

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1994
ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022

SAFETY OF THE MULLAPERIYAR DAM

1994. SHRI JOHN BRITTAS

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

- (a) the details of various dams in the country which come under the ambit of the Dam Safety Act, 2021 passed by the Parliament;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Mullaperiyar dam has come under the new Act;
- (c) whether Government has come across a report prepared by “United Nations University – Institute for Water, Environment and Health” (UNU-INWEH) which has expressed concerns about the safety of the Mullaperiyar dam; and
- (d) if so, the response thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) All large dams of the country, including Mullaperiyar dam, under the category of ‘specified dams’ come under the ambit of the Dam Safety Act, 2021. Details can be accessed through the link <http://cwc.gov.in/sites/default/files/nrld06042019.pdf>

The Dam Safety Act, 2021 also contains provisions for safety aspects of dams, other than 'specified dams'.

(c) & (d) There is a report titled “Ageing Water Storage Infrastructure: An Emerging Global Risk” published in the 11th Series Report of United Nations University-Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH). This report has mentioned about certain safety concerns of the Mullaperiyar dam.

However, as far as Mullaperiyar dam is concerned, Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide judgment dated 07.05.2014 constituted a three member Supervisory Committee. This Committee has been regularly monitoring the dam from safety perspective. Moreover, the recently enacted Dam Safety Act 2021 has enabling provisions for comprehensive dam safety evaluation of all the 'specified dams', including Mulla Periyar Dam.
