

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1327

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007

SHARING OF RIVER WATER BY RAJASTHAN AND HARYANA

Bangaru Smt. Susheela Laxman;Kripalani Shri Srichand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Haryana is drawing certain amount of water of its share from the Bhakra main line fed by water from Ravi and Beas and is violating the terms of Bhakra- Nangal Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to the Haryana Government instructing it to stop drawing a share from Ravi-Beas water from the Bhakra main line;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) On 13.1.1959, the Governors of the erstwhile States of Punjab and Rajasthan entered into the Bhakra Nangal Agreement, 1959 to collaborate in the construction of a dam across the river Sutlej at Bhakra and other ancillary works executed under the Bhakra Nangal Project on the terms and conditions given in the Agreement. As per the Agreement, the benefits were to be shared by the Partner States in accordance with the sharing of the cost of the project and accordingly, the stored water supplies were distributed between the erstwhile States of Punjab and Rajasthan. Subsequent to the Reorganisation of the erstwhile State of Punjab in 1966, the share of the erstwhile State of Punjab in Sutlej waters was distributed between Punjab and Haryana in a meeting held on 19.12.1966.

Rivers Ravi and Beas are connected by Madhopur Beas link. At Bhakra reservoir, water diverted from river Beas to river Sutlej through Beas Sutlej Link also became available, besides the waters of river Sutlej. With an agreement among Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan signed in 1981 on the sharing of surplus Ravi-Beas waters, the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), in which the three States are represented, makes the periodical allocations of Ravi-Beas waters also. The distribution of this water amongst the Partner States is being done by BBMB in accordance with an ad hoc interim arrangement approved by BBMB in its 105th meeting held on 03.12.1982. Accordingly, Haryana has been drawing certain amount of surplus Ravi-Beas waters as per the ad hoc arrangement, as agreeable to all the Partner States.

Punjab and Rajasthan have recently filed Suits in the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding construction by Haryana of 'Bhakra Main Line-Hansi Branch-Butana Branch Multipurpose Link Channel' proposed to off take from BML and use a part of the Ravi-Beas waters being drawn from BML at the other existing off-take location in BML, for equitable distribution of water within the State. In its Suit, State of Rajasthan has mentioned that Haryana is not entitled to carry Ravi-Beas water through BML. Carrying of Ravi-Beas waters through BML for Haryana's proposed channel is an inter-state matter and consent of Partner States is required as per the Bhakra Nangal Agreement. Further, the only Ravi-Beas water that can be carried through BML is 0.17 MAF water for Nohar Sidhmukh project of Rajasthan. State of Punjab, in its Suit, has mentioned that Bhakra Nangal Project has been constructed to harness the waters of the river Sutlej. Haryana has unilaterally undertaken the project to irrigate its areas lying in the neighbouring Yamuna basin, which areas are also not part of areas identified for irrigation in the Bhakra Nangal Agreement including the Bhakra Nangal Project Report.

(c) to (e) Does not arise. Haryana presently gets Ravi-Beas waters as agreeable to all the Partner States as informed by BBMB.