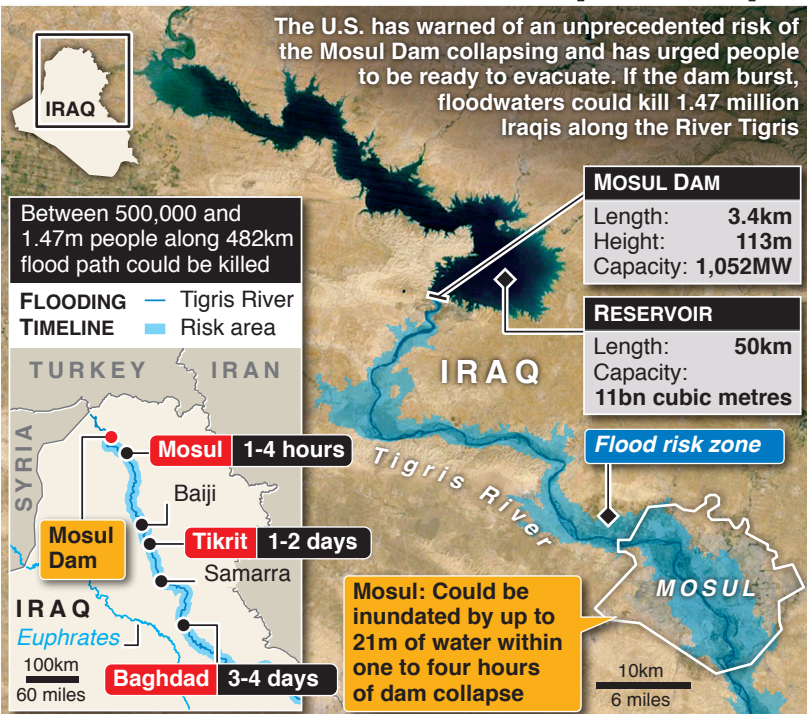


U.S. warns of Mosul Dam collapse in Iraq

The U.S. has warned of an unprecedented risk of the Mosul Dam collapsing and has urged people to be ready to evacuate. If the dam burst, floodwaters could kill 1.47 million Iraqis along the River Tigris



STRUCTURAL FLAW

1 Dam built in 1980s on water-soluble gypsum

2 Seepage creates cavities beneath dam

3 Cavities need to be filled daily with cement grout mixture to prevent foundations giving way



Maintenance work disrupted after militants from so-called Islamic State briefly seized dam in 2014