

Telangana Today- 22- October-2021

'KRMB procedure erroneous'

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

An expert committee constituted by the State government to study the proposals of Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) unanimously felt that the entire methodology considered in developing the rule curves was erroneous as it does not comply with the provisions of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I (KWDT-I) (Bachawat) Award.

The committee, which met on Wednesday, examined the rule curves and operation protocols pertaining to Srisaillam reservoir furnished by the KRMB. The committee was set up to study the proposals of KRMB vis-a-vis the implementation of the Central government notification taking control of the projects on Krishna and Godavari basins. In a letter to the Board Chairman MP Singh, Special Chief Secretary (Irrigation) Rajat Kumar drew

his attention to certain parts of KWDT-I Award which clearly state: "The Srisaillam project being a hydro-electric project for generating power without diverting water to another watershed does not involve consumptive use of water except for evaporation loss."

He said that neither KRMB nor the Central government has the power to reinterpret the provisions of the KWDT-I. In a letter to the Board Chairman MP Singh, he stated that the allocation of Krishna river water was under the consideration of KWDT-II. Till the KWDT-II decides the allocations, the KWDT-I Award has to be followed in letter and spirit for sharing Krishna river waters, he asserted. Therefore, the rule curves in respect of Srisaillam reservoir has to restrict consumptive use by AP to 34 TMC, which is the maximum drawal that can be permitted as per inter-State agreement and Plan-

ning Commission approval.

Taking seven-year data from 2014-15 onwards for working out the average utilisations is not only in violation of the Award but will also serve to strengthen the illegitimate claims of Andhra to transfer Krishna waters to outside the basin through Pothireddypadu Head Regulator and Handri-Neeva Sujala Sravanth, Rajat Kumar pointed out.

Further, it was necessary to have an integrated rule curve for both NSP and Srisaillam hydro-electric project, as NSP does not have any catchment area of its own and it is a critical source of agriculture, industrial and drinking water requirements for both the States.

"The major source of water for NSP is the release from Srisaillam reservoir. I, therefore, request you to make necessary corrections in the rule curves/operating procedures duly incorporating the provisions of KWDT-I Award," he said.

Telangana Today- 22- October-2021

Uttarakhand pegs damage at Rs 7,000 crore

Home Minister Amit Shah conducts aerial survey of rain-hit areas

PTI
DEHRADUN

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday conducted an aerial survey of Uttarakhand's rain-ravaged areas to assess the damage that the State government has pegged at Rs 7,000 crore.

Talking to reporters at the Jollygrant airport here after returning from the survey of the affected areas in the Kumaon region, Shah said that the alertness of the Central and State government agencies helped contain the damage. Relief and rescue operations continued in the worst-hit Kumaon region amid efforts to restore connectivity and evacuate people from vulnerable areas.

Earlier, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that three days of incessant rains in the State have caused damages worth Rs 7,000 crore.

Restoring the network of damaged roads and bridges at the earliest and evacuating people to safety is the priority at the moment, he said.

"A heavy rain alert was issued well in advance that helped take the required precautionary steps like halting the Chardham Yatra. The damage could have been more if it was not done. Timely mobilisation of search and rescue teams and arrival of IAF helicopters to assist in rescue operations helped minimise the potential damage," Shah said.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah speaks to media regarding the rain-affected areas of Uttarakhand, in Dehradun, on Thursday. — Photo: ANI

Heavy rains in Kerala; Orange alert for 8 districts

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: After a brief lull, heavy rainfall, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning, lashed several parts of Kerala as the weathermen issued an Orange alert for eight districts of the State indicating very heavy showers. The IMD put the districts-

Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Idukki, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad and Kannur- on Orange alert. A 'Yellow alert', predicting isolated heavy rainfall, was issued for Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kasaragod districts for the

day. A Red alert indicates heavy to extremely heavy rains of over 20 cm in 24 hours, while Orange alert denotes very heavy rains from 6 cm to 20 cm of rains. A yellow alert means heavy rainfall between 6 to 11 cm. "Southwest monsoon has been active over Kerala," IMD said. PTI

Char Dham Yatra resumes

The Char Dham Yatra, which was temporarily suspended due to incessant rains in Uttarakhand, resumed in Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri after

the rains stopped on Thursday. However, roadways in Badrinath are still blocked and will be reopened after the weather clears. Devotees are leaving for the pilgrimage from Haridwar and Rishikesh in public and pri-

vate vehicles. According to the Uttarakhand Char Dham Devasthanam Management Board, the helicopter service in Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri will resume in Joshimath and Pipalkoti soon.

The Hindu- 22- October-2021

KRMB's operation protocols for Srisaillam in violation of KWDT-I: TS

Writes to river board seeking corrections in rule curves, integrated protocols

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has raised objections to the rule curves and operation protocols related to Srisaillam reservoir furnished by the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) as part of implementing the purview and observed that they are in violation of the Bachawat Tribunal Award (KWDT-I).

In a letter addressed to Chairman of the river board M.P. Singh on Thursday, Special Chief Secretary (Irrigation) of Telangana Dr. Rajat Kumar suggested the KRMB to review the protocols and make necessary corrections in tune with the Bachawat Award since neither the

Centre (Ministry of Jal Shakti) nor the river board (KRMB) have powers to reinterpret the award and its provisions.

Stating that the Telangana government has constituted an expert committee to study the proposals of KRMB on the implementation of MoJS notification dated July 15, 2021, Mr. Rajat Kumar said the committee had met on Wednesday (October 20) and examined the rule curves and operation protocols related to Srisaillam reservoir.

"The committee members unanimously felt that the entire methodology considered in developing the rule curves is erroneous as it does not comply with the provisions of KWDT-I," the Special Chief

Secretary said. Drawing the KRMB Chairman's attention to Page No.104 of KWDT-I award, according to which "the Srisaillam Project being a hydro-electric project for generating power without diverting water to another watershed does not involve consumptive use of water except for evaporation loss," he noted.

Neither KRMB nor the Centre (MoJS) has the power to alter the provisions of the Bachawat Award, Mr. Rajat Kumar said adding that the allocation of Krishna river water is under the consideration of Brijesh Kumar Tribunal (KWDT-II).

"Till the KWDT-II decides the allocations, KWDT-I award has to be followed in

letter and spirit for sharing Krishna waters among the riparian States," he asserted.

The rule curves in respect of Srisaillam reservoir have to restrict the consumptive use of water by Andhra Pradesh to 34 tmcft, the maximum drawals that can be permitted as per the Inter-State Agreement and the Planning Commission approval, Mr. Rajat Kumar wrote to KRMB. Further, he pointed out that taking seven years data from 2014-15 onwards for working out the average utilisations was not only a violation of the KWDT-I award, but would also strengthen the illegitimate claims of AP for transferring Krishna waters to outside the basin areas through Pothireddy padu

Head Regulator and Handri-Neeva Sujala Sravanthi (HNSS).

The Special Chief Secretary of Telangana stressed the need for an integrated rule curve both for Srisaillam and Nagarjunasagar projects as the latter does not have any catchment area of its own and it is a critical source for agricultural, industrial and drinking water needs of both the States and major source of water for the Nagarjunasagar project is the release of water from the Srisaillam project.

It is also necessary to make provision for carry-over storage in the rule curves for both the reservoirs since it is the mandate of the KWDT-I award.

Deccan Chronicle- 22- October-2021

Rain-hit U'khand pegs damage at ₹7,000 crore

Dehradun, Oct. 21: Union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday conducted an aerial survey of rain-ravaged areas of Uttarakhand to assess the damage which the state government has pegged at ₹7,000 crore.

Talking to reporters at the Jollygrant airport here after returning from the survey of affected areas in Kumaon region, Shah said that alertness of the Central and state government agencies had helped contain the damage.

Relief and rescue operations continued in the worst-hit Kumaon region amid efforts to restore connectivity and evacuate people from vulnerable areas.

Earlier, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said three days of incessant rains in the state have caused damages worth ₹7,000 crore. Restoring the network of damaged roads and bridges at the earliest and evacuating people to safety is the priority at the moment, he said.

"A heavy rain alert was issued well in advance which helped take required precautionary steps like halting the Chardham Yatra. The damage could have been more if it was not done. Timely mobilisation of search and rescue teams, and arrival of IAF helicopters to assist in rescue operations helped minimise the potential damage," Shah said.

"64 unfortunate rain-related deaths have been reported in the state, while more than 11 people are still missing," he said.

According to state authorities, the death toll

● **SHAH DIDN'T** announce any immediate relief package saying a detailed estimate of the losses needs to be prepared first.

due to rain-related incidents in the state increased to 54, with 19 people injured and five still missing. Nainital district has reported the maximum number of 28 deaths.

The Union minister did not announce any immediate relief package for Uttarakhand due to the devastation caused by incessant rains, saying a detailed estimate of the losses needs to be prepared first.

Shah said that an amount of ₹250 crore was sent to the state nearly a month ago considering its vulnerability to natural disasters and it can take care of the relief and rescue measures currently underway.

The Centre is with the state government and it will give all support to Uttarakhand in its rehabilitation efforts, Shah said.

He said all blocked roads in the affected areas have been cleared, except three which suffered nearly 25 metre-wide breaches, and added that 3,500 people have been rescued so far.

Big breaches may take more time to repair, the Union minister said.

80 per cent telephone connectivity has been restored and availability of 60 per cent electricity ensured so far in the affected areas, he said, adding the remaining shortage will also be removed soon. — PTI



Union home minister Amit Shah conducts an aerial survey of flood and landslide affected areas of Uttarakhand following heavy rains on Thursday. — PTI

Millennium Post- 22- October-2021

'India received 41% excess rainfall from October 1-21'

IMD says Uttarakhand recorded five times higher rain

MUMBAI: India received 41 per cent more rainfall than normal from October 1-21 with Uttarakhand alone recording more than five times its normal precipitation, IMD data showed on Thursday.

Providing a numerical perspective to the unusually heavy rains ravaging several parts of the country, particularly the hill state of Uttarakhand in the north and coastal Kerala in the south, the India Meteorological Department said the country received 84.8 mm against the normal 60.2 mm this month.

Of the 694 districts in the country, 45 per cent (311 districts in 16 states and union territories) recorded rainfall in large excess and 14 per cent (96 districts in six states and UTs).

Uttarakhand, where rains have claimed the lives of more than 54 people, recorded 192.6 mm against the usual 35.3 mm from October 1-20. The monsoon has wrought huge damage in the state, triggering floods and landslides that have blocked highways and smaller, key roads. Figures for the state were available till Wednesday, October 20.

Kerala received 445.1 mm of rainfall until October 20 as against the usual 303.4 mm. More than 40 people have been killed in Kerala, where videos of a house being swallowed by a swollen stream and landslides give a sense of how brutal the lashing was.

Heavy rains have also hit Sikkim, sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, displacing people and damaging property.

Experts attribute the extreme weather events to various causes, including warming of the seas, unabated development and delayed withdrawal of the monsoon.

Balaji Narsimhan, professor



Indian Army jawans rescue villagers stranded in flood-water in Tanakpur, Uttarakhand

PTI

at the Civil Engineering department, IIT-Madras, said it was undoubtedly an unusual October and pointed to infrastructural challenges and unabated development.

Many of these extreme weather events have taken place earlier. But now places are more densely populated which amplifies the impact, Narsimhan, who also studied the 2015 Chennai floods, said.

In December 2015, Chennai received its highest rain in 100 years in which more than 250 people were killed.

Discussing the situation in Kerala, Narsimhan said the state gets bountiful rainfall both during the Southwest monsoon and

the Northeast monsoon but this year has been different.

Explaining the heavy rainfall, IMD Director General Mru-tunjay Mohapatra said October saw the formation of two low pressure areas (cyclonic circulations that bring in rainfall and strong winds).

In Uttarakhand, he explained, the interaction between western disturbance and the low pressure area resulted in heavy rains this week.

The western disturbance over north India is a phenomenon typically observed in non-monsoon seasons.

The interaction of cold winds of western disturbance

and the warm winds of the low pressure area bring in thunderstorms and heavy rainfall, Mohapatra said, adding that such interaction had taken place during the deadly deluge in Uttarakhand in 2013 in which hundreds of people were killed.

M Rajeevan, former Ministry of Earth Sciences secretary who has been studying the Southwest monsoon for more than three decades, said there is a delayed withdrawal of the monsoon.

Since the retreat has been late over the last few years, the IMD in 2020 had revised the withdrawal date from north-west India.

This year, the withdrawal of the Southwest monsoon from northwest India commenced on October 6, the second-most delayed withdrawal since 1975. In 2019, it had started on October 9.

The IMD said its complete withdrawal from the country is expected around October 26.

More importantly, the active conditions of Southwest monsoon which began in September have still not ended. Usually, such an active phase does not last for a month, but this time it has, Rajeevan said.

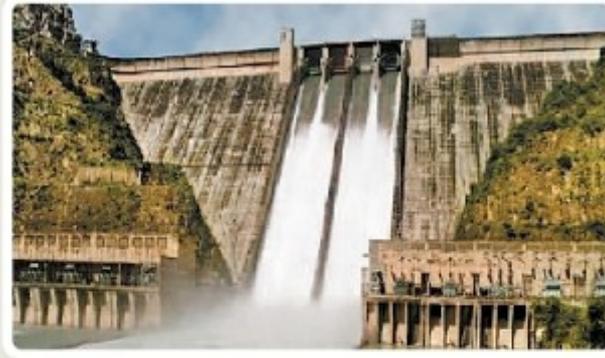
Warming of seas around India is another factor, Rajeevan pointed out.

He said the warming of the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea helps in forming a cyclonic circulation. This year, it is aided by La Nina conditions the phenomenon is associated with the cooling of the Pacific waters and usually results in good rainfall activity and some remnants of cyclonic circulation from the Pacific Ocean.

Once these remnants enter the Bay of Bengal, the warm water aids in formation of cyclonic circulations. AGENCIES

Rajasthan Patrika- 22- October-2021

मिला बड़ा उपहार



भा खड़ा नांगल परियोजना सतलुज नदी पर स्थित भारत की सबसे बड़ी बहुउद्देशीय नदी घाटी परियोजना है। इसको बनाने का उद्देश्य सतलुज-ब्यास नदी में बाढ़ को रोकना था। साथ ही पंजाब, हरियाणा और राजस्थान जैसे राज्यों को सिंचाई के लिए पानी उपलब्ध कराना था। हाइड्रो-इलेक्ट्रिसिटी भी एक लक्ष्य था। इसका निर्माण 1948 में शुरू हुआ था और 22 अक्टूबर 1963 को इसे राष्ट्र को समर्पित किया गया। यह देश के लिए बड़ा उपहार साबित हुई।

The Pioneer- 22- October-2021

नदियों पर अतिक्रमण से केरल में भूस्खलन

कुमार चेलप्पन। कोच्चि

केरल में इस बार बाढ़ और भूस्खलन ने तबाही मचाई है। राज्य में भूस्खलन की अभूतपूर्व घटनाओं पर पर्यावरणविदों ने गहरी चिंता व्यक्त कही है और इसके लिए व्यक्तियों और संस्थानों द्वारा नदियों पर किए गए अतिक्रमण को जिम्मेदार बताया है। बारिश और हवाओं के कारण हुए भूस्खलन ने इडुक्की, कोट्टायम और पथानामथिट्टा जिलों में 30 से अधिक लोगों की जान ले ली। ये भी राज्य के माला नाडु (पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों) के रूप में जाने जाते हैं।

मणिमलयार, पंबयार, अचनकोइलार, कल्लादयार और मीनाचिलार जैसी नदियां अपने खूबसूरत नजरों के लिए प्रसिद्ध हैं जिन्होंने अनेक कवियों को सुंदरता का गुणगान करने वाले गीत रचने के लिए प्रेरित किया है, लेकिन इन नदियों को लालची अतिक्रमणकारियों की बुरी नजर का

● संकरी धारा में तब्दील हुई नदियां, नहीं संभाल पाई बाढ़ का पानी

खामियाजा भुगतना पड़ा है। ये नदियां 2000 के दशक की शुरुआत तक सांप नौका दौड़ का प्रमुख स्थान थीं और इसने भारत और विदेशों के हजारों यात्रियों तथा पर्यटकों को आकर्षित किया। आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए इन नदियों को बनाए रखने और बचाने के लिए वार्षिक सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम पंजा पैश्रुका मेले के आयोजक और पर्यावरणविद् शिवकुमार अमृतकला ने कहा कि इन नदियों को पोषित करने वाली सहायक नदियां अब अतीत बन गई हैं यानी वे विलुप्त सी हो गई हैं। इन नदियों के किनारे की भूमि पर सैकड़ों लोगों ने कब्जा कर लिया है। नदी के किनारे अपना मकान बनाने के जुनून ने इस अतिक्रमण को बढ़ावा दिया



है। प्रसिद्ध सोपना संगीतम संगीतकार और राज्य के सबसे पुराने सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक संगठन तपस्या साहित्यवेदी के कार्यकर्ता शिवकुमार ने आरोप लगाया कि स्थानीय स्व सरकारों, जिन्हें इन नदियों के संरक्षण का जिम्मा सौंपा

गया, ने ही खुद बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास के बहाने नदी के किनारों को हड़प लिया है। इंजीनियर से कार्यकर्ता बने सीआर नीलकांतन कुछ चोंकाने वाले खुलासे करते हैं। वह कहते हैं कि केरल की अधिकांश नदियां, जिनमें साल भर में एक बार

बाढ़ आती है, अतिक्रमण और बांधों के निर्माण के कारण मात्र धाराएं बन गई हैं। नीलकंठन ने पर्यावरण के लिए सक्रियता से काम करने से पहले एक वैज्ञानिक के रूप में परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग के साथ काम किया है। वह कहते हैं कि बांध के नीचे एक नदी मर जाती है।

पर्यावरण के लिए अपना जीवन समर्पित करने वाले एक अन्य प्रकृतिवादी जॉन पेरुवतनम ने कहा कि केरल में नदी के किनारे बने सभी भवन और सड़कें नदी के अंदर हैं। राज्य में पश्चिमी घाट से निकलने वाली सभी नदियां साथ-साथ बहती हैं। जब जलस्तर में गिरावट आती है तो लोग पानी से खाली हुई जगह पर कब्जा कर लेते हैं और उस पर अपने घर और बंगले बना लेते हैं। नदी के किनारे घर बनाने की मनुष्य की जिद की कोई सीमा नहीं है। हालांकि राज्य में यह कहावत भी मशहूर है कि किसी को जंगलों या नदियों के पास नहीं रहना चाहिए।