

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Indus River System Authority (IRSA)** **Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)**

**Subject: Tarbela, Mangla and Chashma Reservoirs Filled to Maximum Conservation levels (MCLs)**

**17<sup>th</sup> of August, 2023,  
IRSA HQs, Islamabad**

By the Grace of Almighty Allah, *Tarbela, Mangla and Chashma*, the three major water reservoirs of Pakistan stood filled to Maximum Conservation Levels (MCLs) on the same date on 17.08.2023 with a total impoundment of 13.443 Million Acre Feet (MAF). The filling of all the three major storages on the same date is a historical event.

2. The current storage capacities of the reservoirs are: Tarbela 5.809 MAF at MCL of 1550.0 ft SPD; Mangla 7.356 MAF at MCL of 1242.0 ft SPD and Chashma 0.278 MAF at MCL of 649.0 ft SPD. Filling of the reservoirs was a very important parameter of system operations as it controlled and stored excess / flood flows during Kharif for inter-seasonal transfer to low flow Rabi / winter season to meet-with the provincial demands.

3. The precarious operation of reservoirs filling was achieved by IRSA amid numerous natural and technical challenges in the form of impending hydrological uncertainty due to Climate Change and the current system and reservoir constraints. It was feared that very low Early Kharif flows of 2023 may also suppress Late Kharif flows, correspondingly. Fortunately, widespread rains in upper and lower catchments of all the Rim-Stations during Late Kharif 2023, especially the Eastern Rivers, allowed IRSA to efficiently manage and regulate the provincial releases with integrated operation and filling of the reservoirs. This was accomplished with necessary cooperation and facilitation of all the stakeholders, Ministry of Water Resources, WAPDA and the Provinces.

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