



TUNGABHADRA RIVER : GEOGRAPHY

NEWS : *Flood Alert Issued After Crest Gate Failure at Karnataka's Tungabhadra Dam*

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

How Tungabhadra dam gate was swept away, why farmers are fearful

Flood Alert and Dam Specifications

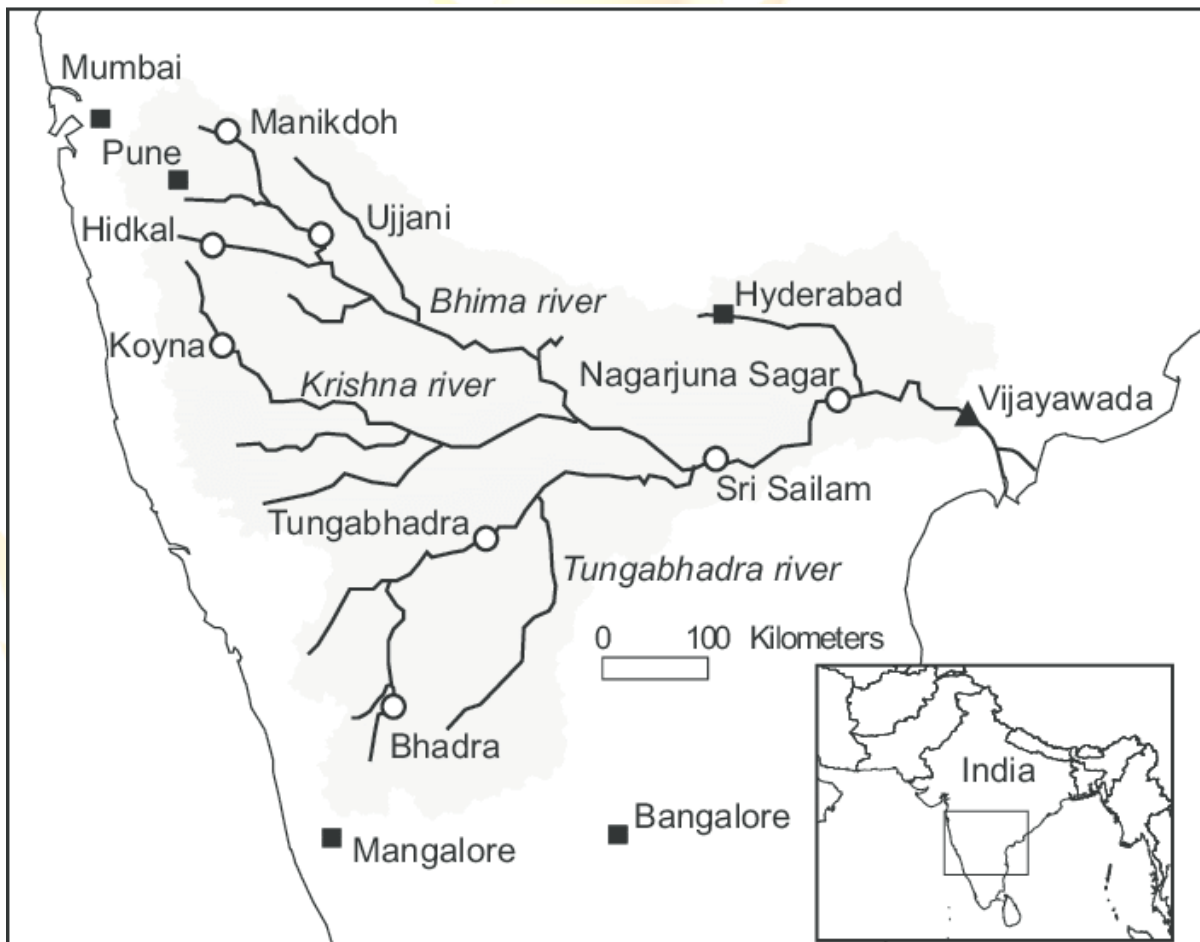
- **Incident Overview:**
 - **Location:** Downstream of the Tungabhadra Dam, Koppal district, Karnataka.
 - **Event:** One of the dam's 33 crest gates was washed away due to a broken chain link.
 - **Details:** The 20-tonne gate was swept 500 feet away by the force of the water.
- **Dam Specifications:**
 - **Name:** Tungabhadra Dam
 - **Location:** Built across the Tungabhadra River in Karnataka.
 - **Reservoir Capacity:** 105.8 Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC ft).
 - **Maximum Water Level:** As of August 10, the dam was at its maximum level of 1,633 feet.
 - **Functions:**
 - Provides water for irrigation, industrial use, and drinking purposes.
 - Serves both Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Repair and Risks:**
 - **Repair Constraints:** Repairs can only begin after discharging two-thirds of the dam's water.
 - **Concerns:**
 - Impact on irrigation for farmers.
 - Risk of potential flooding due to increased water release.
 - **Flood Alert:** Issued by the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre for downstream areas.
- **Historical Context:**
 - **Conception:** The dam was initially conceived in 1860.
 - **Completion:** Finished in 1953.
 - **Management:** Managed by the Tungabhadra Board, established in 1953.
 - Includes representatives from the Union government, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.
- **Current Outlook:**
 - **Rainfall:** No significant rain is forecast in the coming days, but heavy rainfall could worsen the situation.
 - **Agricultural Impact:**
 - Farmers are concerned, especially following last year's drought.



- Expected inflow of 50-60 TMC ft in September and October is anticipated to help in cultivating at least one crop this year.

About Tungabhadra River

- **General Information:**
 - **Sacred River:** The Tungabhadra River is considered sacred in southern India.
 - **Ancient Name:** Previously known as the Pampa River.
- **Geography:**
 - **Length:** Approximately 710 kilometers.



- **Drainage Area:** Covers an area of 72,200 square kilometers.
- **Formation:** Formed by the confluence of two rivers: the Tunga River and the Bhadra River.
 - **Sources:** Both Tunga and Bhadra Rivers originate from the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats.
- **Course:** Flows predominantly through the southern part of the Deccan Plateau.
- **Direction:** Flows in a northwest direction before joining the Krishna River.
- **Tributaries:**



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- Major tributaries include:
 - Bhadra
 - Haridra
 - Vedavati
 - Tunga
 - Varda
 - Kumdavathi
- Confluence:
 - **Join with Krishna River:** The Tungabhadra River merges with the Krishna River.
 - **End Point:** The Krishna River ultimately flows into the Bay of Bengal.

Source : <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/tungabhadra-dam-gate-swept-away-karnataka-flood-alert-d-k-shivakumar-dam-repair-work-9510416/lite/>

