

2005
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APPENDIX - 7

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON SHARING OF THE GANGA/GANGES WATERS AT FARAKKA BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND INDIA HELD AT BHERAMARA AND DHAKA FROM 16 TO 17 JANUARY, 2005

1. The Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the Joint Committee on sharing of the Ganga/Ganges waters was held at Bheramara and Dhaka from 16 to 17 January, 2005 along with a visit at the joint discharge observation site at Hardinge Bridge, Bheramara.
2. The Bangladesh side was led by Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, Member, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) and Chairman, Joint Committee, Bangladesh side and was supported by Mr. Mir Sajjad Hossain, Director, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh and Member, Joint Committee and Mr. Md. Fazlur Rahman, Executive Engineer, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh and Member, Joint Committee.
3. The Indian side was led by Shri M. L. Goyal, Commissioner (ER) and Member, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission and Co-Chairman, Joint Committee, Indian side and was supported by Shri A. K. Khurana, Senior Joint Commissioner (ER), Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Member, Joint Committee.
4. Shri P. M. Scott, Superintending Engineer, Central Water Commission, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Shri Puneet R. Kundal, Under Secretary (BD), Ministry of External Affairs attended the meeting and visits as special invitees.
5. Mr. Md. Abdul Hai Baqui, Team Leader, Bangladesh side of the Joint Observation Team and Shri B. V. Rao, Team Leader, Indian side of the Joint Observation Team stationed at Hardinge Bridge were present during field inspection and discussions at Bheramara.
6. The Bangladesh side placed before the Committee the cross-sections, HVD, VVD and Mass Curves for observation sites at 7000 ft., 7500 ft., 9000 ft., 10000 ft., and 12000 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge monitored during November, 2004 and an Index Plan (based on Plane Table Survey) of the Hardinge Bridge reach of the Ganga/Ganges for its consideration.
7. The Joint Committee inspected the discharge observation sites at Hardinge Bridge on 16 January, 2005. The Committee during its visit to the Hardinge Bridge site observed a number of probable discharge observation sites at 7000 ft., 7500 ft., 9000 ft., 10000 ft. and 12000 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge.

8. The Joint Committee closely observed the flow measurements at RD 250 metres and 300 metres at the cross-section 10000 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge during the field visit and found those to be satisfactory. After examination of details and the relevant information and on the basis of site inspections on 16 January, 2005 the Committee decided to continue joint observations at the site, 10000 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge in Bangladesh during the remaining observation period of 2005.
9. During discussions in the meeting the Bangladesh side mentioned that the flow in the Ganga/Ganges at Farakka during 1st ten day period of January this year has been relatively low, as a result, the Bangladesh share of the Ganga/Ganges flows at Farakka during this ten day period has been lower than that shown in the indicative schedule of the Treaty. In this regard the Bangladesh side referred to the provisions of article II (ii) of the 1996 Treaty on sharing of the Ganga/Ganges waters at Farakka and requested the Indian side to do the needful. The Indian side mentioned that the provisions of the Treaty are being honoured by India. The discharges for various ten day periods as mentioned in Annexure II of the Treaty are only indicative, which are based on average of total flows (1949-88). Complying with the Treaty, the releases made to Bangladesh at Farakka are based on the actual flows of the river available at Farakka which is a natural phenomenon.
10. The Joint Committee took note that the First batch of the Indian side comprising Shri B. V. Rao, Executive Engineer, Upper Godavari Division, CWC, Hyderabad and Shri A. K. Hazra, Assistant Engineer, Office of the Chief Engineer, Lower Ganga Basin, CWC, Patna reached Bheramara on 31st December, 2004 and has been participating in the joint daily discharge observation of Ganga/Ganges at Hardinge Bridge along with their Bangladesh counterparts from 1st January, 2005. Mr. Md. Abdul Hai Baqui, Executive Engineer, Northern Measurement Division, BWDB, Pabna has been designated as Team Leader, Bangladesh side of the Joint Observation Team stationed at Hardinge Bridge. It was also noted by the Joint Committee that the first batch of the four member Bangladesh Observation Team comprising Messers Md. Jahid Hossain Jahangir, A. K. M. Wahed Uddin Chowdhury, Abu Mustafizur Rahman and Md. Mahmudur Rahman have been participating in the joint daily discharge observation of the Ganga/Ganges downstream of Farakka Barrage and in the Feeder Canal since 1st January, 2005. Shri A. G. Majumdar, Executive Engineer, CWC, Bheramara have been designated as Team Leader, Indian side of the Joint Observation Team stationed at Farakka, while, Mr. Md. Jahid Hossain Jahangir as the Team Leader from Bangladesh side.

11. The Joint Committee decided to hold its next visit to Farakka Barrage site and meeting at Kolkata in February, 2005 on mutually convenient dates.

Dhaka
17th January, 2005

Sd/-
TAUHIDUAL ANWAR KHAN

Sd/-
M. L. GOYAL

