

RAVI AND BEAS WATERS

*474. SHRI CHITTA BASU : †

DR. (MRS.) MANGLA DEVI
TALWAR :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Haryana have approached the Central Government to settle its dispute with Punjab on the division of the Ravi and the Beas waters; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) The Haryana Government approached the Central Government for determining its share of surplus Ravi and Beas waters in terms of Section 78 of the Punjab Re-organisation Act since the States of Punjab and Haryana could not come to an agreement within the stipulated period of two years from the date of re-organisation of Punjab.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know whether the Punjab Government has indicated its willingness to accept the arbitration by the Government of India and, if not, what steps the Government proposes to take unilaterally and may I know whether the Government has any power to take unilateral action in the matter of this dispute?

DR. K. L. RAO : Yes. The Act provides that if they cannot come to a settlement within two years, then the Government of India will interfere and settle the allocation of waters between the two States. The Government is empowered to do that.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the Government whether it is a fact that in the Indus Treaty it is stated that the benefits of the surplus waters of the Ravi, which will be available in 1972-73, will be used mostly for the arid zones of Haryana and Rajasthan and whether this consideration will be kept in view while distributing the waters then, and whether it is not a fact that the

Haryana Government wanted to make a survey for a link channel between Rupar and Narwana and even this survey has not been allowed by the Punjab Government, and what the Government of India is doing to help in the survey so that the link channel could be built up?

DR. K. L. RAO : There is the general agreement of 1955 under which the surplus waters of the Ravi and the Beas have been distributed between Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab (then undivided Punjab). The question is about the undivided Punjab, how we are going to allocate the waters in undivided Punjab which is about 7.2 million acre feet. How much of it is to go to Punjab and how much to Haryana is yet to be determined. In the absence of this determination the Haryana Government was trying to survey and excavate a canal to utilise those waters and the Punjab Government objected to it saying that unless the amount of water that is allocated is settled, they would not like to allow any surveys, and we are trying now to settle the allocation between these two States of Punjab and Haryana of the total 7.2 million acre feet.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Madam, may I know whether it is a fact that disputes still persist in the matter of control by the Haryana Government over certain headworks of the Nangal network?

DR. K. L. RAO : That is a different river, the Sutlej. We have got the Bhakra Management Board set up under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, and it is set up by the Centre. The Haryana Government has nothing to do with that, and the regulation of the waters of Sutlej is under the Bhakra Management Board.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

शुद्ध पेय जल की सप्लाई

*475. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : †
श्री मानसिंह वर्मा :

क्या स्वास्थ्य तथा परिवार नियोजन और निर्माण, आवास और नगर विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में कितने गांवों तथा शहरों में शुद्ध पेय जल सप्लाई करने की व्यवस्था नहीं है; और

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chitta Basu.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri J. P. Yadav.