

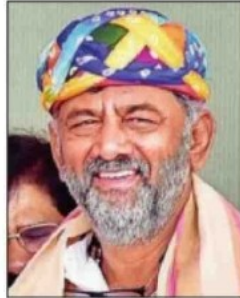
The Times of India- 04- July-2023

# Min: TN govt will never allow Mekedatu dam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Reiterating that Karnataka government's Mekedatu dam proposal was contrary to the judgment of the Supreme Court, Tamil Nadu water resources minister Duraimurugan on Monday said the state government would never allow the construction of the dam. "It is certain that the TN government will take appropriate measures regarding the Mekedatu issue. Let us all work together on this matter," the minister said in a statement.

He said reports of Karnataka deputy CM D K Shivakumar discussing project clearance with Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat was regrettable. The state government would present strong arguments in the court and stop the efforts of the Karnataka government, he said. "The Karnataka government has a habit of raising the Mekedatu issue from time to time. I don't know if



**Tamil Nadu water resources minister Duraimurugan said reports of Karnataka deputy CM D K Shivakumar discussing project clearance with Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat was regrettable**

this is due to political compulsion or something else," the minister said, recalling chief minister M K Stalin's repeated requests to PM Modi to not allow the Karnataka government's proposal, besides his visits to Shekhawat in the last two years.

The Cauvery water management authority did not take up the agenda of Mekedatu dam plan on several occasions due to strong resistance from the Tamil Nadu government. Duraimurugan sought to assure that the government would initiate all efforts to safeguard the interests of the state and provide uninterrupted supply of Cauvery water for agri-

culture. The government has been taking measures "at all levels" to get its due share of Cauvery water. The water resources secretary has written to the authority chairman on July 3 to make good the shortfall for the month of June, he said.

Former chief minister O Panneerselvam said, "Whenever the DMK is in power, the neighbouring states have a habit of taking measures against Tamil Nadu." TMC leader G K Vasanth said Shivakumar's statement was intimidating the delta farmers, while AMMK chief TTV Dinakaran said Karnataka's move was a "betrayal" of the people of Tamil Nadu.

Telangana Today- 04- July-2023

## *Water for every acre, household*



**AS PER PLAN:** Water being lifted from the Saraswathi pumphouse of the Kaleshwaram project at Kasipet in Manthani mandal of Peddapalli district on Monday. Following a review meeting by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao on irrigation projects, the officials lifted water from the Kaleshwaram project.

The Hindu- 04- July-2023

## Clearing the water

India must give a bigger push to scheme to deliver potable water

**A**ccess to potable tap water is a basic necessity. However, of the roughly 25 crore households in India (2016), a tap water connection that delivers 55 litres per capita every day of potable water is a rarity in most of rural India, which accounts for about 19.5 crore households. In August 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised that rural households would be assured of piped, potable water by 2024 – before his government's tenure ended. When he made that commitment, only about 3.2 crore, or about 16% of rural households, were so connected. Today, those figures stand at 64%, a substantial increase but still below the target. In recent years, the Jal Shakti Ministry, which has labelled this plan of providing piped water connections as the 'Har Ghar Jal' missions, has consistently underlined the scale of the exercise. Since 2019, about nine crore households have their own exclusive access to piped water. This is apart from connections to village schools, anganwadis and community buildings. Yet, for all this scale, it is unlikely that all of rural India will be connected by April 2023, as per Mr. Modi's claim. The COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war reportedly caused the mission to slow down considerably, government officials claim, by impeding access to pipes and civil construction necessary to the enterprise. Realistically, it is unlikely that even 75% of households will be connected by this time. While this too, by no means, is an insignificant achievement, the challenge is the reliability of these numbers.

The figures reported by the Jal Shakti Ministry are solely based on data reported by States. One proxy that presents a discouraging picture is the number of villages that have been certified as 'Har Ghar Jal', or having all houses fully connected. Only 1,68,157 villages have been reported by States as 'Har Ghar Jal' and only 59,000 or about 35% have been 'certified' – meaning their gram panchayats have formally acknowledged compliance. The overwhelming fraction of villages have somewhere between half or three-fourths of their households connected. An independent assessment commissioned by the Jal Shakti Ministry sampled about 300,000 households in 13,300 villages and reported 62% households as connected in October last year. That is good but too small a sample to be representative. It also emerges that the large States with 100% compliance, i.e., Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, already started on a fairly high base in 2019. The Centre must put in place a mechanism that discloses the scheme's performance on the ground in a transparent way.



The Hindu- 04- July-2023

# Tamil Nadu flags shortage in its share of Cauvery water

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Objecting to the deficit in its share of water received from Karnataka, the Tamil Nadu government on Monday wrote to the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) flagging the issue and seeking directions to the neighbouring State to release Tamil Nadu's actual share for July as per the schedule.

Tamil Nadu Secretary for Water Resources Department wrote the letter to the CWMA on July 3, Minister for Water Resources Duraimurugan said in a statement. Wondering why Karnataka kept bringing



Following Tamil Nadu's objection to the proposal to build a dam at Mekedatu, the issue was not taken on agenda during meetings of Cauvery Water Management Authority held this year. K. MURALI KUMAR

up the Mekedatu issue every now and then and whether it was due to "political compulsion", he reiterated that Tamil Nadu "would never permit" a dam at the site.

The Tamil Nadu govern-

ment would block the efforts to construct a dam across the Cauvery at Mekedatu by placing strong arguments when the cases relating to this issue come up for hearing in the Supreme Court, Mr. Durai-

murugan said.

"The Tamil Nadu government will take all necessary steps to protect the rights of the State and provide uninterrupted water supply for agriculture," he added.

Contending that the Tamil Nadu government was taking necessary efforts "at all levels" to receive its share of Cauvery water in line with the judgment of the Supreme Court, he said Tamil Nadu had urged the CWMA during its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on June 16 to issue a direction to Karnataka to provide Tamil Nadu's due share.

The deficit in Tamil Nadu's share for June was also

flagged during a meeting of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) held on June 30.

## 'Meeting regrettable'

Terming as "regrettable" the meeting of Karnataka's Deputy Chief Minister with the Union Minister for Jal Shakti over permission for the Mekedatu proposal, Mr. Duraimurugan pointed out that the proposal was against the judgment of the Supreme Court.

He further recalled that Chief Minister M.K. Stalin reiterated the State's opposition to the proposal when he met the Prime Minister on June 17, 2021; March 31, 2022 and May 26, 2022.

The Morning Standard- 04- July-2023

# TN min heads to Delhi over dam issue

To meet Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat over Cauvery dam at Mekedatu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

TAMIL Nadu Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan will meet Union Jal Sakthi Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in New Delhi on Wednesday to request the centre not to give permission to Karnataka government for building a dam across the Cauvery at Mekedatu.

The minister, who will be leaving Chennai on Tuesday evening with senior officials, may also take up the issue of failure by Karnataka to release full quota of Cauvery water for the month of June to Tamil Nadu and the need to release the water due for July immediately.

Duraimurugan may also meet union minister for mines Pralhad Joshi during his visit, sources said.

Meanwhile, the minister, in a statement issued in Chennai on Monday, said the Karnataka government's plan to build a dam at Mekedatu is against the verdict of the Supreme Court and the Union Jal Sakthi ministry has repeatedly said the approval for the project will not be given without the consent of Tamil Nadu. He also pointed out that cases filed by Tamil Nadu are pending before the



A view of river Cauvery at Mekedatu | FILE PHOTO

## K'TAKA NOT RELEASING WATER ON AGENDA TOO

Tamil Nadu Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan, who will be leaving Chennai on Tuesday evening with senior officials, may also take up the issue of failure by Karnataka to release full quota of Cauvery water for the month of June to Tamil Nadu and the need to release the water due for July immediately. He may also meet union minister for mines Pralhad Joshi during his visit

Supreme Court. When these cases come up for hearing, Tamil Nadu government will put forth strong arguments before the court to thwart Karnataka's attempts to build the dam, he said.

Duraimurugan said the state

has been making all efforts to get its share of Cauvery water as per the SC verdict. During the last meeting of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) held on June 16, Tamil Nadu water resources secretary Sandeep Saxena had

pointed out that the full quota of water due for June was not received from Karnataka. The issue was also raised during the meeting of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee held on June 30. The secretary also wrote a letter to CWMA chairman on these issues.

The minister said there are reports that Karnataka deputy chief minister DK Shivakumar discussed the Mekedatu issue with Jal Sakthi minister on June 30. "This is unfortunate since Karnataka's plan is violative of the SC verdict and Chief Minister MK Stalin, during his earlier meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, had urged him not to allow Karnataka to build the dam. The issue was also not taken up for discussion during the CWMA meetings held on February 10, April 11, and June 16, Duraimurugan said.

Over the past few days, opposition parties — AIADMK, BJP and PMK — have been criticising the DMK government on the issue. On Monday, BJP state president K Annamalai said the CM would be compromising on the state's rights if he takes part in the opposition meeting in the wake of Karnataka's stand to build the dam.



Dainik Jagran- 04- July-2023

# छह माह में थोड़ा सुधार, बहुत काम है बाकी

एलजी व दिल्ली सरकार में यमुना की सफाई का श्रेय लेने की रही होड़, लेकिन पानी नहीं हुआ साफ

संजीव गुप्ता • नई दिल्ली

नौ दिन चले अढ़ाई कोस... यह कहावत यमुना नदी की सफाई के संदर्भ में एकदम सटीक बैठती है। एलजी वीके सक्सेना और दिल्ली सरकार के बीच सफाई का श्रेय लेने की होड़ के बीच एक और डेडलाइन 30 जून बीत गई, लेकिन दिल्ली में 22 किमी के दायरे में बह रही यमुना में कहीं भी पानी साफ नहीं हो पाया। आलम यह है कि यमुना में बह रहे कचरे को निकालने और किनारों व डूब क्षेत्र का सुंदरीकरण भी आधे हिस्से, यानी 11 किमी में ही हो पाया है।

बता दें कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में सरकार भले बदलती रही हों, लेकिन यमुना की हालत में कोई सुधार नहीं आया। यह साल-दर-साल बदहाल ही होती गई। करोड़ों रुपये भी यमुना की 'गाद' में बह गया। हैरत की बात यह कि विधानसभा चुनाव में हर बार मुद्दा बनने के बाद भी यमुना अपनी बेबसी पर आंसू ही बहाती रही है।

जनवरी में एनजीटी द्वारा गठित उच्चस्तरीय समिति के अध्यक्ष रूप में एलजी वीके सक्सेना ने 30 जून तक यमुना में उल्लेखनीय सुधार करने का दावा किया था। छह माह की कार्ययोजना भी तैयार कराई थी। इसके तहत दिल्ली में 22 किमी के यमुना स्ट्रेच को 11-11 किमी के दो हिस्सों में बांटा गया था। तीन सूत्रीय योजना थी- यमुना के पानी में बह

● सिग्नेचर ब्रिज से आइटीओ तक 11 किमी तक ही हुआ कचरा निकालने और किनारों के सुंदरीकरण का कार्य

● 30 जून तक उल्लेखनीय सुधार का दावा किया था, छह माह की कार्ययोजना भी बनाई थी



सिग्नेचर ब्रिज के समीप यमुना से कचरा तो साफ हो गया, लेकिन नजफगढ़ से आ रहे केमिकलयुक्त पानी से यमुना गंदी ही नजर आ रही है ● फोटो: प्रकाश मिश्र

## राजनिवास ने कहा- चरणबद्ध तरीके से चल रहा काम

यमुना की सफाई के लिए चरणबद्ध तरीके से काम चल रहा है। कुछ हद तक सफलता मिली है, आने वाले महीनों में और मिलने की संभावना है। जो अड़चने हैं, उन्हें भी दूर करने की यथासंभव कोशिशें की जा रही हैं।

रहा कचरा निकाला जाएगा, डूब क्षेत्र को विकसित किया जाएगा और घाटों का कायाकल्प होगा।

अब यदि 30 जून तक की स्थिति पर गौर करें, तो पहले 11 किमी, यानी सिग्नेचर ब्रिज से आइटीओ तक वाकई काम नजर आता है। पानी में तैर रहे कचरे को निकाल लिया गया है, दोबारा कचरा न ला जाए, इस निमित्त नदी के किनारों

पर प्रादेशिक सेना के 100 जवान भी तैनात कर दिए गए हैं। इसके अलावा घाटों व डूब क्षेत्र से अतिक्रमण हटाकर वहां हरा-भरा माहौल बना दिया गया है। पिछले दिनों इस हिस्से में नेवी की बोट का ट्रायल भी सफल रहा। लेकिन, आइटीओ से ओखला तक 11 किमी के हिस्से में यह काम भी अभी तक शुरू नहीं हो पाया है।

## यमुना की स्थिति में सुधार के लिए किए जा रहे प्रयास

● एनजीटी ने अपने हाथ में ली जिम्मेदारी और जनवरी 2023 में एलजी के नेतृत्व में उच्चस्तरीय समिति बनाई

● इसकी रिपोर्ट एनजीटी ले रहा है, हर पखवाड़े एलजी भी यमुना की सफाई पर समीक्षा बैठक कर रहे हैं

● नालों से प्लास्टिक कचरा और गंदगी मशीनों से निकाली जा रही है और दोबारा न डले, इसके लिए प्रादेशिक सेना की बटालियन यमुना के किनारे तैनात कर दी गई है

● जो नाले नदी में गिरते थे, उनमें

से कुछ पर जाली लगा दी गई है, ताकि कचरा नदी में न जाए

● जल बोर्ड के पुराने एसटीपी की क्षमता बढ़ाई गई है और नए एसटीपी बनाने का काम तेजी से चल रहा है

● पिछले माह अनधिकृत क्षेत्रों में चल रही सी से अधिक डाइंग यूनिट बंद की गई हैं, पहले इन्हें नोटिस दिया जाता था, अब सीधे सील किया जा रहा है और साथ ही बिजली-पानी का कनेक्शन काटा जा रहा है

## कहां आ रही अड़चन

● राजनिवास और दिल्ली सरकार के बीच तनाव की कारण नहीं मिल पा रही प्रयासों की गति

● राजधानी में छोटे-बड़े कुल 122 नालों की गंदगी को यमुना में गिरने से रोका जाना है, लेकिन अभी तक एक चौथाई नालों पर भी रोक

नहीं लग सकी है

● हरियाणा से आने वाली औद्योगिक गंदगी को रोकने के लिए वहां के मुख्यमंत्री मनोहर लाल से भी मदद मांगी गई है, लेकिन वहां की औद्योगिक इकाइयों से रसायनयुक्त प्रदूषण आना जारी है।

कहा जा रहा है कि इस हिस्से में आठ जुलाई से यह कार्य शुरू होने की संभावना है। कार्य को पूरा होने में कितने माह लगेंगे, यह अभी तय नहीं है।

सबसे चिंताजनक यह कि ऊपर से भले ही यमुना का पानी साफ दिखाई दे, लेकिन इसमें नीचे तक मिले प्रदूषक तत्व कहीं भी कम नहीं हुए हैं। दिल्ली प्रदूषण नियंत्रण

समिति की जून की रिपोर्ट पर ही गौर करें तो मार्च, अप्रैल, मई और जून में वर्षा के बावजूद यमुना का पानी नहाने लायक भी केवल पल्ला और वजीराबाद में ही है, आचमन योग्य कहीं भी नहीं है। कश्मीरी गेट तक आते-आते यह पानी नहाने लायक भी नहीं रह जाता।