

Tahir Hayat (EVP NESPAK) message to WRDC

Dear all. I have read with interest and dismay the talk about DBD. Let's separate the chaff.

1. Gen Safdar Butt was NOT a geophysicist. Correct your record please. He was a Geotechnical engineer and about his experience and expertise I would endorse the views of Dr Mansoor Hashmi. Period.
2. The pre feasibility study of Monenco was not detailed. There is not material available in the area for earth core. If someone can find it let us know.
3. The dam type was changed to RCC after studying all the alternatives including ECRD and CFRD. One of the main reason is that the Indus river has seen many GLOF events in the past. The consultants are aware that of the criticality of large dams and their potential harm God forbid if something goes wrong. That was one of the main reason for choosing RCC that even in some large GLOF event the RCC dam can take over topping without dam break whereas CFRD and ECRD cannot.
4. The decision to choose the RCC over CFRD at feasibility stage was endorsed by world experts in the POE including Barry Cooke who is considered the father of CFRD.
5. A totally different set of consultants carried out the detailed design of DBD and still concluded that RCC was the dam type of choice.
6. There are a number of dams in the Indus cascade that include Bunji, Dasu, Pattan and Thakot. For each different levels of studies have been carried out ie feasibility or detailed design while Dasu is under construction. For each of these dams a totally different set of consultants have worked and their work has been reviewed by world level experts in the POE. Each has selected RCC dam. This cannot be a coincidence? or each has been influenced by enemies of Paksitan as someone suggested. Please be very careful and know your limitations of education and knowledge before accusing someone.
7. Yes DBD is a zone that experiences seismicity. But do you know that it is situated in what is called the Kohistan Islandic Arc. The main faults are far away like the MBT and MKT. Dams are built in hilly areas where invariably seismicity is present. Hence dams are designed to withstand earthquakes as per international standards. A concrete gravity dam (RCC) is a robust dam that can withstand earthquakes.
8. By the way Dasu is more close to large faults yet somehow the focus is on DBD. I am sure Dasu dam, which is also RCC has been designed to withstand the earthquake. So my friends let's talk on facts and figures. We are fortunate that Pakistan has decided to start building large dams with reservoirs after such a long time. Let's all concentrate our energies in a positive direction and contribute in national development and not create or spread negativity. We have had enough of it. PK Zindabad.

(WhatsApp 13 April 2020)