Low Flow on the Indus

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Indus River Basin
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As climate change continues to rear its ugly head and show us once more that yes it does fluctuate; now we are seeing signs of glaciers melting at a slower pace than usual and it is causing problems on the Indus River Basin. The Tarbela Dam is showing the most signs of struggle with this low flow on the Indus River, it has seen decreased generations of hydropower and lower water levels in its reservoir. The dynamics of the problem can be put like this, the level of the water in the reservoir is falling at around 12,000 cusecs, and 43,000 cusecs are maintained as its outflow, all while its inflow is at about 30,000 cusecs. The Punjab Irrigations Department is saying that they have enough water to provide full indent to its users in surrounding regions but this may only last a week to ten days at most as long as the ‘abnormal’ water flow in the Indus River continues to persist. Right now the regions that are under the potential water stress heavily rely on the glaciers to provide the water, but are currently relying on surrounding rivers and tributaries that feed into the Indus from other sources, such as rainfall. If the low flow continues past ten days, that is when other plans will have to be made.