

Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir Issue: TN CM Urges PM Intervention

TN Chief Minister requested PM Narendra Modi not to grant approval for Karnataka's proposed Mekedatu project without compliance with CWDT award and Supreme Court verdict.

Mekedatu is a proposed balancing reservoir across the Cauvery river by Karnataka, strongly opposed by lower riparian Tamil Nadu to protect its water allocation.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- TN Chief Minister wrote to PM **Narendra Modi** seeking intervention to withhold statutory or administrative approvals for Karnataka's proposed **Mekedatu project**.
- The CM stressed that any project on the Cauvery river must strictly adhere to the **Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal** (CWDT) final award and the **2018 Supreme Court judgment**.
- The letter highlighted the need to safeguard the riparian rights of lower riparian state **Tamil Nadu** and ensure its rightful share of water.
- The Chief Minister requested the withdrawal of a reply given by Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti **Raj Bhushan Choudhary** in the **Rajya Sabha** on **July 27, 2026**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Article 262 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to adjudicate disputes relating to waters of inter-state rivers or river valleys.

The **Inter-State River Water Disputes Act** was enacted by Parliament in **1956** under the provisions of Article 262.

Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) was constituted on **June 2, 1990** under the chairmanship of Justice **V. Chittatosh Mookerjee**.

Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal issued its final award on **February 5, 2007**, determining annual water allocations among TN, Karnataka, Kerala, and Puducherry.

Supreme Court of India delivered its final verdict on the Cauvery river water dispute on **February 16, 2018**.

Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) was constituted on **June 1, 2018** to implement the Supreme Court verdict.

Cauvery River originates at **Talakaveri** in the Brahmagiri range of Kodagu district, Karnataka, and empties into the Bay of Bengal at **Poompuhar**, Tamil Nadu.

Mekedatu (meaning 'goat's leap' in Kannada) is located at the confluence of Cauvery and **Arkavathi** rivers in **Ramanagara** district, Karnataka.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Article 262 empowers Parliament to adjudicate inter-state river water disputes (Act enacted in 1956).

Syllabus Relevance: High exam relevance for TNPSC Polity (Article 262, Inter-State Water Disputes Act 1956) and TN Geography (Cauvery river basin).

Daily Current Affairs

Read the most important daily exam-relevant news summaries easily on Essaar.

[Read Online: essaaracademy.in/ca](https://essaaracademy.in/ca)