

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4999
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2013
CANAL SYSTEM IN PUNJAB
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any request from Punjab for revamping the 150 year old canal water distribution system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that Punjab, according to a National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) report, shall face near desertification in next two decades and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that by revamping canal system, Punjab shall save up to 30 per cent of its water which is being wasted due to non-repair; and
- (e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) & (b) The Project Proposal of Rehabilitation, Extension, Renovation, Modernisation of canal system, Restoring Storage Capacity of Reservoirs, Lining of water courses and Installation of tube wells alongwith allied works within Punjab State for Rs.3769.35 crore was submitted to Central Water Commission (CWC) in June, 2011. On examination of the proposal, it was inter-alia found that the project report was not prepared as per the existing guidelines of CWC / MoWR. The project proposal was returned to State Government in Sept, 2011 with the request to resubmit the modified DPR to CWC.
- (c) As per information from media there was such a report from NASA.
- (d) As per the project proposal, revamping of canal system shall result in saving of water.
- (e) The State Government has to submit Modified DPR to CWC for establishing its techno-economic viability.