

# Drier Aug-Sept likely as El Nino intensifies: IMD

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**NEW DELHI:** The feared El Nino could put a dampener on what has been a surplus (if patchy) monsoon season this far.

Monsoon rain over the country during the second half of monsoon season is expected to be on the lower side of the "normal" category, ranging between 94% and 99% of the long period average or the average of the rainfall between 1971 and 2020. Rainfall during August itself is likely to be "below normal" ranging between 90% and 94% of LPA, the India Meteorological

Department (IMD) said on Monday. August and September together usually account for 46% of monsoon rain.

The weak El Nino condition prevailing currently is expected to intensify further and become moderate during the next two months, affecting monsoon rainfall in the remainder of a season, meteorologists said.

During August and September, normal to above normal rainfall is likely over most parts India adjacent to/along the Himalayas, east central India, and some parts of east and northeast India. But below normal rainfall

**continued on →15**

## MONSOON RAIN

is likely over most parts of peninsular India, and parts of northwest and central India. LPA of the rainfall over the country as a whole for August and September based on the data of 1971-2020 is 42.8cm and for August it's 25.5 cm.

"We are saying that rainfall during next couple of months is expected to be normal but on the lower side of normal and rain is expected to below normal during August. This means that there may be more rain in September. But the picture for September will be clearer next month. We are expecting El Nino conditions to intensify and at the same time there is likely to be positive Indian Ocean Dipole conditions. The atmosphere did not respond to warm ocean temperatures or El Nino conditions so far. But we may see its impact going forward," said M Mohapatra, director general, IMD.

During August, above normal maximum temperatures are likely over most parts of south Peninsula, east and northeast India, and many areas of northwest and central India. Normal to below normal max temperatures are most likely over some areas of north peninsular India, east central India and along the plains of Himalayas.

"The rainfall averaged over the country as a whole during second half of the monsoon season (August-September) is most likely to be normal (94-106% of LPA), with a tendency to be on negative side of the normal," IMD said adding that rain over India as a whole

during August is very likely to be below normal (<94% of LPA)."

"The latest extended range forecast from a couple of leading climate prediction centres suggest monsoon is entering into weak phase during first week of August and then classic break condition during the second week. There is a suggestion that it may extend into the third week also but there could be uncertainties," M Rajeevan, former secretary, ministry of earth sciences said on July 26. "This break is inevitable after a long active monsoon spell. We need not still panic but closely monitor the situation," added Rajeevan.

El Nino has a strong influence on the southwest monsoon in India. El Nino is characterised by an unusual warming of waters in the eastern equatorial Pacific, which has a high correlation with warmer summers and weaker monsoon rains in India. Positive IOD on the other hand is good for southwest monsoon over India. IOD refers to the temperature differential between the western and eastern Indian Oceans.

## An unusual July marked by extreme events

Thus far, since the start of the monsoon (June 1), there has been 5% excess rainfall over India with 31% excess over northwest India; 12% excess over central India; 5% excess over peninsular India and 25% deficiency over east and northeast India. In July alone, there was 13% excess rain over the country; 25% excess over northwest India;

32% deficiency over east and northeast India; 22% excess over central India and 45% excess over the southern peninsula.

IMD's data indicates that July was marked by extreme rainfall event in different parts of the country. Incidence of heavy rain (11.56cm to 20.45cm) and extremely heavy rainfall (more than 20 cm) were the highest this July since 2019. There were 205 events of extremely heavy rain and 113 events of heavy rainfall last month. There were several events of exceptionally heavy rain (over 25cm and nearing historical record) last month. For example, Chandigarh recorded 30cm rain on July 9; Sutrapada in Saurashtra recorded 54cm on July 18; Laxmidevipeta in Telangana recorded 65cm on July 27; Raigad in Konkan recorded 40cm on July 20. Several stations including Chandigarh and Ambala saw records in July. Delhi's Safdarjung also recorded the third highest rainfall for a 24 hour period on July 8 to 9, 15.3cm.

During IMD's presentation, Mohapatra added that there is a consistent rise in mean and minimum temperature over the country since 1990s. "This can be seen as an imprint of climate change."

HT reported on July 30 that there is major deficiency of rainfall over the paddy growing Indo-Gangetic plains area and parts of northeast India in July.

## CINEMATOGRAH LAW

told the Lok Sabha on Monday that the bill is aimed not just for

**Hindustan Times- 01- August-2023**

## OVER 55% TRIBAL HOUSEHOLDS COVERED UNDER JAL JEEVAN, RS TOLD

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**Zia Haq**

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**NEW DELHI:** Nearly 55% of Scheduled Tribe rural households in the country have been provided with a tap water connection under the Jal Jeevan Mission till July 26, Union minister of state for Jal Shakti, Prahlad Singh Patel, said in a written reply in Rajya Sabha on Monday.

Of the country's 21.7 million tribal rural households, 12 million have been provided tap water connections since the launch of the mission by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, data cited by the minister show.

The flagship scheme aims to connect each of India's 194.2 million rural households with tap water by 2024-end. Under the mission, each family is given 55 litres of clean water per day per person. Updated figures from the programme's data dashboard show that, as on July 31, nearly 65% or 126.8 million households had been provided with tap water. Of these, 94.5 million households, or 58%, were provided connections since the launch of the mission.



Telangana Today- 01- August-2023

# India recorded 13% excess rain in July

IMD predicts normal monsoon in August, September



An aerial view of the Girmal waterfall after heavy rainfall in Dang, Gujarat, on Monday. — Photo: ANI

PTI  
NEW DELHI

India is most likely to see normal rainfall during the second half of the monsoon season (August and September) following excess precipitation in July, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

It said normal to above normal rainfall is very likely over east-central India, parts of the east and north-east region and most subdivisions along the Himalayas. Below-normal rainfall is predicted in most parts of peninsular India and western parts of northwest and central India, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said.

While India recorded 13 per cent excess rainfall in July, east and northeast regions of the country gauged the third lowest precipitation in the month since 1901, he said. At 258.6 mm, north-west India recorded the highest rainfall in July since 2001, Mohapatra said.

India saw a turnaround in monsoon rains — from a

## ‘Erratic rainfall may lead to higher inflation’

**KOLKATA:** The economics research department of Bank of Baroda (BoB) said erratic rainfall across the country has resulted in lower kharif sowing this year, which is likely to translate into higher inflation in the near term. A report prepared by the department said rainfall has been six per cent above the long-period average (LPA) till July 30. However, the Eastern and North Eastern region received lower precipitation, while the North Western region recorded higher rainfall. This has resulted in lower kharif sowing this year with pulses registering much lower as compared to last year.

“This is expected to translate into a higher inflation in the near term, as IMD expects El Nino conditions will develop in the middle of the monsoon period,” the report said. The country’s CPI inflation rate rose to a three-month high of 4.81 per cent, with WPI inflation at 4.12 per cent. The RBI Governor-led six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting is scheduled for August 8-10, the policy decision will be announced on the concluding day of the meeting. In the MPC meeting in June, RBI kept the repo rate unchanged. PTI

nine per cent deficit in June to 13 per cent excess rain in July, the IMD chief said. The country has recorded 467 mm rainfall against a normal of 445.8 mm in the monsoon so far, an excess of five per cent.

El Nino — warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America — has not affected the monsoon rains so far, Mohapatra said. El Nino is generally associated with the weakening of monsoon winds.

## Over 17,000 died in floods, rains from 2012-21: Centre

NEW DELHI

Over 17,000 people died in floods and heavy rains between 2012 and 2021 in the country, the Centre said on Monday.

Responding to a question in Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweswar Tudu said the increased incidence of high-intensity rainfall of short duration is mainly responsible for urban floods, which is further compounded by unplanned growth, encroachment of natural water bodies and poor drainage system.

According to the data shared by Tudu in the House, 17,422 deaths occurred due to floods and heavy rains from 2012-21. PTI

The Hindu- 01- August-2023

# 'CWMA has asked Karnataka to release water to Tamil Nadu'

**The Hindu Bureau**

CHENNAI

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) requested the Karnataka government earlier this month to "take suitable necessary action" regarding the release of water from the latter's reservoirs to Tamil Nadu, according to the Union Jal Shakti Ministry.

Answering a question from MP C.Ve. Shanmugam of the AIADMK, Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweswar Tudu on Monday told the Rajya Sabha that the CWMA, on July 4, sent a letter to the Additional Chief Secretary [Rakesh Singh] of the Water Resources Department of the Karnataka govt. calling upon the latter to ensure the release of water so that "the quantum of water realised at Biligundlu, during the current water year 2023-24, is as per the final award of the CWDT [Cauvery Water Disputes Tribu-



Karnataka should release 177.25 tmcft annually. FILE PHOTO

nal], as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court".

## Data on realisations

The Minister also gave information with regard to the realisation of water at Biligundlu on the inter-State border during the past three years. As per the SC's judgement in February 2018, Karnataka should release 177.25 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) annually.

The realisation was 211.315 tmc ft in 2020-21; 281.058 tmc ft in 2021-22 and 667.483 tmc ft in 2022-23.



The Hindu- 01- August-2023

# 'Godavari-Cauvery link project depends solely on the ability of the States concerned to reach a consensus'

**T. Ramakrishnan**  
CHENNAI

The Central government has told Parliament that the implementation of the Godavari-Cauvery link project "solely depends" on the ability of the States concerned to reach a consensus.

Stating this in response to a question raised by MP M. Thambidurai of the AIADMK in the Rajya Sabha, Bishweswar Tudu, Union Minister of State for Jal

Shakti, added that the Union government had made "concerted efforts" to bring about a consensus among the States on water sharing and other related issues. "As prime stakeholders, it is, however, for the party States to reach a consensus," Mr Tudu said.

As far as the Union Minister's reply is concerned, the term, "party States", covers Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, apart from the Union Territory of Pudu-

cherry. However, in March, Telangana urged the Central authorities to invite Chhattisgarh, too, for any discussion on the link project, as it said the basic proposal involved the transfer of the unutilised water share of Chhattisgarh.

The Minister also informed the House that the "concerns" of the party States over the link project had been deliberated on by the Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers, at its meeting in March, and also

by the Governing Body of the National Water Development Agency (NWDA), the organisation working on proposals of river links, at its meeting in July. The project envisages the transfer of surplus water of the Godavari from the Inchampalli dam in Karimnagar district of Telangana to the Grand Anicut, near Thanjavur, on the Cauvery. It has three components: Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-

Pennar (Somasila); and Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut).

The NWDA had also prepared a feasibility report on the Mahanadi (Manibhadra)-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) component. An alternative to this alignment was also formulated, pertaining to the Mahanadi (Barmul)-Rushikulya-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link. In either of the links, Odisha would be one of the beneficiary States, along with Andhra Pradesh.

Millennium Post- 01- August-2023

# India likely to see normal rainfall in Aug-Sept: IMD

*India recorded 1,113 heavy rainfall events and 205 extremely heavy rainfall events in July, highest in five years*

## MPOST BUREAU

**NEW DELHI:** India is expected to record normal rainfall during the second half (August-September period) of the monsoon season following excess precipitation in July, with the IMD saying EL Nino conditions have failed to impact the performance of the annual rain-bearing wind system so far.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) had earlier said El Nino may affect the second half of the southwest monsoon.

"Though the country is expected to gauge normal rainfall in August and September, it is likely to lean towards the lower side (94 per cent to 99

per cent) of the normal (422.8 mm)," IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said at a press conference here.

Rainfall recorded between 94 per cent and 106 per cent of the long-period average (LPA), or 50-year average, is considered normal.

Normal rainfall is critical for India's agricultural landscape, with 52 per cent of the net cultivated area relying on it. Additionally, it plays a crucial role in replenishing reservoirs essential for drinking water and power generation throughout the country.

Rainfed agriculture accounts for approximately 40 per cent of the country's total food production, making it a vital contributor to



India's food security and economic stability.

The IMD said normal to above-normal rainfall is very likely over east central India, parts of the east and north-east region and most subdivisions along the Himalayas in

August and September.

Below-normal rainfall is predicted in most parts of peninsular India and western parts of northwest and central India.

Rainfall in August is expected to be below normal (less than 94 per cent of LPA),

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Though EL Nino — warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America — has not been able to affect the

performance of the monsoon so far, its impact will be visible in the second phase of the monsoon, IMD scientists said.

El Nino is generally associated with the weakening of monsoon winds and dry weather in India.

"Currently, weak El Ni conditions are prevailing over the equatorial Pacific region. The latest Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System (MMCFS) and other climate forecasts indicate that El Nino conditions are likely to further intensify and continue up to early next year," the IMD said in a statement.

"The primary reason for below-normal rainfall in August would be El-Nino and the unfavourable

Continued on P4

is going to become unfavourable for at least 10-15 days. So, this aspect will be missing in August," Pai said.

The MJO is a large-scale intraseasonal atmospheric disturbance which originates in tropical Africa and travels eastwards. It is like a pulse or wave that lasts for about 30 to 60 days.

During the active phase of the MJO, the atmosphere becomes more favourable for rainfall. This leads to increased cloud cover, stronger winds, and enhanced convective activity, which results in heavier rainfall over the Indian subcontinent.

The IMD said neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over the Indian Ocean at present and the latest climate model forecast indicates that positive IOD conditions are likely to develop during the remaining part of the monsoon season.

The IOD is defined by the difference in the sea surface temperatures between the western parts of the Indian Ocean near Africa and the eastern parts of the ocean near Indonesia. A positive IOD is considered good for the monsoon.

India saw a turnaround in monsoon rains — from a nine per cent deficit in June to 13 per cent excess rain in July, Mohapatra said.

However, east and north-east parts of the country gauged the third lowest precipitation (280.9 mm) in the month since 1901, the IMD said. The region recorded an all-time low of 234.8 mm in July last year. In 1903, it received 249.5 mm of precipitation.

At 258.6 mm, northwest India recorded the highest rainfall in July since 2001.

Mohapatra said the east and northeast regions have been seeing a decreasing trend in monsoon rains and an increasing trend in mean temperature and minimum temperature.

The IMD chief also said India recorded 1,113 heavy rainfall events and 205 extremely heavy rainfall events in July, highest in five years.

## Rainfall

phase of Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO), a large-scale intra-seasonal atmospheric disturbance which originates in tropical Africa and travels eastwards," senior IMD scientist D S Pai said.

"In July, favourable phases of MJO helped formation of a number of low-pressure systems over the Bay of Bengal which moved along the monsoon trough and gave good rainfall over central and peninsular India. This factor



Millennium Post- 01- August-2023

# Over 17,000 people died in floods and heavy rains between 2012 & 2021: Govt

*Total damages stand at Rs 2,76,004.05 crore*



## MPOST BUREAU

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Responding to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweswar Tudu said the increased incidence of high intensity rainfall of short duration is mainly responsible for urban floods, which is further compounded by unplanned growth, encroachment of natural water

bodies and poor drainage system. According to data shared by Tudu in the House, 17,422 deaths due to floods and heavy rains from 2012 to 2021 took place in India.

The state-wise data on damages due to heavy rains and floods in the entire state (rural and urban areas) has been compiled by the Central Water Commission (CWC), and as per which the total damages, including crops, houses and public utilities stood at Rs 2,76,004.05 crore, he said.

Tudu, in a written response,

said several initiatives have been taken by the government to encourage groundwater recharge and other nature-based solutions to tackle urban flooding in flood-prone areas.

"Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater - 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB in collaboration with states/UTs envisaging construction of about 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of water," he said.

Deccan Herald- 01- August-2023

# Cauvery Authority to take decision on Mekedatu issue after SC order: Centre

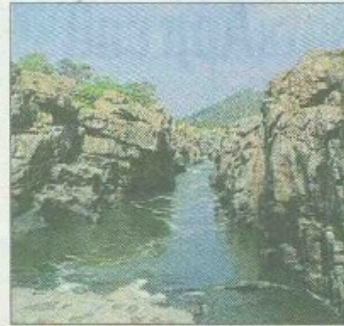
NEW DELHI, DHNS

**T**he Centre on Monday said the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) in December 2022 had decided that it would take uniform decision on proposed Mekedatu reservoir only after the Supreme Court pronounced its judgement on Tamil Nadu's petition filed against the proposal.

Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweswar Tudu informed Rajya Sabha, "In the 18th meeting of CWMA held on 2.12.2022 after deliberations, it was decided that the CWMA will take a uniform stand for taking up discussion on Mekedatu project as well as any other project on Cauvery basin till the Supreme Court gives a decision on a interlocutory application filed by Tamil Nadu in 2022."

Tamil Nadu in 2022 had filed an application in the Apex court against Karnataka's proposal to build reservoir across River Cauvery at Makedatu near Kanakapura. The application is still pending in the court.

The minister said the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted by Karnataka to Central Wa-



ter Commission (CWC) in January 2019 and the copies of DPR were forwarded to the CWMA. Discussion on the DPR of the project was included as an agenda item during various meetings of the CWMA.

The Feasibility Report (FR) of Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir cum Drinking Water Project was submitted by Karnataka to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for "in-principle" clearance for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).

The CWC accorded 'in-principle' clearance for preparation of DPR by Government of Karnataka, subject to certain conditions, he said.

The minister said acceptance of DPR by Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) would be a pre-requisite for consideration of the DPR by the Advisory Committee of Jal Shakti Ministry.