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Farmers worried over delay in cleaning flood channel



The Irrigation Department has failed to clean the Rangoi Kharif channel in Fatehabad district. TRIBUNE PHOTO

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With monsoon round the corner, the failure of the Irrigation Department to clean the Rangoi Kharif channel of vegetation is worrying farmers of Fatehabad district.

The growth of huge bushes and grass in the channel has rendered the channel almost useless. The channel not only provides water for irrigation during monsoon, but also prevents floods by carrying floodwater towards Sirsa.

With barely a few days left for the arrival of monsoon, farmers are up in arms against the department for its 'lackadaisical approach'.

Dharamvir Kajla, president of the Kisan Ekta Manch, alleged his organisation had

been taking up the matter with the authorities concerned for long but despite Fatehabad Deputy Commissioner NK Solanki's directions, nothing has been done.

Kajla alleged besides vegetation, a contractor building bridges on the Bhuna-Jakhal road had filled Rangoi drain with earth which will prevent the flow of waters in it.

He said if immediate action was not taken by the authorities concerned, farmers would fail to get any water for irrigation from the Rangoi Kharif channel.

Dhoop Singh, executive engineer in the Irrigation Department, however, said the department had begun the process of cleaning the Rangoi Kharif channel and tenders had been invited.

Rajshree

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