

**Times of India**  
**17 August 2018**  
**Ernakulaam; Potable Water Shortage**

# Flooded Ernakulam to face drinking water shortage

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi:** Even as the water level in Periyar continues to rise, Ernakulam district is heading towards a severe drinking water crisis. The Kerala Water Authority (KWA) has been forced to stop pumping at all treatment plants in the district, including those in Aluva, Chovara, Maradu and Moppathadam.

"The pump houses have been submerged and it won't be possible to treat and supply water. Earlier, we had to face the issue of high turbidity. Now, we are completely helpless as water-level has been rising," said a KWA official. The officials urged people to store water at residential and commercial buildings to tide over the



File photo

KWA has been forced to stop pumping at all treatment plants

crisis.

Chief engineer of KWA at central regions said the authorities have stocked water in tankers for emergency needs.

Meanwhile, KWA officials said residents will be forced to depend on water supplied by tanker

trucks. As the situations has been worsening, the water authority was unable to predict when it would be able to resume activities.

The water authority also cautioned against the possibility of tanker trucks charging exorbitant rates for supplying drinking water.

Meanwhile, several organisations have come forward to take up the task of supplying drinking water to relief camps free of cost.

"Relief camps which have housed a large number of people displaced by the floods will be supplied drinking water free of charges. They can contact 7025603270," said a representative of a group of IT employees who have launched the initiative.