



ROLE OF PRINT MEDIA IN PAK-INDIA WATER

DISPUTE

A STUDY OF THE NATION AND THE HINDU 2010-2014

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ABSTRACT

This study is design to analyze the role of print media in portrayal of water dispute between Pakistan and India. The researchers analyzed the content published in newspaper regarding Pakistan and India water dispute. This study provides a brief over view of water dispute between Pakistan and India and some of policy failure which has led to water crises especially in Pakistan. It suggests some innovative way to deal with vexed issue through media collaboration. The methodology of the research was content analysis. Data was gathered from Editorials, News Articles and News Stories from two leading newspapers of Pakistan and India. The study was conducted under the light of “Agenda Setting Theory” and “Framing Theory”. The research covers the period of five years from 2010 to 2014. The results showed that both of the newspaper gave large space to the topic concerned. The Nation gives more coverage to water dispute as compare to The Hindu. Moreover, “The Hindu” Indian newspaper supported his government more than the Pakistani press on water dispute.



Keywords: Water, Dispute, Pakistan, India, Relations, Newspapers, Resources

Introduction

Water is a vital source of life. Water is one of the most precious natural resources and the lifeblood for maintain economic development in any country. Water is most valuable commodity on earth as compared to other natural resources: while oil, for instance, could be replaced by other sources of energy, there is no substitute for water. It is most widely distributed substance on the planet; about three fourth of it contain water only 2.53 percent of it freshwater, while the rest is salt. Out of the world total fresh water resources, about two thirds locked up in ice caps and glaciers. Water is a necessary ingredient for survival of the civilization, as for one thing, it is for agricultural development. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), “agriculture is the largest user of water in all region of the world, except Europe and North America.” Out of total, nearly 70 percent of water is consumed for food production, 20 percent for industry and 10 percent for domestic use. For example water required to produce food amount to 2000-5000 liters per person per day; whereas, for the basic human needs including drinking only four liters per day needed (Bhatti & Saeed, 2013). Water is fundamental component for health, power generation, security, agriculture, transportation as well as ecosystems. Moreover access to water basic human right as it is the most compulsory ingredient of life. Water resource is diminishing day by day, infect water is becoming a scarce of commodity in the world with every passing day. The situation is very crucial which is expected to initiate regional and global conflict near future. It is rapidly emerging source of tension and conflict between nations which is destabilizing factor of international



peace and regional harmony, Developing Country are the worst effected due to water shortage, they suffer for the lack of clean drinking water and insufficient sanitation. As the demand increase day by day, likely conflict simmering between the states that share the fresh water reserve located their boundaries .It is looming that more than 50 countries would soon indulge in dispute over the water sharing unless they take steps quickly to ink agreement on how to allocate river water and share underground water reserves. In south Asia India and Pakistan are involved in a dispute over the Kishenganga while India and Bangladesh have over the farakha barrage and Nepal have dispute with India over the Mahakali river .these dispute are the highly sensitive nature as Pakistan ,Bangladesh and Nepal are all agricultural countries (Rabani,2011). The twentieth century a British writer which Auden once said, “thousand have lived without love not one without water”; Auden words are especially applicable in the perspective of South Asia. This is home to more than a fifth of the world’s population and where the economies are largely depends upon agriculture. Unluckily South Asian countries, mostly India and Pakistan both these have facing serious challenges in water management and proper river basin system (Raza, 2013). Pakistan is developing country located in semi-arid region with an agrarian economy, where by water is considers an important for our country. Water is certainly, aab-e-hayat (water of life) for largely arid and agrarian country like Pakistan with scanty and uncertain rainfall. Water is become an existential issue for Pakistan. Due to a single basin country Pakistan relies intensely on the Indus basin water to fulfill its domestic, agriculture and industrial needs. The increasing population and rising temperature adding stress the water demand (Akhter, 2010). Indus River basin system is critical life line both Pakistan and western India; it consist the River Indus and its five main tributaries namely Jhelum, Chenab, Beas, Ravi, and Sutlej. Division of sub continent 1947 formed a new international boundary, which crossways cut the Indus river system unfairly between



India and Pakistan. many of the canals were serve from their head work's fell in India , while the land being irrigated fell in Pakistan , which led to serious water dispute right away after the division of 1947 (Abbasi, 2012).

Rationale of the Study

The researchers analyzed the content published in newspaper regarding Pakistan and India water dispute. This study provides a brief overview of water dispute between Pakistan and India and some of policy failure which has led to water crises especially in Pakistan. It suggests some innovative way to deal with vexed issue through media collaboration. This study can be helpful to resolve the water dispute between Pakistan and India.

Role of Print Media in Water Dispute

Press is one of the most original and earliest forms of mass media to eloquent human communication needs. In Pakistan, especially press is considered as the most popular, reliable and responsible member of the mass media channels. It is also considered that the print media is more credible than electronic media and plays a significant role regarding the national and international issues. Print media portray and reflect the real picture of society. Newspapers have amazing catalytic quality to attract and influence the attitudinal level of those who really matters in the domain of policy formation from basic level to the apex. Now a day's Pakistani press is performing a huge effort in creating awareness among people about normalization of relations between both countries Pakistan and India, as well as they are projecting the voice of common man regarding this water dispute issue.

This is sparked discussion in Pakistani media that India is stealing Pakistan's water, while the Indian media and officials argue that India is not violating the Indus Water Treaty and



only using amount of water that is allocated under the IWT. Indian media also blames Pakistan for its water woes, which are emanating from of poor management of water resources (Akhter, 2010).

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study have been framed in following manners:

1. To analyze the water dispute history of Pakistan and India.
2. To examine the coverage of press about the water dispute.
3. To find out newspaper stances regarding water dispute among Pakistan and India.
4. To sort out the basic reason and causation behind the water dispute between Pakistan and India portrayed by press.
5. To evaluate the role of Pakistani and Indian press to resolve this water dispute.
6. To analyze the treatment on water dispute in daily the Nation and daily the Hindu.
7. To provide the suggestion to resolve the water dispute issue between Pakistan and India in the light of gathered data.
8. To evaluate the commonalities and differences between daily the Nation and daily the Hindu.

Literature Review

Gulhati (1973) deals comprehensively with Indus water basin, its history, physical feature, climate of the basin and importance of the water for Pakistan and India, disputes over share of water in pre treaty era, settlement of dispute through third party mediation, satisfaction and dissatisfaction of two countries, water laws and regional politics over water. The writer highlights the importance and development of Indus Basin through proficient deliberation. Talking on the partition and water dispute between Pakistan and India, he claims Sir Cyril Red Cliff boundary line has left many uncompromised disputes



between the two new born states, of these water is one of the contentious disputes. He further provides detailed accounts of the Indus Basin negotiations, describing how Pakistani and Indian engineers with World Bank facilitator developed an enormously complex plan for parallel energy production infrastructures. Gulhati in his conclusion appreciate the abilities of the parties to frame the issue as a technical problem, which enabled those who, “speak the language of the joint management of the rivers”, to making the progress where politicians could not. Malik (2005) praise the Pak Punjab irrigation system is not only greatest but also distinctive irrigation system in the world. The author, however grieve for the effects of partition and the impact of Indus Water Treaty. The Indus water system, which subsequently came up suffered by weak management and so provoked the problems of the people concerned. Hence he calls it a sick system. The author highlights the Indus Water Treaty which even with all its tall and pious promises and projections proves a bane than anything of delight for Pakistan. The author states that Treaty was meant for regional peace and settlement of Kashmir issue but has since taken tens of thousands of lives of Kashmir’s. The author has not mentioned the losses suffered by Jammu and Kashmir because of IWT. Arora (2007) reported that Indus water dispute began long before the separation of India and Pakistan. The dispute started in the form of inter-state disparities between Punjab, Bahawalpur, Bikaner and Sind. The author says that after the partition of Pakistan and India in 1947 water dispute became an international issue and intensifies facts that the political boundary between new born countries was drawn right across the Indus Basin. He says that root of problem lies in the lack of harmony between the interest of Pakistan and Jammu & Kashmir. The writer emphasizes that although the original treaty called for cooperation in planning and development of river, requiring joint planning but each of states utilizes its water resources individually and there is no basin wide joint management of Indus. the author discussed about the



alternative approaches of to IWT, which could be an integrated development plan for the conservation of Indus Basin and if jointly developed both countries, it would address the political scope of conflict in The author also highlights the negation as well as ambiguity of International Law. Tabasum (2004) in her study deals with the river water sharing issue between Pakistan and India; it depicts the origins of the problem and gradual development of water dispute. It also sees how the issue was resolved later by India and Pakistan with World Bank mediation and briefly looks into the irrigation system constructed after the treaty with the water sharing dispute which arose after the signing of treaty. Even though it deals with the topic yet it lacks required details and analysis of the facts. Besides, it neither covers the international water law and dispute resolution mechanism nor the current issue on water ratio between India and Pakistan. **Upreti (2006)** in his study present a comprehensive analysis of the revolution of water law over the century. The writer has also attempted to outline positive and negative feature of International treaties on boundary and Trans boundary Rivers around the world. He cited an abundance of water dispute example across in the world and ways of resolving dispute. After critically studying of four doctrines of International water law viz, territorial sovereignty, territorial integrity, equitable utilization, and prior appropriation, he has considered the third doctrine as the best one for it has wider acceptances among the Internationals community. In his conclusion he suggests that equitable utilization of river is the only and also best solution to them. Although it deals with water in details, yet it does not deal with Indus water dispute, treaty and its legal implications. Khan (2013) in his study says that there is growing feeling in Pakistan due to Indian controversial building of dams on western rivers that means depriving Pakistan for its share of water. He admires the Indus Water Treaty which sighed with the remarkable endurance and resilience mediation of World Bank. The writer also elaborates the Indian controversial



Kishenganga hydroelectric project, and International Court of Arbitration decision. The writer also highlights the Pakistani and Indian media role in resolving the water issue between India and Pakistan. To conclude he said water is become a 'core issue' even greater prominence than Kashmir, both state needs urgent attention to solve this issue. Khalid et al (2014) conclude that the World is today entangled in so many conflicts. The disputes over natural resources occupy preferential position among states interactions. At present, world concentration and focus on water resources. The scarcity of water recourses has forced states to enter in severe competition over water. The flow of river boundless of the natural territories of states and become relevant for more than one state. Tran's boundary flow of rivers, poor governance of water resources at domestic level, lack of joint frame work to cope with emerging problem are few factors adding to complexity of water scarcity in South Asia. The author suggest that there is an urgent need of formulation of frameworks at domestic, inter-state and regional level to control this growing needs of water. Kokab & Nawaz (2013) concluded their study to say that Indus Water Treaty is approaching under stress due to the rising scarcity in India and Pakistan, its ecological threat to Indus Basin Rivers system. IWT has been a unique conciliation on the distribution of rivers water in the World, India and Pakistan attained benefits from the treaty. India protected more water from eastern rivers and Pakistan got uninterrupted supply of waters from the western rivers. They suggest that it is requires to be updated IWT according to environmental, ecological, climate changes, and prerequisites of safety from pollution. India Controversial projects have also underlined the need of reconsideration of the issues concerned to Indus Basin.

Research Methodology

Current research study adopted the methodology of content analysis for data collection from the selected newspapers for the period of 5 years from 2010 to 2014. For content



analysis on water dispute between Pakistan and India; two national English dailies (The Nation and The Hindu) were selected. This study was census study and all the newspapers were studied during the selected period.

Research Questions

1. How much coverage is given on the issues under discussion Pak-India water dispute “The Nation” Lahore from 2010 to 2014?
2. How much coverage is given on the issues under discussion of Pak-India water dispute by “The Hindu” Chennai from 2010 to 2014?
3. How is the Pak-India water dispute issues treated by “The Nation” Lahore?
4. How is the Pak-India water dispute issue treated by “The Hindu” Chennai?
5. What are the similarities and differences among “The Nation” and “The Hindu” coverage on the water dispute issue under discussion?

Hypothesis

H1. It is more likely that Indian newspaper supported his government more than the Pakistani press on water dispute

H2. It is more likely that Pakistani press gives more coverage to water dispute issue rather than Indian press.

Universe of the Study

The Universe of present study is the English newspaper dailies of both Pakistan & India (The Nation & the Hindu) from 1st January 2010 to 30th December 2014. All the editorial, article, news stories in which the words: Indo Pak water dispute or issue, Indus Water Treaty 1960 (IWT), violation of IWT, Controversial projects construction, decisions of International Court of Attributions (ICA), Baglihar dam controversy, Wullar barrage



controversy, Kishenganga hydroelectric project (KHEP), Meeting & negotiations of Indus

Water commission are used from 2010 to 2014 were selected.

Data analysis

Table 1: Published editorials, articles and news stories in dailies the Nation and the Hindu

SR. NO	Years of publication	Number of editorial The Nation	Number of Editorial The Hindu	Number of article The Nation	Number of article The Hindu	Number of news stories The Nation	Number of news stories The Hindu
1	2010	30	2	26	12	31	24
2	2011	24	2	25	4	12	11
3	2012	26	1	22	8	15	9
4	2013	20	1	27	9	24	16
5	2014	12	0	8	3	20	6
2010 to 2014 number of publication		112	6	108	36	102	66

The published editorials, articles and news stories given in above Table present the numerically description, that find out that in editorial and articles publishing is more focused in The Nation rather than the Daily The Hindu. But also in news stories are less published in daily The Hindu the compilation of the all files express more interest of water dispute in The Nation.

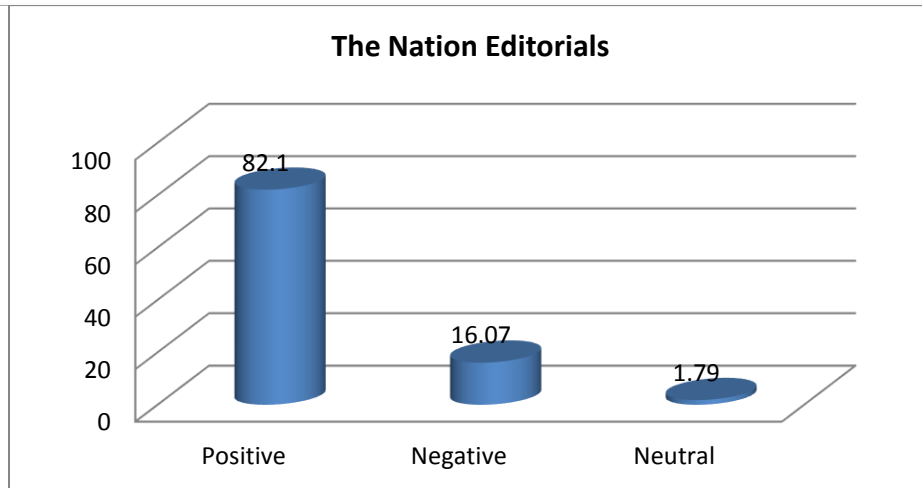


Table 2: Description of data Positions wise

Sr no	Publication year	The Nation Editorials			The Hindu Editorial			The Nation Article			The Hindu Articles			The Nation News stories			The Hindu news stories		
		+ve	O	_ve	+ve	O	_ve	+ve	O	_ve	+ve	O	_ve	+ve	O	_ve	+ve	O	_ve
	Slant																		
1	2010	25	1	4	1	-	1	18	1	7	8	1	3	25	2	4	17	2	5
2	2011	19	1	4	1	-	-	19	1	5	2	-	2	8	1	2	8	-	3
3	2012	21	-	5	1	-	-	16	2	4	6	-	2	12	1	2	6	1	2
4	2013	17	-	3	1	-	1	20	1	6	7	-	2	19	2	3	11	1	4
5	2014	10	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	3	2	-	1	18	-	3	4	1	1
	Results	92	2	18	4	0	2	78	5	25	25	1	10	82	6	14	46	5	15

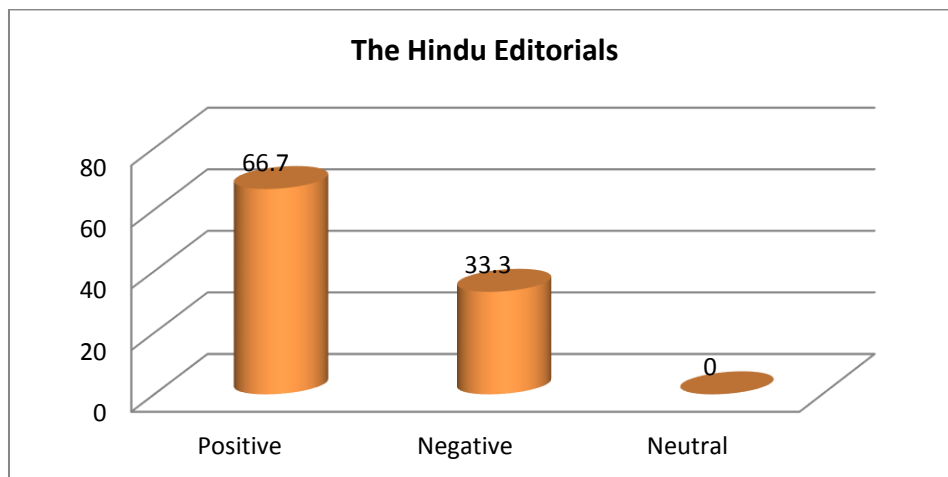
In above table all data is categorized in numerical form and all data were classified into slanting positive, negative and neutral approach. The published editorials, articles and news stories studied and evolve the slant according India and Pakistan water dispute, Indus Water Treaty 1960 (IWT), violation of IWT, Construction of controversial projects, decisions of International Court of Attributions (ICA), Baglihar dam controversy, Wullar barrage controversy, Kishenganga hydro electric project (KHEP), Meeting & negotiations of Indus Water commission, government foreign policy and media ethics from 2010 to 2014 were consulted.

Figure 1: Total editorial published in The Nation 2010-2014, regarding Pak-India Water dispute



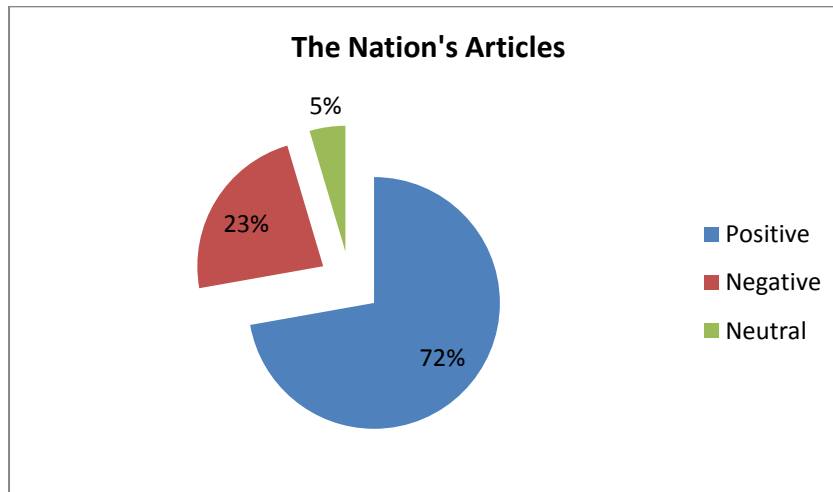
The data indicated that The Nation published 82.1 % positively, 16.1% were negatively and 1.8% neutral editorials regarding water dispute issue.

Figure 2: Total editorial published in The Hindu 2010-2014, regarding Pak-India Water dispute



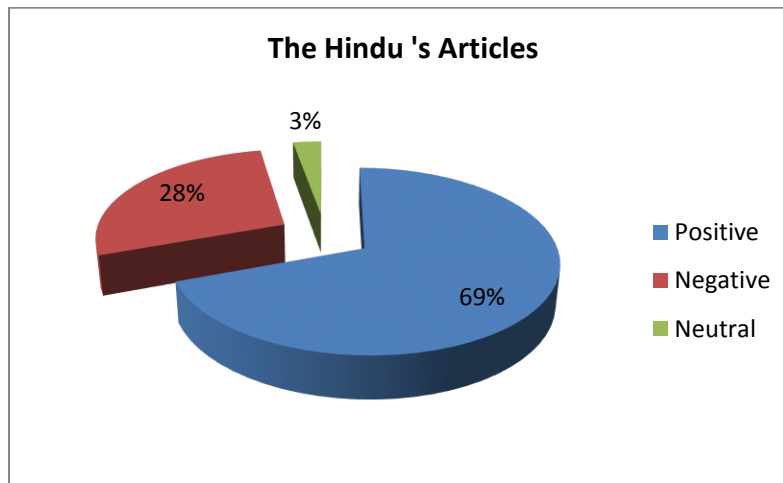
Graph shows that water dispute was covered positively 66.7 %, 33.3% negatively and there was no neutral editorial regarding water dispute issue in The Hindu.

Figure 3: Total Article published in The Nation 2010-2014, regarding Pak-India Water dispute



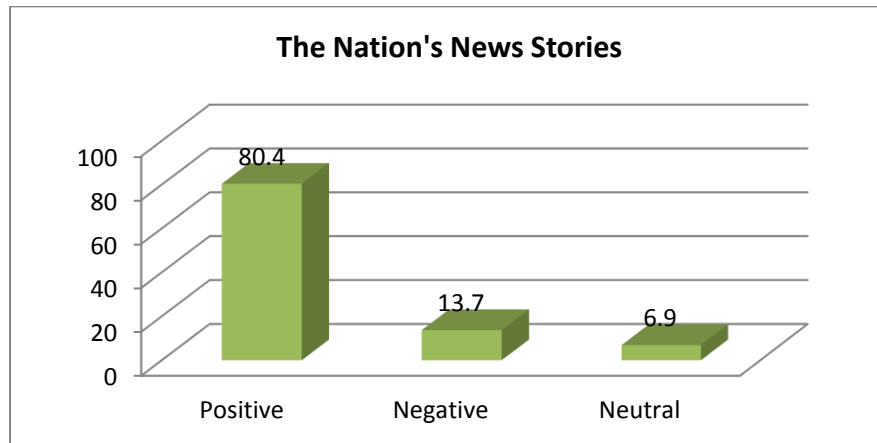
Graph narrates that The Nation covered 72% positively, 23% negatively and there was only 5% neutral editorial regarding water dispute issue.

Figure 4: Total Article published in The Hindu 2010-2014, regarding Water dispute



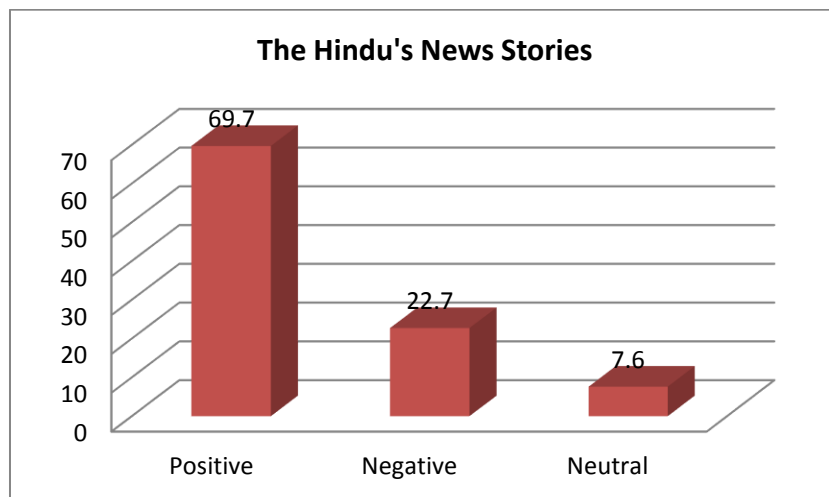
The data illustrate that The Hindu cover the water dispute issue with 69% article positively while 28% article gave negative stance and there were 3% article portrayal negatively in all five year duration.

Figure 5: News Stories published in The Nation 2010-2014, regarding Pak-India Water dispute



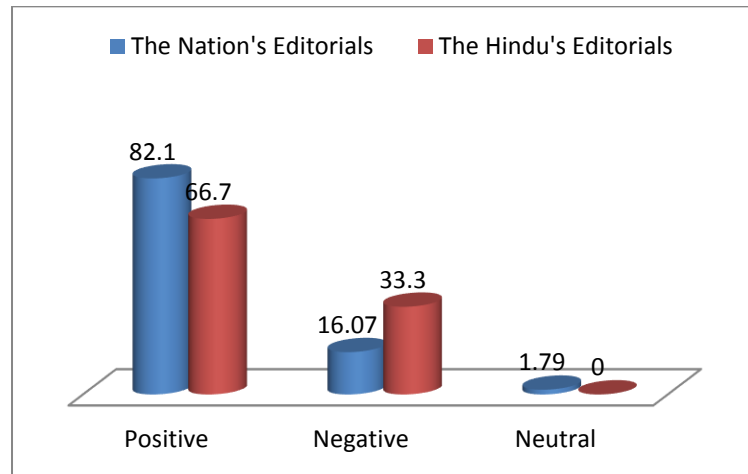
The data of graph indicates that The Nation cover the water dispute were 80.4% news stories positively published while 14% news stories give negative stance and there is 7% news stories were portrayal negatively.

Figure 6: News Stories published in The Hindu 2010-2014, regarding Pak-India Water dispute



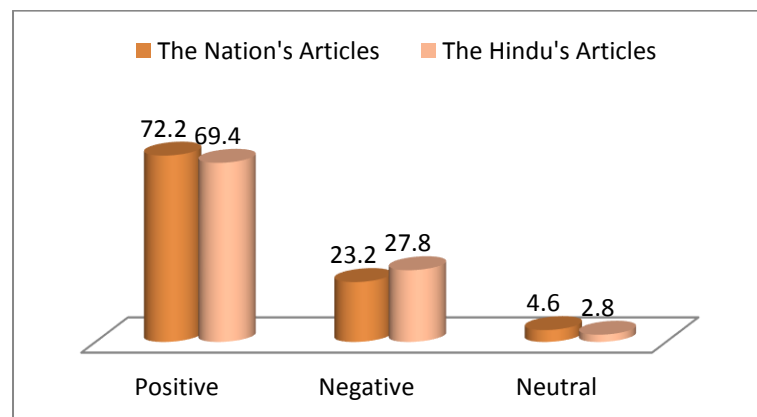
The data show that The Hindu cover the water dispute issue and give 69.7% news stories positively while 22.7% news stories gave negative stance and there is 7.6% news stories were poses negatively.

Figure 7: Comparative analysis of Editorials in The Nation and The Hindu on water dispute



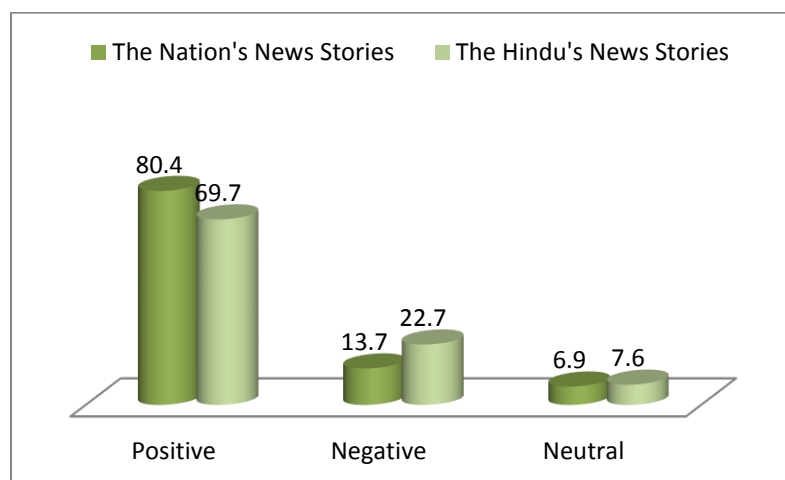
The data illustrate that The Nation favored Pakistan role in resolving water dispute, with 82.1% editorial positive while 16% editorial give negative stance and 2% editorial remain neutral in which no certain and exact policy regarding Pakistan and India water dispute was given in daily The Nation. On the other hand 6 editorial of The Hindu related to Pakistan and India water dispute were analyzed. In 6.7 chart show that 66.7% editorial were positive while ratio of negative coverage 33.3% in editorial, while none of them were neutral regarding Pakistan and India water dispute.

Figure 8: Comparative analysis of Articles in daily The Nation and The Hindu regarding Water Dispute



The data illustrate that The Nation favored Pakistan role in resolving water dispute between Pakistan and India and gave 72.2% article positive while 23.2% article give negative stance and 4.6% article remain neutral in which no certain and exact policy regarding Pakistan and India water dispute was given in daily The Nation. On the other hand 36 article of The Hindu related to Pakistan and India water dispute were analyzed. In which 23.2% article were positive while ratio of negative coverage 27.8% editorial, while 2.8% article were neutral regarding Pakistan and India water dispute.

Figure 9: Comparative analysis of News stories in The Nation and The Hindu on Water Dispute



The data point up that The Nation favored Pakistan role in resolving water dispute between Pakistan and India and gave 80.4% News stories positive while 13.7% news stories give negative stance and 6.9% news stories remain neutral in which no certain and exact policy regarding Pakistan and India water dispute was given in daily The Nation. On the other hand 66 news stories of The Hindu related to Pakistan and India water dispute were analyzed. In which 69.7% news stories were positive while ratio of negative coverage 22.7% news stories, while 7.6% news stories were neutral regarding Pakistan and India water dispute.



Findings

1. How much coverage is given on the issues under discussion Pak-India water dispute “The Nation” Lahore from 2010 to 2014?

The researcher found that “The Nation” published 112 editorial related to the water dispute issue among Pakistan and India, Whereas in 108 article the relevant issue has discussed, moreover The Nation published 102 news stories on water dispute issue during the time period of 2010 to 2014.

2. How much coverage is given on the issues under discussion of Pak-India water dispute by “The Hindu” Chennai from 2010 to 2014?

The study were found out The Hindu published 6 editorial, 36 article, and 66 news stories about the Pakistan and India water dispute issue.

3. How is the Pak-India water dispute issues treated by “The Nation” Lahore?

The Nation gave the importance of water dispute as published 112(100%) editorial, 108(100%) article, and 102 (100%) news stories on the water dispute issue. In its editorial 82.1% contents were positive, 16.07% editorials were negative, and 1.8% editorial was in neutral tone. Its 72.2% article was positive, 23.3% were negative and 4.6% articles were neutral. The Nation 80.4% news stories were positive, 13.7% news stories were in negative and 6.9% news stories were in neutral. So, we may conclude that on the issue The Nation was published in more positively coverage to resolve the Pakistan and India water dispute and favor of Pakistan’ government policy toward the issue.

4. How is the Pak-India water dispute issue treated by “The Hindu” Calcutta?

The Hindu gave the significance to water dispute as published 6 (100%) editorial, 36(100%) article, and 66 (100%) news stories on the water dispute issue. In its editorial



66.7% contents were positive, 33.3% editorials were negative and no editorial in neutral. The Hindu 69.4% article was positive, 27.8% were negative and 2.8% articles were neutral. The Hindu 69.7% news stories were positive, 22.7% news stories were in negative and 7.6% news stories were in neutral. So, we may conclude that on the issue The Hindu was published in more positively coverage to resolve the Pakistan and India water dispute and favor of Pakistan' government policy toward the issue. So it seems that on the issue of water dispute The Hindu covered the issue positive way as well as negative way.

5. What are the similarities and differences among “The Nation” and “The Hindu” coverage on the water dispute issue under discussion?

The Nation highly favored Pakistan stance on water dispute issue and want India and Pakistan should resolve this issue according to Indus Water treaty. Meanwhile The Nation considers that Pakistan government is not playing efficient role to present its stance against Indian violations about Water issue in International forum. On the other hand The Hindu stance is different than The Nation, The Hindu consider there is no violation and explanation of water resources against Pakistan, if Pakistan are facing water crises it is totally Pakistan's administrative and management fault to store and utilize available water resources in proper way.

It is found that H1, H2 were proved by researcher. The researcher applied the two theory (agenda setting theory and framing theory to check the slant of coverage regarding

H1 “The Indian newspaper supported his government more than the Pakistani press on water dispute” proved as the gathered data shows that The Indian newspapers portrayal support to his Government as compare to Pakistan. Like in Editorial, Article, and News stories.



According to The Hindu editorial title “Crafting an agenda for talks” “India is not violating the Indus Waters Treaty and if Pakistan thinks it is, going for international arbitration is always an option. But as the upper riparian, there is much that India could do on its territory to develop and recharge the Indus river basin, which straddles the two countries. As the lower riparian, it is in Pakistan’s interest to seek Indian cooperation in a joint venture of this kind. That would require winning India’s trust, which, in turn, would require ensuring that the tap of terror is not just turned off but dismantled” (The Hindu, February 15, 2010). Indian experts denied the allegations raised by the Pakistani Government and clearly supported her Indian government. Former Secretary, Water Resources, Ramaswamy R Iyer in his column titled “Pakistan: Water on the Boil Again” writes: “ So far as one knows, India has not built any storage, not even the 3.6 MAF permitted by the Treaty, nor does it intend to cause harm to Pakistan by diverting Indus waters. In any case, there is such a thing as the Permanent Indus Commission. How can India store or divert waters to the detriment of Pakistan under the watchful eyes of the Indus Commissioner for Pakistan. Every Indian project a violation of the Treaty is simply not true. The Treaty envisages and permits Indian projects on the western rivers, and so the projects in themselves cannot be violations of the Treaty. They can be violations of the Treaty if they deviate from certain restrictive provisions, but that will be questioned by the Indus Commissioner for Pakistan. The questions may be resolved within the Commission, or become differences and get referred to a Neutral Expert (as happened in the Baglihar case), or may be in the nature of disputes to be referred to a Court of Arbitration (as has now happened in the Kishenganga case). However, the Treaty exists and both India and Pakistan are signatories to it. Pakistan has accepted the permissive provisions and India has accepted the restrictive provisions” (The Hindu, July 26, 2011). According to The Hindu news title "Discourse on water sharing hots up" supportive



toward Indian government. Sharat Sabharwal Indian High Commissioner was clearly spoken Indian point of view in his speech at a function organized by Karachi Council on Foreign Relations (KCFR) and Pakistan-India Citizens Friendship Forum (PICFF). He clarifies allegations against India as “preposterous” as India never held up water flows into Pakistan even during the 1965 and 1971 wars. He argues that “apprehensions, misinformation, misconceptions, and allegations pertaining to India. Characterize the debate on water scarceness in Pakistan.” Sabharwal said that the Treaty permitted the limited use of water from the Western rivers of the Indus system by India and that this privilege had not been fully used to date. As against the storage entitlement of 3.6 MAF, India had built no storage so far. Of the 1.34 million acres permissible for irrigation, only 0.792 million acres was being irrigated. “We have exploited only a fraction of the hydroelectric potential available to us on these rivers.” Out of a total potential of 18,653 MW, projects worth 2,324 MW have been commissioned and those for 659 MW are under construction. Sabharwal said that New Delhi had no "storage and diversion canals network" to withhold Pakistan's share of water, and all allegation to the contrary were baseless” (The Hindu, April 4, 2010).

H2. “It is more likely that Pakistani press gives more coverage to water dispute issue rather than Indian press also proved that Pakistani newspaper “The Nation” gave 112(100%) editorial, 108(100%) article and 102(100%) news stories as compare “The Hindu” published 6(100%) editorial, 66(100%) article and 36(100%) news stories during 2010 to 2014 regarding Pakistan and India water dispute. So the more coverage of The Nation more proves the Hypothesis H2 formulated by the researchers.

Conclusion

This research has presented a content analysis of role of print media in water dispute between Pakistan and India in two leading English newspapers of Pakistan and India,



from the year 2010 to 2014. Overall, the study found that the media representation and portrayal of water dispute between Pakistan and India, in two major English newspapers of Pakistan and India, was very positive. The findings to some extent, supported this phenomena, reflection of water dispute issue in Pakistani and Indian media was in accordance with their government policies. Daily The Nation published more editorial, article, and news stories as compare to The Hindu. Two hypotheses were developed and tested. The data strongly supported the prediction of two hypotheses. The Indus Water Treaty was signed as a permanent solution for water sharing problem, but now a days under stress due to growing water scarcity in both Pakistan and India, it is serious ecological threat to Indus Basin Rivers system. The Treaty grants opportunity for future cooperation on water disputes but unluckily, not a single project has been undertaken under the provision of future cooperation. Due to Indian violation of IWT, climate change and Indian controversial large hydro project on western river resultant in politicization of water dispute between both countries. Due to Indian not sharing information and technical engineering details regarding controversial project has provoked Pakistan's anxiety. The most horrible circumstances for Pakistan are the Indian ability to stop water in lean period and release it in wet season. Moreover the Indian hydro projects have adverse Trans boundary collision both environmental and in terms of power generation as is clear evidence in the case of Kishenganga project. All these possessions created a vacuum of distrust between Pakistan and India and water dispute got much importance now these days it got top position in bilateral relation and meeting among both countries. The Kashmir issue is permanently linked to Indus Water Treaty as all the headwaters of all the rivers of Pakistan and meant for Pakistan flow through Kashmir and India happens to the upper riparian state. The alarm exist that India could control water to starve



Pakistan so water dispute now the core issue in Pakistan and India relations. So print media must be playing their positive role to resolve and highlight the water issue.

Suggestions

- Press is helpful for all over the world. Press should perform their responsibility by formulate policy to overcome the international misunderstanding rather than enhance and give meaning to their own. Press should adopt such policies that resolve the clashes among countries.
- There is urgent need of addressing the water issue at regional level. Press plays their role in positive way to the resolving of issue.
- Government and press are commonly linked with each other, that's why policy maker of both Indian and Pakistani side must be positively communicated with each other to make strong policy and strategies over resolving water dispute.
- It is very important to meet Indus Water commissioner regularly and build up understanding of trust with each other for the sake of resolving of water issue.
- Both India and Pakistan must tackle and managed water resources at domestic level with proper planning under the supervision of water governance.
- There is urgent need to recognize and address the concern issue politically, officially and technically through the expert of South Asia. It is obligation of Indus Water commissioners and other policy maker to reshape and revise their policy for the settlement of burning water issue.
- Water issue is now a core issue so Pakistan government must take it seriously otherwise upcoming generation facing the serious water problems and scarcity.
- To handling the water issue Pakistan state must adopt the proactive approach rather than reactive stance.



- Pakistan should highlight the water issue on various national and international forums. Just passing the political statement is not the proper way to resolve the water dispute.
- The Indus Water treaty not provides the mechanism of availability of water, climate change effect and proportional of increase and decrease quantities of water. Pakistan and India should look proper strategic forum for deliberation discussion and resolution.
- At current scenario renegotiate about Indus Water treaty look like to be impossible and both countries have to relook their water policy in the given limitations of treaty. Consequently, efficient role of Indus Water is the need of hour.
- Water issue is directly related to Kashmir issue, so both countries must be settling and resolve the issue with bilateral negotiation.



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