



MEDIA STATEMENT

IVRS on the rise this week despite some dams taking a knock

14 February 2018

The overall Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) has recorded an increase this week despite some of its major dams falling to lower levels.

The IVRS, which consists of 14 dams, is the catalyst for the economy prosperity of Gauteng as it supplies water to the foremost industries, namely Sasol and Eskom.

The Vaal Dam increased from 72.8% last week to 74.0% this week. Recording an increase by 1.2%, the Vaal Dam is currently in a much healthier position compared to the same period last year when it was at 67.6%.

The Katse Dam is on the upsurge this week with an increase by 0.9%. The dam was at 43.0% last week and is now at 44.9%. At the same time last year, the Katse Dam was hovered at 49.4%.

On the downward this week, the Grootdraai Dam decreased by 0.2% and is presently sitting at 100.6% from 100.8% last week. The resilient Grootdraai Dam was at 99.9% during the same period last year.

With no changes from last week, the Sterkfontein Dam is this week at 94.4%. Compared with the preceding year at the same time, the dam was at an acceptable level at 87.7%.

Slightly down from last week, the Bloemhof has decreased by 0.2% from 72.3% last week to 72.1% this week. The Bloemhof Dam was in a desperately shrunken state last year during the same time and hovered well below the 50% mark at the 42.0%.

As the country faces a bleak water situation, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is appealing to the public in Gauteng to intensify efforts to conserve as much as possible.

Department reiterated that to avoid taps running dry there must be concerted efforts to make sure that we conserve that is currently available. This will ensure that we do not find ourselves in the same situation as when tough restrictive measures had to be imposed. The public and business are key to saving water and are thus called upon to adhere to water saving tips provided by their municipalities.

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact Sputnik Ratau, Director Media Liaison at 082 874 2942 or Hosia Sithole, at 082 723 2442.

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