GEOGRAPHY & POLITY 12 October 2026

Supreme Court questions Tamil Nadu on Cauvery water backlog amid Karnataka drought

The Supreme Court questioned Tamil Nadu regarding Karnataka releasing the Cauvery water backlog amidst drought conditions.

A Supreme Court hearing concerning the Cauvery river water-sharing dispute and backlog water release between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court** heard the Cauvery water-sharing case on Monday, **October 12, 2026**.
- **Tamil Nadu** stated that an **11.719 tmcft** shortfall in water release is severely hurting Samba crop cultivation.
- The Supreme Court questioned how **Karnataka** could clear the water backlog when it faces drought and water scarcity.
- **Karnataka** cited severe water scarcity and drinking water requirements as constraints.
- The **Supreme Court** reserved its order on the Cauvery water backlog petition.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) was constituted by the Central Government in **June 1990** under the **Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956**.

The **Cauvery Water Management Authority** (CWMA) was established by the Central Government in **2018** to implement the CWDT award as modified by the Supreme Court.

Article 262 of the Indian Constitution provides for the adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-state rivers or river valleys.

The Inter-State Water Disputes Act was enacted by Parliament in the year **1956**.

The final verdict of the Supreme Court on the Cauvery water dispute was delivered in **February 2018**, modifying the CWDT final award.

Mettur Dam, officially known as Stanley Reservoir, is located across the Cauvery River in the **Salem district** of Tamil Nadu.

REVISION FLASHCARD

The Supreme Court questioned Tamil Nadu on the Cauvery water backlog release amid Karnataka's drought conditions.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for TNPSC Unit 2 (Current Events) and Unit 3 (Geography - Indian Rivers and Water Disputes).

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