Telangana Today- 31- August-2022

Revise draft report on Krishna projects: TS

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Telangana urges KRMB to include its views before the fifth meeting of River Management Committee

Telangana urged the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to revise the Draft report and recommendations on various issues pertaining to projects on Krishna basin after incorporating its views before convening the fifth River Management Committee (RMC) meeting for fine-tuning and signing the report.

"It is not clear as to why our views are not being considered at all by the KRMB. Without inclusion of our views in the draft report no purpose will be served in attending the meeting," said Irrigation and Command Area Development (CAD) Engineer-in-Chief (General) C Muralidhar, in a letter to the Board member and RMC convener.

The draft report and recommendations communicated by the KRMB have not incorporated any of the proposals made by Telangana. "The KRMB included proposals made by Andhra Pradesh but not as discussion points in spite of the fact that the same was conveyed by us," he said. During the fourth RMC meeting, Telangana stated that it would come back on issues after getting instructions from the State government. However, the draft report communicated by KRMB members was bereft of views of Telangana.

Under these circumstances, Telangana has requested to include the following views in the draft report and recommendations. On sharing of power generation at Srisailam, Telangana wanted the ratio to be 76:24 (TS AP) which is in the ratio of in-basin requirements of Nagarjuna Sagar Project to be released from Srisailam for power generation as Telangana irrigation is dependent mostly on lift schemes requiring large quantity of economical, clean and green power.

During floods, both States can generate power to their full capacity without any limitation. On power generation at NSP and Pulichintala, Telangana made it clear that no releases are to be made from NSP to Krishna Delta System requirements.

With respect to reversible pumping, Telangana said that it is not possible due to practical difficulties such as maintenance issues, service mode operations and load dispatch issues.

Referring to rule curves to provide 72 TMC from NSP to KDS, Telangana said as per Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal and Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal, no water should be released from NSP to KDS requirements.

Not more than 34 TMCs should be diverted from Srisailam reservoir to outside Krishna basin by AP. However, water levels at Srisailam reservoir need not be built up only for that purpose. Telangana addressed KRMB to obtain and furnish all the information relating to the alleged clearance of Pothireddypadu Head Regulator and Srisailam Right Main Canal (SRMC), without any regard to the 1976 and 1977 agreements.

Telangana requested to make adhoc water sharing arrangement as 50:50 ratio of AP and Telangana.

The Times of India- 31- August-2022

...No cheer on river front, Yamuna dirtier despite better flow of water

Kushagra.Dixit@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The pollution in the Yamuna's water soared in August despite an increase in its volume and a better flow to clean the river, according to Delhi Pollution Control Committee's quality assessment report.

The report shows only a marginal improvement in the faecal coliform level, which was 270 times the maximum permissible limit by the time the river exited the city. The dissolved oxygen (DO) status of the river at the exit point was determined to be nil and the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) 75 mg/l, which is 25 times the safe limit.

The level of the Yamuna began rising on July 30 with the release of water from the Hathni Kund dam in Haryana. For much of the time, the water level was measured at 204 metres, around a metre below the danger mark. It was expected that with more water flowing in the Yamuna, the river quality would improve. However, the additional flow from Haryana couldn't make much difference to the state of the river.

According to the experts, while it takes a few days for the fresh flow to clean a river, the high pollution level in the river can be attributed to the additional pollutants flowing in from Haryana. "It takes some time for the river to clean up so when the excess water is released upstream. There is a lot of pollution left and the additional flow takes some time to clean the river entirely," explained environmentalist Manoj Mishra. "However, it could also be the case that the water being released upstream from Haryana was polluted too because a large volume of effluent is discharged in that state."

In July, the flow in the Yamuna was nominal, contributing to the high pollution level. According to the report that month, the faecal coliform level in the river on entering Delhi was 1,000 MPN/100ml and by the time it approached the end, reaching Asgarpur, the confluence of the Shahdara and Tughlaqabad drains, the figure was an abysmal 8,10,000 MPN/100ml — 324 times higher than the maximum permissible limit of 2500 MPN/100ml and 1,620 times higher than the desired limit of 500 MPN/100ml. According to experts, faecal coliform is found in excreta flowing into the river with untreated sewage. The higher the coliform level, the greater the presence of disease-causing pathogens in the water.

In August, the faecal coliform at the entry was 1100 MPN/100ml, rising to 6,80,000 MPN/100ml, lower than in July, by the time the river exited the city despite the diluting effect of more water. DO at the exit point was 0 and BOD was 75 mg/l, or 25 times the safe standard.

IN HOT WATER

Station	DO (min 5 mg/l)	BOD (max 3 mg/l)	Faecal coliform (max 2,500, desired 500 MPN/100ml)
JULY 2022			
Palla (in)	8.8	2	1,000
Azgarpur (out)	Nil	76	8,10,000
AUGUST 2022			
Palla (in)	10	2	1,100
Azgarpur (out)	Nil	75	6,80,000

Water samples collected from Yamuna on August 1

Level of river on July 31 — 204 metres

Danger level 205.3 metres

The total stretch of the river in Delhi is about **48 km** from Palla to Okhla barrage

22km-long urban stretch from Wazirabad barrage to Okhla barrage is most polluted

Criteria

BOD is the minimum oxygen required to treat or break the biological/organic pollutants in the water; high BOD too depicts untreated sewage

Faecal coliform is found in excreta that contaminates water through untreated sewage; the higher the level, the higher the presence of disease-causing pathogen in water

DO is presence of life in the water

File photo

Hindustan Times- 31- August-2022

Why Himachal Pradesh, U'khand need to step up flood management

By Abhishek Jha

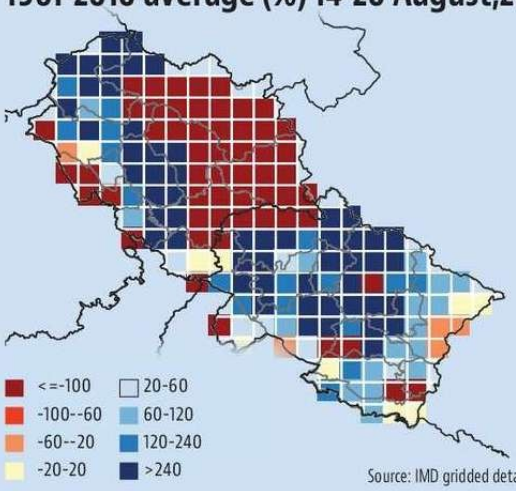
Two of India's Himalayan states, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have seen multiple instances of flash floods this monsoon season. Is this a result of abnormal rainfall, or something else? An HT analysis of various data sets shows that multiple factors, including growth in habitations, need to be taken into account to understand the growing risks of floods in these regions and that mechanical interpretation of rainfall data can be misleading. Here are five charts which explain this argument in detail.

1 While the overall monsoon is normal, the hills saw more intense rainfall events

So far, the 2022 monsoon is far from being rainiest monsoon in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. In the June 1-August 29 interval, the 10.5% and 5.2% surplus they have compared to the 1961-2010 average is ranked only 58th and 61st since 1901. This headline number, however, does not tell us about extreme rainfall events, which are the biggest cause of flash floods in the hills.

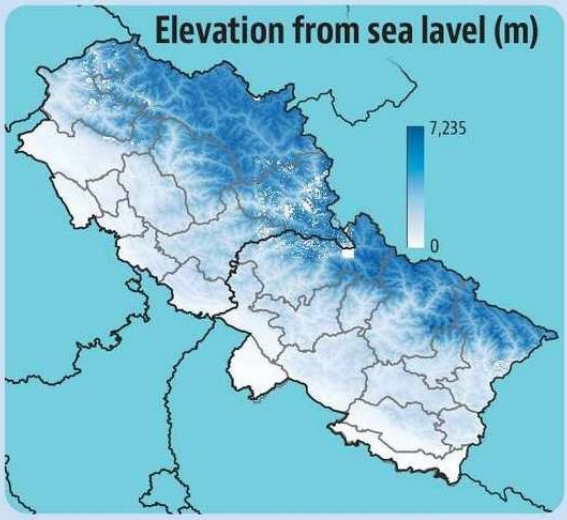
There were floods in both states in the week ending August 20. This week in 2022 was ranked 13th and 53rd since 1901 for Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand in terms of overall rainfall, but 8th and 17th for heavy and extreme intensity rain. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) classifies more than 35.5 mm rain within 24 hours as heavy and extreme rainfall events. To make matters worse, such intense rain was more than 2-3 times the 1961-2010 average in most places where it fell, which included some of the most mountainous regions of Himachal Pradesh and almost all of Uttarakhand. This is best seen by looking at the rainfall and altitude map of the two states together.

Heavy and extreme rain's deviation from 1961-2010 average (%) 14-20 August,2022



Source: IMD gridded detabase

Elevation from sea lavel (m)



Source: SRTM, USGS

Hindustan Times- 31- August-2022

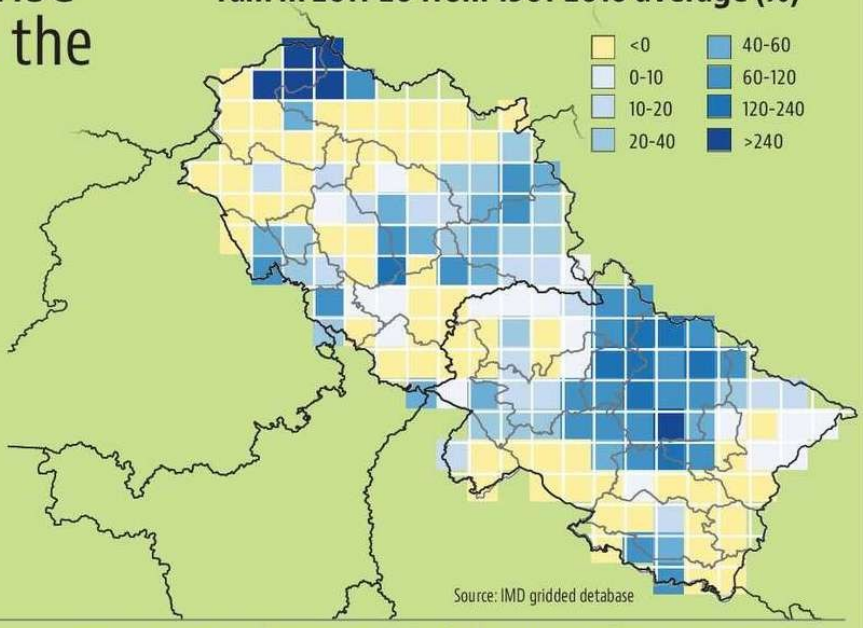
2 Rainfall became more intense in the hills in the last decade

An analysis of high intensity rainfall data from IMD shows that large parts of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have seen an increase in this in the decade ending 2020 over the period from 1961-2010. But this piece of statistical information is not enough to understand the risks of flooding in these states.

For example, the map given here shows that overall high intensity rain did not increase in a large part of Lahaul and Spiti district in the 2011-2020 decade, where a flash flood took place in early August.

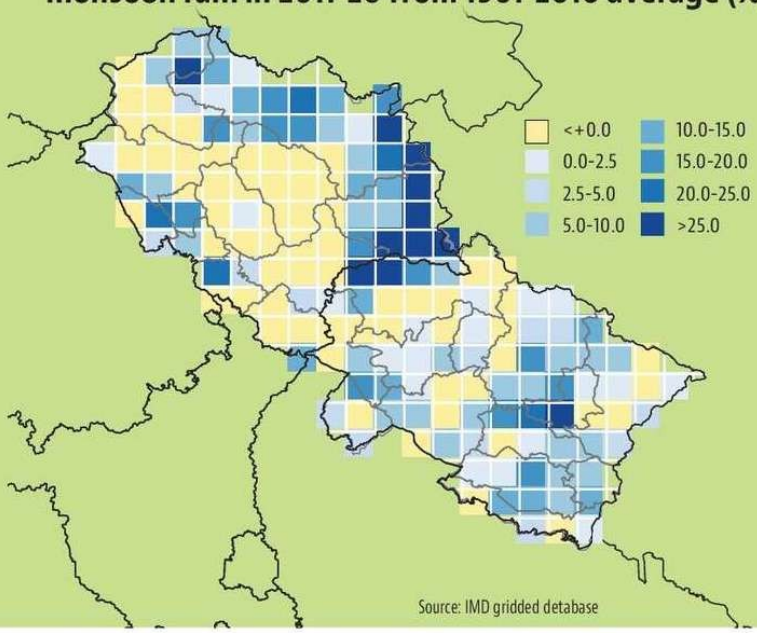
It has also decreased 5.3% if one looks at the Himachal Pradesh as a whole.

Departure of heavy and extreme monsoon rain in 2011-20 from 1961-2010 average (%)



So, this data does adequately capture flooding risks. What these numbers hide, however, are other ways in which rainfall can lead to disaster. For example, if a place received two days of 50mm rain each in the 1961-2010 decade (giving a total of 100mm of heavy intensity rain) and just one day of 80mm rain in 2011-2020, it will show a decrease in overall amount of high intensity rain. A significantly high intensity rainfall in a day than what the threshold for such classification is (80mm versus 50mm, for example) will significantly increase the risks of flooding in the hills. One way to capture this it to look at how much high intensity rain averaged per day of such rain. This number has increased even in some regions where overall high intensity rain has not, such as the Lahaul and Spiti district. The two numbers taken together show that there are hardly any regions of the two hilly states where rainfall has not become more intense.

Departure of average daily heavy and extreme monsoon rain in 2011-20 from 1961-2010 average (%)



3 Receding glaciers, dams, and urbanisation increase risk of floods

More intense rain is not the only thing that has increased the risk of disasters in the hill states. As HT reported earlier, temperatures have also increased in these states, and faster than in the rest of the country. This has increased the speed at which glaciers are receding in the Himalayas, leaving rock and sediment deposits that act like natural dams. When they breach (due to high intensity rains) they cause floods and landslides. Excess water and collapsing earth would still not be a big problem if the water was absorbed by land or did not affect human lives and property.

However, this mitigating factor has decreased fast in the past three decades, land cover data from the European Space Agency's (ESA) Climate Change Initiative (CCI) shows. This data tracks changes in majority land cover for grids of around one square kilometre area, and shows that urban areas have increased almost ten times between 1992 and 2015 in the two states. In 12 of 25 districts in the two states, all the urban area has been built only after 1992, the earliest year for which the ESA has this data. While some of this dramatic growth shown by the data can be the result of the low resolution of the dataset, it can also miss smaller changes like roads built to connect the urban areas. Whatever the exact rate of urbanisation may be, the data shows that it has been fast, increasing the risk of disaster. That risk can be lowered only if urban areas are adapted for floods and landslides.

The Telegraph- 31- August-2022

People use boats to carry bodies for cremation at the flooded Manikarnika Ghat on the banks of the Ganga in Varanasi on Monday. (PTI)

Who's the M behind ghat flood?

PIYUSH SRIVASTAVA

Lucknow: Inaugurating his government's pet project, the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, in his constituency Varanasi on December 13, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said Mughal emperor Aurangzeb had tried to "destroy" the temple town.

This monsoon, Modi's much-vaunted "beautification" project is threatening to wreck havoc on the iconic ghats of Varanasi and life around them, as many residents had feared.

As floodwaters submerged many areas of the corridor, the administration said the Ganga was flowing 74cm above the danger line of 71.26 metres and added there was no reason to panic.

Locals, however, said the turgidity of the river was not unprecedented, but the extent of the flood was. They said the constructions related to the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor had "destroyed the basic plan of the city, putting residents at risk". They accused the government of trying to "monetise the river bank in the name of beautification".

People living near the ghats are having to use wooden boats to move from one place to another because of the flood. Construction experts said the "half-baked idea" of the corridor had messed up the medieval ground water recharge mechanism that used to protect the ancient city from floods.

The experts pointed out that the long stretches of concrete platforms built along the ghats were obstructing water flow into the earth. Earlier, each set of stairs used to be separated by non-concrete stretches that allowed water to seep into the earth, preventing the river level from rising. There also used to be holes in the cement structures that allowed water to pass into the earth.

Moreover, constructions of platforms, jetties and other structures for recreational activities well into the river have narrowed it, altering the flow.

The flood has stopped all activities from Assi Ghat to Keshavdeo Ghat as water has entered around 50 metres into the city and submerged roads, shops and houses. People living within 100 metres of both banks have been evacuated.

NaMo Ghat — Khirkiya Ghat that has been renamed after the Prime Minister after its renovation — is among the worst affected.

The area from Raj Ghat to Keshavdeo Ghat, between which NaMo Ghat falls, has been developed for recreational activities with parks, a museum, sitting areas for visitors and space for business establishments in various stages of development.

Talking to **The Telegraph**, Saurabh Singh, a social worker in Varanasi, said: "The apprehensions of protesters in 2020 have come true — the government is destroying the basic plan of the city, putting the residents at risk and planning to monetise the Ganga."

"We have read that several crores were spent in renovation the erstwhile Khirkiya Ghat. Three statues depicting folded hands — two 25ft high and the other 15ft tall — have been built at NaMo Ghat. The statues have got partially submerged. The medieval kings had taken basic care to develop a water recharge mechanism along the ghats. There were porous saturation zones around the concrete stairs along the Ganga and the extra water used to seep into the earth. But such scientific mechanisms were ignored while developing the corridor," Singh said.

"The government must explain how floodwaters have submerged NaMo Ghat and entered the corridor area when the water level is below 73 metres. Water had not entered the area around Khirkiya Ghat when the river level had touched 73 metres in 2019," he added.

Kaushal Raj Sharma, the district magistrate of Varanasi, said the government had deployed 58 boats on both sides of the river to help 15,318 affected people from 119 gram sabhas and wards in the city and its outskirts to either evacuate them or provide them relief materials.

Rajasthan Patrika- 31- August-2022

गंगा, यमुना, सरयू में पानी बढ़ा | डिप्टी सीएम केशव ने किया प्रयागराज में दौरा, 129 नाव सड़कों पर चलाने का निर्देश

डूबने की ओर अग्रसर प्रयागराज, काशी, अयोध्या नगरी

लखनऊ @ पत्रिका. उत्तर प्रदेश में इन दिनों गंगा यमुना सरयू जैसे बड़ी नदियों का तांडव लगभग 34 जिलों में में देखने को मिल रहा है। जबकि कासगंज, कानपुर, कन्नौज, प्रयागराज, काशी, गोंडा, अयोध्या, कुशीनगर में हालात बदतर होते जा रहे हैं। जहां 200 से अधिक गांवो का संपर्क मुख्य मार्ग से टूट चुका है, वहीं प्रयागराज, काशी में अब लोगों के मन में 1978 में आए जल प्रलय का नज़ारा आँखों के सामने घूमने लगा है। सोमवार को सुबह से ही गंगा और यमुना का जलस्तर स्थिर तो हुआ हिय लेकिन समस्याएँ जस की तस बनीं हुई हैं। वहीं सरयू में जलस्तर बढ़ने से गोंडा और अयोध्या

जिले के कई क्षेत्रों में सकड़ों गाँव में कटान की समस्या बढ़ती जा रही है, जबकि बस्ती जिले में दर्जनों गाँव खाली कराए गए हैं।

प्रयागराज में सिंचाई एवं जल संसाधन विभाग द्वारा जारी आंकड़ों के मुताबिक गंगा और यमुना का जलस्तर सोमवार सुबह से स्थिर है। हालांकि 2013 में आई बाढ़ के अधिकतम बिंदु से महज एक मीटर कम पर गंगा और यमुना बह रही हैं। अगर फिर से पानी बढ़ना शुरू हुआ तो व्यापक पैमाने पर आबादी बाढ़ की चपेट में आ जाएगी। जबकि अभी भी गंगा यमुना किनारे पड़ने वाले घरों और गांवों में घरों के ऊपर से पानी चल रहा है।

प्रयागराज में गंगा 86.08 और यमुना का जलस्तर 85.86 टीका हुआ है, ये खतरे के निशान से काफी ऊपर है। सिंचाई एवं जल संसाधन विभाग द्वारा सुबह 10 बजे जारी आंकड़ों के मुताबिक फाफामऊ में गंगा का जलस्तर 85.93, छतनाग में 85.8 मीटर और नैनी में यमुना का जलस्तर 85.86 पहुंच गया है। तीनों ही स्थानों पर गंगा और यमुना खतरे के निशान (84.73) मीटर से करीब एक मीटर ऊपर बह रही हैं।

डिप्टी सीएम केशव का दौरा: डिप्टी सीएम केशव मौर्य ने सोमवार को क्षेत्रीय बाढ़ प्रबंधन अधिकारियों के साथ दौरा किया। इस समय बाढ़ प्रभावितों की सहायता के लिए शहर में 17 राहत शिविर बनाए हैं। अब तक इन में 6000 लोगों को रखा गया है। जिला प्रशासन ने 128 नावों को हर गली मोहल्ले और सड़क पर चलाने का आदेश दे रखा है। लेकिन ये सब नाकाफी साबित हो रहा है।

काशी में शिव गूंज के साथ बढ़ रहीं गंगा : पिछले एक सप्ताह से बढ़ रही गंगा का शिव की नगरी काशी में रौद्र रूप सोमवार को भी जारी है। जिला प्रशासन और चलाई गई योजनाओं के बावजूद भी हालात के आगे कमजोर पड़ते हुए दिखाई दे रहे हैं। पानी चढ़ता ही जा रहा है और लोग घर खाली कर रहे है। धीरे-धीरे बढ़ाव के कारण जलस्तर वर्ष 2013 के रिकॉर्ड 72.630 मीटर के करीब पहुंच रहा है। रविवार शाम ही बाढ़ का पानी काशी विश्वनाथ धाम की दहलीज तक पहुंच गया है। धाम से सटे मणिकर्णिका घाट को डूबोकर अब ऊपर घुसने लगा है। शहरों की सड़कों पर गंगा का पानी दिखाई देने लगा है।