

TN Approaches Supreme Court Over Mullaperiyar Dam Strengthening Issue

Tamil Nadu filed a report in the Supreme Court alleging Kerala's obstructionist stance in strengthening the Mullaperiyar Dam and raising water level to 142 feet.

Mullaperiyar Dam is a masonry gravity dam on the Periyar River in Kerala, operated and maintained by Tamil Nadu under an 1886 lease agreement.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **Tamil Nadu** filed a fresh report in the **Supreme Court** highlighting Kerala's non-cooperation in dam safety works.
- The uncooperative attitude delays measures to strengthen the **baby dam**, earth dam, and **main dam** grouting.
- Tamil Nadu stated that structural safety measures are mandatory to implement the **2014 Supreme Court judgment**.
- The 2014 judgment allowed Tamil Nadu to raise the reservoir's full reservoir level to **142 feet** initially.
- The dam is situated in the **Idukki district** of **Kerala** and caters to irrigation and drinking water needs of five southern districts in Tamil Nadu.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Mullaperiyar Dam was constructed between **1887 and 1895** under British engineer **John Pennycuick**.

The Periyar Lake lease agreement was signed on **October 29, 1886**, between Travancore State and the British Secretary of State for **999 years**.

The dam is located at the confluence of the **Mullayar and Periyar** rivers in the **Western Ghats**.

Periyar River originates from the **Sivagiri Hills** in the Western Ghats and is the longest river in Kerala.

In **May 2014**, a 5-judge Supreme Court Constitution Bench struck down Kerala's 2006 law restricting water level to **136 feet**.

Article 262 of the Constitution provides for the adjudication of 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 Article 262 of the Constitution.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Mullaperiyar Dam was built by John Pennycuick in 1895 under an 1886 lease agreement for 999 years.

Syllabus Relevance: High-value topic for TNPSC Group 1, Group 2, 2A, and Group 4 under Geography of TN, Polity (Article 262), and Inter-State relations.

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