

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96

ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

WATER LEVEL IN MULLAPERIYAR DAM

96. SHRI C. VE. SHANMUGAM

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had given a judgement allowing Tamil Nadu to raise the water level in the Mullaperiyar dam to 152 feet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the water level in that dam had not been raised to 152 feet, despite apex court judgement;
- (d) whether the State Government has given a report to the Centre about the present status of water storage level;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 27th February, 2006 in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) 386 of 2001 filed by Mullaperiyar Environmental Protection Forum against Union of India & Others., observed that

“Regarding raising the water level to 152 ft., the stage has still not reached. At present, that is not the prayer of the State of Tamil Nadu.”

Further, “the writ petition and the connected matters are disposed of by permitting the water level of the Mullaperiyar dam being raised to 142 ft. and by permitting the further strengthening of the dam as aforesaid.”

Moreover, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgment in the matter of Original Suit No. 3 of 2006 of May 07, 2014, held that the earlier judgment dated 27.2.2006 of this Court operates as “*res-judicata*” on the issue of the safety of Mullaperiyar dam for raising water level to 142 ft. and ultimately to 152 ft. after completion of further strengthening measures of the Mullaperiyar dam.

(d) to (f) Daily water level details at the Mullaperiyar Dam are being shared by the Government of Tamil Nadu to the 'Supervisory Committee of the Mullaperiyar Dam' and other concerned stakeholders. The Water levels of Mullaperiyar Dam as provided by the Executive Engineer, WRD (I/c), Periyar Dam Special Division, Cumbum *vide* their e-mail dated 29.1.2025 are as follows:

Date	Water level (2025) (in Feet)	Water level on same date last year (2024) (in Feet)	10 Years Average water level on the same day (2015 to 2024) (in Feet)
29.01.25	121.15	136.70	123.84

Furthermore, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, *vide* judgment of 7.5.2014, constituted a three-member Supervisory Committee. This Committee has been regularly monitoring the dam from safety perspective. A new Supervisory Committee under the chairmanship of Chairman, National Dam Safety Authority has been constituted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India in October 2024 to look into the safety aspects of this dam.

The reservoir water levels as well as safety concerns of the Mullaperiyar dam are being closely monitored by the Supervisory Committee.
