

I/179075/2024

Financial Express-20thJuly-2024

Dam water levels rise, yet down a fifth on-year

WITH THE SURPLUS

MONSOON rains in July erasing the deficiency in rainfall in June, water levels in the country's 50 major reservoirs improved for the third week in a row, reports **Sandip Das**. Water levels in dams were 21% below the previous year's level on July 18, a marginal improvement from a week ago when it was down 22% on-year.

According to the CWC's weekly bulletin, the reservoir capacity is filled up to 29% currently, while a week ago, water levels were up to 26% of capacity. Reservoir levels had been dropping for the 36 weeks in row till June 26 because of deficient monsoon last season, scanty

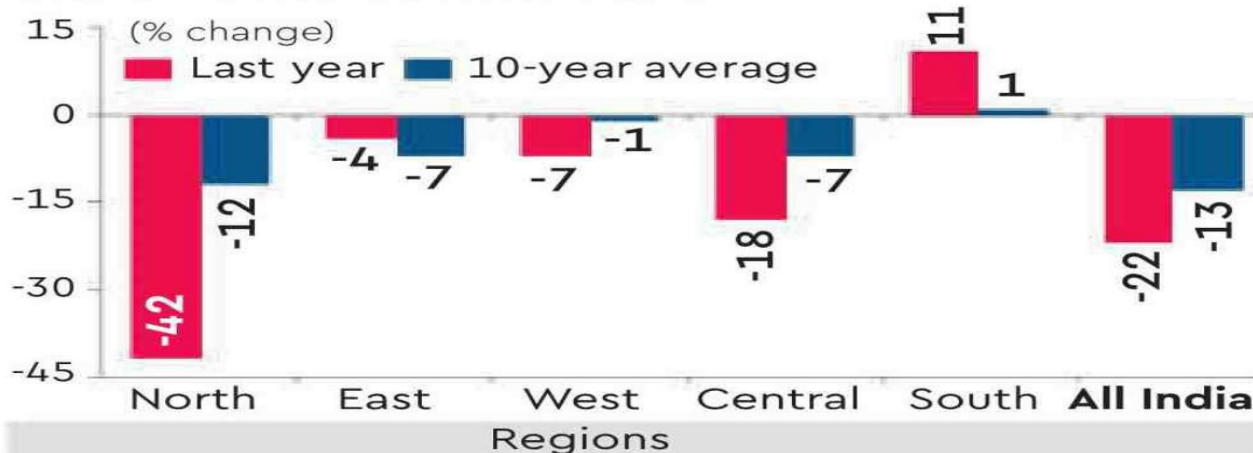


rainfall in winter months and prolonged heat waves this year.

However, surplus monsoon rains of 18.7% more than the benchmark long period average so far in the southern peninsula has led to improvement in water reservoirs in southern states.

As many as 42 of them in southern states currently have 34% capacity filled.

Water levels at reservoirs



Source: CWC, as on July 18, 2024

The Indian Express- 20thJuly-2024

Yamuna floodplain has to be protected from unauthorised construction: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 19

THE YAMUNA floodplain has to be zealously protected from encroachment and unauthorised constructions, the Delhi High Court recently said.

The observation came in an appeal moved by Prachin Shiv Mandir Avam Akhada Samiti against a May 29 order of a single-judge bench which had dismissed its plea against demolition of a temple in the Geeta Colony area and had further directed the Samiti to remove the idols.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, in its July 10 order, refused to interfere with the single-judge bench's order and said that the appellant society had not placed "even a single scrap of a document" to show any kind of legitimacy it exercises, "either over the land or the illegal structure built thereon".

The bench further said, "At the outset, to the query put by us, learned counsel for the appellant admits there is no document worth its name to show the ownership of the appellant/society over the said site whereon the said temple was built. Further, no sanction building plan has been placed on record by the appellant. He also does not dispute that the said temple was on a site which is located within the Restoration and Rejuvenation of Yamuna River

Floodplain Asita, East UP land (86 hectares) from ITO Barrage to old Iron Railway Bridge."

"...it is apparent the temple has been constructed unauthorisedly on encroached land in an eco-sensitive zone area. If that is so, no structure, religious or otherwise, can be permitted to stand and have to be necessarily removed. More so, the Yamuna River Floodplain has to be zealously protected from such encroachment and unauthorised constructions," the bench added while dismissing the Samiti's appeal.

The bench said the appellant's counsel had "unwittingly" admitted that the said area belongs to the State of UP and so the appellant society obviously would have "no right to carry out" unauthorised construction on land belonging to the government.

The High Court further said the appellant had admitted that the entire structure comprising the temple had already been demolished by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and so even otherwise, "nothing survived for further consideration".

The society had claimed it was established by a "distinguished priest", renowned for founding 101 Shiv Lingas, and the temple — Prachin Shiv Mandir — stood on one of such revered Shiv Linga. It said the temple drew approximately 300-400 devotees regularly and had been existing for a long time on the site in question.

I/179075/2024

The Hindu- 20thJuly-2024

T.N. got 9 tmcft of Cauvery water in 8 days till July 18

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu realised over 9 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) of Cauvery water in eight days (till July 18), amid reports of the river being in spate in parts of the catchment in Karnataka during the last few days. » **PAGE 6**

State realised over 9 tmcft of Cauvery water in eight days

Cauvery Water Management Authority will hold a meeting on July 24. The situation has improved since the meeting of the CWRC on July 11



Copious flow: The realisation comes amid reports of the river being in spate in parts of the catchment in Karnataka during the last few days. M.A. SRIRAM

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu realised over 9 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) of Cauvery water in eight days (till July 18), amid reports of the river being in spate in parts of the catchment in Karnataka during the last few days.

Around 7.6 tmcft was received from July 16 to 18, according to data of the Central Water Commission, which monitors the flow at Biligundlu on the inter-State border. Even though the flow in the river was reported to have gone up for the past one week, a

perceptible increase in realisation at the inter-State border was witnessed only from Tuesday (July 16). Since June 1, the total realisation was around 14 tmc ft.

Considering the latest spurt in flow in the Cauvery, about four tmcft was reported to have been realised on Thursday. Consequently, the shortfall in realisation till July 18 was about 14 tmcft.

According to information reaching here, the Kabini, which saw a discharge of 70,000 cubic feet per second (cusecs) on Thursday, experienced a rapid fall in the discharge to about

40,000 cusecs.

Meanwhile, the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) is to hold its meeting on July 24. The situation has improved since the meeting of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) on July 11. When the CWRC directed Karnataka last week to ensure that Tamil Nadu realised one tmcft a day for the next 20 days, the neighbouring State's immediate reaction was to go on an appeal against the order and approach the CWMA. Under the current circumstances, it remains to be seen whether it will stick to its stand.