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# Bengaluru facing shortage of 500 MLD of water, says Karnataka Chief Minister

**The Hindu Bureau**

BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that Bengaluru is facing a shortage of 500 million litres per day (MLD) of water and the State government has taken various measures to mitigate its impact. This is the first time that the water shortage the city is facing this summer has been quantified.

"The city needs 2,600 MLD of water, of which 1,450 MLD is coming from the Cauvery and 650 MLD from the underground water table through borewells. There is a shortage of 500 MLD," he said.

The Chief Minister was speaking after chairing a review meeting on the



**Parched city:** A man carrying packaged drinking water at Hanumanthanagar, in Bengaluru on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

drinking water crisis in the city on Monday. This is the first meeting that Mr. Siddaramaiah has helmed on the water crisis plaguing the city.

Apart from elaborating on several measures taken to mitigate and navigate

through the crisis, Mr. Siddaramaiah also announced that a technical advisory committee would be formed to ensure that such a drinking water crisis does not recur in the city.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that there was enough wa-

ter in the Cauvery basin to provide for the drinking water needs of the core city till June-end, by when the monsoon will begin. "There is 11.02 tmcft of water in the KRS reservoir and 9.02 tmcft in the Kabini reservoir," he said.

## Crisis in outer zones

The crisis is in the outer zones which are yet to be served by the Cauvery water, the Chief Minister said.

"These areas will also get the Cauvery water from this June after the Cauvery Stage V is commissioned," he said. At present, these areas are solely dependent on borewells and owing to drought many of them have gone dry, exacerbating the problem, Mr. Siddaramaiah said.