

The Times of India- 29 April-2024

# Water level in Marathwada dams dips to 14% in scorching summer

**Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar:** About 920 different major, medium and minor irrigation projects from Marathwada showed a reduced live storage of 14% by Sunday, compared to 49% storage during the corresponding period last year.

The region has 44 major projects that largely cater to drinking water needs. These reservoirs have only 14% live storage. Jayakwadi major irrigation project, the lifeline of Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar and other parts of Marathwada, has less than 10% stock with more than a month to go till monsoon.

Godavari Marathwada Irrigation

Development Corporation (GMIDC) authorities said several key dams from the region can cater to drinking water needs till June. "Different water reservations are marked for reservoirs. Sin-

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**'DRINKING WATER NEEDS  
PRIORITISED TILL JUNE'**

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ce the drinking water is given a priority, major dams at least hold sufficient water to cater to drinking water needs unless they have very poor storage due to low rainfall," said S K Sabbinwar, superintendent engineer with GMIDC. TNN

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Telangana Today- 29 April-2024

# Kaleshwaram: State writes to NDSA again

**Requests to speed up probe, facilitate interim repairs on Medigadda barrage before monsoon**

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

At the behest of the Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose Judicial Commission, the State government has written once again to the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) requesting to speed up its investigation and facilitate interim repairs on the Medigadda barrage well before the onset of monsoon to save it from further damage in the event of heavy floods.

The Commission, tasked with the responsibility of scrutinising issues of negligence, irregularities, and deficiencies, if any, about planning and execution of the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages, which are integral components of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, has initiated the inquiry and completed the first round of the information gathering exercise.

Justice Ghose interacted with officials of the Irrigation Department right from the Irrigation Secretary to the Chief Engineer of the project for the initial brief-

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**The Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose Judicial Commission has initiated the inquiry and completed the first round of information gathering exercise**

ing after a power-point presentation. He was apprised of the present status of the barrage after three of its piers started sinking. He also enquired about the way out of rehabilitation. As time was already lost for taking up any kind of permanent rehabilitation works at this stage, he reportedly suggested the Irrigation Secretary expedite the process for obtaining an interim report from the NDSA panel investigating the sinking of the barrage piers and structural issues reported in other two barrages also.

He wanted the documents on planning and implementation of the projects to be submitted in original to the Judicial Commission. As the State Vigilance wing, which was tasked by the State government with the probe, had the documents, he wanted all the docu-

ments to be handed over to the Commission in original.

Photocopies of almost all the documents were submitted to the Commission, officials said, adding that at some point in time, the original documents have to be submitted to the Commission as it would be going by the veracity of each piece of paper. The documents that were submitted to the Commission included the CAG reports and the white paper the government came out with on the irrigation sector.

All the mandatory notifications due from the Commission before initiating the inquiry process were issued. He also interacted with the staff allotted for the Commission before leaving for Kolkata on Saturday. He will be taking stock of the structural issues that were reported in all three barrages, from May 6 to 8.