

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2354  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011  
FLOOD CONTROL RESERVOIRS  
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the best way to control floods is to intercept them with storage reservoirs so that moderate floods are allowed to flow through the valley below;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this direction in each State including Andhra Pradesh in the current year?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES & MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Construction of big dams/ storage reservoirs on rivers at suitable locations are considered as permanent solution to floods, especially if dedicated flood cushion is provided in the storage reservoirs. Big dams moderate the floods in downstream by way of releasing controlled discharge through spillway.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources formulated a National Water Policy in 1987, which was subsequently revised in 2002. In the National Water Policy document 2002, it is stipulated that adequate flood cushion should be provided in water storage projects wherever feasible, to facilitate better flood management. In highly flood prone areas, flood control should be given overriding consideration in reservoir regulation policy even at the cost of sacrificing some irrigation or power benefits. Copies of this policy documents were sent to all concerned and the State Governments for compliance.