

India: The Not-Watched Pot

February 29, 2012

FYI - 2 articles below.

The Watched Pot never boils but the Not watched Pot will make a mess of the whole stove.

While all eyes are on Iran and Syria, the tensions in se Asia continue to heat up.

The price of petrol in India is now twice what it is in war-torn Afghanistan. Indians pay three times what Pakistanis pay for a litre of petrol. Why is this and how has it come about?? Indian people must be pretty angry!

We have enough on our plate here in Anishnaabe/Ongwehonweh territory near Sharbot Lake. We cannot follow all the details as they unfold in India. However, living today in the Global Village, we are aware of and affected by/affect people all over the world. Many Indians and Pakistanis and other south Asians live in Canadian cities. Though Canadian cities are not literally ghettoized as in many places, yet there is an isolationist and ghettoized mentality between ethnic groups. Nobody really knows what the other person is doing, much less thinking or feeling. This perpetuates suspicion and hostility.

India comes into our view repeatedly as a nuclear weapons state who has Canadian made nuclear reactors and wants many more to build up the Indian industries. The majority of people in India do not appear to be benefiting from all the development.

Water is needed for all this development, especially nuclear. Most of all, water is needed for irrigation, drinking and domestic uses. Water is a growing issue amongst India, Pakistan and China. Thirsty people have notoriously short fuses.

We have observed that the Anglo-American Imperialists appear to be provoking war between India and Pakistan, who also have nuclear weapons. These are populous countries in a very dynamic and volatile condition. It would please the Malthusian oligarchy very much if a large number of people were eliminated in a nuclear attack. The Business of War is the only way the globalist corporatists know how to survive.

We were told this strike involved 100 million people.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/india-hit-by-strike-over-inflation-16123697.html>

India hit by strike over inflation

Tuesday, 28 February 2012

Trade unions in India have called a major strike in protest against the government, which saw shops and banks closed, factories shuttered and traffic sparse across major cities. Passengers were stranded at airports and railway stations in Kolkata, the capital of India's West Bengal state, as taxis and rickshaws were off the roads.

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They are demanding an amendment of minimum wage laws to keep pace with inflation, pensions for all workers and the registration of trade unions in different industries. India's inflation rate has been above 9% for most of the last two years, although it fell to 7.5% in December.

<http://www.cityjournal.in/Newspaper/20120229/Home/editorial.html>

Chinese water tricks

Growing tensions between nations had led to wars in the past and most of them have had underlying reasons other than those popularly believed. No nation could have taken the risks of war purely for ideological differences in political thought, but for the greed or other wise the fear over natural resources such as oil, gas, metals.

The protest of China over the recent visit of our Defence minister to Arunachal, is not anything new. Typically neighborly relations with Pakistan, China, and Bangladesh have had flip flops linked to disputed boundaries. Such disputes are buttressed on the right to access natural resources, such as water. In our country, both our political and legal mechanisms are head over heels with the simmering disputes between the various states on water sharing and in the process we appear to be in a complacent mood in engaging our neighbors on disputes, where right to access to water is a prominent issue.

Since the 1990s India has been wary of China's plans to divert the Brahmaputra to its drought-prone north-western region. Several Chinese hydropower lobbyists had been calling for greater use of the river. The Brahmaputra courses 1,700 km through the Himalayan roof of the world before entering India at Arunachal Pradesh. Tensions had heightened with the publication of Tibet's Waters Will Save China in 2005, which detailed routes of the water diversion project through undulating highlands. The book was written by well-known Chinese hydrologist Guo Kai in consultation with the country's water resources

ministry. Critics, both inside and outside the government, had cautioned that the project would cause irreparable damage to a unique and fragile ecosystem. China's former water resources minister had termed it as building castles in the sky.

While Beijing has shelved the diversion project, it has begun damming the upper reaches of the river, with a series of six hydropower projects. Together, they have a potential of generating 60,000 MW, around one-third of India's total installed capacity. While there is some concern, India is not openly objecting to China's plans to dam the upper Brahmaputra. In fact the PM subsequently relayed the message that he had been assured at the highest level that the Chinese are doing nothing detrimental to interest of the country.

Whatever be the position of trust, we are willing to take, it is nothing less than audacity on the part of China seeking to put restraints on the movement of our ministers in our homeland. It is time that we start to worry more on water as much as on oil and consolidate our territories soon."

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