

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:77

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005

STORAGE POSITION OF RIVERS

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the present storage position of rivers in the country for irrigation and power projects;
- (b) whether the storage level is continuously declining;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Present storage capacity of reservoirs in the country is estimated as 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) for diverse uses including for irrigation and power.

(b) to (d) Silting reservoir is a natural process and causes reduction in the gross capacity of the reservoir. However, provision is made at the planning stage itself for accumulation of sediment in reservoirs. The sediment flows accumulate in the dead storage provided for the purpose and thus the sediment deposition, in general, do not affect the efficacy of the project during planned life of the reservoir. The studies on Silting of Reservoirs in India have indicated that while in some cases, the rates of actual sedimentation are slightly less than that assumed at the time of planning, in other cases it is on higher side.