

Hindustan Times- 22- July-2023

# Tracking the Monsoon amid surplus rain weeks

By Abhishek Jha

Even as attention shifted from the flood in Delhi to heavy rains and landslides in the western parts of the country, one-third of India faces a 20% cumulative deficit in monsoon rain as of July 21. To be sure, the monsoon deficit has reduced compared to what it was last week -- this is also reflected in better sowing numbers of kharif crops, and things may improve further on this count with key eastern states expected to receive more rain in the first half of August. Here are three charts and one map which capture the state of play as far as the monsoon is concerned.

## 1 Week ending July 21 is the third straight week to receive surplus rainfall at the national level

An HT analysis of the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) gridded dataset shows that the total rainfall in the week ending July 21 – it captures rain till 8.30am on July 21 – was 68.3 mm. This makes the week ending July 21 the third consecutive week to get more than "normal" rainfall, which is the average of rainfall in 1961-2010. To be sure, the amount of surplus rainfall has come down as July has progressed. India received 76.6mm, 64.4mm, and 68.3mm rain in

the weeks ending July 9, July 16, and July 21 when the 1961-2010 average for these weeks is 59mm, 62.7mm and 66.1mm respectively. (The overlapping weeks of July 16 and July 21 have been shown in this analysis because July 9 was the rainiest day so far this monsoon.) This has also led to the cumulative surplus rainfall coming down from 5.9% on July 11 (the highest at any point this season) to 4.6% on July 21.

### AVERAGE RAIN FOR INDIA (MM)

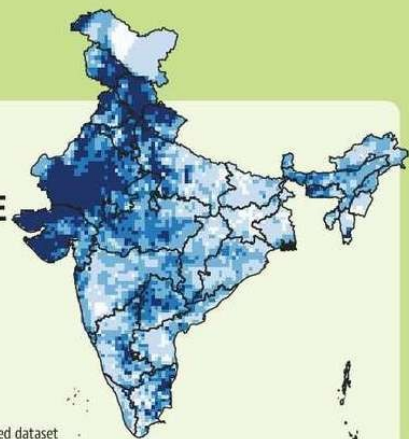


## 2 But the national picture hides large regional variations

While the headline cumulative rainfall performance suggests that the monsoon is progressing on normal lines, a region-wise picture suggests otherwise. 34% of the country's area faces a cumulative deficit of 20% or higher as of July 21, while 37% of the area has received rainfall which is 20% or higher than the 1961-2010 average. Rainfall in July has played a major part in driving this regional disparity. While states such as Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh have received excess rainfall to the tune of 67% and 127% in the month so far, Bihar has seen a deficit of 32% compared to the 1961-2010 average.

### DEPARTURE OF JUNE 1-JULY 21 RAIN IN 2023 FROM 1961-2010 AVERAGE

- Large deficient (-99% to -60%)
- Deficient (-59% to -20%)
- Normal (-19% to -19%)
- Excess (20% to 59%)
- Large excess (> = 60%)



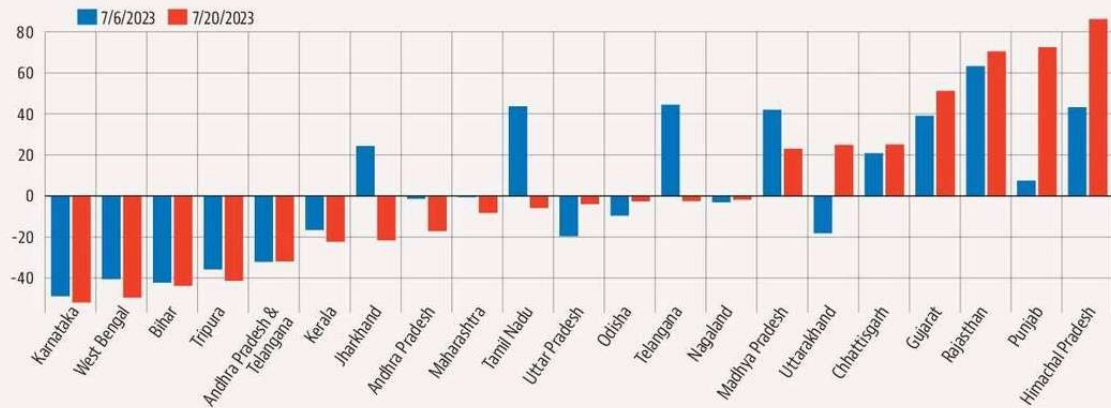
Hindustan Times- 22- July-2023

### 3 Which means the reservoir deficit has grown in states with a deficit

Twelve states among the 20 for which the Central Water Commission (CWC) tracks reservoir levels had a deficit compared to past 10 years' average on July 6. Since then, the deficit has improved in only Kerala, Odisha, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

reservoirs expectedly turned their 18% deficit on July 6 to a 25% surplus, the only state with a deficit last week to turn a surplus this week. Deficit in the other states has only worsened after regionally skewed rain.

#### DEPARTURE OF REERVOIR STORAGE FROM PAST 10 YEARS' AVERAGE (%)

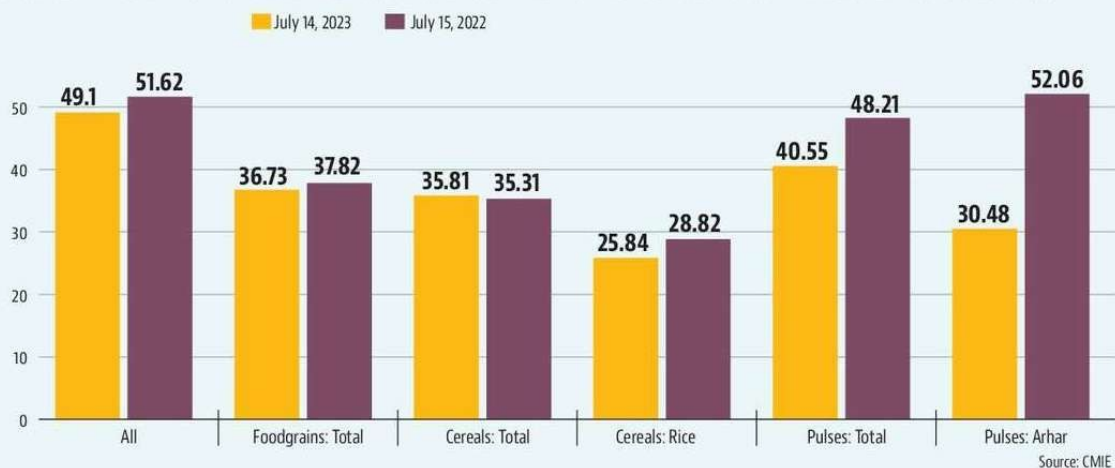


### 4 Sowing also moved closer to averages in the past week

Whether above, close to, or below historical averages, very few places in the country have been absolutely dry in the past couple of weeks: only 0.5% of India in the week ending July 9, and 1.8% and 1.7% in the weeks ending July 16 and July 21 didn't receive rain. Therefore, sowing has shown progress. The gap with last year's sowing levels is now narrower for all foodgrain, and cereals and pulses in particular. Arhar (pigeon pea) sowing still lags among pulses, but should improve in the

coming days as the major crop-growing states of Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh are expected to receive surplus rain in the first half of August, according to IMD forecasts. Other big crop-growing states are expected to receive normal rain in what remains of July. But the fact that the government has banned the export of non-basmati rice suggests that it is expecting some sort of disruption to normal cultivation for the most critical kharif crop.

#### AREA SOWN AS % OF TOTAL AREA NORMALLY DOWN DURING KHARIF SEASON (%)





The Indian Express- 22- July-2023

# Yamuna crosses danger mark again, govt issues alert

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 21

THE WATER level in the Yamuna crossed the 'danger' mark once again on Friday, reaching a level of 205.39 m at the Old Railway Bridge in Delhi. This has prompted instructions from the Delhi government to ensure the safety of residents of low-lying areas — many of whom had just returned home.

Recorded slightly above the danger mark of 205.33 m at 7 pm, the Central Water Commission (CWC) forecast indicated it was likely to rise further to around 205.45 m by 11 pm.

A senior official of the CWC said that it was, however, likely to stabilise thereafter. "There is a slight increase. While it is likely to rise a little more by midnight, a further increase is not expected after that," the official said.

The official attributed the rise in levels to both rainfall that may have occurred upstream, as well as water from the floodplains returning to the river.

After having remained above the danger mark for a little more than a week, the water level had fallen below the danger mark on Tuesday but rose past the 'danger' level again on Wednesday, before falling below this mark once more on Thursday morning.

Some parts of the floodplains in Delhi remain inundated, with the water not having receded entirely yet after levels in the river rose last week, following



**The water that had accumulated around Rajghat has been drained.** *Amit Mehra*

heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the Yamuna.

Meanwhile, Lt-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena Friday visited Rajghat, which had reported waterlogging up to 8 feet deep, after the site was drained.

He said in a tweet: "Sincere & consistent efforts since 15.07.23 by all stakeholder agencies have resulted in restoration of the Rajghat Samadhi area and its approach. The stagnant floodwater has been substantially drained out & restoration of pavements and landscaping is underway. Used this opportunity to pay homage to the Father of the Nation this morning. Kudos to the officials & workmen who worked ceaselessly."

## City can expect rainfall over the weekend

A single weather observatory in Delhi, the one in North Delhi's Mungeshpur, recorded 21.5 mm

of rainfall on Friday. Light rainfall is expected over the weekend, going by the IMD forecast.

Heavy rainfall was recorded in parts of Himachal Pradesh between 8.30 am on Thursday and 8.30 am on Friday, along with thunderstorms in parts of Northwest India on Friday, including areas in Haryana, Chandigarh, Western Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, according to the IMD.

The forecast also indicates that light to moderate rainfall is likely on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The rainfall activity over northwest India is likely to increase around July 25 with the western end of the monsoon trough shifting northwards, according to the IMD.

Other parts of northwest India, including Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, North Haryana and Chandigarh could see rainfall on Friday as well.

Deccan Chronicle- 22- July-2023

# Solution to Cauvery crisis in two days, says minister

**G.BABU JAYAKUMAR  
& P.A.JEBARAJ I DC**  
CHENNAI, JULY. 21

The latest dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka over the sharing of Cauvery waters would be resolved in a couple of days as the Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat had assured the State Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan when he met him at New Delhi on Thursday.

Speaking to reporters on his return from the national capital on Friday, Duraimurugan said the standing Kuruvai paddy crop in the Cauvery delta would be saved if the Union Minister kept his word to him that he would take immediate steps to ensure that Karnataka released the stipulated amount of water for Tamil Nadu.

Duraimurugan, who personally handed over the letter written by Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, the Union Minister, said that he had come back to Chennai with the confidence that the

Shekhawat would instruct the officials of the Cauvery Water Management Authority in a day or two to make Karnataka share the waters as per the Supreme Court order.

Responding to the question raised in some quarters as to why the Tamil Nadu government did not take up the issue directly with the Karnataka government, he said that the question was borne out of ignorance.

Since the right for the share of water was established through the courts, if direct talks were resumed with the State government in Karnataka it would not impede further litigation in the courts and it would also not help in getting our rightful share of waters, he said.

Also when there was a shortage of water in the Cauvery, it was for the Cauvery Water Management Authority to decide on the sharing of the available quantum of water between the riparian States. So there was no point in taking up the issue with Karnataka, he

said.

Since the available water in the Mettur reservoir would last just for another 20 days, the government had approached the Authority last month itself to ensure the release of water by the neighbouring State, he said.

Karnataka had released just three TMC feet water in June when it should have provided 26 TMC feet for Tamil Nadu as per the stipulation of the Authority and the Supreme Court, he said.

Criticising those who had suggested that the Chief Minister should have written directly to the Cauvery Water Management Authority instead of approaching the Union Government for help, Duraimurugan said the Chief Minister would only write to the Prime Minister and in this case he had written to the union Jal Shakti Minister in view of the emergency faced in getting the due share of waters.

Saying that the Chief Minister should write to the Authority was not a right thing, the Minister made it clear.



The Tribune- 22- July-2023

# Polluted rivers

Review of clean-up measures needed

A report of the Central Pollution Control Board, tabled in the Lok Sabha on Thursday, says that around 46 per cent (279 out of 603) of the rivers monitored across the country are polluted. This figure is alarming and puts a question mark on various Central and state projects worth crores of rupees undertaken to tackle riverine pollution in the past few years. The work is primarily focused on setting up sewage treatment plants as the dumping of untreated domestic and industrial effluents into the water bodies is considered the main villain. However, a multi-pronged approach is needed to tackle the problem as the presence of other contaminants such as plastic and pharmaceutical waste in rivers is also found to be on the rise.

The silver lining visible in the comparative analysis, showing that the number of polluted river stretches (PRS) decreased from 351 in 2018 to 311 in 2022, is laudable, even though the worst PRS have remained unchanged. In fact, the water quality of the Sabarmati, which was found to be the second most polluted river, has deteriorated in the past five years. This, despite the Gujarat High Court taking suo motu notice of the authorities' inability to tame the rising pollution and ordering interventionist measures. Similarly, the execution of the Namami Gange project to clean and rejuvenate the Ganga and its tributaries leaves much to be desired as the pollution levels are worryingly high, despite Rs 20,000 crore being earmarked for it in 2014. With the government approving Mission-II of the campaign with a Rs 22,500-crore outlay, there is hope for better results.

Clearly, the river-cleaning act needs to be taken up on a war footing after a review of the methods adopted so far. Clean and free-flowing rivers are the key to sustaining the ecological system, including the aquatic flora and fauna and farmlands along the riverbanks.

Hindustan- 22- July-2023

# बाढ़ पर पूरा नियंत्रण कभी नहीं हो सकता

माननीय सदस्यों ने उपयोगी सुझाव दिए हैं। यह एक निर्विवाद तथ्य है कि बाढ़ पर पूरी तरह नियंत्रण कभी नहीं किया जा सकता। विश्व के किसी भी भाग में ऐसा नहीं हो सका है। इस वर्ष वर्षा अधिक होने के कारण नदियों में अधिक बाढ़ आई है। अधिक वर्षा के परिणामस्वरूप मकानों का गिरना और पहाड़ों का टूटना स्वाभाविक है। इस वर्ष अभूतपूर्व वर्षा के कारण बहुत व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई है और सामान्य बाढ़ से होने वाली क्षति की अपेक्षा इस वर्ष बहुत अधिक क्षति हुई है।

बाढ़ का पूर्वानुमान लगाने के बारे में हमारे देश में प्रशंसनीय कार्य किया जा रहा है। इसके लिए 7 केंद्र स्थापित किए गए हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त अनेक छोटे-छोटे केंद्र स्थापित किए गए हैं। बाढ़ चेतावनी व्यवस्था का कार्य सही रूप से चल रहा है। उक्त व्यवस्था अनेक लोगों का जीवन बचाने में सहायक सिद्ध हुई है। इस वर्ष अधिक मकानों के गिरने से अधिक लोगों की मृत्यु हुई है। राज्य सरकारों को इस बात पर ध्यान देना चाहिए कि

कच्चे मकानों में रहने वाले व्यक्तियों को किस प्रकार बचाया जाए। प्रत्येक गांव में कुछ ऐसे मकान बनाए जाने चाहिए, ताकि ज्यादा वर्षा होने पर कच्चे

मकानों में रहने वालों को वहां रखा जा सके।

कुछ सदस्यों ने रिपोर्ट के सही न होने की बात कही है। उन्होंने कहा है कि इस वर्ष के आंकड़े पिछले वर्षों के आंकड़ों से मेल नहीं खाते। अभी हमें रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। कुछ राज्य इस बारे में पूरी जानकारी नहीं दे पाए हैं, क्योंकि बहुत से क्षेत्र अभी भी बाढ़ग्रस्त हैं। अतः बाढ़ से हुई क्षति का अनुमान लगाना कठिन है। कुछ लोगों ने यह विचार व्यक्त किए हैं कि बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिए पर्याप्त कार्रवाई नहीं की गई। साल 1954 के बाद बाढ़ नियंत्रण के बारे में हमने राष्ट्रीय नीति अपनाई है और हम अब विभिन्न भागों में किए गए सभी प्रयासों को समन्वित कर रहे हैं, जो किसी भी क्षेत्र के लिए उपयुक्त सिद्ध हो सकते हैं। 1954 के बाद बाढ़ से होने वाली क्षति में एक तिहाई कमी हुई है। आगामी दस वर्षों में इस क्षति में 50 प्रतिशत की कमी करने के लिए सरकार कार्रवाई करेगी। बाढ़ नियंत्रण के बारे में हम सामान्य योजना पूरी करना चाहते हैं, जिससे बाढ़ग्रस्त होने वाले कुछ क्षेत्रों की रक्षा की जा सके। उड़ीसा राज्य में हम बाढ़ पर नियंत्रण पाने में काफी सफल हुए हैं।...

असम राज्य की समस्या बड़ी कठिन है। इस बारे में अनेक विदेशी इंजीनियरों की सलाह ली गई है। हम



यहां स्कैन करें



के एल राव | तत्कालीन केंद्रीय सिंचाई व विद्युत मंत्री

उसके बाद इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे हैं कि यदि हम ब्रह्मपुत्र पर बांध का निर्माण भी करें, तो भी हम बाढ़ पर नियंत्रण पाने में सफल नहीं होंगे। कटाव की समस्या भी बड़ी कठिन है। भारत सरकार ने यह अनुभव किया है कि ब्रह्मपुत्र की समस्या पर निरंतर निगरानी रखने की जरूरत है। असम राज्य अकेले इस समस्या को हल करने में सक्षम नहीं है। सरकार ने स्वीकार कर लिया है कि ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी बोर्ड को केंद्र सरकार से वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त होनी चाहिए। इस बारे में अगले सत्र में विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया जाएगा। डिब्रुगढ़ का कटाव भी कठिन समस्या है। नगर की रक्षा के लिए हमने कई करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए हैं। इस समस्या का अध्ययन करने के लिए हमने ब्रिटिश विशेषज्ञों को आमंत्रित किया था। उनके द्वारा दिए गए सुझावों पर हमने कार्रवाई करने का निर्णय किया है।

पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में गरीबी का मुख्य कारण यह है कि वहां बाढ़ पर नियंत्रण नहीं हो पाया है। घाघरा और राप्ती नदियां देश के विभिन्न भागों में भारी विनाश कर रही हैं। जनता की रक्षा के लिए हमें गांवों की सतह को ऊंचा करना होगा। हमने लगभग 4,000 गांवों की सतह को ऊंचा किया है। ये काफी सुरक्षित स्थान बन गए हैं और लोग वहां रहते हैं...। करगली में घाघरा और जलकुंडी में राप्ती नदी पर बांध बनाकर समस्या को हल किया जा सकता है। ये दोनों स्थान नेपाल में हैं। इन दोनों नदियों पर बांध बनाए बिना बाढ़ पर नियंत्रण नहीं किया जा सकता...। पंजाब में बाढ़ की समस्या इतनी गंभीर नहीं है, जितनी जल निकासी की है। सतलुज और रावी बांध में दरारें पड़ गई हैं, लेकिन इन दरारों से अधिक क्षति नहीं हुई है। पोंग बांध के पूरा हो जाने पर शायद अगामी वर्ष में व्यास नदी के जल पर पूर्ण नियंत्रण हो सकेगा, इसके बाद कुछ ही नदियां रह जाती हैं।...

हमें हतोत्साहित नहीं होना चाहिए। हम बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिए यथोचित कार्रवाई कर रहे हैं। आशा है, आगामी वर्ष में हम राष्ट्र की और अच्छी सेवा कर सकेंगे।

( लोकसभा में दिए गए भाषण का अंश )



**Jansatta- 22- July-2023**

## **बढ़ सकता है यमुना का जलस्तर : केंद्रीय जल आयोग**

**जनसत्ता संवाददाता  
नई दिल्ली, 21 जुलाई।**

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केंद्रीय जल आयोग द्वारा यमुना के जलस्तर में दोबारा वृद्धि का पूर्वानुमान व्यक्त किए जाने के बाद दिल्ली सरकार ने अधिकारियों को बाढ़ संभावित क्षेत्रों पर नजर रखने व लोगों को सुरक्षित स्थानों पर पहुंचाने का निर्देश दिया है। दरअसल, अभी भी यमुना का जलस्तर खतरे के निशान के ऊपर बह रहा है। आयोग के अनुसार शुक्रवार को रात 10 और 12 बजे के बीच जलस्तर 205.45 मीटर तक पहुंच जाने की आशंका है। शुक्रवार शाम छह बजे के लगभग यमुना पहले ही खतरे के निशान को पार कर 205.34 मीटर पहुंच गई थी। मौसम विभाग ने 22 जुलाई तक उत्तराखंड और हिमाचल प्रदेश में छिटपुट स्थानों पर भारी से अति भारी वर्षा होने की चेतावनी दी है। जिससे यमुना के जलस्तर के बढ़ने का पूर्वानुमान लगाया जा रहा है।