GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4568
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
TRANSFER OF HEAD WORKS TO BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD
Meghwal Shri Bharat Ram;Patel Shri Devji

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision regarding the transferring of the head works to the Bhakra Beas Management Board:
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

- (a) & (b): Section 79 (1) (c) of the Punjab Reorganization Act,1966 provides for the administration, maintenance and operation of the Irrigation headworks at Ropar, Harike and Ferozpur by Bhakra Management Board (now called Bhakra Beas Management Board or BBMB). The headworks are under the control of the Government of Punjab. Both Rajasthan and Haryana have been requesting for the transfer of control of these headworks from Punjab to BBMB for quite some time. In two Inter-State meetings convened by the Ministry of Water Resources in July/August, 1992 and July, 2002, the issue was discussed, but could not be amicably resolved.
- (c) : Presently, the matter is sub-judice and pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble High court of Rajasthan in their Judgment in 02.05.2005 in Civil Writ Petition No.3995/2004 has directed BBMB to take over from the State of Punjab, administration, operation and maintenance of the Irrigation Works & Headworks as per Section 79 of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966. The State of Punjab has not only challenged the Judgment dated 02.05.2005 of the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by filing S.L.P, but also challenged Section 78 & 79 of Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966 in Original Suit No.02/2007 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Similarly, State of Haryana has also filed Original Suit No. 01/2008 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India praying for directions to the State of Punjab to transfer the control of Head works of Ropar, Harike & Ferozpur and the same is pending adjudication.