

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4178
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
SAFETY OF DAMS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted inspections to ensure that all the dams in the country are safe;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps taken to ensure that all the dams are resistant to earthquakes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b) The responsibility for safety inspections of Dams rests with the project owners, which are mostly the State Governments/Public Sector Undertakings. Such inspections in respect of each large dam are scheduled to be carried out by the project owners twice in a year i.e. pre-monsoon and post-monsoon. National Committee on Dam Safety reviews dam safety activities in various States.

The states of Maharashtra, Odisha, Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and organizations owning dams namely National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC Ltd.), Bhakra Beas Management Board, Damodar Valley Corporation and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited (THDC Ltd.) have informed about inspections undertaken by them.

(c) The responsibility for the safety of dam including planning, design, construction and operation of dams lies with the concerned owner of the dam. Before taking up the construction of any dam, a detailed analysis and design is carried out by the dam owners as per relevant Indian Standards/Codes. The seismicity of the area in which the project is envisaged is given due consideration while planning and designing.

For large dams, the project specific seismic studies are undertaken for making project safe under such circumstances. Such studies are generally carried out through reputed national institute/organizations specializing in seismic analysis and are required to be submitted to the National Committee on Seismic Design Parameters (NCSDP) for River Valley Projects constituted for vetting and recommending site specific seismic design parameters for adoption in the design of dams.