

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1593

ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

RESERVOIRS IN THE COUNTRY

1593. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH

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

- (a) whether the important 140 reservoirs in the country mentioned by Central Water Commission (CWC) have only 32 per cent live water storage compared to their capacity and if so, the reasons thereof;
- (b) whether there has been a steady weekly drop in storage from 43 per cent in the beginning of April 2024;
- (c) whether many river basins also have storage below the average of the last five years;
- (d) whether Government has conducted a study on the manner in which the crisis of water storage affects socio-economic conditions of the regions that are dependent on the rivers for water supply; and
- (e) if not, the reasons thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 28.3.2024 published by the Central Water Commission, live storage available in 150 reservoirs was 64.60 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM), which is 36% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 28.11.2024, live storage available in 155 reservoirs is 147.94 BCM, which is 82% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs.

(c) As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 28.11.2024, Brahmani & Baitarni, Mahanadi and Indus are having storage less than from last 10 year's average storage.

(d) & (e) No such study has been conducted. However, the weekly Bulletin is shared with the Water Resource Departments of concerned States and also uploaded on the Central Water Commission website. This weekly bulletin is also shared with Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Representatives of CWC also attend meetings convened by CWWG to review agricultural activities across the country and to suggest remedial measures to states in case of likely distress situation. Crop Weather Watch Group on Drought Management (CWWGDM) of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India holds meeting every week during Pre-Monsoon season which is being attended by representative of CWC to appraise status of Reservoir Storage in the country to enable CWWGDM to take further necessary action.

Further, the Natural Resource Management Division of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has informed that no systematic survey/study has been conducted to assess the impact of declining water levels on agricultural activities and produce.
