

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 143

ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

STATUS AND SAFETY OF OLD DAMS

143. SHRI G LAKSHMINARAYANA:

Dr. BYREDDY SHABARI:

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

- (a) the total number of dams in the country that are over fifty years old, State-wise and year of commissioning-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted structural safety audits or vulnerability assessments of these dams and if so, the details thereof along with the number of such dams identified as requiring urgent repair, rehabilitation or modernisation;
- (c) the details of repair and rehabilitation works carried out during the last five years under the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) or any other Central/State-funded programme;
- (d) the total funds allocated, released and utilised for the said works, State and scheme-wise; and
- (e) whether any dams have been identified as unsafe or at risk of failure and if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken to ensure their safety and to prevent potential hazards?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) As per the National Register of Specified Dams (NRSD), 2025 compiled by the National Dam Safety Authority, there are 1,681 specified dams that are over fifty years old. Comprehensive state-wise details of the specified dams, along with their respective years of commissioning is accessible via the link: [https://dharma.cwc.gov.in/#/national-register-of-specified-dams-\(nrsd\)-2025](https://dharma.cwc.gov.in/#/national-register-of-specified-dams-(nrsd)-2025)

(b) Responsibility for safety of dams, including its operation and maintenance rests primarily with dam owners. In accordance with the provisions of the Dam Safety Act, 2021, every owner of a specified dam is mandated to conduct every year a pre-monsoon inspection and post-monsoon inspection of each specified dam under their jurisdiction. As per this compliance, dam owning agencies have reported the pre-monsoon & post-monsoon inspections of about 6524 and 6553 dams respectively for the year 2025.

As an outcome of pre-monsoon and post-monsoon inspections, dams are being categorized into three categories on the basis of urgency of repairs/maintenance. Category-III requires minor remedial measures which are rectifiable during the year. Category-II indicates major deficiencies requiring prompt remedial measures and Category-I indicate the most serious deficiencies, which if left unattended, may lead to their failure.

As per the information provided by the National Dam Safety Authority, the post-monsoon inspection reports of 2025 indicate that three specified dams have been classified under Category-I. These include the Medigadda Barrage in Telangana, the Lower Khajuri Dam in Uttar Pradesh, and the Bokaro Barrage in Jharkhand.

In addition, 216 dams have been categorized under Category-II. Of these, 69 specified dams are more than fifty years old.

(c) & (d) To improve the safety and operational performance of selected existing dams across the country along with institutional strengthening for dam safety, Govt. of India is implementing the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), Phase-II and III. The scheme is of 10 years duration (2021-2031), being implemented in two phases, each of 6 years duration with 2 years of overlap with external funding. The scheme envisages the rehabilitation and safety enhancement of 736 dams spread across 19 States and three Central agencies, with a total financial outlay of Rs. 10,211 crores. DRIP Phase-II has become operational from 12th October 2021, and is being co-financed by the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank (AIIB). The financial outlay for Phase II is Rs. 5,107 crores, while Phase III has an allocation of Rs. 5,104 crores.

Rehabilitation and improvement works under the Scheme aim to enhance dam safety and flood-handling capacity through structural and non-structural measures. These include raising parapet walls, improving spillways, preparing O&M Manuals and Emergency Action Plans, repairing or replacing gates and hydro-mechanical components, strengthening dam structures with grouting and seepage control, and upgrading safety facilities such as access roads, lighting, catwalks, and DG sets.

Under the ongoing DRIP-II Scheme, rehabilitation proposals (called Project Screening Template, PST) of 173 dams amounting to Rs. 4,744 crores have been approved. Contracts amounting to Rs. 2816 crores have been awarded by the various Implementing States/agencies. The total expenditure under DRIP-II scheme up to 31st December 2025 is Rs. 2029 crores. Major physical rehabilitation works have been completed at 35 dams.

State/Agency-wise details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred under DRIP-II Scheme are given at **Annexure**.

(e) Based on the post-monsoon inspection reports of 2025, three dams have been classified under Category-I, reflecting serious safety concerns and vulnerabilities that pose significant risks and demand urgent intervention to ensure their continued safe operation. Of these, two Category-I dams namely Lower Khajuri Dam in Uttar Pradesh and the Bokaro Barrage of the Damodar Valley Corporation have been included under the DRIP-II Scheme for rehabilitation and safety enhancement.

With regard to the third Category-I dam, the Lakshmi (Medigadda) Barrage, the State has been requested to implement the various preventive and mitigating measures recommended by the National Dam Safety Authority to safeguard the structure's integrity and resilience.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 143 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 29.01.2026 REGARDING “STATUS AND SAFETY OF OLD DAMS”.

State/Agency-wise Fund allocation and Expenditure under DRIP Phase-II

(As on 31st December 2025)

S. No.	State/Agency	Latest Fund Allocation under DRIP-II	Expenditure incurred
		(in Rs. Cr)	(in Rs. Cr)
1	Bhakra Beas Management Board	70	0.04
2	Chhattisgarh WRD	170	53.34
3	Damodar Valley Corporation	44	1.17
4	Goa WRD	58	0
5	Gujrat WRD	350	245.86
6	Karnataka WRD	699	284.02
7	Kerala SEBL	90	59.44
8	Kerala WRD	130	45.77
9	Maharashtra WRD	379	72.72
10	Manipur WRD	98	59.72
11	Meghalaya PGCL	150	67.81
12	Madhya Pradesh WRD	186	33.19
13	Odisha WRD	100	37.52
14	Punjab WRD	71	0.36
15	Rajasthan WRD	503	166.17
16	Tamil Nadu GECL	260	153.32
17	Tamil Nadu WRD	510	280.68
18	Telangana WRD	100	0
19	Uttarakhand JVNL	300	214.89
20	Uttar Pradesh I&WRD	354	31.03
21	West Bengal I&WD	200	53.99
22	CWC	285	168.49
	Total	5107	2029.53
