

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 758

ANSWERED ON 23.07.2026

WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINEE FROM CDSE COMMITTEE

758. Adv DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) the current stand of the National Dam Safety Authority with regard to the withdrawal of the nominee of the State Government of Kerala from the Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation (CDSE) Committee;
- (b) the reasons for the unilateral withdrawal of the nominee of the State Government of Kerala from the CDSE Committee;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to include the nominee of the State Government of Kerala in the CDSE Committee again; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (d) In pursuance of the provisions of the Dam Safety Act, 2021 and the regulations framed thereunder, the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) constituted an Independent Panel of Experts (IPoE) comprising five members for carrying out the Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation (CDSE) of the Mullaperiyar Dam, vide Office Memorandum dated 06th January, 2026.

Subsequently, one of the members of the IPoE, who had been nominated by the State Government of Kerala, expressed his inability to continue as a member of the Panel due to personal reasons. In order to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of the CDSE process and to maintain the requisite strength and expertise of the Panel, the NDSA nominated another expert in his place.

The replacement was necessitated solely on account of the concerned expert's unavailability and was undertaken in the interest of ensuring the timely completion of the dam's CDSE. As the CDSE is a statutory exercise mandated under the Dam Safety Act, 2021, with a prescribed timeline for completion by December 2026, the replacement was made to avoid any disruption or delay in the evaluation process and to ensure compliance with the statutory timeline.

Further, responding to a request from the Government of Kerala, the NDSA wrote to the State on 25th June 2026 to nominate an independent expert to represent Kerala on the Mullaperiyar Dam CDSE's IPoE.
