

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4514  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012  
HIRAKUD RESERVOIR  
Bhoi Shri Sanjay

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

- (a) the total water storing capacity in the Hirakud reservoir of Odisha State;
- (b) whether the Government's attention is drawn to the fact that the reservoir can hold 30 percent less water reducing its capacity to only 440 feet;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether this reduced capacity had led to frequent flood in the catchment areas;
- (e) if so, the details of the areas affected during the last five years; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the water holding capacity of Hirakud reservoir?

**Answer**

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

- (a) As reported by Govt. of Odisha, the original gross storage capacity of Hirakud Reservoir was 8136 Mcm (year 1957) and the revised gross storage capacity is 5896 Mcm (year 2000).
- (b) & (c) The gross storage capacity of the reservoir has been reduced by 27.57% due to siltation in the years 1957-2000 as reported by Govt. of Odisha.
- (d), (e) & (f) The live storage capacity of the reservoir has been reduced by 17.16% and this is not responsible for flood in the downstream of Hirakud dam as per the information from the Govt. of Odisha. State Govt. of Odisha has observed that removal of huge volume of silt deposited in the reservoir is uneconomical