UNIQUENESS OF BHAVANISAGAR DAM:

The dam is considered to be among the biggest earthen dam in the country. It is also the second biggest earthen dam in the World (First one in Russia).

The length of the earthen bund itself runs in to 8 Kms. from Zero Point. The Dam was constructed during post independent period from 1948 to 1955. The construction cost of the dam was 21.00 Crore.

It is a Multi-Purpose Dam. It is used to store water for irrigation, generate electricity, supply drinking water, control flood and control the silt formation in the downstream river.

Bhavanisagar Dam and Reservoir, also called Lower Bhavani Dam, is located on the <u>Bhavani</u> River between Mettupalayam and Sathyamangalam in Erode District, Tamil Nadu, South India.

The Height of the Dam is 40 Mtrs. (120 Ft) and the carrying capacity of the Dam is 32.8 TMC. The FRL (Full Reservoir Level) is 120 Ft. it forms the tail end of the long river chain on the eastern side of the Western Ghats in Nilgiris. Average discharge from the dam is 1000 Cu Secs.

The Dam receives water through Southwest Monsoon from two main streams/ catchment areas from the Western Ghats.

One stream is from Upper Bhavani, Avalanche, Emerald, Kundha, Gedhai, Pillur, Nellithurai and Lower Bhavani (Bhavanisagar).

The other stream called as Western Catchment starts from Portimund, Parson's Valley, Pykara, Glenmorgan, Chinkara, Maravakandy, Moyar, Thengumarahatta and Lower Bhavani (Bhavanisagar).

Bhavani Sagar dam is constructed on <u>Bhavani River</u>, which is merely under the union of <u>Moyar River</u>. The dam is used to divert water to the <u>Lower Bhavani Project Canal</u>.

The ayacut was thrown open to irrigation from 1952 onwards. The project commands an area of 80,000.00 Hectares @ 1,97,600.00 Acres i.e., around 2.00 Lakh Acres.

The Dam houses two Hydel Power Stations one on the East Bank Canal and the other on the main Bhavani River. Each of the Units has 16 MW installed capacity. Thus, 32 MW of power is generated almost throughout the year.

There is a garden in front of this dam, which makes it a good picnic spot in this area.