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Telangana Today - 21 March-2024

Water woes deepen as projects dry up

Except Sripada Yellampalli, Telangana is left with no major dependable source

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Not to speak of irrigation which has already taken a beating in both the Krishna and Godavari basin projects, the State seems certain to face the prospect of a drinking water crisis if the net quantum of water available in the major projects to support the supply system is taken into consideration.

Barring the Sripada Yellampalli project, the State has hardly been left with any major dependable source to outwit the summer challenges. Serious water woes are likely to be experienced in May and June unless the rain god comes to the rescue of the State.

The State has already requested the Karnataka government for release of six TMC to meet the drinking water needs. Despite the fact that the Congress party is in power in both the States, there may not be any give and take gestures during the election time.

Acute shortage

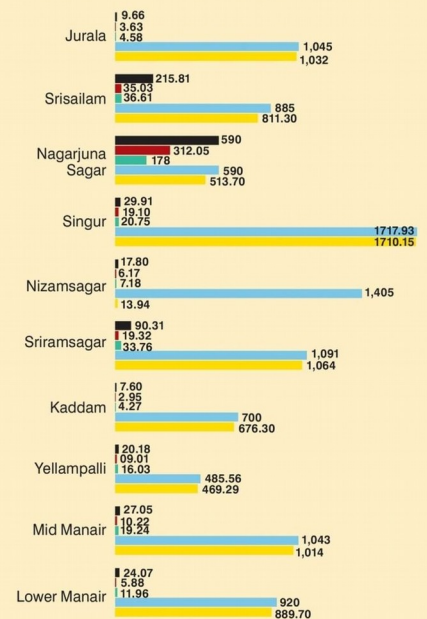
With Bengaluru city caught in the grips of an acute shortage, the Karnataka government, which had already declined the requests of Tamil Nadu for water in Cauvery basin, may not be able to apply a different

Bleak picture

■ GROSS STORAGE CAPACITY IN TMC ■ PRESENT STORAGE IN TMC
■ LAST YEAR SAME DAY IN TMC ■ FRL IN FEET ■ PRESENT LEVEL IN FEET



Pumping of Godavari water from the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme was stopped.



yardstick to respond to the requests from Telangana, said a senior official. The Sripada Yellampalli reservoir, as on March 20, 2024, was left with 9.01 tmc of water to serve as the major dependable source.

The irrigation officials said that four to 4.5 tmc of the present storage could be drawn from the project to meet the drinking water sup-

ply needs in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad besides their suburbs. The project has over 16 tmc on the same day last year. But its level was dipping fast as the pumping of Godavari water from the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) was stopped.

The Mid Manair and Lower Manair have some 10.22 tmc and 5.88 tmc in

their storage on Wednesday as against 19.24 tmc and 11.96 tmc they had respectively on the same day last year. Every drop in the two projects is precious in the given situation in the absence of any scope for supplementation from KLIS, they stressed.

So far as the dependability on the joint projects of TS and AP in Krishna basin is concerned - Srisailem and

Nagarjunasagar would be able to yield on the whole some ten tmc of water.

Officials said that about seven TMC of water would be available above the MDDL of 510 feet in the Nagarjuna Sagar Project for both the states to share and another six TMC could be made available by drawing water going to the level of 506 feet.

Hindustan Times - 21 March-2024

Yamuna floodplains will be demarcated soon: Govt to NGT

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi government has informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that the process of demarcation of Yamuna floodplains, including forest area and encroachments, was nearing completion and will likely be finalised soon, according to documents seen by HT.

It said high-resolution images of the floodplain were being mapped out using Geospatial Delhi Limited — a firm that maintains and updates spatial data through mapping and surveys — adding that the government had sought missing data from various government departments to complete maps on the floodplain, which will be shared with NGT.

The Delhi government had in the last week of January, sought 12 weeks from NGT to complete demarcation of the floodplains, along with a physical demarcation on the ground using signage

and pillars.

In a submission dated March 19 detailing the progress, the environment department of the Delhi government informed the tribunal that multiple meetings have been held by a joint committee formed by NGT in October last year to oversee demarcation. It said that major government departments and bodies like the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), the Irrigation and Flood Control (I&FC) department and the forest department have provided details of land under them on the floodplains in a KML file format to prepare maps.

“DDA and I&FC department shared information on the Zone ‘O’ boundary and subsequently, GSDL has mapped the floodplain area as per inputs provided by both DDA and I&FC. After ground verification, DDA has also shared coordinates of ‘left-out areas’, which GSDL is using the update the boundary accordingly,” said the submission.