

Title:Need to release adequate funds for early completion of last phase of work of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project from Ramgarh to Gadara road in Rajasthan - Laid.

COL (RETD) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (BARMER) : I represent Barmer and Jaisalmer districts which are drought prone and most backward & under developed areas. Work on Rajasthan Canal (now re-named Indira Gandhi Nahar Project) commenced during early fifties. This is a National Project and has been assisted by Central Government right from inception.

It is learnt that matching financial assistance has been stopped under the Border Area Development Programme from the last two years (1999-2000) saying that this programme has since been revamped and, under the revamped BADP, the financing of this project was discontinued.

This has resulted in stoppage of work for the last phase of this Canal. This involves work on Canal from Ramgarh (District Jaisalmer) to GADRA Road (Barmer district) along Pakistan border. People of this backward area are agitated on this issue. They are without water. Government of Rajasthan is also facing financial crisis and not in a position to fund this project of national importance.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister through you for release of matching funds till completion of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project.