



The addition of these two provisions, will cause the resultant force to shift towards the heel. The resultant force, when the reservoir is empty, was earlier passing through the inner middle third point. This will, therefore, shift more towards the heel, crossing the inner middle third point and consequently, tension will be developed at the toe. In order to avoid the development of this tension, some masonry will have to be added to the upstream side., which shows the typical section along with the possible dimensions that can be adopted for a low gravity dam section. It should however, be checked for stability analysis.

### **Galleries in Gravity Dams**

Galleries are the horizontal or sloping openings or passages left in the body of the dam. • They may run longitudinally (i.e. parallel to dam axis) or transversely (i.e. normal to the dam axis) and are provided at various elevations. All the galleries are interconnected by steeply sloping passages or by vertical shafts fitted with stairs or mechanical lifts.

Function and types of galleries in Dams

#### **(i) Foundation Gallery**

A gallery provided in a dam may serve one particular purpose or more than one purpose. For example, a gallery provided near the rock foundation, serves to drain off the water which percolates through the foundations. This gallery is called a foundation gallery or a drainage gallery.

1. It runs longitudinally and is quite near to the upstream face of the dam. Drain holes are drilled from the floors of this gallery after the foundation grouting has been completed. Seepages is collected through these drain holes.
2. Besides draining off seepage water, it may be helpful for drilling and grouting of the foundations, when this can not be done from the surface of the dam.

#### **(ii) Inspection Galleries**

The water which seeps through the body of the dam is collected by means of a system of galleries provided at various elevations and interconnected by vertical shafts, etc. All these galleries, besides draining off seepage water, serves inspection purpose. They provide access to the interior of the dam and are, therefore, called inspection purposes. They generally serve other purposes along with this purpose.

1. They intercept and drain off the water seeping through the dam body
2. They provide access to dam interior for observing and controlling the behavior of the dam.
3. They provide enough space for carrying pipes, etc. during artificial cooling of concrete
4. They provide access to all the outlets and spillway gates, valves, etc. by housing their electrical and mechanical controls. All these gates, valves, etc, can hence be easily controlled by men, from inside the dam itself.



5. They provide space for drilling and grouting of the foundations, then it cannot be done from the surface of the dam.



## EARTH DAMS

An **embankment dam** is a large artificial dam. It is typically created by the placement and compaction of a complex semi-plastic mound of various compositions of soil, sand, clay, or rock. It has a semi-pervious waterproof natural covering for its surface and a dense, impervious core. This makes such a dam impervious to surface or seepage erosion.<sup>[1]</sup> Such a dam is composed of fragmented independent material particles. The friction and interaction of particles binds the particles together into a stable mass rather than by the use of a cementing substance.

Embankment dams come in two types: the **earth-filled dam** (also called an earthen dam or terrain dam) made of compacted earth, and the **rock-filled dam**. A cross-section of an embankment dam shows a shape like a bank, or hill. Most have a central section or core composed of an impermeable material to stop water from seeping through the dam. The core can be of clay, concrete, or asphalt concrete. This dam type is a good choice for sites with wide valleys. They can be built on hard rock or softer soils. For a rock-fill dam, rock-fill is blasted using explosives to break the rock. Additionally, the rock pieces may need to be crushed into smaller grades to get the right range of size for use in an embankment dam.

The building of a dam and the filling of the reservoir behind it places a new weight on the floor and sides of a valley. The stress of the water increases linearly with its depth. Water also pushes against the upstream face of the dam, a nonrigid structure that under stress behaves semiplastically, and causes greater need for adjustment (flexibility) near the base of the dam than at shallower water levels. Thus the stress level of the dam must be calculated in advance of building to ensure that its break level threshold is not exceeded.

Overtopping or overflow of an embankment dam beyond its spillway capacity will cause its eventual failure. The erosion of the dam's material by overtopping runoff will remove masses of material whose weight holds the dam in place and against the hydraulic forces acting to move the dam. Even a small sustained overtopping flow can remove thousands of tons of overburden soil from the mass of the dam within hours. The removal of this mass unbalances the forces that stabilize the dam against its reservoir as the mass of water still impounded behind the dam presses against the lightened mass of the embankment, made lighter by surface erosion. As the mass of the dam erodes, the force exerted by the reservoir begins to move the entire structure. The embankment, having almost no elastic strength, would begin to break into separate pieces, allowing the impounded reservoir water to flow between them, eroding and removing even more material as it passes through. In the final stages of failure the remaining pieces of the embankment would offer almost no resistance to the flow of the water and continue to fracture into smaller and smaller sections of earth or rock until these would disintegrate into a thick mud soup of earth, rocks and water.

Therefore, safety requirements for the spillway are high, and require it to be capable of containing a maximum flood stage. It is common for its specifications to be written such that it can contain a five hundred year flood. Recently a number of embankment dam overtopping protection systems have