

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2800

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

RIVERS FLOWING IN FROM PAKISTAN

Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Das Shri Ram Sundar;Punia Shri P.L. ;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has diverted the course of river Ravi towards India and released surplus water in the river which poses threat of flood and cause permanent land erosion in some areas of Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Pakistan is also disposing of hazardous chemicals in rivers flowing towards India which is causing threat to human life and ecology;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government on both the aspects alongwith the reaction of Pakistan Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b): According to Government of Punjab, Pakistan has diverted the flow of rivers Ravi And Ujh by constructing a number of flood protection works namely Jallalia bund opposite village Paharipur, Hajipur Gujran bund opposite Chuntra and Adhian complexes, Bikhochack bund opposite Adhian and Kamapur Jattan, bund newly constructed in 2003 opposite Rosse complex and Jasur highway bund opposite Dera Baba Nanak complex. It has been further informed that the natural country slope also favours diversion of flow towards Indian sides.

Government of Punjab has further informed about Pakistan releasing water of river Chenab from Merala head into river Ravi and using the stretch of river as carrier channel from Sherpur complex downstream Merala link where it enters into Indian territory and further in a stretch from Kakkar Maj to Ranjan complex where it finally enters Pakistan territory. It is further stated that due to releases through Merala link by Pakistan, counter flood protection works are required to be executed to check erosion on the left side of river Ravi in Indian territory.

(c) & (d): As informed by Government of Punjab, after getting highly polluted with effluents from industries especially tanneries in Pakistan, Kasur Nallah outfalls into Sutlej, enters into Indian territory and reaches upstream of Hussainwala. This water is used through the canal systems from Hussainiwala, both for irrigation and drinking water supplies. Further, the test conducted by Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala during May and December 2009 reveals that the quality of water is 'unfit for drinking purpose and outdoor bathing', as per pollution norms.

(e): Based on media reports, Indian side raised the issues of pollution of Kasur nallah with the Pakistan side in a meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission held in July 2010. According to Pakistan side, Kasur Nallah does not receive any pollution from the tanneries of the Kasur city because it never enters the city. It was further stated that after the floods in 1955 the route of the Kasur Nallah was diverted and now it outfalls into river Sutlej upstream of Ferozepur Headworks and has a very little part traversing through Pakistan. Based on the information received from Government of Punjab subsequent to the meeting, Pakistan side has again been requested to take up the matter of pollution of Kasur nallah with the concerned authorities for appropriate action.