

Hindustan Times- 27- September-2023

# Amid tussle, panel lowers benchmark for release of water

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**BENGALURU:** The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee on Tuesday ordered Karnataka to release 3,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for next 18 days starting September 28, reducing the out-flow benchmark from the earlier 5,000 cusecs ordered on September 18. The decision comes at a time when various organisations are protesting across in Karnataka, demanding that no water be released, and in Tamil Nadu seeking the release of 12,000 cusecs.

Representatives of Karnataka argued that the state experienced considerable shortfall in the inflow of water into its reservoirs, deputy chief minister DK Shivakumar's office said in a statement. "The cumulative inflow shortfall to Karnataka's four reservoirs up to September 25 is 53.04%," it said.

Karnataka on September 13 declared 195 talukas as drought-affected, of which 47 sub-districts are located within the Cauvery basin, which needs to be recognised by the water regulator, the state argued.

State representatives also said that Karnataka was not in a position to release any water from its reservoirs or contribute any flow from its reservoirs to the flows that need to be maintained at the interstate border at Biligundlu.

Representatives of Tamil Nadu argued that Karnataka must reduce its irrigation supply based on the proportion of distress. Karnataka must release the shortfall quantity immediately, and further flows as per the distress proportion, they argued.

The water regulator then recommended that Karnataka must

**THE PANEL ASKED KARNATAKA TO RELEASE 3000 CUSECS OF WATER, DOWN FROM THE 5000 BENCHMARK SET ON SEPT 18**

ensure 3,000 cusecs of water at Biligundlu from September 28 to October 10, the statement said.

The order was a victory of the people's struggle, Shivakumar, also the minister for water resources, said in response to the decision.

"The Tamil Nadu government had sought 12,000 cusecs of water. The decision to not allow Tamil Nadu's demand is a victory for our people's struggle," he said. "At a given point in time, around 2,000 cusecs of water flows to Tamil Nadu. We just need to add another 1,000 cusecs of water... Since yesterday (Monday), we have also seen some increase in inflow. It is a matter of happiness that Tamil Nadu's demand has been rejected by the committee," the deputy chief minister added.

Tamil Nadu has received 7,000 cusecs of water, said Duraimurugan, the state's water resources minister. "Initially, Karnataka provided 2,500 cusecs of water per day and the quantum was increased to 3,000 cusecs per day. We are steadily receiving water from the Cauvery and hope to realise the full quantum. The SC verdict should be binding notwithstanding the protests in Karnataka," Duraimurugan said in Chennai.

The river is crucial for farmers in the two states with paddy being the principal crop in the Cauvery delta.

Hindustan Times- 27- September-2023

# Water sharing to security in focus at Northern Zonal Council meet

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**AMRITSAR:** Union home minister Amit Shah on Tuesday chaired the 31st meeting of the Northern Zonal Council in Punjab's Amritsar and discussed a broad range of issues, including sharing of inter-state river waters, strengthening of the security system along the border and speedy investigation of cases of sexual offence or rape against women and children.

According to a statement by the ministry of home affairs (MHA), Shah discussed over 28 issues concerning the member states and the country as a whole during the meeting which was held amid tight security in the Punjab city.

The Northern Zonal Council comprises Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh and the UTs of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Chandigarh.

During the meeting, the Union minister "requested all the member states of the Northern Zonal Council to resolve their disputes related to water sharing with an open mind and mutual discussion", the MHA statement said.


**Amit Shah**

Currently, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan are locked in separate water disputes. Both the Punjab and Haryana governments spoke about the construction of the Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) canal which has been a bone of contention between the two states for several decades.

Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar said: "The Punjab government is continuously misleading on the construction of SYL." Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann strongly opposed the construction of the SYL canal, saying it can lead to serious law and order issues. The Sutlej River has already dried up and there is no question of sharing "even a single drop of water from it", he said. Rather, water from Ganga and Yamuna should be

supplied to Punjab through Sutlej river, he added. Mann also sought Shah's intervention in release of the Rural Development Funds, which, the former claimed, has been pending for a long time.

Besides this, Shah reiterated the Centre's commitment to strengthen the security system along the border. "Soon an anti-drone system will be deployed on our country's borders." He asked all member states and Union territories to pay special attention to collective priority issues such as cooperative movement in the country, dropout rate of school-children and malnutrition.

Delhi L-G V K Saxena raised the issue of air pollution, especially due to the burning of crop residues. Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu demanded a special relief package of ₹12,000 crore to the disaster-affected state and said that the government was trying to recover from one of the worst calamities ever witnessed, according to a statement from his office. Shah, according to MHA, assured all possible help to the state and said the whole country is standing by it in this hour of crisis.

The Times of India- 27- September-2023

## Relief for K'taka as panel cuts Cauvery water release volume

**Bengaluru:** On a day a near-total bandh was observed in Bengaluru over the Cauvery water-sharing row, there was some consolation for Karnataka as the Cauvery Water Regulatory Committee (CWRC) recommended the release of 3,000 cusecs of water daily to Tamil Nadu for 18 days from September 28 — far less than the neighbouring state's demand of 12,500 cusecs every day.

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), which is expected to meet soon, will take a call on the committee's recommendation.

Karnataka is expected to seek further reduction in the quantum of water to be shared with Tamil Nadu. CM Siddaramaiah said he would consult the state's legal team to decide on the next course of action.

The CWRC recommendation has come as a minor relief to the state government that is facing widespread protests over the release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. Besides Bengaluru shutdown on Tuesday, a state-wide bandh has been called on Friday.

Deputy CM D K Shivakumar, who holds the water resources portfolio, expressed happiness about the outcome of the CWRC meeting. TNN



The Times of India- 27- September-2023

# Cauvery basin sees Karnataka's steepest rainfall deficit at 32%

Hassan & Kodagu Have Been Worst Hit This Year With Deficits Of 45% & 43%

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**Bengaluru:** South-interior Karnataka, which hosts Cauvery basin districts and is looking at a 27% deficit in rainfall so far, is very unlikely to receive any relief from the southwest monsoon, which will withdraw by month-end. The crisis is acute in Cauvery basin districts with the deficit ballooning to a whopping 32% — or, the region hasn't received a third of its quota of rainfall. Karnataka is reeling under an overall 19% deficit.

Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) scientists on Tuesday hinted at last-minute surge in rainfall thanks to two likely spells of heavy rain expected before October 5. The onset of northeast monsoon (also called 'retreating monsoon') in the second week of October might minimise the looming crisis in the worst-hit south-interior Karnataka.

"While coastal districts have seen a 15% deficit, the north-interior Karnataka region has reported a 10% deficit," said Prasad A, a scientist with IMD, Ben-



**WATER WOES:** Shops were closed in Bengaluru on Tuesday due to a bandh called by farmers and Karnataka Jala Samrakshana Samithi organisation against the release of Cauvery river water to Tamil Nadu

galuru. But data from the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Cell (KSNDMC) puts the overall state deficit at 25%.

As per IMD, the Cauvery catchment area in Karnataka should have received 47.5cm of rainfall till date. It has received only 32.2cm of rainfall, creating a 32% deficit.

"Given that the monsoon will officially draw to a close over Karnataka in a week, the deficit over the Cauvery catchment will

continue. However, the only relief is between September 28 and 30 when districts such as Kodagu, Mysuru and Chamarajana-gar could receive more than 7cm of rainfall (yellow alert) and followed by 4cm of rainfall between October 1 and 5," Prasad said.

In Cauvery catchment districts of Karnataka, Hassan and Kodagu have been the worst hit this year with deficits of 45% and 43%, respectively. The other districts such as Shivamogga (30%)

## 'Friday's bandh will be serious protest'

**Bengaluru:** Pro-Kannada organisations have called for a state-wide bandh on Friday daring the authorities to crack down on their activists during what they said would be a massive protest across Karnataka over the issue of sharing of Cauvery water with Tamil Nadu.

This follows reports of police action against a section of protesters during Tuesday's bandh in the city over the same issue. Condemning the police brutality on protesting farmers, Vatal Nagaraj, former MLA and president of the pro-Kannada federation, Kannada Chaluvali, said: "Friday's all Karnataka bandh will be a serious protest." TNN

and Chikkamagaluru (25%) have also recorded a deficit rainfall, another IMD meteorologist said.

Though the southwest monsoon is set to withdraw by September 30, it may still be active in Karnataka until October 3 to 4.

The Hindu- 27- September-2023

# CWRC directs Karnataka to release 3,000 cusecs of water to T.N. till Oct. 15

**T. Ramakrishnan**  
CHENNAI

The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC), at its meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday, decided that Karnataka should release water at the rate of 3,000 cubic feet per second (cusecs) to Tamil Nadu from September 28 to October 15.

The 15-day spell of 5,000 cusecs, determined by the CWRC during its meeting on September 12, is coming to an end on Wednesday. As in the past, the revised quantity of 3,000 cusecs has to be realised at Billigundulu on the inter-State border.

The meeting of the CWRC, the assisting body for the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), lasted nearly two hours and members of the panel, especially those from the States of the Cau-



**Taking a break:** A policeman takes rest after his duty during the Bengaluru bandh over the Cauvery dispute. SUDHAKARA JAIN

very basin, took part virtually.

On the CWRC's decision, chairman Saumitra Kumar Haldar told *The Hindu* from New Delhi that the date of October 15 had been chosen as it would generally mark the end of the southwest monsoon and the commencement of the northeast monsoon. To a query on whether the authority would meet in the intervening period, he said, "We will be meeting

shortly."

## Karnataka's stand

At the meeting, Karnataka pleaded its inability to continue the release of water while Tamil Nadu wanted at least 12,500 cusecs to be released for the coming weeks.

Of 6.48 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) to be received by Tamil Nadu in the last fortnight, around 5.7 tmc ft had been realised, according to an official.



The Tribune- 27- September-2023

# Sutlej has dried up, no water with state to share: Mann at NZC meet

Opposes proposal of having 3rd member in BBMB, cess on water by HP

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, SEPTEMBER 26

Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday reiterated that the state had no water to share with any other state while putting his point on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal row during the 31st Northern Zonal Council (NZC) meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Amritsar today.

"The SYL project should now be conceived as the Yamuna Sutlej Link (YSL) instead of the SYL. The Sutlej has already dried up and the need of the hour is to draw water from the Ganga and the Yamuna to Punjab through the Sutlej channel. Yamuna waters is the only solution of the water dispute," he said.

He said the state's request for the allocation of Yamuna waters was turned down on the ground that no geographical area of Punjab fell on the Yamuna basin.

On the demand of Rajasthan



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and CM Bhagwant Singh Mann at the Northern Zonal Council meeting in Amritsar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

to maintain the level of Pong and Bhakra Dams, he said, "No flood waters of the Sutlej or the Beas flow to Haryana or Rajasthan or to any other state due to which Punjab had to face the damage by floods everytime. Under the circumstances when Punjab did not get any support during the crisis from Rajasthan, it was unjustifiable that the full reservoir level of the dams should be increased."

Opposing the proposal of

having a third member in the BBMB from Rajasthan or Himachal, he said the BBMB was a body constituted under the provisions of the Punjab Reorganization Act 1966, which primarily deals with the successor states of Punjab and Haryana.

Opposing the levy of water cess by HP on power projects, the CM said HP cannot impose cess merely because Bhakra and Beas project powerhouses are in the state.

## NO PU AFFILIATION TO HRY COLLEGES

Haryana and HP withdrew their colleges from Panjab University in 1973 and 1975 and set up their own universities and stopped funding it. It was unjustified demand of Haryana to affiliate its colleges with Panjab University. Bhagwant Mann, CM

Presenting a strong case for handing over Chandigarh to Punjab, he said Chandigarh was formed as a new capital of Punjab over the land acquired from Punjab. The matter of restoration of its status as the capital of Punjab is still pending.

On the issue of Haryana's insistence of getting its colleges affiliated to PU, he said it was only Punjab which had supported this university for the last 50 years.

Hindustan- 27- September-2023

**कुछ अलग | ग्लेशियरों के बीच मानसून सीजन में झीलों का तेजी से हो रहा विस्तार, विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार- ऐसी झीलों के फटने से आ सकती है बड़ी प्राकृतिक आपदा**

# हिमालय में हलचल बढ़ाएगा हिमनद झीलों का नया आकार

■ **महेश्वर सिंह**

रुड़की। हिमालय की गोद में ग्लेशियरों के बीच खतरे की नई घंटी बज रही है। मानसून सीजन में हिमनद झीलों के आकार में लगातार बढ़ोतरी से विशेषज्ञ चिंतित हैं और इसे भविष्य के लिए खतरे का संकेत बता रहे हैं। ऐसी झीलों के फटने से बड़ी प्राकृतिक आपदा आ सकती है।

हिमनद झीलों पर किए गए एक ताजा अध्ययन में यह चौंकाने वाले खुलासा हुआ है। सिंचाई अनुसंधान संस्थान रुड़की के विशेषज्ञों ने अध्ययन में पाया कि ऐसी झीलों के आकार में 20 से 40 प्रतिशत तक

अंतर दर्ज किया गया है। रुड़की स्थित सिंचाई अनुसंधान संस्थान के विशेषज्ञ रिमोट सेंसिंग तकनीक से पिथौरागढ़ जिले में 43 तथा चमोली में 192 हिमनद झीलों के मानसून काल में हो रहे जल-प्रसार क्षेत्र का लगातार अध्ययन कर रहे हैं।

राष्ट्रीय सुदूर संवेदन केंद्र (एनआरएससी) हैदराबाद द्वारा हिमनद झीलों के वर्ष 2016 के आंकड़ों को आधार मानते हुए मौजूदा स्थिति के साथ तुलनात्मक अध्ययन किया गया। शोधकर्ताओं का कहना है कि इस कारण विभिन्न प्राकृतिक आपदा, हिमस्खलन,

**20** से 40 प्रतिशत तक अंतर दर्ज किया गया है इनके आकार में **192** चमोली और 43 पिथौरागढ़ की हिमनद झीलों का अध्ययन **07** साल पहले के आंकड़ों को आधार बनाकर तुलनात्मक शोध

भूस्खलन और हिमनदीय झीलों के विस्फोट से बाढ़ आ सकती है। लिहाजा यह खतरे का संकेत है। संस्थान के अधीक्षण अभिवर्ता



शंकर कुमार साहा ने बताया कि वर्ष 2020, 2021 और 2022 में जून से अक्टूबर तक मानसून काल में जल प्रसार क्षेत्र का अध्ययन किया

**आकार में परिवर्तन**

एक हेक्टेयर के सात, एक से पांच हेक्टेयर तक के नौ, पांच से दस हेक्टेयर तक के दो तथा दस हेक्टेयर के चार ऐसे ग्लेशियर हैं। इनमें 40% तक आकार में परिवर्तन और वृद्धि देखी गई है। इसके अलावा एक हेक्टेयर के तीन तथा एक से पांच हेक्टेयर तक के चार ऐसे ग्लेशियर हैं, जिनमें 20-40% से अधिक की वृद्धि रिकॉर्ड की गई है।

गया है। हिमनद झीलों के लिए 2022 में किए गए अध्ययन में इनके आकार में भारी अंतर देखने को मिला है। यह अध्ययन इस साल भी जारी है।

**अंटार्कटिका समुद्री बर्फ 37 साल में रिकॉर्ड सिकुड़ी**

वाशिंगटन, एंजोसी। एक नए अध्ययन में वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि अंटार्कटिका की समुद्री बर्फ अपने अधिकतम स्तर पर सिकुड़ गई है। शोधकर्ताओं के मुताबिक, इस महाद्वीप की बर्फ इस माह 1986 के पिछले रिकॉर्ड से लगभग एक मिलियन वर्ग किलोमीटर कम थी। वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि दुनियाभर में तेजी से बढ़ रही गर्मी के कारण यहां बर्फ बनने की प्रक्रिया प्रभावित हो रही है। यह शोध अमेरिका की रनो एंड आइस डेटा सेंटर ने किया है।

