

# BBMB members to be 'preferably' from Punjab & Haryana: Khattar

VIJAY MOHAN  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 15

Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said the posts of Member (Power) and Member (Irrigation) in the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) would "preferably" be filled by candidates from Punjab and Haryana.

Speaking at the 51st foundation day celebrations of the BBMB at Panchkula today, Khattar said the necessary clause has been incorporated in the recruitment rules to address the interests of the states.

"We would give preference to candidates from Punjab and Haryana for selection to these posts but in case no suitable candidate is available from these states, BBMB will have no choice but to appoint candidates from elsewhere," Khattar said.



Union Power Minister ML Khattar with Punjab Water Minister Barinder Kumar Goyal and Haryana minister Shruti Choudhry in Panchkula.

As a matter of practice, Member (Power) was a senior technical officer on deputation to BBMB from Punjab and Member (Irrigation) similarly was from Haryana. Recently, the Central Government amended the rules, mentioning that the members can be appointed from any state or organisation provided they possess the required technical qualifications and met the prescribed

eligibility criteria. Punjab had objected to this, claimed that it was against the interests of the state.

Pointing out that as a Central minister he has to keep the interest of all states in mind and not just that of Haryana, of which he was the Chief Minister earlier, he said every state had its own rights concerning water and power, which should be dealt with compassion and cooperation. Punjab Water

Resources Minister, Barinder Kumar Goyal said recent development like deploying the Central Industrial Security Force at BBMB projects instead of the Punjab Police and amending the recruitment rules was unwarranted. He was rooted for a bigger role by Punjab in managing the waters of the rivers that flow through the state, pointing out that it was ensuring availability of water to other states and was also responsible for flood control.

Pointing out that Haryana is dependent on waters from BBMB not only for irrigation but also for drinking, the state's Minister for Irrigation and Water Resources, Shruti Choudhry, while responding to Goyal's remarks, said there was no reason to create any feud and if we act responsibly, people would not be misinformed and we should not resort to politics for everything.

The Times of India  
16.05.2026

## BBMB marks 51st Raising Day

**Panchkula:** The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) Friday celebrated its 51st Raising Day at Indradhanush Auditorium, marking 50 years of its establishment. Union minister Manohar Lal Khattar and ministers from partner states attended the event. BBMB chairman Manoj Tripathi highlighted its role in power and water management. Khattar emphasised expansion of solar and storage projects. TNN

Hindustan Times  
16.05.2025

## ALL STATES MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR BBMB, SAYS KHATTAR

**PANCHKULA :** Former chief minister of Haryana and Union power minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Friday said that all states must work together for the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) project, which was conceived before Independence but could only be constructed after independence in 1948.

Speaking about the establishment of BBMB during its 51st foundation day programme at the Indradhanush Auditorium in Panchkula, he said that after independence in 1948, the decision was made to construct the dam, and the board consisted of undivided Punjab as a whole.

Khattar spoke about how later the shares were splitted between the constituent states and said all states must work together for the project. Khattar and other dignitaries also released a commemorative Coffee Table Book dedicated to BBMB's glorious legacy, historic achievements, new initiatives and future plans.

# The Pioneer

Dated 16.05.2026



## **BBMB Marks 51st Raising Day with Pride and Enthusiasm**

**CHANDIGARH:** Bhakra Beas Management Board celebrated its 51st Raising Day with great grandeur, dignity and enthusiasm on 15 May, 2026 at Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector-5, Panchkula, marking the completion of its glorious 50 years of establishment. The golden occasion stood as an inspiring symbol of BBMB's five decades of dedicated service, technical excellence, invaluable contribution to nation-building and its unwavering commitment towards public welfare. The event was graced by Shri Manohar Lal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Power, Housing and Urban Affairs, as the Chief Guest. Smt. Shruti Choudhry, Minister, Irrigation & WR Department, Haryana; Sh. Barinder Kumar Goyal, Water Resource Minister, Punjab and Sh. Suresh Singh Rawat, Water Resource Minister, Rajasthan were the special guests. The gracious presence of Chief Secretary, Punjab, BBMB Board Members, Senior IAS officers, CMDs/MDs of Power Utilities, Ex-Chairman and Ex-Whole Time Members of BBMB and other distinguished dignitaries added immense prestige to the event. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp followed by the welcome address by Sh. Manoj Tripathi, Chairman, BBMB. In his address, he highlighted BBMB's historic achievements, its culture of excellence and its continued commitment towards nation-building. He stated that BBMB has set remarkable benchmarks in the areas of power generation, water management and environmental balance. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Ministers and other dignitaries also released a commemorative Coffee Table

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SHASHI PAL JAIN  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 15

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# The Pioneer

Dated 16.05.2025

**BBMB MARKS 51ST RAISING DAY WITH PRIDE AND ENTHUSIASM**

## Khattar praises BBMB's significant role in nation-building

A.S. PRASHAR

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU

Panchkula, May 15

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During the event, the Union Minister appreciated BBMB's significant role in nation-building, describing its remarkable contributions not only in the fields of power and irrigation, but also in socio-economic growth, agricultural advancement and balanced regional development. He also stated that BBMB is effectively catering to the needs of all partner states through coordinated management of water and power resources.

# The Statesman

Dated 17.05.2026

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