

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5805
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013
SUTLEJ YAMUNA LINK CANAL
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether construction work on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal has stopped after the Punjab Government enacted the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 resulting in shortage of water for irrigation in various parts of Haryana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether a Presidential Reference was filed by the Central Government in 2004 itself questioning the constitutional validity of the Act;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and its current status; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the completion of Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) & (b) The construction work on Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal within the territory of Punjab had stopped in 1990. The completion of the canal would enable Haryana to utilize its major share of Ravi-Beas waters through the canal.
- (c) & (d) A Presidential Reference was made on 22nd July 2004 and is before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for report on the questions raised in regard to the constitutional validity of the PTAA.
- (e) Ministry of Law & Justice has been requested in August 2012 to take appropriate action for early decision on the Presidential Reference.