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Title: Need to provide a dedicated water pipeline from Bhakra Mainline to Chandigarh to meet the growing water needs of the city.

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Chandigarh is one of the most densely populated areas of the country. The population of the Union Territory has been growing at 40% per decade. The water needs of my constituency, therefore, are also increasing.

By 2025, the population of Chandigarh is projected to grow to nearly 25 lakh. It is estimated that by 2025, the water demand will be 800 MLD, an increase of 58% over the 2011 demand of 494.25 MLD. The demand supply gap in 2025 is expected to be over 330 MLD.

Presently, Chandigarh gets 29 cusecs of water from the Bhakra Main Line as per the water sharing agreement of 1983. This is simply not enough to meet the water needs of the people. While the administration is taking measures to ensure that rain water harvesting is done to increase the ground water levels, the Union Territory needs more water from the Bhakra Main Line.

I request the Government of India, particularly the Home Ministry and the Ministry of Water Resources to take up the issue with Governments of Punjab and Haryana in order to ensure that a dedicated pipeline from the Bhakra Main Line is provided for Chandigarh. This has been a long standing demand of the people of Chandigarh, and without this, the situation will worsen in India's first planned city.