

The Times of India- 06- July-2023

TN min in Delhi, opposes Karnataka's Mekedatu plan

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

TOI

Chennai: Against the backdrop of Karnataka government's renewed demand for the construction of the Mekedatu dam across river Cauvery, Tamil Nadu water resources minister Duraimurugan on Wednesday met Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and expressed the state government's strong opposition to the dam plan. He sought Shekhawat's intervention to ensure that the Karnataka government releases Tamil Nadu's share of Cauvery water.

In a memorandum presented to the Union minister, Duraimurugan alleged that the Karnataka government had failed to release the state's share of 9.22tmcft for the month of June. "The state should have realized 12.213tmcft but received only 2.993tmcft. The standing crop in the delta region is bound to dry up. It is the duty of the Cauvery water management authority to ensure that Tamil Nadu receives its due share," a government release, quoting the minister said. Duraimurugan urged the Union minister to take up the issue with the



DAM ISSUE: Tamil Nadu water resources minister Duraimurugan on Wednesday met Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (left)

authority. Subsequently, Shekhawat directed a senior officer of the ministry to initiate action. The state minister also flagged the issue of constitution of Pennaiyar tribunal as the several deadlines set by the Supreme Court had lapsed, the release added.

In Chennai, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami accused the Congress in Karnataka of enacting a drama in the Mekedatu dam issue for political gains. He alleged that Karnataka deputy chief minister D K Shivakumar was deliberately issuing statements to disturb the peace and tranquility in his state.

Palaniswami said the Supreme Court had given a clear verdict in the Cauvery dis-

pute. The Union government constituted the Cauvery Water Management Authority and the Water Regulation Committee after the AIADMK MPs' "continuous protests in Parliament" to demand the full implementation of the court order. "The Congress and the DMK are allies now. Why shouldn't chief minister M K Stalin insist and get water? The indifference of the chief minister amounts to injustice to Tamil Nadu and its betrayal," the AIADMK leader said. He hit out at the chief minister for not ensuring adequate water to the tail end areas despite opening the sluices of the Mettur reservoir on June 12, the customary date of water release for kuruvai cultivation in the delta region.

Telangana Today - 06- July-2023

Ryots confident of growing two crops with KLIS water

SIDDIPET: Finance Minister T Harish Rao said the people of Siddipet district were confident that the KLIS would save them even though the district did not receive sufficient rainfall during the first month of the South-west monsoon.

Addressing the gathering after laying the foundation for a modern queue complex at the Komuravelly Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple, the Minister said irrigation tanks were brimming with water since the area was getting water from the Devadula Lift Irrigation project, which would eventually get water from KLIS. Since there was enough groundwater, farmers were taking up transplantation of paddy with the hope of getting water from KLIS. He said the people were also getting Rythu Bandhu as well as round the clock power

supply. Stating that the farmers of Siddipet were confident of getting two crops even if there was not enough rainfall this year, Rao said Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao with the blessings of Mallikarjuna Swamy had made it possible by getting Godavari water.

The Minister asked the temple administration to make it a plastic-free temple by using other environment-friendly materials. Saying that the temple was undergoing a transformation post-Telangana formation, Rao said the revenue of the temple increased to Rs 18 crore per annum from Rs 4 crore. He further said that the modern queue complex, which would be built with Rs 12 crore, would ease out the movement of the devotees while having darshan of the presiding deity. The State government was also building 100 choultries.

The Hindu- 06- July-2023

SC Bench recuses from hearing Pennaiyar river water dispute

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

A Bench of Justices A.S. Bopanna and M.M. Sundresh on Wednesday recused themselves from hearing the dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka over constructions on the Pennaiyar river.

Justice Bopanna hails from Karnataka and Justice Sundresh from Tamil Nadu. The Bench referred to the original suit filed by Tamil Nadu against Karnataka to the Chief Justice of India for constitution of an appropriate Bench. Justice Bopanna said he belongs to Madikeri from where the Cauvery originates.

The Jal Shakti Ministry referred to its short affidavit which said that a proposal to form the Pennaiyar Water Dispute Tribunal un-

Bench refers the original suit filed by Tamil Nadu against Karnataka to the CJI for constitution of an appropriate Bench

der the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat for the consideration and approval of the Union Cabinet. "The Union Cabinet is yet to take a final decision in the matter," the Ministry informed.

In December last year, the apex court had put the Centre on a three-month deadline, extended by a month in May, to constitute a Tribunal to resolve the dispute.

In 2018, Tamil Nadu had moved the court against Karnataka's work on check

dams and structures of diversions on the river. The State had told the Supreme Court that Karnataka had no right to utilise the waters of Pennaiyar river to the detriment of the people of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu had argued that an 1892 agreement over the river water was "valid and binding" on the party States.

"The major tributary, Markandeyanadhi, has its catchment area in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, and hence any new construction obstructing the flow of the Markandeya river is governed and controlled by 1892 Agreement," Tamil Nadu has argued. It said Karnataka's stand that it was free to construct any diversion structure across the Markandeya river was untenable.

The Indian Express- 06- July-2023

Situation far from satisfactory: NGT on Delhi govt report on Yamuna restoration

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, JULY 5

"THE SITUATION continues to be far from satisfactory as far as water quality is concerned," the National Green Tribunal (NGT) observed in an order issued Wednesday on the rejuvenation of the Yamuna river in Delhi.

The tribunal referred to a status report on the rejuvenation of the river submitted by the Delhi government Wednesday to note that the dissolved oxygen level "is nil at most locations". It also noted, "Fecal coliform is very high. Parameters of pH, COD (chemical oxygen demand) and BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) are also exceeding except at Palla and Wazirabad upstream."

Noting the overall situation is "extremely disappointing till large-scale pollution remains unchecked", the tribunal said "discharge of pollution in river and failure to implement repeated directions for coercive (action) against violators, including officers responsible for failure to prevent pollution, is practically lack of governance with no remedy to the suffering citizens".

The government's report was submitted nearly six months after the tribunal had constituted a High-Level Committee (HLC) chaired by the L-G to look into the river's rejuvenation. Asking for another progress report to be filed by September 30, the tribunal has directed that Delhi Pollution Control Committee may place the report submitted on Wednesday before the HLC, which may take further action against violators and errant officers.

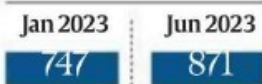
How clean is the river? Data shows

Water quality status as per samples taken on June 1 by Delhi Pollution Control Committee

SEWERAGE NETWORK

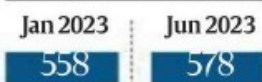
Of 1,799

unauthorised colonies in the capital, these got sewer lines:

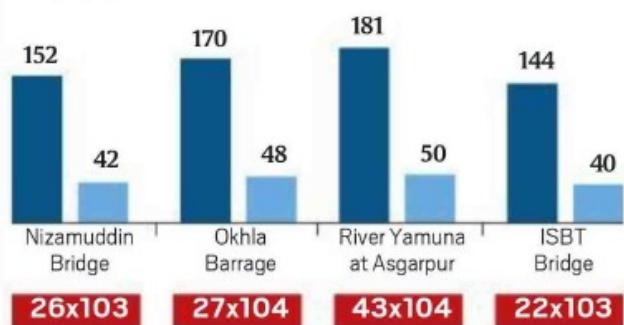


Of 639

JJ clusters in the capital, these got sewer lines:



■ COD (mg/l) ■ BOD (mg/l)
■ Fecal coliform (most probable number/100 ml)
DO (mg/l): nil at most locations



Standards: BOD – 3mg/l or less DO – 5 mg/l or more
Fecal coliform – 500 (desirable), 2500 (maximum permissible)

SEWAGE TREATMENT

Data as per status report of Delhi govt submitted to NGT on July 5 & action plan (on Yamuna rejuvenation) of environment dept prepared in January

■ Water supply (in MGD)
■ Sewage generation
■ Gap in treatment of sewage



WHAT REPORT SAYS

- Capacity utilisation of existing STPs up from 530 MGD (Jan 2023) to 547 MGD (May 2023)
- Of 13 CETPs, 11 complying with standards, 1 non-operational

The government's report pointed to a reduction in pollution levels in terms of BOD at two points in the river compared to 2022, and the extension of sewerage network to a few more unauthorised colonies and JJ clusters, while a total of 245 MGD (million gallons per day) of sewage is still left untreated in the city.

An action plan prepared by the Environment Department and

approved by the committee in January had identified 8 points on which work was to be done.

Pointing to the "goal of substantial reduction" in pollution levels in Yamuna by July 1, the NGT's order issued in January said: "Success of the committee will be viewed by outcome in terms of reduction of pollution load and thus targets of the committee should be measurable and identifiable."

In the six months since the NGT's order, the quantity of untreated sewage in the city has not reduced. The city's STPs also still don't operate at their full capacity — of a total capacity of 632 MGD, 547 MGD is being utilised. The tribunal's order on Wednesday noted that 22 STPs are non-compliant with norms, and untreated or partially treated sewage continues to flow into the river.

Millennium Post- 06- July-2023

Pennaiyar River dispute: Two SC judges recuse from hearing case

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Supreme Court judges Justices AS Bopanna and MM Sundresh on Wednesday recused themselves from hearing a case related to the dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over sharing of water of the Pennaiyar river on the ground that they hailed from these two states respectively.

As soon as the matter came up for hearing, the judges said they wanted to be recused from the case as they belong to the contesting states.

"If we start hearing this case, we may start fighting over the dispute," the judges said in a lighter vein and directed that the matter be placed before the Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud for listing before a bench of which they are not a part. Justice Bopanna hails from Karnataka and Justice Sundresh from Tamil Nadu.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti,

Highlights

- » Judges from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka wanted to be recused from the case as they belong to the contesting states
- » Ministry of Jal Shakti in the suit said a proposal for formation of the Pennaiyar Water Dispute Tribunal under the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been submitted

in a brief affidavit filed in the suit moved by Tamil Nadu in 2018, said a proposal for formation of the Pennaiyar Water Dispute Tribunal under the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been submitted to the cabinet secretariat for consideration and approval of the union cabinet.

"It is submitted that the union cabinet is yet to take a final decision in the matter,"

the affidavit said. On May 2, the top court had granted the Centre one month for constituting the Pennaiyar Water Dispute Tribunal and issuing the related gazette notification.

In December last year, the top court had given the Centre three months time to constitute a tribunal to resolve the dispute. The Tamil Nadu government had moved the top court through its original suit filed against Karnataka over work being done on check dams and diversions on the river. It has said water in an inter-state river is considered a national asset and no state can claim exclusive right over it. The Tamil Nadu government has said the 1892 agreement on the river water is binding on the party states and Karnataka, without furnishing any details about the nature of the construction work it is carrying out, and without obtaining the consent of the riparian state, cannot be allowed to proceed with erecting check dams.

Business Line- 06- July-2023

Water levels in 50% of reservoirs dip below 10-year average

Parvathi Benu
Chennai

Water levels have been low in the reservoirs in our country, compared to how things were last year. As of June 30, 2023, the live water storage available in India's 146 reservoirs is 47.95 billion cubic metre (BCM). It was 49.02 BCM, in the corresponding period in 2022. "The live storage available in these reservoirs is 47.95 BCM, which is 27 per cent of the total live storage capacity of these reservoirs," reads the CWC bulletin.

DATA FOCUS.

Also, 81 reservoirs have water storage less than 2022 levels and in 73 of them, water levels are lower than the 10-year-average numbers, shows the Central Water Commission data. While things appear fine in the reservoirs located in the Northern, Eastern and Central regions of the country, it looks quite bad in the South and the West.

SOUTH SUFFERS

Commenting on the situation in the Southern region, the CWC bulletin notes, "The total live storage available in these reservoirs (in the southern region) is 10.375 BCM which is 20 per cent of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during the corresponding period of last year was 35 per cent and the average storage of the last ten years during the corresponding period was 23 per cent of the live storage capacity of these reservoirs."

This could be owing to the low rainfall in June. The latest data from the CWC and the Indian Meteorological Department suggest that in the entire month of June, more than 50 per cent of IMD's subdivisions received 80 per cent lesser than normal rainfall in June.

That is 19 out of IMD's 36 subdivisions. These regions in-

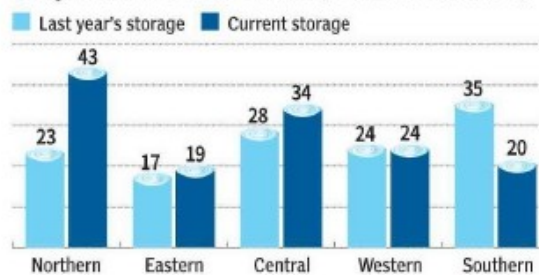
Water crisis is real

Water level is low in our reservoirs (In billion cubic metre)



Things are particularly bad in the southern region

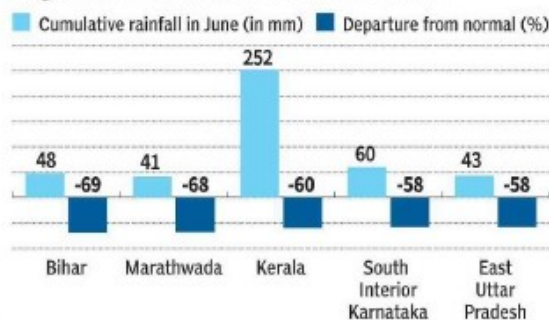
Storage level in all reservoirs combined (as % of full reservoir level)



Water crisis could be due to low rainfall

19/36 IMD subdivisions received 80 per cent lesser than normal rainfall in June

Regions that received the lowest rainfall



Source: Central Water Commission

clude Bihar, Marathwada, Kerala, South Interior Karnataka and East Uttar Pradesh. In these regions, 'per cent departure from normal' of rainfall received was between -69 and -58. In rainfall predictions, "per cent departure from normal" refers to the deviation or difference between the expected rainfall amount and the long-term average or normal rainfall for a specific time period and location.

"The departure from normal is expressed as a per cent, indicating whether the expected or observed rainfall is above nor-

mal (positive departure) or below normal (negative departure). A positive departure means that the rainfall is expected to be higher than the long-term average, while a negative departure indicates that it is expected to be lower. The larger the departure percentage, the greater the deviation from the normal rainfall," said Anjal Prakash, Associate Prof (research) at the Indian School of Business.

He also adds that the reasons for this could include climate change, climate oscillations like El Nino and weather patterns.

Haribhoomi- 06- July-2023

परियोजना के बांधों में आया एक टीएमसी पानी

हरिभूमि न्यूज ► धमतरी

पहली ही बारिश में परियोजना के चारों बांध में एक टीएमसी पानी की आवक हो गई है। हालांकि बारिश रुकने के दो दिन बाद पानी की आवक

■ मानसून हुआ सक्रिय, बारिश की बढ़ी संभावना

थम गई। मंगलवार को कैचमेंट एरिया में बारिश होने से गंगरेल तथा दुधावा बांध में फिर से आवक शुरू हो गई है।

मानसून ने इस साल आने में 10 दिन की देर की। 24 जून को मानसून छाने के बाद 25 जून से हल्की बारिश शुरू हो गई। इसके बाद 3 दिन लगातार बारिश से खेत खलिहान, गांव-शहर तर-बतर हो गए। 3 दिन में ही 200 मिमी से अधिक बारिश होने से परियोजना के चारों बांध में पानी आना शुरू हो गया। सिंचाई विभाग से मिली जानकारी के अनुसार गंगरेल बांध में 0.492 टीएमसी,



माड़मसिल्ली बांध में 0.066 टीएमसी, दुधावा बांध में 0.254 टीएमसी, सोंदूर बांध में 0.164 टीएमसी पानी की आवक हुई है। इस तरह बांधों में करीब 1 टीएमसी पानी की आवक हो गई है।

बारिश में मखारा आगे, बेलरगांव पिछड़ा

4 जुलाई की सुबह 8 बजे से 5 जुलाई की सुबह 8 बजे तक जिले में मात्र 1.8 मिमी वर्षा दर्ज की गई है। नगरी में 6.5 मिमी, मंगरलोड में 3.3 मिमी, कुर्रुद में 2.3 मिमी तथा बेलरगांव में 0.6 मिमी वर्षा हुई है। धमतरी, मखारा, कुकरेल में बारिश का नामोनिशान नहीं है। मखारा में बुधवार तक 206 मिमी, धमतरी में 249 मिमी, कुर्रुद में 245 मिमी, मंगरलोड में 223 मिमी, नगरी में 205 मिमी, कुकरेल में 183 तथा बेलरगांव तहसील में 142 मिमी वर्षा इस मानसून से हुई है। औसत वर्षा के मुकाबले मखारा में 112 प्रतिशत तथा बेलरगांव में 55 प्रतिशत बारिश हुई है। कैचमेंट एरिया खजुरावन क्षेत्र में मंगलवार को 31 मिमी बारिश दर्ज की गई है। वहीं बिरगुडी क्षेत्र में 16 मिमी की बारिश हुई है। कैचमेंट एरिया में बारिश होने से गंगरेल बांध में 266 क्यूसेक तथा दुधावा बांध में 275 क्यूसेक पानी की आवक दर्ज की गई है। माड़मसिल्ली तथा सोंदूर बांध में पानी की आवक शून्य है।