

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2158**

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

**WATER STORAGE CAPACITY IN RESERVOIRS**

2158. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH

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

- (a) whether the important 140 reservoirs in the country monitored by Central Water Commission (CWC) have only 32 per cent live water storage compared to their capacity and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether there has been a steady weekly drop in storage from 43 per cent in the beginning of April 2022;
- (c) whether many river basins also have storage below the average of the last five years;
- (d) whether Government has conducted a study on how the crisis of water storage affects the socio-economic conditions of the regions dependent on the rivers for water supply; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

- (a) Central Water Commission is monitoring live storage status of 143 reservoirs of the country on weekly basis and is issuing weekly bulletin every Thursday. As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 09.03.2023, the live storage available in these reservoirs is 86.449 BCM, which is 49% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs.
- (b) There has been decline in storage from 43% as on 07.04.2022 to 28% as on 30.06.2022 during the non-monsoon season. After 30th June, 2022 there has been continuous rise in storage during monsoon season. The storage rose up to 90% as on 20.10.2022. After 20.10.2022, there is a continuous decline in storage. The graph of 143 reservoirs monitored by CWC indicating the status of live storage since 1st of April 2022 to 09.03.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure**.
- (c) As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 09.03.2023, Subarnarekha has -1.01%, Mahi has -17.47%, Mahanadi & neighbouring east flowing rivers have -7.59 % and west flowing rivers of south have -3.22 % departure with respect to the average of last 10 years. All other basins have live storage more than the average live storage of last 10 years.
- (d) & (e) No, Sir. However, the study “*Reassessment of Water Availability in India using Space Inputs*” has been carried out by Central Water Commission in 2019. As per this study, the average annual per capita water availability for the year 2021, 2031 and 2051 has been assessed as 1,486 cubic meter, 1,367 cubic meter and 1,228 cubic meter respectively.