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● MARGINAL IMPACT ON RABI SOWING

Water level in key reservoirs fall 19%

SANDIP DAS
New Delhi, October 20

WATER LEVELS IN India's 150 key reservoirs have fallen sharply, now standing at 19% below last year's level, due to deficient southwest monsoon rainfall and the sluggish progress of the north-eastern monsoon.

The water levels in these dams were 8% below the last 10-year average. However, lower water level is seen to have only a marginal impact on the rabi sowing, as most of the areas are covered under irrigation facilities. Officials said while water levels in reservoirs in north (10), east (23), western (49) and central (26) regions are below the last year's level, but the 42 reservoirs in southern regions currently hold water 44% below a year ago period and 26% below the last 10 year average.

Reservoirs in southern states are currently filled to only 48%



of their total water holding capacity. The north-eastern monsoon is expected to arrive in Tamil Nadu in the next couple of days, which is expected to boost water reservoir levels.

According to the Central Water Commission (CWC), the overall water level of the country's reservoirs stood at 129.63 billion cubic metres (bcm) on

Thursday — 75% of their combined capacity. A year ago, the water available in these reservoirs was 160.40 bcm, and the average of the last 10 years was 140.28 bcm. "Current water level of reservoirs was 81% of the live storage of the corresponding period of last year and 92% of storage of the average of the last 10 years," the CWC said.

Business Line- 21- October-2023

Storage in major reservoirs drops

VAGARIES OF WEATHER. Many districts receive deficient rain in Oct; water level lower than last 10 years' average

Subramani Ra Mancombu
Chennai

The water level in the major 150 reservoirs in the country dropped this week to 73 per cent of the 178,784 billion cubic metres (BCM) capacity from 74 per cent last week.

The storage is 19 percentage points lower than last year and compared with the last 10 years' average, it was down 8 percentage points.

The current storage is, according to the Central Water Commission (CWC) weekly bulletin, 129,636 BCM (132,037 BCM last week) with the levels decreasing across all regions in the country.

Most part of the country is receiving deficient or largely deficient or no rainfall last week has led to the current situation.

LARGELY DEFICIENT

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), 8 per cent of the 713 reporting districts received no rains since the beginning of the month, while 34 per cent



of them were largely deficient.

The rainfall was normal only in 12 per cent of the reporting districts, while 18 per cent received deficient precipitation.

According to CWC, 106 reservoirs have storage of over 80 per cent of the normal level, while in 44 ones, it is 80 per cent or below.

Of the 44, the level in 13

ones is below 50 per cent of the normal. Last week, the numbers were 114, 36 and 11 respectively - an indication of lack of rains in the catchment areas this week. With the sowing of rabi crops on, lower storage can be a cause for concern, particularly in areas that depend on irrigation.

Adding to worries is the late setting in of the North-East

Key States' storage status*

Reservoirs	This week	Last week
Punjab	-13	-15
Odisha	-1	1
Bihar	26	16
Uttar Pradesh	-29	-29
Maharashtra	-5	-3
AP & Telangana	-67	-61
Karnataka	-32	-29
Kerala	-23	-24
Tamil Nadu	-54	-62
West Bengal	13	20

*Departure from normal storage in %age
Source: Central Water Commission

Monsoon and IMD's predictions that it could be weak to begin with.

WORRISOME SOUTH

As per the bulletin, the situation in the south is a little worrisome. The storage in the southern region is 48 per cent (49 per cent last week) or 25,361 BCM of the 53,334 BCM capacity.

Among the States, the situation improved in Tamil Nadu and Kerala but worsened in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. In the North, the level was 80.9 per cent (82.3 per cent) or 15,914 BCM of 19,663 BCM capacity. In Punjab, the level was 13 per cent (-14 per cent last week) below normal, while in Rajasthan it improved to 4 per cent above normal.

In the eastern region, the storage declined to 77.1 per cent (80 per cent) or 15,764 BCM of the 20,430 BCM capacity.

The level dropped in West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha but improved in Assam.

In the central region, the water level declined by 1 percentage point to 83 per cent of the capacity against 84 per cent last week.

The situation improved in Madhya Pradesh but remained negative in Uttar Pradesh.

In the western region, the storage dropped by 1 percentage point to 88 per cent of the capacity. The level declined in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Rashtriya Sahara- 21- October-2023

तीस्ता स्टेज-3 बांध टूटने की जांच उच्च स्तरीय समिति करेगी
गंगटोक। सिक्किम सरकार ने तीस्ता चरण-3 बांध टूटने की घटना की जांच के लिए एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति गठित करने का निर्णय लिया है। मुख्यमंत्री प्रेम सिंह तमांग ने यह जानकारी दी। मंगन जिले के चुंगथान में चार अक्टूबर को बादल फटने और अचानक आई बाढ़ के कारण यह हादसा हुआ था। उन्होंने कहा, 'राज्य मंत्रिमंडल की 17 अक्टूबर को हुई बैठक में विश्वसनीयता, वास्तविकता और तकनीकी जानकारी, बांध का निर्माण करने वाले संघ की वित्तीय शोधनक्षमता को ध्यान में रखते हुए 1200 मेगावाट की तीस्ता चरण-3 परियोजना की आवंटन प्रक्रिया की जांच करने के लिए तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों, वित्तीय विशेषज्ञों और विषय विशेषज्ञों की एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति बनाने का निर्णय लिया गया।