

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1018

ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

WATER LEVEL IN BHAKRA DAM

1018. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been dip in the water level in the Bhakra dam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the likely implications of the drop in water level in Bhakra Dam on the irrigation especially in Punjab and Haryana;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any measures to ensure optimal water level in the Bhakra Dam, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has any policy for regular inspection and monitoring of all dams in the country including Bhakra Dam and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c) As on 30.01.2024, level of the Bhakra reservoir was about 13 feet higher than the average level of water during the last 40 years. As there is no dip in the water level of Bhakra Dam, there is no implication on irrigation in Punjab and Haryana.

(d) BBMB apprises the partner States about the existing position of water level in the reservoir and hence the availability of water during the monthly Technical Committee Meeting. Reservoir operations are planned accordingly. States are advised by BBMB to use the water judiciously whenever there is any shortfall in the water availability.

(e) Yes, to evolve uniform dam safety procedures across the country, Govt. of India enacted Dam Safety Act, 2021 and the provisions of the Act came into effect from 30th December 2021. As per Section 31 of the Dam Safety Act 2021,

"(1) Every owner of a specified dam shall undertake every year, through their Dam Safety Unit, a pre-monsoon and post-monsoon inspection in respect of such dam".

(3)(c) forward the inspection report by the dam safety unit to the concerned State Dam Safety Organization, which shall analyze the report and submit comments on the deficiency and remedial measures, if any, to the owner of the specified dam."
