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Idukki: Water Level Recedes , Shutters not be opened

Idukki dam shutters not to be opened as water level recedes

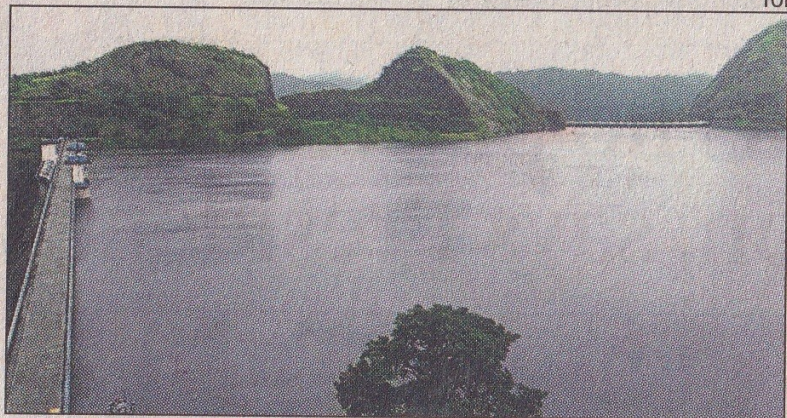
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Idukki: KSEB dam safety wing has decided not to open the shutters of the Idukki dam, with the water level coming down in the dam for the past two days.

The water level recorded on Monday was 2,396.22ft, down by .02ft in the past six hours. On Saturday morning, the water level recorded 2,396.34ft. However, the KSEB is continuing increased power generation to avoid opening the shutters of the dam.

“In the present situation, we will not open the shutters of the dam. We will continue the power generation in maximum capacity of the power house. On Saturday and Sunday, we reduced power generation to conduct the scheduled maintenance of the generators,” KSEB chief engineer (dam safety) Bibin Joseph said.

“If heavy rainfall occurs and water inflow to the dam increases, we will open the shutters of the dam. In the



SAFETY CONCERN: Power minister M M Mani had said on Thursday that the shutters would be opened when water level touches 2,398ft

present situation, there is no plan to open the shutters of the dam,” said Joseph.

“For the first time, the water storage in the dam has reached almost full. We aim to produce maximum power and share it with the power exchange. This will bring down the water level in the dam by two to three feet within 10 days,” said a KSEB source.

Last Tuesday, the water level in the dam rose to 2,395ft with the dam safety wing issuing ‘orange’ alert in the ar-

ea and completed arrangements to open the shutters of the dam.

Power minister M M Mani said on Thursday that the shutters would be opened when the water level touches 2,398ft. However, very low rainfall was recorded in the catchment area of the dam and it was only 10.8mm on Monday.

However, the water level in Mullaperiyar Dam Lake has come down at 133.4ft on Monday from the 135.9ft level on last Sunday.