Telangana Today - 3 April-2024

# Kaleshwaram to the rescue again

#### Officials release 800 cusecs from Mallanna Sagar to its ayacut

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

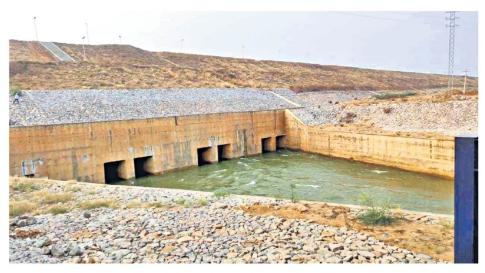
The Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) has one more victory to its credit in its fight for water under the multi-stage Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Close on the heels of the ultimatum issued by BRS leader and Siddipet MLA T Harish Rao, Irrigation officials on Tuesday released 800 cusecs of water from Mallanna Sagar to its ayacut. The emergency release of water was intended to reach out to the villages with dried up sources.

Harish Rao on Tuesday demanded the government to release water from Mallanna Sagar within 24 hours, failing which people in the command area of the project would lift the gates of the project on their own. Mallanna Sagar, which is viewed as the mother of all reservoirs in the Kaleshwaram project, is the biggest artificial reservoir in the country and expected to irrigate 11 lakh acres of land.

But the crops raised under the project were on the verge of withering with water not being released.

The project has a gross storage capacity of 50 tmc. In all, eight heavy motors were installed at the Thukapur pump house in Thokkuta mandal in Siddipet district for lifting water into the project. Nearly 62 per cent of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project ayacut is encompassed by the Mallanna Sagar reservoir.

Earlier, on Sunday, in



Water being released into Kudavelly Vagu from Mallanna Sagar, on Tuesday.

Nearly 62% of the Kaleshwaram LI Project ayacut is encompassed by the Mallanna Sagar reservoir

view of the mounting pressure from people in the water-starved villages, the State government had pumped water drawn from the Yellampalli reservoir to the SRSP flood flow canal giving about 0.1 tmc of water to quench the thirst of people in a cluster of villages in erstwhile Karimnagar district.

The government also started drawing 1000 cusecs of water from the Nagarjuna Sagar to meet the drinking water needs in the command of the Nagarjuna Sagar left canal.

### Irrigation officials meet Justice Ghose over KLIS

HYDERABAD: The judicial probe by Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose into alleged irregularities in the implementation of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) is set to commence soon.

A team of irrigation officials led by Irrigation Secretary Rahul Bojja met him in Kolkata on Tuesday and handed over the terms of reference letter pertaining to the inquiry, and briefed him the highlights of the multi-stage irrigation project.

The inquiry will delve into the project execution and financial matters. The judicial commission is expected to submit the report within 100 days. It

was just a formal meeting aimed at making Justice Ghose familiar with the execution of the project and its barrages, officials said.

The State ordered the judicial probe as three piers of the Medigadda barrage were found sinking, besides seepage issues spotted in Annaram barrage. The National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) has also been tasked with the investigation into the structural issues of the barrages.

In addition, the Vigilance Department has conducted an inquiry ahead of other agencies being drafted for the purpose.

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# Irrigation water release halted

NARENDER PULLOOR I DC NIZAMABAD, APRIL 2

To cater the drinking water needs of north Telangana districts, Sriramsagar project (SRSP) officials decided to halt the release of water for agriculture in view of the low storage level.

Water stands at 1059.30 feet in the SRSP against its full level of 1091 ft. Last year same day the project had water at 1068.80 ft. Against last year's storage of 26.646 tmc ft (thousand million cubic feet), the reservoir currently holds less than half, at 12.852

ayacut should utilise the water as a last chance in the current season, SRSP officials said. They said farmers must utilise the available water judiciously. For drinking purposes, 231 cusecs of water was being released.

tmc ft. Earlier, 7,000 cusecs of water was released through the Kakatiya main canal for agriculture, which had decreased to 6,000 cusecs. It would be tapered down to 3,000 cusecs and eventually stopped on

Wednesday.

Farmers under SRSP ayacut should utilise the water as a last chance in the current season, SRSP officials said. They said farmers must utilise the available water judiciously. For drinking purposes, 231 cusecs of water was being released to Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Nirmal, Adilabad, Jagtial districts.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, an SRSP official said that water available in the project will meeting drinking water needs up to July when the monsoon rains are expected.

Amar Ujala - 3 April-2024

## सूख रहीं नदियां, 13 में नहीं बचा पानी

### केंद्रीय जल आयोग के जारी आंकड़ों में सामने आई चिंताजनक स्थिति

नई दिल्ली। भारत की नदियां लगातार सूख रही हैं। महानदी और पेन्नार के बीच पूर्व की ओर बहने वाली 13 नदियों में इस समय पानी नहीं है। इनमें रुशिकुल्या, बाहुदा, वंशधारा, नागावली, सारदा, वराह, तांडव, एलुरु, गुंडलकम्मा, तम्मिलेरु, मुसी, पलेरु और मुनेरु शामिल हैं।

केंद्रीय जल आयोग (सीडब्ल्यूसी) की ओर से जारी आंकड़ों के विश्लेषण के बाद यह बात सामने आई है। आंध्र प्रदेश, तेलंगाना और ओडिशा राज्यों के 86,643 वर्ग किमी क्षेत्र से बहती हुईं नदियां सीधे बंगाल की खाड़ी में गिरती हैं। इस बेसिन में कृषि भूमि कुल क्षेत्रफल का लगभग 60 फीसदी है। विशेषज्ञों के मुताबिक, गर्मी के चरम से पहले ही यह स्थिति चिंताजनक है। संयुक्त बेसिन में महत्वपूर्ण शहर विशाखापत्तनम, विजयनगरम, पूर्वी गोदावरी, पश्चिम गोदावरी, श्रीकाकुलम और काकीनाड़ा शामिल हैं। एजेंसी



#### 150 प्रमुख जलाशयों में जल भंडारण क्षमता गिरी

देश के 150 प्रमुख जलाशयों में जल भंडारण श्रमता 36 फीसदी तक गिर चुकी है। छह जलाशयों में कोई जल भंडारण दर्ज नहीं किया गया है। वहीं, 86 जलाशय ऐसे हैं जिनमें भंडारण या तो 40 प्रतिशत या उससे कम है। सीडब्ल्यूसी के अनुसार, इनमें से ज्यादातर दक्षिणी राज्यों, महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में हैं। **2,86,000** गांवों पर संकट

11 राज्यों के लगभग 2,86,000 गांव गंगा बेसिन पर स्थित हैं, जहां पानी की उपलब्धता धीरे-धीरे घट रही है। विशेषज्ञों के मुताबिक, यह चिंता की बात है, क्योंकि यहां कृषि भूमि कुल बेसिन क्षेत्र का 65.57 फीसदी है। नर्मदा, तापी, गोदाबरी, महानदी और साबरमती नदी घाटियों में उनकी क्षमता के सापेक्ष क्रमशः 46.2 फीसदी, 56, 34.76, 49.53 और 39.54 फीसदी भंडारण रिकॉर्ड किया गया।

कर्नाटक और तेलंगाना में कम वर्षा भी अहम कारण...कर्नाटक और तेलंगाना जैसे राज्य वर्षा की कमी के कारण सूखे से जूझ रहे हैं, जिससे देश के प्रमुख जलाशय सूख गए हैं। चिंताजनक बात यह है कि इसमें से 7.8% क्षेत्र अत्यधिक सुखे की स्थिति में हैं।