

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 336

ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

WATER LEVEL OF BHAKRA AND PONG DAMS

336 SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA

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

- (a) whether it is true that Bhakra and Pong dams are not filled up to Full Reservoir Level (FRL);
- (b) if so, whether dams can be filled up to FRL by use of latest technology, proper planning, weather forecasting techniques;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct a study and direct Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) to implement a technology called Real Time Decision Support System (RTDSS) at the earliest to decide the maximum filling level of Bhakra and Pong dams; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) The Maximum Reservoir Level of Bhakra Dam is 1,690 ft. and Full Reservoir Level of Pong Dams is 1,400 ft. However, after the devastating floods during the year 1988, Government of India, in March 1989, constituted a Committee to report on the problems relating to the operation & maintenance of Bhakra-Nangal and Beas Projects. The said Committee issued guidelines for filling of Bhakra & Pong reservoirs. In accordance with these guidelines, the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) in the year 1990 decided that maximum level at Bhakra and Pong reservoirs should be kept 5 feet and 10 feet below the designated FRL, respectively, to provide cushion for possible floods. The operation of both the reservoirs is being done after discussing it in the Technical Committee meeting(s) of BBMB which has representation by Chief Engineers of Irrigation Wing of partner States and the State Power utilities.

(c) & (d) BBMB has developed Real Time Decision Support System (RTDSS) for efficient operation of reservoir on river Satluj (Bhakra Dam) and river Beas (Pong Dam) and has already installed Water Level Recording Stations in the catchment area of Satluj and Beas rivers.
