

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2535
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
RAVI BEAS WATER ISSUE
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram ;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issue relating to sharing of Ravi and Beas water between Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi is pending for many decades;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issue?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Punjab has so far not agreed to restore to Rajasthan the remaining 0.6 Million Acre Feet (MAF) out of 8.6 MAF of surplus Ravi-Beas waters under 1981 agreement. Punjab has also enacted the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004 terminating the 1981 agreement and all other agreements relating to Ravi-Beas. As per the provisions of the Act, all existing and actual utilizations through the existing systems shall remain protected and unaffected. Haryana is able to draw 1.62 MAF through Bhakra Main Line (BML) instead of drawing 3.45 MAF out of its full Ravi-Beas share of 3.5 MAF through Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) canal. Rajasthan was entitled to draw 0.17 MAF through BML via Haryana on the restoration of its capacity, but is not getting the same under the circumstances. Delhi's share in Ravi-Beas waters is 0.2 MAF and is being supplied the same.

(c) Hon'ble President of India in exercise of powers under Article 143(1) of the Constitution of India has made reference to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 22.07.2004, questioning the validity of the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004. As the matter is before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, no action by the Government is possible at this juncture.