

Hindustan Times- 21- July-2023

Stalin seeks Centre's intervention on release of Cauvery water to TN

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CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu chief minister MK Stalin has sought Union jal shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat's intervention to direct the Karnataka government to release the state's share of Cauvery water, as per a monthly schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court.

In a letter to the Union minister on Wednesday, Stalin said the release of water was crucial for the standing Kuruvai, a key crop for farmers at Cauvery delta.

State water resources minister Durai Murugan, who handed over the letter to Shekhawat on Thursday, told reporters in Delhi: "He (Shekhawat) assured us that he will give instructions to Karnataka to release water and implement a water distribution system during times of water scarcity."

The Tamil Nadu government's move came days after Karnataka said it will not be able to release the former's due share because to a water deficit.

In his letter, Stalin urged Shekhawat to direct the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to order Karnataka to abide by a monthly schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in 2018 on the release of water.



MK Stalin

On February 16, 2018, the Supreme Court delivered its verdict in the decades-old Cauvery water dispute, allocating more water to the state of Karnataka.

"I would like to bring to your urgent attention to the risks faced by the current Kuruvai crop in Tamil Nadu, due to Karnataka not releasing our due share of Cauvery waters and request your immediate intervention to save it," Stalin said in his letter. The CM said that since the southwest monsoon rains in the state is less, the Kuruvai crop depends on flows from Mettur reservoir, across Cauvery in Salem district, which in turn depends on release from Karnataka. The Tamil Nadu government had opened the Mettur reservoir on June 12 to facilitate the cultivation of Kuruvai.

Stalin said that although 12,000 cusecs (cubic feet per second) of water was released from Mettur initially, as needed per

day for the Kuruvai crop, it was later brought down to 10,000 cusecs. "Thus, we have been taking all efforts to manage the crisis with judicious water management. But the demand-supply gap is very significant and it can be met only by releases from Karnataka," he said.

According to the Tamil Nadu government, the flows received at the inter-state border of Biligundlu between June 1 and July 17 stood at only 3.78 TMC, as against the prescribed quantum of 26.32 TMC for the period. "This leaves a huge shortfall of 22.54 TMC," Stalin said. "Even this meagre flow of 3.78 TMC realised at Biligundlu is from the flows from the uncontrolled intermediate catchment areas below the KRS and Kabini reservoirs up to Billigundulu," he added. HT tried to reach out to Karnataka government on Thursday for a comment but could not get one immediately.

On Monday, Karnataka agriculture minister N Cheluvarayasu pointed at a water crisis in the state. "As a practice, the Tamil Nadu government has demanded release of water from Karnataka. But there is no water even for drinking, how is it possible to release water to them? A meeting will be convened soon to discuss the issue," he said.

Hindustan Times- 21- July-2023

AT 204.98M, YAMUNA LEVEL DROPS BELOW DANGER MARK

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NEW DELHI: The Yamuna dropped below its danger mark of 205.33m on Thursday, a week after it had reached a peak of 208.66m at 6pm on July 13.

The Yamuna breached its danger mark on July 10 at 5pm, reaching a peak of 208.66m on July 13 at 6pm, and remained above the danger mark for more than a week. A day earlier, rain in the Yamuna's catchment areas in northern states upstream led to the river inch past the danger mark on Wednesday.

However, the Yamuna again dropped below the 205.33m mark on Thursday morning, and the water level was 204.8m at 10pm.

Separately, the Delhi cabinet on Thursday approved a proposal to provide ₹10,000 compensation to families affected by the floods.

The Hindu- 21- July-2023

Godavari water level continues to rise in Telangana and A.P.

The Hindu Bureau

BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

The rain-swollen Godavari surged past the first flood warning level of 43 feet at Telangana's famous temple town of Bhadrachalam on Thursday afternoon. It swelled further, prompting the authorities to issue flood alert and start shifting people living in low-lying areas to temporary relief camps.

The Godavari kept swelling at Bhadrachalam with the water level in the river hovering over 44 feet and about 9.79 lakh cusecs of flood water flowing downstream on Thursday night. The water level in the river is expected to reach 46 feet, just short of the second flood warning level of 48 feet, in the early



Mulugu Collector Ila Tripathi taking stock of the situation on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

hours of Friday, official sources said.

In Andhra Pradesh, rescue teams of NDRF 10th Battalion and SDRF are all set to be deployed in the flood-affected villages as the flood level is rising.

Due to heavy rain, water level in the Godavari and Sabari rivers was rising, according to top officials.

The Hindu- 21- July-2023

Stalin writes to Jal Shakti Minister seeking direction to Karnataka to release T.N.'s share of Cauvery water

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Pointing out that Tamil Nadu's share of 22.54 TMC of Cauvery water from Karnataka had not been realised, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday wrote to the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, requesting him to ask the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to issue directions to Karnataka to release Tamil Nadu's share.

Minister for Water Resources Duraimurugan handed over Mr. Stalin's letter to the Union Minister in New Delhi.

Pointing out that the *kuruvai* crop was dependent on water from the Cauvery, Mr. Stalin said the standing crop could be saved only if Karnataka released water immediately. He also requested the Union Minister to instruct the CWMA to issue directions to Karnataka



The CM said that the *kuruvai* crop was dependent on water from the Cauvery.

to abide by the monthly schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court, and also make good the shortfall.

Though the prescribed quantum of 26.32 TMC was supposed to have been received between June 1 and July 17, the inflow at Biligundlu was only 3.78 TMC for this period, leaving a huge shortfall of 22.54 TMC, Mr. Stalin said. "Even this meagre 3.78 TMC realised at Biligundlu is from

the flows from the uncontrolled intermediate catchment areas below the KRS and Kabini reservoirs up to Biligundlu," he said.

Dwindling storage

Though the onset of the southwest monsoon was delayed, it had picked up pace in July. But Karnataka had not released any water to Tamil Nadu from the two scheduled reservoirs. "As a result, the storage in the Mettur reservoir is dwindling fast, and the current storage can sustain irrigation for only about 20 days," Mr. Stalin said.

Since the southwest monsoon rainfall in Tamil Nadu is low, the *kuruvai* crop depends on inflow from the Mettur reservoir which, in turn, depends on water release from Karnataka. Though 12,000 cusecs of water was released from the Mettur dam initially, as required for the *kuruvai* crop on a daily ba-

sis, this has now been brought down to 10,000 cusecs.

"We have been making all efforts to manage the crisis with judicious water management. But the demand-supply gap is very significant, and it can be met only by release of water from Karnataka," Mr. Stalin said.

Tamil Nadu had flagged this issue during a meeting with the Union Minister earlier this month, and had also raised it during meetings of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee and the CWMA, which had advised Karnataka to ensure inflows at Biligundlu as per the final award of the CWDI, as modified by the Supreme Court.

Even after the Authority's intervention, Karnataka "has not made any effort to adhere to the monthly schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court", Mr. Stalin said.

Deccan Chronicle- 21- July-2023

CAUVERY WATER: TN URGES CENTRE TO INTERVENE

Chennai, July 20: Karnataka has not released Tamil Nadu's due share of Cauvery water and the standing Kuruvai crop can be saved only if the former lets out water immediately, the state government apprised the Centre on Thursday and sought its immediate intervention on the matter.

Writing to Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said the short-term Kuruvai is a crucial crop for the farmers of Tamil Nadu's Cauvery delta region.

He said the quantum of water received at Billigundulu on the inter-state border, from June 1 to July 17 was 3.78 tmc (thousand million cubic feet) only, as against the prescribed level of 26.32 tmc for this period.

This leaves a huge shortfall of 22.54 tmc and even this meager flow of 3.78 tmc realised at Billigundulu was from the 'uncontrolled intermediate catchment areas' below the KRS and Kabini reservoirs up to Billigundulu.

To facilitate the cultivation of Kuruvai crop on time, the Mettur reservoir in Tamil Nadu was opened this year on June 12. This was done considering the carryover storage and the flows to be realised at Billigundulu, as per the monthly schedule fixed based on the judgment of the Supreme Court dated 16 February 2018, he said.

Though the onset of South West monsoon was delayed, it has picked up pace in July. However, Karnataka has not released water to Tamil Nadu from the two scheduled reservoirs. As a result, the storage in Mettur reservoir, in Salem district, was dwindling fast and the current storage can sustain irrigation only for about 20 days, Stalin informed.

"In this critical scenario, the standing Kuruvai crop can be saved only if Karnataka releases water immediately. I, therefore, urge your personal and immediate intervention on this issue and request you to direct the CWMA (Cauvery Water Management Authority) to issue directions to Karnataka to abide by the monthly schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court and also make good the shortfall," he added.

The CM's letter dated July 19 was handed over in person by Tamil Nadu water resources minister Duraimurugan to the Union minister in Delhi on Thursday.

Millennium Post- 21- July-2023

Glaring lapses

Urban misgovernance, illegal encroachments, and fast-depleting urban water bodies are the root causes behind the massive deluge faced by major Indian cities



ALOK RANJAN

All of us have been concerned by the pictures of major cities, including the national capital of Delhi, being flooded by heavy monsoon showers. A blame game is going on, and it is being said that there has been unusually extreme heavy rainfall that the drainage system was not geared to handle. Undeniably, the rainfall has been excessive, perhaps the heaviest downpour in a day, breaking records of over 40 years. However, making this an excuse for an unprepared drainage system is not acceptable. Climate change has given rise to unpredictable climate issues, and the last several years have witnessed heavy rainfall getting concentrated within a couple of days. The system should have anticipated and been ready for this. Better planning and proactive measures are the answers to this kind of situation.

Against 9.3 and 9.8 scored by benchmark cities London and New York, respectively, Indian cities scored an average of 3.5 in terms of quality of urban governance

In any case, it was distressing to see the national capital of Delhi being deluged by the rains, with water flowing above knee level. In the past two decades, we have seen similar flooding take place in cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad. The main causes of this phenomenon are illegal encroachments, inadequate stormwater drainage capacity, the disappearance of urban wetlands, which used to function as natural drains, and the tendency of solid waste being dumped into the drains and clogging them. Stormwater drains are an essential part of urban infrastructure, yet my experience of working in the urban development department has been that it is perhaps the most unglamorous activity and receives the least attention from urban governments. In many cities, stormwater drains were constructed almost 100 years ago and are now in no position to handle the increase in the intensity of rainfall brought about by the vagaries of climate change. The Government of India is aware of this problem and has issued detailed guidelines to upgrade these stormwater drains, but



Better planning and proactive measures are required to avoid the intensity of flooding witnessed in Delhi

either due to a paucity of funds, lack of technical knowledge, or simply a careless approach, these guidelines have not been implemented in many cities.

Strange as it may sound, many cities do not have proper drainage maps that show the location, gradient, and outflow of these drains. How can we talk of having smart cities if we do not have an idea of the drainage system? Interestingly, I recall when I was the Municipal Commissioner of Allahabad in the late 1980s, there was an area in the city that used to get heavily waterlogged during every monsoon. On enquiring and delving into the details, I was amazed to find that in several portions, the drain was sloping in the wrong direction, leading to the accumulation of water. This was not an isolated incident; similar situations could be present in many cities and require a detailed inspection of the drainage system.

Every year before the monsoon, elaborate instructions are issued for cleaning the drains so that the garbage in the drains is taken out and the drains are desilted. Unfortunately, despite huge amounts of money being spent, this activity never gets done properly due to collusion between the Municipal staff and the contractors, or simply because of poor supervision and monitoring. Sometimes, the silt taken out of the drains is stacked on the side of the drain and con-

veniently finds its way back into the drain with the very first monsoon shower. To complicate the matter, there are several areas that are unauthorized or informal and do not have drains or sewers, and the water has no place to go. In many places, particularly in market areas, the drains have been encroached upon, leading to the accumulation of water and flooding of the roads.

Most of the cities have historically had urban wetlands that provide a natural avenue for water to flow into. These urban wetlands have disappeared at an alarming pace, replaced by concrete structures that block the natural flow of water. Lucknow Municipal Corporation had 964 ponds in 1952, but only 494 remained in 2006, and the figure must have substantially reduced by now. Bangalore had 260 lakes in the 1960s, but only 80 remained in 2019. Devashish Dhar, in his book on managing our cities, has quoted ADB experts as saying that between 1970 and 2014, Mumbai lost 71 per cent of its wetlands, Hyderabad 55 per cent, NCR Delhi 33 per cent, Ahmedabad 57 per cent, and Greater Bangalore 56 per cent. Obviously, this means that we have lost out on the natural water regulation and flow in a big manner. We must urgently attend to rejuvenating urban water bodies, which recharge the groundwater and also assist in absorbing

rainwater.

The causes are well known, as are the measures to be taken to redress this problem. However, it requires a strong will on the part of the government and also funds. The issue is not only a technical one but ultimately one of reforming urban finances and urban governance. The focus has to be on urban planning and innovative ways of developing infrastructure and financing.

For example, the city of Kuala Lumpur has constructed a huge stormwater drain and road tunnel that carries a large amount of water from the city to a storage reservoir, protecting the city from flash floods. Similarly, China has started a "sponge city" initiative under which, by 2030, chosen districts will be able to capture, reuse, and absorb 80 per cent of the stormwater runoff.

The root cause of the problem is urban governance, which needs to be addressed urgently. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments took a huge stride in this direction, but the States have not been forthcoming in implementing the constitutional amendments in letter and spirit. Both the politicians and the bureaucrats are responsible for this. The MLAs and MPs do not want to share political space with the local body elected representatives like the Mayor and Chairman of Municipalities, and the bureaucrats resent any reform

which they perceive as bringing about a reduction in their authority. Janaagraha, an NGO that has done excellent work in the area of urban development, carried out an annual survey of Indian city systems to assess the quality of governance in selected Indian cities. The benchmark cities for this survey, London and New York, scored as high as 9.3 and 9.8, respectively, while the Indian cities scored an average of 3.5, showing the poor state of governance in Indian cities.

If we have to address the problems of drainage, sewerage, solid waste management, urban transport, urban pollution, or slum development, then the topmost priority has to be given to urban governance reforms. The Mayor and the councillors need to be empowered and held accountable. There is a need for sustained effort to build their capacities. Senior civil servants with the right kind of aptitude need to be selected to serve in urban Municipal corporations for a reasonable tenure. A cadre of city managers is required with the right kind of qualifications and training. Similarly, a separate competent cadre of engineers and other technical personnel, such as waste management experts, is required to be developed.

Funds, functions, and functionalities must be transferred to the local bodies, and grassroots democracy in the cities should be strengthened to ensure accountability. Parastatals like development authorities must, sooner or later, cede space to the municipal corporation. The cities must generate sufficient resources of their own, and there should be a larger devolution of funds from the States to the urban local bodies. Technology must become an essential ingredient of urban government. If serious thinking on these issues is done, policies formulated, and implemented, then our cities can surely become engines of growth, providing a high quality of life to its citizens.

The writer is an ex-Chief Secretary, Govt of Uttar Pradesh. Views expressed are personal

The Tribune- 21- July-2023

46% of rivers in country polluted

KARAM PRAKASH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 20

Around 46 per cent of the rivers in the country are polluted, revealed an analysis by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) tabled in the Lok Sabha today.

According to the report, the CPCB in 2022 identified 311 polluted river stretches (PRS) on 279 rivers in 28 states and eight UTs across the country. The pollution was determined on the indicators of organic pollution, i.e. biochemical oxygen demand (BOD).

Among the states, Maharashtra had the highest 55 PRS, followed by 18 in Bihar. Punjab had five. The CPCB, in association with state pollution control boards and committees, monitors the water quality

Unclean stretches down from 351 in 2018 to 311 in 2022, says CPCB report



The report was tabled in the Lok Sabha on Thursday. FILE

ty of aquatic resources at 4,484 locations across the country. These include 2,108 locations on rivers and 713 on stagnant water bodies.

In a comparative evaluation, the CPCB said the polluted river stretches had decreased

from 351 in 2018 to 311 in 2022. An improvement had been seen in 180 of the 351 PRS identified in 2018. Of the 180 PRS, 106 stretches had shed the polluted tag while the remaining 74 had been shifted to 'lower priority class'.

The Morning Standard- 21- July-2023

TN knocks on Centre's door for solution to river dispute with K'taka

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government has knocked on the doors of the Union government again for Cauvery water by pointing to the risk faced by thousands of acres of kuruvai paddy in the state due to Karnataka's refusal to release the due share of water to Tamil Nadu on time. The state has also urged the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to finalise the distress-sharing formula immediately for sharing the Cauvery waters among riparian states during distress period.

While Chief Minister M K Stalin has written a letter in this regard to Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendrasingh Shekhawat, state water resources minister Duraimurugan met Shekhawat in New Delhi on Thursday and personally requested him to instruct the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to direct Karnataka to release the deficit Cauvery water for June and July months immediately.

"From June 1 to July 17, Karnataka should have released 26.32 tmcft of water to Tamil Nadu but only 3.78 tmcft has been released. There is a shortfall of 22.54 tmcft of water. Even the 3.78 tmcft realised at Bili-gundulu is from the flows from the uncontrolled intermediate catchment areas below the KRS

'CM writes to Shekhawat'

Chief Minister M K Stalin has written a letter in this regard to Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendrasingh Shekhawat, state water resources minister Duraimurugan met Shekhawat in New Delhi and requested him to instruct the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to direct Karnataka to release the deficit Cauvery water for June and July months immediately

and Kabini reservoirs," the CM had pointed out in his letter.

Stalin had also pointed out that the standing kuruvai crop can be saved only if Karnataka releases water immediately and that the union minister should instruct CWMA to issue directions to Karnataka to abide by the monthly schedule prescribed by the SC and make good the shortfall due for TN.

Tamil Nadu had taken up this issue already with the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee in its meetings and with the Cauvery Water Management Authority vide letter dated July 3. The authority, in its reply on July 4, advised Karnataka to ensure the flows at Bili-gundulu as per the Final Award of the CWDT as modified by the SC. Even after the CWMA's intervention, Karnataka has not taken steps to adhere to the monthly schedule prescribed by the apex court.



Financial Express- 21- July-2023

Levels in southern reservoirs dip 45%

SANDIP DAS
New Delhi, July 20

WATER LEVELS IN India's key reservoirs were 26% below the last year's record-high level on Thursday despite heavy rainfall in northern regions.

Water levels at the 40 reservoirs in southern regions have remained 45% below the last year's level mainly because of deficient rainfall so far in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

According to the Central Water Commission (CWC), the water level of the country's reservoirs stood at 68.89 billion cubic meters (bcm) on Thursday, which is 39% of their combined capacity.

A year ago, the water available in these reservoirs was 92.65 bcm, and the average of the last 10 years was 64.79 bcm. "Current water level of



reservoirs was 74% of the live storage of the corresponding period of last year and 106% of storage of the average of the last 10 years," the CWC stated.

Currently, 48 reservoirs have more water than last year and 68 dams have more water than average of last decade.

Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Naga-

land, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh have better water storage than last year.

Water levels in major dams in eastern regions especially in West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha, have 1% below the last year's level however 4% more than that last 10 year-average level. In these

states, a large segment of the crop area is still rainfed.

West Bengal, the biggest rice producing state in the country, has irrigation coverage of only 51%, which may be impacted if monsoon rains become deficient.

Because of surplus rainfall in north-western states, 10 reservoirs of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan have 37% more rainfall than last year and 32% above the average of last decade.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD), overall monsoon rains have been 3% above the benchmark long period average (LPA) till Thursday. Rainfall in the southern peninsula is 17% below the LPA so far.

Northwest and central India regions have received 45% and 9% more rainfall than benchmark.

यमुना में क्यों आई बाढ़, रिसर्च से ही मिलेंगे जवाब

पहले के मुकाबले बैराज से कम पानी छोड़ा गया, फिर भी टूटे रिकॉर्ड

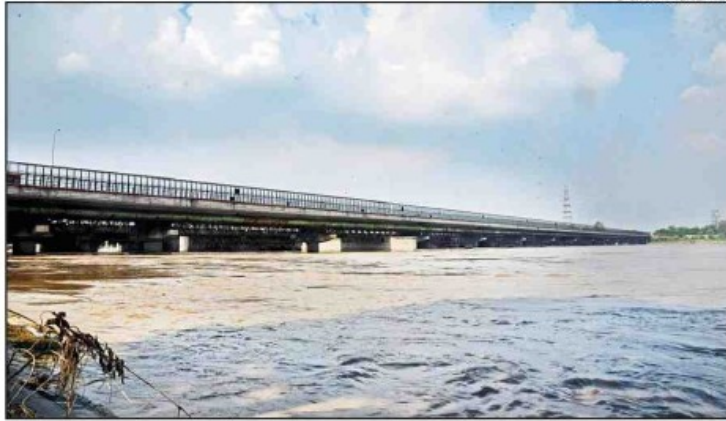
Sunil Kataria

■ विशेष संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली में यमुना की बाढ़ ने 45 साल के रिकॉर्ड को तोड़ते हुए 13 जुलाई को सबसे ऊंचे लेवल को छू लिया था। अब स्थिति में सुधार हो रहा है। एक्सपर्ट और सरकार बाढ़ की संभावित वजहों का पता लगाने की कोशिश में हैं। एक्सपर्ट के अनुसार, इस बाढ़ ने कई मायनों से हैरान किया है। रिसर्च की जरूरत है।

आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 1978 की बाढ़ में ताजेवाला बैराज से पीक लेवल पर 7 लाख क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ा गया था। इस बार पीक लेवल पर हथिनीकुंड बैराज से 3.6 लाख क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ा गया। यह 11 जुलाई को दो घंटे के लिए छोड़ा गया था। 1978 से 2023 के बीच दो से तीन साल पीक लेवल पर पानी का स्तर 8 क्यूसेक से अधिक भी रहा। इसके बावजूद यमुना ने दिल्ली में ऐतिहासिक रिकॉर्ड नहीं तोड़े।

सेंट्रल वॉटर कमिशन की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, इस साल हथिनीकुंड बैराज से ओल्ड रेलवे ब्रिज तक पांच फ्लड मॉनिटरिंग स्टेशन में कहीं पानी का स्तर इस उंचाई तक नहीं गया, जितना दिल्ली में गया। साउथ एशिया नेटवर्क ऑन डैम, रिवर्स एंड पीपल्स (SANDRP) के भीम सिंह रावत का कहना है कि हरियाणा के यमुना नगर और आसपास के जिलों में हुई बारिश से हथिनीकुंड बैराज से छोड़े जाने वाले पानी की मात्रा बढ़ गई और डाउनस्ट्रीम में यमुना तेजी से बहने लगी। हालांकि पांच फ्लड



यमुना का जलस्तर खतरे के निशान से ऊपर बहने के बाद गुरुवार को नीचे आया। शाम 7 बजे तक यमुना का जलस्तर 205.06 मीटर रिकॉर्ड किया गया।

बाढ़ को रोकने के लिए क्या तैयारियां?

बाढ़ का अनुमान लगाने के सिस्टम में सुधार करना होगा। इस बार दिल्ली में बाढ़ आने का सही पूर्वानुमान नहीं हो सका।

बाढ़ आने से पहले ही उसकी तैयारियों को लेकर निगरानी बढ़ानी होगी, ताकि आईटीओ बैराज जैसी घटना भविष्य में न हो।

दिल्ली, हरियाणा और यूपी के बीच सिंचाई और बाढ़ नियंत्रण विभाग के बीच तालमेल बनाने का काम करना होगा।

दिल्ली के तीनों बैराज से हर घंटे छोड़े जा रहे पानी की निगरानी करनी होगी। खास तौर पर मॉनसून सीजन में ध्यान देना होगा।

मॉनिटरिंग स्टेशनों में बाढ़ ने रिकॉर्ड नहीं तोड़ा। ऐसा सिर्फ दिल्ली में हुआ।

बाढ़ से साफ हो गई यमुना?

एक्सपर्ट के अनुसार, मॉनसून के दौरान राजधानी में यमुना खुद को कुदरती तरीके से साफ कर लेती है। इस बार बाढ़ जुलाई में ही आ गई। आमतौर पर यमुना में बाढ़ सितंबर में आती है। ऐसे में उम्मीद की जा रही है कि सितंबर में भी एक बार यमुना का जलस्तर बढ़ सकता

है। इससे सितंबर और अक्टूबर तक नदी साफ बनी रहेगी। नदियों पर काम करने वाले आईपी यूनिवर्सिटी के स्कूल ऑफ एनवायरमेंट मैनेजमेंट के असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर डॉ सुमित डूकिया का कहना है कि मॉनसून के बाद यमुना में एक तरफ जहां पानी कम होने लगता है, वहीं फेस्टिवल शुरू हो जाते हैं और लोग पूजा सामग्री प्रवाहित करने लगते हैं। अक्टूबर के अंत तक यमुना वापस जहरीले रूप में आ जाती है।

Rajasthan Patrika- 21- July-2023

राजस्थान के 189 बांधों का होगा पुनर्वास व संरक्षण

केंद्र की डीआरआईपी योजना का दूसरा व तीसरा चरण शुरू, 19 राज्यों के 736 बांध शामिल

नई दिल्ली @ पत्रिका. केंद्र सरकार की बांध पुनर्वास एवं सुधार परियोजना (डीआरआईपी) के तहत 19 राज्यों के 736 बांधों का पुनर्वास व संरक्षण किया जाएगा। इनमें राजस्थान के पाली के जवाई और जोधपुर के जसवंत सागर बांध भी शामिल हैं। केंद्र सरकार ने परियोजना के दूसरे व तीसरे चरणों की शुरुआत करते हुए इन बांधों को शामिल किया है। इनके सुधार कार्यों पर 10 हजार 211 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होंगे।

जल शक्ति मंत्री गजेंद्रसिंह शेखावत ने गुरुवार को लोकसभा में पाली के सांसद पी.पी. चौधरी के तारांकित प्रश्न के जवाब में यह जानकारी दी। बांधों की जल वैज्ञानिकी, संरचनात्मक व परिचालन तथा सुरक्षा में सुधार के लिए लाई गई परियोजना के पहले चरण में मार्च 2012 से 2021 तक सात राज्यों के 223 बांधों का 2567 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से पुनर्वास किया गया था। दस वर्ष अवधि वाले

दूसरे व तीसरे चरण को अक्टूबर 2020 में मंजूरी दी गई थी। बाह्य वित्त पोषण के जरिए दूसरे चरण में 5107 करोड़ व तीसरे चरण में 5104 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होंगे। प्रत्येक चरण में 500 मिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर का बाह्य ऋण शामिल है। विश्व बैंक ने दूसरे चरण के लिए 121 बांधों के पुनर्वास प्रस्तावों के लिए 4175 करोड़ रुपए की राशि के साथ मंजूरी दी है। विभिन्न कार्यान्वयन एजेंसियों व राज्यों ने 2520 करोड़ की निविदाएं आमंत्रित कर 1560 करोड़ रुपए के ठेके दे दिए हैं। गत 30 जून तक दूसरे चरण में 733 करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए जा चुके हैं।

सर्वाधिक 31 बांध भीलवाड़ा के: शेखावत के अनुसार परियोजना में शामिल किए गए बांधों में सर्वाधिक 31 बांध भीलवाड़ा के हैं। इसके अलावा बांसवाड़ा के 22, सिरौही के 21, चित्तौड़गढ़ के 15, पाली के 14, प्रतापगढ़ के 11, उदयपुर के नौ, झालावाड़ के 8, जयपुर व बूंदी के 7-7, दौसा के 6, राजसमंद, करौली व सवाई माधोपुर के 5-5 तथा कोटा, जालोर व अजमेर के 2-2 बांधों व टोंक के बिसलपुर बांध का भी पुनर्वास किया जाएगा।