

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 463

ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024

CONSTRUCTION OF MULLAPERIYAR DAM

463. ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to initiate a discussion between the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu to construct a new Dam at Mullaperiyar and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to approve funds to construct a new dam in the place of the old dam in Mullaperiyar and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct a study of the status of Mullaperiyar Dam including a comprehensive safety audit and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of this Government to construct a new Dam at Mullaperiyar.

(c) The responsibility of the safety audit of dams lies with the owners of the dam that is State governments , PSUs etc. In compliance of the provisions of the Dam Safety Act, 2021, owner of this dam i.e. Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department conducts Pre and Post monsoon inspections of this dam every year . Further, the Supervisory Committee of this dam headed by Chief Engineer Dam Safety Organisation, Central Water Commission and members from the State of Tamil Nadu and Kerala inspected this dam recently on 13th June 2024. This committee observed that the overall condition of the dam and its appurtenant structures, as revealed by visually observed inspection were found to be satisfactory.

As per section 38 of Dam safety Act, 2021, the owner of a specified dam has to conduct the comprehensive dam safety evaluation within five years from the commencement date of Act. The matter of comprehensive safety audit of this dam was deliberated in the recent 17th meeting of the Supervisory Committee held on 13.6.2024.
