

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

2025:PHHC:059718-DB



Date of Decision : 06.05.2025

1. CWP No. 12858 of 2025

Bhakra Beas Management Board

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another

.... Respondents

2. CWP-PIL No. 100 of 2025

Ravinder Singh Dhull

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana and others

.... Respondents

3. CWP-PIL No. 101 of 2025

Gram Panchayat, Matana, Fatehabad

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.... Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL, JUDGE**

**Present:- Mr. Rajesh Garg, Senior Advocate with
Ms. Neha Matharoo, Advocate
Mr. Mandeep Singh, Advocate,
Mr. R.K.Narwal, Advocate, for BBMB-petitioner in
CWP No. 12858 of 2025.**

**Mr. R.Kartikeya, Advocate,
Ms. R.Akanksha, Advocate,
Ms. Sidhi Bansal, Advocate,
Ms. Ridhi Bansal, Advocate and
Mr. Kartik Patial, Advocate,**

for the petitioner in CWP-PIL No. 101 of 2025.

Mr. R.S.Dhull, Advocate-petitioner in person in
CWP PIL No. 100-2025.

Mr. Gurminder Singh, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Maninderjit Singh Bedi, Advocate General, Punjab,
Mr. Maninder Singh, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab,
Mr. Jatinder Singh Gill, Advocate, for the respondent-
State of Punjab.

Mr. Pravindra Singh Chauhan, Advocate General, Haryana with
Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana,
Mr. Naveen S.Bhardwaj, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana
for the respondent-State of Haryana.

Mr. Satya Pal Jain, Addl. Solicitor General of India with
Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Senior Counsel for respondent-Union of India.

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SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE

All these three writ petitions, two of which are filed as Public Interest Litigations and third having been filed by Bhakra Beas Management Board (for brevity 'BBMB') are disposed of by a common order as the common questions of law and facts are involved herein.

2. Though substantive prayers in all the three petitions are for a direction to the State of Punjab to remove the police force deployed at the Bhakhra Nangal Dam & Lohand Control Room Water Regulation Offices and for release of 8500 cusecs water in the Bhakra Canal pursuant to the decision taken by the BBMB, but since some of the prayers made are unique to each petition, it would be apt to reproduce all the prayers made in each of the three petitions as follow:-

CWP-12858-2025

- “ (i) Record of the case be summoned;*
(ii) Dispense with the condition of serving advance notice
upon the respondent;

(iii) Issue a writ in the nature of Certiorari writ, order or direction especially in the nature of Mandamus for directing the Respondent to forthwith remove its police force deployed without any authority of law to forcibly take over the over-all control of operation and Regulation of Nangal Dam & Lohand control Room water Regulation offices.

(iv) the condition of filing of the certified copies of Annexures may kindly be dispensed with under Section 151 of the Civil Procedure Code read with Rule 22(1) Chapter 4.F Vol.V of the High Court Rules and Order for permission to file photostat/typed/extract/translated copies of all annexures;

(v) Issue any other appropriate writ, order or direction which this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case;

(vi) cost of present petition may kindly be dispensed with in favour of the petitioner.”

CWP-PIL No. 100 of 2025

i) The records of the case may be called for;

ii) Filing of the certified copies of the Annexures be dispensed with;

iii) Advance notice upon the respondents be dispensed with.

iv) An appropriate writ, order or direction under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India may kindly be issued in the nature of mandamus directing the Respondent No.3 to remove the Police Force from the BBMB Bhakra headworks and Lohand Khud escape channel in order to allow the free water flow in the Bhakra canal in order to allow the residents of State of Haryana to have free water for drinking as well as irrigation; further a writ in the nature of prohibition be issued directing the Respondent No.3 to use illegal forcible means to stop free flow of

water in the Bakhra Canal; further a writ in the nature of mandamus be issued directing the Respondent No.3 to release 8500 cusec of water in Bhakra canal in accordance with the decision taken by Respondent No.4.

v) This Hon'ble Court may also pass any other order, writ or direction which this Hon'ble High Court may deem fit and proper in the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case;

vi) Costs of the writ petition be also awarded to the petitioner”

CWP-PIL No. 101 of 2025

“(i) summon the records of the case;

ii) To direct Respondent No.1 to forthwith remove its police force deployed without any authority of law to forcibly take over the over-all control of operation and regulation of Bhakra/Nangal Dam & Lohand Regulation point/Headwords and Control Room water regulation offices;

(iii) To direct Respondent No.3 to immediately release water (8500 Cusecs per day) in compliance of its decision dated 23.04.2025 (Annexure P4);

(iv) To direct Respondent No.3 to continue releasing of water in sufficient quantities to the State of Haryana till the onset of Monsoon or at least till 21st of May 2025; and

(v) To direct Respondent No.4 to provide adequate security at the Bhakra/Nangal Dam & Lohand Regulation point/Headwords and Control Room Water Regulation Offices for uninterrupted and continuous supply of water to the Petitioner, by taking over the same and deployment of their force.

(vi) Exempt filing certified copies of annexures and permit filing photocopies thereof.

(vii) Award cost of litigation in favour of the petitioner”

3. Mr. Rajesh Garg, learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner-Bhakra Beas Management Board (for brevity 'BBMB') submits that the additional forces comprising of Punjab Police Personnel deployed at and around the Bhakra Dam site are causing obstruction in the functioning of the BBMB. It is alleged that on 01.05.2025 at about 10.00 A.M. the State of Punjab had forcibly taken control of the operations and management of Bhakra Nangal Dam and Lohand Control Room Water Regulation Offices by deploying large number of police personnel with the ultimate object of forcibly preventing the BBMB from releasing water to the State of Haryana.

3.1 Learned senior counsel for the petitioner-BBMB, while referring to certain sections of Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966, (for short 'the Act of 1966') submits that the rights and liabilities of the existing State of Punjab in relation to Bhakra Nangal Project and Beas Project shall be from the appointed day, be the rights and liabilities of the successor States in such proportion as may be fixed and subject to such adjustments as may be made by agreement entered into by the said States after consultation with the Central Government. It is further pointed out that Section 77 of the said Act of 1966 bestowed power upon the Central Government to constitute a Board called BBMB for administration, management and operation of the works. For ready reference and convenience, Sections 77, 78 and 79 of the Act of 1966 relating to Bhakra Nangal Dam are reproduced hereinbelow:-

“77. Continuance of facilities in certain State institutions.—

(1) The Government of the State of Haryana or Punjab, or, as the case may be, the Central Government in relation to the transferred territory or the Union territory of Chandigarh, shall in respect of the institutions specified in the Sixteenth Schedule located in the State or territory aforesaid continue to provide facilities to any other Government aforesaid and the people of

the States and territories aforesaid which shall not, in any respect, be less favourable to such Government and people than what were being provided to them before the appointed day for such period and upon such terms and conditions (including those relating to any contributions to be made for the provision of such facilities) as may be agreed upon between the said Governments before the 1st day of April, 1967, or if no agreement is reached by the said date, as may be fixed by order of the Central Government.

(2) The Central Government may, at any time before the 1st day of April, 1967, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify in the Sixteenth Schedule any other institution existing on the appointed day in the said States and territories and on the issue of such notification, the Schedule shall be deemed to be amended by the inclusion of the said institution therein.

78. Rights and liabilities in regard to Bhakra-Nangal and Beas Projects.—

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act but subject to the provisions of sections 79 and 80, all rights and liabilities of the existing State of Punjab in relation to Bhakra-Nangal Project and Beas Project shall, on the appointed day, be the rights and liabilities of the successor States in such proportion as may be fixed, and subject to such adjustments as may be made, by agreement entered into by the said States after consultation with the Central Government or, if no such agreement is entered into within two years of the appointed day, as the Central Government may by order determine having regard to the purposes of the Projects:

Provided that the order so made by the Central Government may be varied by any subsequent agreement entered into by the successor States after consultation with the Central Government.

(2) An agreement or order referred to in sub-section (1) shall, if there has been an extension or further development of either of the projects referred to in that sub-section after the appointed day, provide also for the rights and liabilities of the successor States in relation to such extension or further development.

(3) The rights and liabilities referred to in sub-sections (1) and (2) shall include—

(a) the rights to receive and to utilise the water available for distribution as a result of the projects, and

(b) the rights to receive and to utilise the power generated as a result of the projects, but shall not include the rights and liabilities under any contract entered into before the appointed day by the Government of the existing State of

Punjab with any person or authority other than Government.

- (4) *In this section and in sections 79 and 80,—*
- (A) *“Beas Project” means the works which are either under construction or are to be constructed as components of the Beas-Sutlej Link Project (Unit I) and Pong Dam Project on the Beas river (Unit II) including—*
- (i) *Beas-Sutlej Link Project (Unit I) comprising—*
 - (a) *Pandoh Dam and works appurtenant thereto,*
 - (b) *Pandoh-Baggi Tunnel,*
 - (c) *Sundernagar Hydrel Channel,*
 - (d) *Sundernagar-Sutlej Tunnel,*
 - (e) *By-pass Tunnel,*
 - (f) *four generating units each of 165 M.W. capacity at Dehar Power House on the right side of Sutlej river,*
 - (g) *fifth generating unit of 120 M.W. capacity at Bhakra Right Bank Power House,*
 - (h) *transmission lines,*
 - (i) *Balancing Reservoir;*
 - (ii) *Pong Dam Project (Unit II) comprising—*
 - (a) *Pong Dam and works appurtenant thereto,*
 - (b) *Outlet Works,*
 - (c) *Penstock Tunnels,*
 - (d) *Power plant with four generating units of 60 M.W. each;*
 - (iii) *such other works as are ancillary to the works aforesaid and are of common interest to more than one State;*
- (B) *“Bhakra-Nangal Project” means—*
- (i) *Bhakra Dam, Reservoir and works appurtenant thereto;*
 - (ii) *Nangal Dam and Nangal-Hydrel Channel;*
 - (iii) *Bhakra Main Line and canal system;*
 - (iv) *Bhakra Left Bank Power House, Ganguwal Power House and Kotla Power House, switchyards, sub-stations and transmission lines;*
 - (v) *Bhakra Right Bank Power House with four units of 120 M.W. each.*

79. Bhakra Management Board.—

(1) *The Central Government shall constitute a Board to be called the Bhakra Management Board for the administration, maintenance and operation of the following works, namely:—*

- (a) *Bhakra Dam and Reservoir and works appurtenant thereto;*
- (b) *Nangal Dam and Nangal-Hydel Channel up to Kotla Power House;*
- (c) *the irrigation headworks at Rupar, Harike and Ferozepur;*
- (d) *Bhakra Power Houses:*

Provided that the administration, maintenance and operation by the said Board of the generating units of the Right Bank Power House as have not been commissioned shall commence as and when any such unit has been commissioned;

- (e) *Ganguwal and Kotla Power Houses;*
- (f) *Sub-stations at Ganguwal, Ambala, Panipat, Delhi, Ludhiana, Sangrur and Hissar and the main 220 KV transmission lines connecting the said sub-stations with the power stations specified in clauses (d) and (e); and*
- (g) *such other works as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify.*

(2) *The Bhakra Management Board shall consist of—*

- (a) *a whole-time Chairman and two whole-time members to be appointed by the Central Government;*
- (b) *a representative each of the Governments of the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and the Union territory of Himachal Pradesh to be nominated by the respective Governments or Administrator, as the case may be;*
- (c) *two representatives of the Central Government to be nominated by that Government.*

(3) *The functions of the Bhakra Management Board shall include—*

- (a) *the regulation of the supply of water from the Bhakra-Nangal Project to the States of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan having regard to—*

(i) any agreement entered into or arrangement made between the Governments of the existing State of Punjab and the State of Rajasthan, and

(ii) the agreement or the order referred to in sub-section (1) of section 78;

- (b) *the regulation of the supply of power generated at the power houses referred to in sub-section (1) to any Electricity Board or other authority in charge of the distribution of power having regard to—*
- (i) *any agreement entered into or arrangement made between the Governments of the existing State of Punjab and the State of Rajasthan,*
- (ii) *the agreement or the order referred to in sub-section (1) of section 78; and*
- (iii) *any agreement entered into or arrangement made by the existing State of Punjab or the Punjab Electricity Board or the State of Rajasthan or the Rajasthan Electricity Board with any other Electricity Board or authority in charge of distribution of power before the appointed day in relation to the supply of power generated at the power houses specified in sub-section (1);*
- (c) *the construction of such of the remaining works connected with the Right Bank Power House as the Central Government may specify;*
- (d) *such other functions as the Central Government may, after consultation with the Governments of the States of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan, entrust to it.*
- (4) *The Bhakra Management Board may employ such staff as it may consider necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act:*

Provided that every person who immediately before the constitution of the said Board was engaged in the construction, maintenance or operation of the works in sub-section (1) shall continue to be so employed under the Board in connection with the said works on the same terms and conditions of service as were applicable to him before such constitution until the Central Government by order directs otherwise:

Provided further that the said Board may at any time in consultation with State Government or the Electricity Board concerned and with the previous approval of the Central Government return any such person for service under that Government or Board.

- (5) *The Governments of the successor States and of Rajasthan shall at all times provide the necessary funds to the Bhakra Management Board to meet all expenses (including the salaries and allowances of the staff) required for the discharge of its functions and such amounts shall be apportioned among the successor States, the State of Rajasthan and Electricity Boards of the said States in such proportion as the Central Government may, having regard to the benefits to each of the said States or Boards, specify.*

(6) *The Bhakra Management Board shall be under the control of the Central Government and shall comply with such directions, as may from time to time, be given to it by that Government.*

(7) *The Bhakra Management Board may with the approval of the Central Government delegate such of its powers, functions and duties as it may deem fit to the Chairman of the said Board or to any officer subordinate to the Board.*

(8) *The Central Government may, for the purpose of enabling the Bhakra Management Board to function effectively, issue such directions to the State Governments of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan and the Administrator of the Union territory of Himachal Pradesh or any other authority, and the State Governments, Administrator or authority shall comply with such directions.*

(9) *The Bhakra Management Board may, with the previous approval of the Central Government and by notification in the Official Gazette, make regulations consistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder, to provide for—*

- (a) *regulating the time and place of meetings of the Board and the procedure to be followed for the transaction of business at such meetings;*
- (b) *delegation of powers and duties to the Chairman or any officer of the Board;*
- (c) *the appointment, and the regulation of the conditions of service, of the officers and other staff of the Board;*
- (d) *any other matter for which regulations are considered necessary by the Board.”*

4. It is also submitted by learned senior counsel for the BBMB by referring to Annexure P-2, which are the minutes of the meeting dated 24.04.2025 of the BBMB, that a day prior thereto i.e. 23.04.2025, a decision was taken by the Technical Committee of the BBMB for release of 8500 cs water to the State of Haryana which was not complied with by the State of Punjab due to non-placement of indent to the BBMB. Resultantly, no water was released for 8 days from 24.04.2025 to 01.05.2025, which compelled the BBMB to resolve by majority, to release 8500 cs water w.e.f. 01.05.2025 as one time relaxation, even in the absence of placement of indent of the State of Punjab. This decision included 500 cs of water for Rajasthan and 496 cs for

Delhi. It was also resolved in the meeting that the BBMB shall try to look after the needs of the State of Punjab during the filling period of the Dam. The contents of Annexure P-2 further reveal that the member of the State of Punjab did not agree to this decision of releasing extra water to State of Haryana beyond 4000 cs. As such the Chairman of the BBMB asked the State of Haryana to place the indent directly to the Board with a copy to the States of Punjab and Rajasthan for revised releases with a further direction to the State of Haryana to ensure releases to the States of Rajasthan and Delhi to resolve the drinking water crisis in Rajasthan and submit a daily report to the BBMB. State of Punjab in its capacity as member of the BBMB vide Annexure P-3 objected to the above decision on various grounds including that for the period from 21.09.2024 to 20.05.2025 the State of Haryana has over drawn to the extent of 3.13 MAF (Million Acre Feet) against their agreed share of 2.987 MAF whereas the State of Rajasthan has over drawn to the extent of 3.684 MAF as against their share of 3.435 MAF. Whereas the State of Punjab objected to this and submitted that the State of Punjab is the only member-State which has not over drawn its quota of water for having drawn only 5.18 MAF as against the quota of 5.56 MAF.

3.3 Leaned senior counsel for BBMB has taken us to Annexure P-4, which is e-mail dated 01.05.2025 sent by the Chief Engineer of BBMB to the Chairman of the BBMB, informing that the overall control, operation and regulation of Bhakra Nangal Dam and Lohand Control Room Water Regulation Offices has been taken forcibly over by the State of Punjab police personnel on 01.05.2025 at 10.00 A.M.

3.4 It is urged by BBMB that the Chairman of the BBMB objected to the said intervention and obstruction caused by the Punjab Police personnel to the Chief Secretary of the State of Punjab vide letter dated 03.05.2025 (Annexure P-5) and sought cooperation of the functionaries of the Government of Punjab in implementing the decisions of BBMB dated 23.04.2025, 24.04.2025 and 30.04.2025.

3.5 Learned senior counsel for BBMB has also drawn our attention to the notified rules governing the functioning of BBMB which were framed by invoking the powers conferred by Section 97 of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966. These Rules are Bhakra Beas Management Board Rules, 1974. It is pointed out by learned counsel for BBMB that the power to constitute the Board is vested with the Central Government and BBMB remains under the control of the Central Government and is obliged to comply with any direction given by the Central Government. It is thus pointed out by referring to Rule 7 of the Rules of 1974 that all decisions of BBMB shall be taken by a majority vote of members present for voting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman of BBMB shall have a second or casting vote. The Chairman is conferred with the power to refer any dispute arising out of differences between the members, to the Central Government for decision. Emphasis is laid by learned counsel for BBMB on this Explanation-II of Rule 7 of the 1974 Rules that in case any member dissents from any decision of the Chairman of the Board, the dissenting member may represent to the Central Government through the Chairman and in such a situation the decision of the Central Government shall be binding. For ready reference and convenience, Rule 7 of the 1974 Rules is reproduced hereinbelow:-

“ 7. Decisions by the Board

All matters relating to incidental to or connected with, the functions of the Board shall be decided by a majority vote of members present and voting at the meeting of the Board and in case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

Provided that where with reference to any matter, the Chairman is satisfied that there is difference of opinion among the members on any question of policy or the rights of any of the participating State, the Chairman shall refer the matter to the Central Government who shall decide the same.

Explanation-I: *If any member raises in any meeting of the Board any point as to whether a question is a question of policy or whether any rights of the States concerned are involved in the consideration of a matter before the Board, a decision on the points so raised shall be given by the Chairman.*

Explanation-II: *When any member dissents from any decision so given by the Chairman, the State Government, which is represented by that member, may represent to the Central Government through the Chairman and thereupon that Government shall be given by the Chairman.”*

4. Per contra Shri Gurminder Singh, leaned senior counsel and Shri Maninderjit Singh Bedi, Advocate General, Punjab have reiterated the objection of the State of Punjab contained in Annexure P-3 and submitted that the policemen have been deployed by the Government of Punjab merely to provide security to the Bhakra Nangal Dam and not to obstruct in the functioning of the BBMB. It is further submitted that the States of Haryana and Rajasthan have already over consumed their quota of water while the share of water available to the State of Punjab ought not to be encroached upon by the defaulting States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi. They further submit that “law and order” is a State subject under List-II of 7th Schedule of the Constitution and therefore, the State of Punjab is well within its powers to

ensure safety and security of the Bhakra Nangal a Project of national importance especially when the Dam is alleged to lie within the State of Punjab. Lastly, learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-State of Punjab has reiterated that the State of Punjab has no intention of obstructing the management and functioning of the BBMB and is not interfering in the same.

5. On the other hand Shri S.P.Jain, Additional Solicitor General of India contends that the quantum of water as decided in the meeting of BBMB is not only meant for the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan which perennially suffers from acute shortage of water but also for the national capital-Delhi. Shri Jain further informs that to resolve the crisis which arose on 01.05.2025, the Government of India convened a meeting on 02.05.2025 which was held under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary to the Government of India at New Delhi on the issue of release of extra 4500 cs of water to Haryana in 8 days for meeting emergent need of Haryana and some part of Rajasthan. It is informed that this meeting was attended by senior officers of the Government of India, partner States of BBMB i.e. Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and the officials of BBMB. Shri Jain informs that in the said meeting it was decided to release 4500 cs of extra water by BBMB to the State of Haryana for next eight days to meet its urgent water requirement. It was also agreed that during the filling period of dam, BBMB will provide this excess water to State of Punjab to fulfill their additional requirements. It was further decided that BBMB shall forthwith convene a meeting to work out the modalities of implementing release of extra water to the State of Haryana. The said press release of the minutes held on 02.05.2025 is taken on record as Annexure-X.

5.1 Mr. Jain, learned Additional Solicitor General of India finally submits that the State of Punjab ought to be dissuaded from controlling the operation and management of the BBMB by deployment of personnel of Punjab Police.

6. On the other hand, Mr. Pravinder Chauhan, learned Advocate General, Haryana submits that on a demand raised before the BBMB by the State of Haryana, three meetings dated 23.04.2025, 24.04.2025 and 30.04.2025 were convened and in these meetings the State of Punjab raised objections as contained in Annexure P-3.

7. In the aforesaid factual background and the submissions made by learned counsel for the rival parties, this Court is called upon to decide the controversy in question.

7.1 Parliament under Article 262 of the Constitution of India is vested with the power to promulgate law provided for adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to use, distribution or control of the water of, or in, any inter State river or river valley. The Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966 is the manifestation of Article 262(1) of the Constitution where law has been made for deciding the rights and liabilities of the successor States which were created on the reorganization of the original State of Punjab including certain other States like Rajasthan and Delhi.

7.2 In exercise of the said power vested in Section 97 of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966, the Bhakra Beas Management Board Rules 1974 were framed, which *inter-alia* provide in clear terms that in case of dissent by any member of BBMB such dissenting member can represent to the Central Government through the Chairman of BBMB whereupon the Central Government shall decide the dispute.

7.3 In the conspectus of the above discussion and the law which clearly provides for an alternative statutory remedy available to dissenting State to represent to the Central Government for resolving the water dispute, the State of Punjab in all fairness ought to have represented before the Central Government. No such representation has been made by the State of Punjab.

7.4 The deployment of force by the State of Punjab at the Bhakra Dam is alleged to be causing obstruction in the functioning and working of BBMB. If this allegation of the BBMB is correct, then the deployment of police force for interfering in the management and functioning of the BBMB cannot be appreciated. The Punjab Police is always free to provide adequate security to the Bhakra Beas Management Board and its personnel but cannot interfere in the day to day functioning of the BBMB so as to obstruct the operation and management of the Bhakra Dam and water related works.

7.5 A suggestion has been made by Mr. Jain, learned Additional Solicitor General of India that the members of BBMB ought to avoid recurrence of any similar situation in the future by deploying paramilitary force for safety and security of the Bhakra Dam as well as its water related works. We leave this question open for the members of BBMB to raise this issue before the Central Government at the opportune time.

8. In the light of the aforesaid discussion and the limited expertise available to this Court in the subject of management of water between two or three States, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of all these petitions in the following terms:-

- i) State of Punjab and any of its functionaries including police personnel are restrained from interfering in the day-to-day functioning, operation and regulation of the Bhakra Nangal Dam

and Lohand control Room water Regulation offices managed by BBMB.

- ii) However, the State of Punjab is always free to extend security to the Bhakra Nangal Dam and the personnel of BBMB as per law.
- iii) State of Punjab is directed to abide by decision of the meeting held on 02.05.2025 under the Chairmanship of the Home Secretary to the Government of India.
- iv) In case the State of Punjab is not agreeable to any decision taken by the Bhakra Beas Management Board, then it is free to invoke Explanation-II to Rule 7 of the 1974 Rules by making a representation to the Central Government through the Chairman of the BBMB, which if made, shall be decided by the Central Government, expeditiously.

**(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE**

**(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE**

06.05.2025

ravinder

Whether speaking/reasoned	√Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No√