

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1664

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2024

RELEASE OF CAUVERY WATER

1664. SHRI SELVAGANAPATHI T.M.

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee has asked the Government of Karnataka to ensure the flow of 11,500 cusecs of water at Biligundlu every day till July 31 to supply water for Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Karnataka did not maintain the flow of water into the river for environmental purposes between February and May and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the current year is being treated as a normal year and inflow into the river also remains normal and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC), in its 99th meeting, held on 11th July 2024, directed Karnataka for release from its reservoirs, so that the cumulative realisation at Biligundulu is 1.00 TMC per day (on an average flow of about 11,500 cusecs) during the period from 12.07.2024 to 31.07.2024.

(c) As per the Final Award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT), as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the total yield of the Cauvery River Basin upto Lower Coleroon Anicut (LCA) has been determined to be about 740 TMC at 50% dependability.

Out of the above allocation of 740 TMC, 10 TMC of water was allocated for environmental purposes.

Further, as per the Final Award of CWDT, as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 16.02.2018, the State of Karnataka would be required to release 177.25 TMC of water at the inter-state border with Tamil Nadu, i.e., at Biligundulu (CWC G&D site) in a Normal Year.

From 1st June to 31st January, the stipulated flows and the actual cumulative flows realized during the period from 01.06.2023 to 31.01.2024 were as follows:-

Period	Stipulated flows to be ensured in a normal year as per the Final Award of the CWDT, as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court (in TMC)	Actual cumulative flows realized (in TMC)
1 st June to 31 st January	167.250	76.724

Also, the Stipulated flows in a Normal Water Year from 1st February to 31st May and actual flows realized from 1st February, 2024 to 31st May 2024 were as follows

Month	Stipulated flows to be ensured in a normal year as per the Final Award of the CWDT, as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court (in TMC)	Actual cumulative flows realized (in TMC)
February	2.5	0.660
March	2.5	0.940
April	2.5	0.438
May	2.5	2.656
Total	10.00	4.694

Thus, the Stipulated flows to be ensured in a Normal water year and the Actual cumulative flows realized during the Water Year 2023- 2024 were as follows.

Period	Stipulated flows to be ensured in a normal year as per the Final Award of the CWDT, as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court (in TMC)	Actual cumulative flows realized (in TMC)
1 st June 2023 to 31 st May 2024	177.250	81.418

The above tables indicate that the actual cumulative flows realized at Biligundulu during Water Year 2023-24 were less than the stipulated flows to be ensured in a Normal Water year, due to deficient rainfall, particularly during South-West monsoon.

(d) As per the Final Order of CWDT, the “Normal year” means a year in which the total yield of the Cauvery Basin is 740 TMC. Further the “Water Year” means the year commencing on 1st June and ending 31st May. During the current Water Year 2024-25 (Water Year is from 01st June to 31st May), 02 meetings of the Authority and 03 meetings of the Regulation Committee have been held so far.

In the 32nd meeting of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) held on 24th July 2024 the Hydro-meteorological condition in the Cauvery basin was deliberated in detail. It was noted by the Authority that the cumulative net inflows received in the four designated reservoirs in the Cauvery basin in the State of Karnataka, during the period from 01.06.2024 to 22.07.2024 is 118.245 TMC, whereas the average cumulative net inflows for the last 30 years during the same period was 90.458 TMC.
