from outer world. But the worst situation was in inland areas where many people in different villages remained water logged along with children and livestock.

2.5 Agricultural loss

Agricultural loss was imminent in the recent last flood. As most of the small rivers brought flood, it affected mainly the agricultural activities and farm lands due to heavy water logging. It was also observed that in many areas there was no life or any other loss due to flood directly but heavy amount of water standing on agricultural field really was the concern.

News related to agricultural loss was reported in different news dailies from almost all areas of the state. The worst affected were the Ganjam and Nayagarh districts. In Bhanja Nagar around 10,000 acre agricultural lands were sand field due to flood. In Kendrapara area about 20,000 acre of agricultural loss reported. In Tirtol people of 14 Panchayats faced agricultural loss due to flood. Similarly in Puri, Bhadrak, Bhapur, Tangichoudar, Cuttack, Balasore, Khurda and many other districts and places extensive losses came out for the farmers. In certain places excess rain washed away the sown seedd. It was also claimed that there has been no support or substantial compensation from Govt. on agricultural loss of the farmer. At the same time the mismanagement and out of no administrative steps, the draining of flood water destroyed many agricultural fields in Tirtol. For this, the farmers also demonstrated obstructing NH.

2.6 Kathajodi River Railway Bridge Issue

This July flood brought the incident of collapsing of a Railway Bridge on river Kathajodi. The bridge was under construction and it was second Railway Bridge on supplement. It was told that as the poles of the bridge deepened down the bridge collapsed.

2.7 Flood induced health problems

Getting adequate safe drinking water during floods has long been an issue in Orissa both in rural and urban areas. In the month of July, health problem in different part of Orissa were found to be caused by flood and spill over of polluted drainage water. Different open drinking water sources became contaminated along with the ground water. At the same time water logged people due to shortage of drinking water used polluted water for the purpose. So diseases like dysentery, diarrhea, Typhoid, fever etc. spread heavily among the Orissan population through out the state.

Except this, water logging led to spread of malaria in certain districts like Koraput, Kalahandi Dhenkalnal, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Ganjam etc. The complain and demand of proper health services from gov. authority were the highlights of news of this the month. Investigative and analytical news in The Samaj on 10-08-09 with heading "2.5 lakhs people of Jajpur district affected water born disease" was really an eye opening one for all. Besides this, the pollution of Kuakhai River by industrial, residential, hospital drainage leading to bad smell from river water and spread of skin diseases was also reported by The Dharitri on 21-07-09.

2.8 Loss to Life

In comparison to loss of property, the loss of life in this flood was more disturbing. While one day, it was about some one went missing or washed away, the other day it became 'an unidentified body rescued'. The main death toll was caused due to the bus being flown away in Nayagarh district leaving around 8 people dead. Similarly in Sanghpur a whole family was swept away to death living only one. In many places students were flown away in flood current and died.

But a lot of death cases came from wall collapsing which explain the living standard of common people in the state. In Rajkanika area five Kaudias were flown away in the flood. In Narashinga pur an elderly woman, her daughter and the grand daughter were flown away to death. Except the above causes, snake bite was also responsible for death during and after flood.

2.9 Flood Preparedness & Response

With the beginning of July the forecast of heavy rain due to concentration of low pressure came in. The state govt. started to takes steps to control the possible flood. All the district collectors with flood possibility areas were ordered to remain alert. Similarly the state Govt. had also called for the status reports of river embankments from the concerned district collectors. The district collectors, B.D.Os, Tahasildars along with other Govt. officials were kept alert and order to take care of the flood situations in the locality. The leaves of the doctors in the possible flood areas were cancelled and the doctors were ordered to immediately join. It was also witnessed that in the costal district the collectors visited the embankment and reviewed the safety. Compensation of one lakh rupees declared to the families of dead person in the flood. Similarly the special committee of irrigation dept. visited embankment enhancement work in Bhargavi River being constructed at an expense of Rs 2.59 crores.

In addition to the Govt. activities, the Orissa High Court also took the flood seriously ordering immediate repair of Bellevue -Naraj embankment. The local representative at different places reviewed the flood situations and took precautionary measures. Reports were called for on flood control status in rivers like *Baitarani, Saladi and Kani* and decisions were taken for further action. State Govt. also decided to construct embankment in Jajpur and Bhadrak. Many river embankments were repaired on war steps. Flood-politics also continued with public representative starting from Block chairman to MLA, MP, and ministers visiting their parent vote bank areas and expressing concerns/demanding for the flood victims.

In Orissa state assembly, the speaker called for the report on flood situation and about the step taken by the Govt. to tackle flood. The ruling as well as the opposition parties expressed their concerns for flood victims. The Chief Minister of Orissa discussed the state flood situations with the prime minister on his visit during the month of July. Many review meetings were found to be taking place by the CM.

But after looking at the severe flood in certain areas like Nayagarh, Bhanjanagar, it was found that flood control mechanism in the areas seem to be plagued with flaws and lacuna. At the same time the approach of the state Govt. to react to the flood at the last moment instead of having proactive plan and strategies seem also to be not working. It seemed that the administration was at neck deep to control this years flood situations.

2.10 Flood Relief

After flood losses, the govt. & different non government relief services became the only hope of the flood affected areas. The demands of proper distribution of relief from different areas were echoed by different news papers. People of Bhanjanagar of Ganjam District gheraoed the tehesil office opposing discrimination in relief distribution. Similarly people in other places like Kendrapara , Tangi, Ganjam, Nayagarh staged demonstration demanding relief . At the same time, the report of relief distribution in Berhmpur, Nayagarh, Gsanjam etc. areas were also found in news papers. Another issues from Nayagarh reported as many poor people living in Govt. land without any legal rights faced serous difficulties in getting govt. compensation.

In a pathetic accident at Nayagarh, a passenger bus was flown away by heavy flood current and few people had died. The state govt. declares an amount of 1 lakhs rupees as compensation to the concerned families. Towards the last phase of flood the state govt. declared that flood control rooms were to be opened at state, districts and block level and to avail health services in different areas.

2.11 Flood Damages

The state government had identified 29 very weak and very sensitive embankments along with 702 weak embankment on different rivers of the state. As per the government statement, last year 253 breaches had taken place in different river embankments due to the first flood in the month of June while other more 512 breaches came out in the flood in the month of September.

Nayagarh district has been worst affected by this July flood. It is estimated that the loss in Nayagarh due to this year flood crossed the 40yrs records over the last severe flood in the year 1969. Ganjam has also faced furry of this flood with around 25 embankment breaches in different rivers. Other district which was partially affected includes Kalahandi, Balangir, Koraput, Rayagada, Puri, Balasore Kendrapara, Jajpur and Denkahanal. On an overall estimate around 750 villages were affected in this flood. Similarly around 1050 houses collapsed and around 55 human life losses took place due to this year flood.

In Nayagarh district alone around 15000 people were severely affected with flood with 17 human life losses and a huge agricultural and livestock losses. One thing here is remarkable that the coastal Orissa which is well known as the main victim of flood every year did not face so much loss. Similarly it was also noticeable that the small rivers rather than the big rivers were at their high in different district through out Orissa bringing concern among people.

2.12 Flood Analysis: Opinions

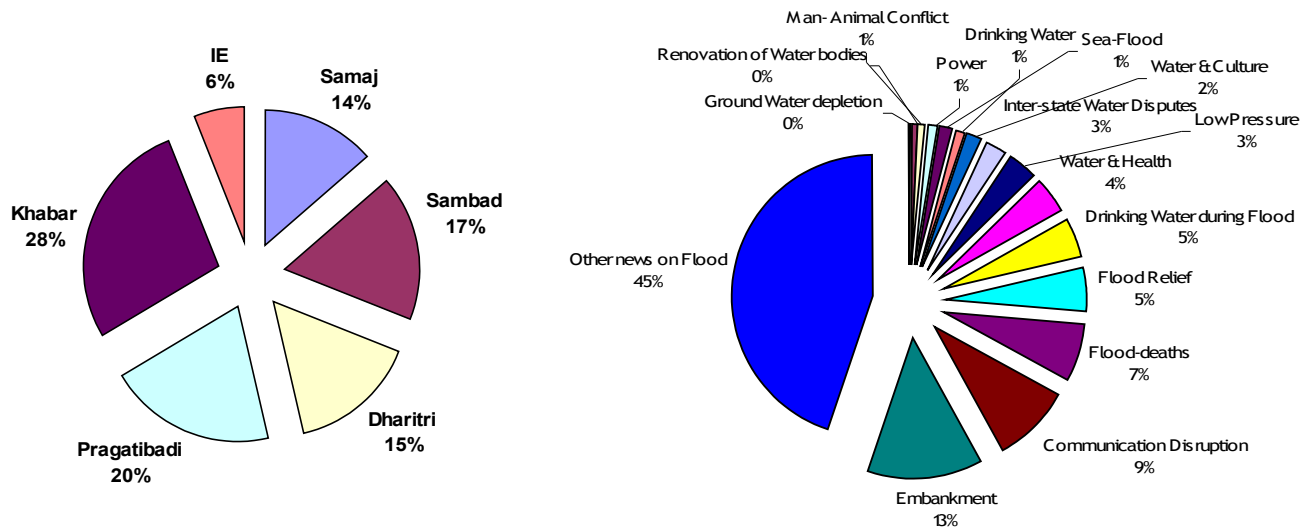
With flood on prowl, editorials and articles came up with diverse analysis and opinions about flood management, adaptation and coping strategies. Two articles were published in **The Sambad** on 1st and 3rd July with heading "Mahanadi flood- An analysis" and "Dam management at Hirakud is the key". These articles presented main stream engineering discourse around river management and presented a technical overview with statistical analysis. Similarly another article in **The Samaj** on 24.07.2009, quite analytically dwelt on irrigation issues with heading "Irrigation only to eradicate poverty in KBK". **The Khabar** published a piece on "National policy for water management" explaining different water related conditions at national, International and regional level.

"How to care and protect livestock before flood" in **The Dharitri** on 29.07.2009 was an useful article towards enhancing flood adaptation. Other articles like "Immediate steps in agriculture to save from severe flood" in **The Sambad**, "Flood controlling in Mahanadi" in **The Pragabadi** on 15.07.09, "Flood calamity: Podu cultivation is the other cause" in **The Pragatibadi** on 04.07.09 were other such articles adding to flood analysis and debate in the month.

2.13 Flood control Strategies & Plans

Taking the flood situations seriously the state govt. is planning to rollout new plans and to develop new constructions on different rivers. Towards controlling flood in *Baitarani, Salandi and Kani* rivers, construction and enhancement of embankments will be done. Similarly the state Govt. also plans to set up 17 more reservoirs as flood controlling measures. Explaining the status, it has been stated that Rs 137.25 crores have been spent towards flood control, embankment repair and enhancement. Similarly the development project on *Mahanadi and Subarnarekha* has been sent to CWC for permission. At the same time to bring permanent solution to *Birupa-Genguti* island area, enhancement and widening of embankments, strengthening of sluice gate inclusion of river embankment in PMSGY etc., above all as a grand project, Rs 5658 crore programme has been proposed to be implemented for permanent flood solution in the state.

3 Coverage by News Papers & of Issues



News	Samaj	Sambad	Dharitri	Pragatibadi	Khabar	IE	Total
Drinking Water Scarcity (before Flood)	1		3	2	5		11
Ground Water depletion	1		1		1		3
Renovation of Water bodies				2	1		3
Inter-state Water Disputes	4	5	3	5	3	1	21
Water & Culture	3	3	3	2	2		13
Man- Animal Conflict		1	2	2	2		7
Electricity	3	4		1	2		10

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Low Pressure	3	4	7	3	6	3	26
Water & Health	4	5	7	6	9	3	34
Communication Disruption	12	15	11	11	19	5	73
Drinking Water during Flood	4	5	8	8	10	3	38
Flood-deaths	12	8	7	11	10	6	54
Sea-Flood	2	1	3	2	2		10
Embankment	15	19	19	22	25	7	107
Flood Relief	4	4	9	9	11	3	40
Other news on Flood	43	69	44	77	119	18	360
TOTAL	111	143	127	163	227	49	818

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