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## Over 2,000 locals run marathon to spread awareness about water conservation in Bengaluru

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Over 2,000 residents of Bengaluru participated in a marathon organised to raise awareness about water conservation at a time when the state of Karnataka is reeling under a severe water crisis.



Neerathon was organised in 2018 by St Joseph's College.

Bengaluru: At a time when the state of Karnataka is facing a severe water crisis, over 2,000 locals in state capital Bengaluru organised a marathon to promote the need for water conservation. The second edition of Neerathon was flagged off by the minister for medium and major irrigation, DK Shivakumar on Sunday.

As part of the event organised by St Joseph's College, participants were given the choice to run either 2K, 5K or 10K with winners eligible for cash prizes and certificates. The marathon was organised in association with the Namma Bengaluru foundation, the Wildlife Awareness and Conservation club and the Karnataka state government. The first edition of

Earlier this month, director of the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre GS Srinivasa Reddy told news agency ANI that there is around 41 TMC water in the state's dams. He added that around 47 towns and 635 villages are completely dependent on river Cauvery for their drinking and daily water needs. Since the water level in Cauvery's reservoirs is lower than expected, all dam authorities have been directed to use dam water for irrigation purposes only if there is an excess of it.

Experts on the subject have asserted that the current water crisis in Karnataka can be attributed to deficit rainfall in the state since September of last year. A similar situation was predicted by researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru in 2016.