

# Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) Dam

July 6, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



## About Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) Dam:

- It is a type of **gravity dam**.
- **Location:** It is located below the **confluence of river Kaveri with its tributaries, Hemavati and Lakshmana Tirtha**, in the district of **Mandya in Karnataka**.
- **Usage:**
  - The water from the Dam is used for **irrigation in Mysore and Mandya** and is the main source of **drinking water for Mysore, Mandya and Bengaluru city**.
  - It also ensures **power supply to the Shivanasamudra hydroelectric power station**.
  - The **water released** from this dam **flows into the state of Tamil Nadu** and is **stored in the Mettur dam** in the Salem district.
- **History:**

- The dam was **constructed during the rule of** the Maharaja of Mysore, **Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV, and it was named in his honor.**
- **The construction** of the KRS Dam **began in 1911** and it was **completed in 1931.**
- The dam was **designed by Sir M. Visvesvaraya**, a famous Indian engineer.
- **Features:**
  - It was **built using a mixture of surki mortar and limestone.**
  - It is **2,621 meters (8,600 ft) long** and **40 meters (130 ft) high.**
  - It **has arch type 177 Iron sluices**, and **some of them have automatic doors.**
  - Its **reservoir is about 130 Sq. Kms**, which was the largest in Asia at the period when it was built.
  - **Brindavan Gardens**, an ornamental garden, is **attached to the dam.**

## Key Facts about Kaveri river:

- Kaveri, also spelt Cauvery, is a **sacred river of southern India. It is known as the Ganga of South India.**
- **Origin:** It rises on **Brahmagiri Hill of the Western Ghats** in southwestern **Karnataka state.**
- It **flows in a southeasterly direction** for 765 km through the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and **descends the Eastern Ghats in a series of great falls.**
- **The Cauvery basin** extends over the **states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and the Union Territory of Puducherry.**
- The **river drains into the Bay of Bengal** at Poompuhar in the Mayiladuthurai district of Tamil Nadu.
- **Major left bank tributaries:** **Harangi, the Hemavati, the Shimsha and the Arkavati.**
- **Major right bank tributaries:** **Lakshmantirtha, the Kabbani, the Suvarnavati**, the Bhavani, the Noyil and the Amaravati.

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## Q1) What is a Gravity Dam?

A gravity dam is a type of dam structure designed to withstand the force of water pressure solely through its weight. It relies on its massive weight and resistance to sliding to hold back the force of the water and maintain stability. Gravity dams are commonly built in locations where there is a solid foundation of bedrock or rock formations that can support their weight effectively.

**Source:** [KRS breaches 100-ft mark, thanks to copious rain in Kodagu; Kabini inching closer to attaining full reservoir level](#)

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Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/krishnaraja-sagar-krs-dam/>

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