

Karnataka dams likely to get 30 tmcft more this month, says Cauvery panel

At Thursday's meeting, Cauvery Water Regulation Committee asked Karnataka to ensure the realisation of one thousand million cubic feet a day, or about 11,500 cubic feet per second, by Tamil Nadu at the inter-State point of Biligundlu

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The direction of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) to Karnataka on the release of water to Tamil Nadu was based on its assessment that four Karnataka reservoirs would receive 30 tmcft more in the remaining period of the current month, going by the current trend of rainfall during the southwest monsoon, according to the minutes of the committee's meeting held on Thursday.

At the meeting, the CWRC asked Karnataka to ensure the realisation of one thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) a day, or about 11,500 cubic feet per second (cusecs), by Tamil Nadu at the inter-State point of Biligundlu. Pointing out that the total live storage of Karnataka's four reservoirs — Krishna Raja Sagar, Kabini, Harangi, and Hemavathy — stood at about 59.88 tmcft on July 10 (about 26 tmcft more than the corresponding day last year), the minutes said that during the rest of

Water watch

A comparative study of the pattern of inflows into Karnataka reservoirs for the current and previous years



| Dam | Cumulative inflow June 1 - July 9, 2024 | Cumulative inflow June 1 - July 9, 2023 | 30-year average cumulative inflow for corresponding period |
|--------------|---|---|--|
| KRS | 15.23 | 6.146 | 16.195 |
| Kabini | 14.551 | 6.834 | 17.926 |
| Harangi | 3.531 | 1.49 | 4.234 |
| Hemavathy | 9.898 | 1.921 | 11.533 |
| TOTAL | 41.651 | 13.767 | 47.748 |

*All figures in tmcft

Note: The total inflows have been arrived at after deducting the aggregate of outflows from Harangi and Hemavathy into the river from the sum of all inflows into the four reservoirs.

SOURCE: MINUTES OF THE CAUVERY WATER REGULATION COMMITTEE'S 99TH MEETING HELD ON JULY 11, 2024

the month (July 12-31), "the cumulative flows to be ensured at Biligundlu in a normal year, as per the Fi-

nal Award of the CWDT [Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal], as modified by the Supreme Court, should

Had the CWRC included the deficit for the 14 days, the quantum would have been 1.42 tmcft a day

be 20.15 tmcft."

Though the CWRC considered the shortfall in the realisation — 8.358 tmcft — during the period from June 26 to July 9, it chose to adopt a "cautious approach" and ordered the quantum to be one tmcft per day (on an average, a flow of about 11,500 cusecs). Had the CWRC included the deficit for the 14 days, it would have been 1.42 tmcft a day.

Tracing the sequence of the rainfall in the Cauvery basin since the onset of the monsoon, the committee said that "after a very brief spell of good rain (up to June 10-13), the monsoon went into a lull period (June 13-23)". It revived on June 25, and the combined flows realised from June 26 till date was in the range of 1.5 tmcft to 2.5 tmcft per day. The committee also considered the shortfall in

the net realisation of water in the four Karnataka reservoirs during the period from June 1 to June 25. Against the 30-year-long average of 18.773 tmcft for the period in question, the realisation was 8.083 tmcft, a deficit of 56.9%. Between June 26 and July 9, the realisation was 33.568 tmcft, as against the average of 28.975 tmcft.

In respect of Biligundlu, the realisation in the 25 days of June was two tmcft, whereas it should have been 3.3 tmcft, keeping the same quantum of shortfall as experienced by Karnataka. The two-week period (June 26-July 9) saw a net receipt of 2.242 tmcft when compared to the stipulated quantity of 10.6 tmcft.

'Judicious use'

The CWRC advised the States concerned to make a "judicious use" of the available storage in the designated reservoirs in the basin, considering the fact that the previous year (2023-24) was a deficit year as far as the monsoon was concerned.

Water levels in 150 main reservoirs low despite heavy rainfall: CWC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

As of the latest data, despite heavy rains in various parts of the country recently, the water levels in 150 main reservoirs remain disturbingly lower at 46.311 billion cubic meters (BCM), compared to the same period last year when the live storage was 58.864 BCM, as per the Central Water Commission (CWC). This presents a critical concern, especially for a country heavily dependent on agriculture, providing livelihoods to millions and ensuring food security for its vast population.

The reservoirs being monitored have a combined total live storage capacity of 178.784 BCM, representing 69.35 per cent of the overall estimated live storage capacity in the country.

Despite the extensive storage capacity, the current figures reveal that the available storage is only 79 per cent of last year's levels and 90 per cent of the normal storage, which is calculated based on the average storage over the past 10 years.

In the Northern Region that includes states like Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Rajasthan, the current storage of 5.979 BCM represents 30% of the total capacity.

This is notably lower than the 63% storage recorded last year and the normal level of 35%. The shortfall in storage indicates potential implications for agriculture, particularly in states heavily reliant on irrigation from these reservoirs.

Similarly, in the Eastern Region, States such as Assam, Jharkhand, and West Bengal too face a current storage of 4.132 BCM, which is just 20 per cent of the total capacity. Comparatively, last year's storage was slightly higher at 22 per cent, while the normal level stands at 24 per cent.



The lower storage levels highlight challenges for maintaining adequate water supply for agricultural and domestic needs.

States like Gujarat and Maharashtra, prominent States in Western Region, currently hold 9.398 BCM, representing 25% of their total capacity. This is a decrease from 32 per cent recorded last year and slightly below the normal storage level of 27 per cent. The region's reliance on reservoirs for irrigation and industrial purposes makes efficient water management crucial amid fluctuating rainfall patterns.

Central Region encompassing States like Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have a current storage of 13.035 BCM, accounting for 27% of the total capacity.

This is lower than the 39% recorded last year and the normal storage level of 32%. The disparity underscores the region's vulnerability to water scarcity, affecting agricultural output and rural livelihoods dependent on irrigation.

The southern states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu show a mixed trend with a current storage of 13.767 BCM, which is 26 per cent of their total capacity. While this marks an improvement from 22 per cent last year, it remains below the normal storage level of 27 per cent. The region's diverse climate zones necessitate adaptive water management strategies to sustain agriculture and urban demands.

मुनक नहर: बवाना में बाढ़ प्रभावित इलाकों से पानी निकाला

● शनिवार की सुबह सामान्य हो जाएगी जल आपूर्ति : आतिशी

पार्यनियर समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली

मुनक नहर के तटबंध का मरम्मत कार्य अधिकारियों की निगरानी में जारी है और बाहरी दिल्ली के बवाना के प्रभावित इलाकों से पानी निकाल दिया गया है। आतिशी ने दावा किया है कि शनिवार की सुबह दिल्ली में जलापूर्ति सामान्य हो जाएगी।

हरियाणा से दिल्ली में आने वाली मुनक नहर की एक छोटी नहर के तटबंध में बुधवार देर रात दरार आ गई थी, जिसके कारण बवाना के कई इलाकों में घंटों तक पानी भर गया। इसके अलावा, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी के



विभिन्न इलाकों में पानी की आपूर्ति भी प्रभावित हुई। एक स्थानीय निवास गोपाल ने कहा, कॉलोनियों से पानी निकाल दिया गया है और अधिकारियों की मौजूदगी में मरम्मत का काम जारी है। बवाना में मुनक नहर के टूटने के बाद प्रशासन लगातार एक्टिव मोड में

दिखाई दिया। मुनक नहर के टूट हुए हिस्से को बांधने की कोशिशें देर रात भी लगातार जारी रही। देर रात भी नहर में मिट्टी डालकर बंद करने का काम किया जाता रहा। हालाँकि इस दौरान बवाना जेजे कॉलोनी में देर रात तक अंधरा छाया रहा। बवाना जेजे

कॉलोनी में पानी पूरी तरह से सूख जाने के बाद भी लोगों की सुरक्षा के मद्देनजर क्षेत्र में बिजली की सप्लाई बाधित रही। प्रशासन द्वारा देर रात भी नहर में मिट्टी डालकर नहर को बंद करने का काम किया जाता रहा। देर रात भी प्रशासनिक अमला यहां पर नहर की मरम्मत के लिए सक्रिय दिखाई दिया।

मुनक नहर से निकलने वाली छोटी नहर (कैरियर लाइन चैनल-सीएलसी) का तटबंध बुधवार रात 12 बजे से दो बजे के बीच टूट गया। जल मंत्री आतिशी ने बृहस्पतिवार को घटनास्थल से ऑनलाइन माध्यम के जरिए बताया कि तटबंध के टूटने से मुनक नहर का पानी बवाना के कई इलाकों में घुस गया। मंत्री ने कहा कि इसके कारण द्वारका, हैदरपुर, बवाना और नांगलोई में जल शोधन सुविधाएं बुरी तरह प्रभावित हुई हैं। उन्होंने

कहा था कि बवाना, नांगलोई और हैदरपुर संयंत्रों में शोधन बृहस्पतिवार शाम तक सामान्य हो जाएगा, लेकिन द्वारका संयंत्र शुक्रवार शाम तक प्रभावित रहेगा क्योंकि यह जलापूर्ति के लिए पूर्ण रूप से सीएलसी पर निर्भर है।

आतिशी ने कहा, तटबंध की मरम्मत का कार्य युद्ध स्तर पर किया जा रहा है। हम हरियाणा के अधिकारियों के साथ लगातार संपर्क में हैं। सीएलसी तटबंध में दरार की सूचना मिलने के बाद, ककरोई से इसमें छोड़े गए पानी के प्रवाह को मुनक नहर की दूसरी छोटी नहर की तरफ मोड़ दिया गया है। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली नगर निगम, लोक निर्माण विभाग और दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण सहित विभिन्न एजेंसियां पंप के जरिए जलजमाव वाले क्षेत्रों से पानी निकालने में जुटी हैं।