

Increase in capacity of headwork at Harike

†1391. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Headwork's capacity of Indira Gandhi Feeder situated at Harike is Rs. 15,000 cusecs while Indira Gandhi Feeder's design capacity is 18,500 cusecs;

(b) if so, whether by increasing Headwork's capacity at Harike, the Indira Gandhi feeder's capacity could be better utilized;

(c) whether Government proposes to give suggestions to Punjab Government for increasing the capacity of Headwork situated at Harike and whether it would prevent wastage of water during flood; and

(d) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government of Punjab has informed that the capacity of 15,000 cusecs of head regulator of Indira Gandhi Feeder (IGF) is sufficient to carry Rajasthan's share of surplus Ravi Beas waters. Further due to capacity constraint of IGF, Rajasthan has never placed indent above 13500 cusecs and therefore there is no need to increase the capacity of IGF. The State Government has further informed that during flood season, the flood water carries huge quantity of silt, weed, hyacinth/ jungle which may choke the canal system. Therefore no flood water can be utilised in the canal and during flood season, the supply is strictly regulated as per Regulation rules for the safety of the canal system. Therefore increasing capacity of head regulator will serve no purpose.

Allocation for Twelfth Five Year Plan

1392. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major issues highlighted for the Ministry and the allocations made therefor during the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Ministry has incorporated and integrated the points highlighted in the Twelfth Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) whether there is any monitoring cell to oversee whether the Ministry is moving in tandem with the Plan;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The major issues highlighted for Ministry of Water Resources in the Twelfth Five Year Plan documents approved by National Development Council (NDC), are given in Statement (See below). Planning Commission has indicated an outlay of Rs. 18,118 crore for Central Sector Schemes and Rs. 91,435 crore for State Sector Schemes of Ministry of Water Resources for Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Water Resources has prepared schemes in this regard which are at different stages of approval.

(e) to (g) The Ministry of Water Resources ensures performance of Plan schemes in tandem with the Plan, through regular monitoring and evaluation at the end of every Five Year Plan, by independent agencies. Besides mid-term appraisal is being done by the Planning Commission.

Statement

Major issues highlighted for Ministry of Water Resources in the Twelfth Five Year Plan

1. A move away from a narrowly engineering – construction-centric approach to a more multi-disciplinary, participatory management approach to our major and medium irrigation projects, with central emphasis on command area development and a sustained effort at efficiency.
2. Since groundwater accounts for nearly two-thirds of India's irrigation and 80 per cent of domestic water needs, we need a participatory approach to sustainable management of groundwater based on a new programme of aquifer mapping.
3. Launching a completely revamped programme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies.
4. Renewed focus on non-structural mechanisms for flood management.
5. Vastly improved systems of water-related data collection and management as also transparency in availability of data.
6. Adaptation strategies to mitigate the likely impact of climate change to be pursued under the National Water Mission (NWM).
7. A new legal and institutional framework for water based on broader consensus among the States etc.