

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3760
ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019

INTER-STATE RIVER WATER SHARING AGREEMENTS

†3760. SHRI NIHAL CHAND

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the date on which first inter-State water agreement was reached and the number of States involved in it along with the scheme chalked out by the Government for distribution of water of States;
- (b) whether States are getting water as per inter-State water agreements;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana are getting their due share of water as per agreement; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (c) As per publication of Central Water Commission (CWC) titled “Legal Instruments on Rivers in India-Agreement on inter-State Rivers” (October 2015), an agreement on use of water from Sirhind Canal was executed in 1873 between the British Government and the States of Patiala, Jind and Nabha. Parties to the aforesaid agreement are no longer in existence. No information about agreements signed prior to the year 1873 is available in the aforesaid publication.

Parties to agreements/decisions of Tribunals (Tribunals set up under Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 to settle water disputes among the States) are entitled to their share of water in concerned river basin as per provisions of such agreements/decision of Tribunals. Supply of water to concerned States varies on year to year basis depending mainly on availability of water in the basin in a particular year and other relevant factors and is monitored by the concerned Board/Authority/regulatory body functioning in a particular river basin.

(d) & (e) The Bhakra-Nangal Agreement, was entered into year 1959 for distribution of Satluj water amongst the erstwhile State of Punjab and Rajasthan. Later, after reorganization of Punjab into Punjab and Haryana during the year 1966, the distribution of Satluj water among the Partner States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan is being done as per General Manager, Bhakra Dam letter dated 20.12.1966.

For the distribution of surplus Ravi-Beas water, the first agreement was entered on 29.1.1955. After reorganisation of Punjab in 1966, the Central Government issued Notification dated 24.3.1976 under Punjab Re-organization Act, 1966 for distribution of surplus Ravi-Beas waters to the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, J&K and Delhi. Later, an agreement was signed between the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on 31.12.1981.

Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) has further informed that the deliveries to States are given as per requirements projected by States and restricted to safe carrying capacities of the system. The same is decided by the Technical Committee which comprises of representatives of the partner States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and also officers of the CWC and Agriculture Department, in its monthly meeting.
