

CWRC Directs Water Release to Tamil Nadu Amid Deficit

The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) recommended releasing water to Tamil Nadu after reviewing reservoir inflow deficits in Karnataka.

CWRC is a statutory body operating under the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to monitor reservoir levels and regulate water releases among basin states.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **CWRC** meeting was held in Delhi on **July 28, 2026**, chaired by **CWRC** Chief **Vineet Gupta**.
- Net water inflow into Karnataka's **four main reservoirs** suffered a **60%** shortfall compared to 30-year average data.
- The committee evaluated the **water distress** situation across the basin while determining the release quantum.
- Releasing **3,500 cusecs** daily for **15 days** provides approximately **4.5 TMC ft** of water to Tamil Nadu.
- The recommendation aims to meet immediate agricultural and drinking water needs in the **Cauvery delta** region.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

River Cauvery originates at **Talakaveri** in the **Brahmagiri Hills** of Kodagu district, Karnataka.

Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (**CWDT**) was constituted on **June 2, 1990** under Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, **1956**.

Supreme Court issued its final judgment on Cauvery dispute on **February 16, 2018**, allocating **177.25 TMC ft** water annually to Tamil Nadu.

Cauvery Water Management Authority (**CWMA**) and CWRC were constituted in **June 2018** as per Supreme Court directions.

The Cauvery basin spread comprises **Tamil Nadu (54%)**, **Karnataka (42%)**, Kerala (3.5%), and Puducherry (0.5%).

Major right-bank tributaries of Cauvery in Tamil Nadu include **Bhavani**, **Amaravathi**, Noyyal, and Moyar.

The Grand Anicut (**Kallanai**) was constructed across river Cauvery by Chola King **Karikalan** in the **2nd century CE**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

CWRC recommended releasing 3,500 cusecs daily for 15 days (~4.5 TMC ft) to Tamil Nadu.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Group 1, Group 2/2A, and Group 4 exams under Unit 3 (Rivers of TN) and Inter-State Disputes.

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