

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE THIRTY SECOND MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON SHARING OF THE GANGA/GANGES WATERS AT FARAKKA BETWEEN INDIA AND BANGLADESH HELD AT FARAKKA / KOLKATA FROM 5TH to 8TH FEBRUARY, 2006

1. The Thirty Second Meeting of the Joint Committee on sharing of the Ganga/Ganges waters was held at Farakka/Kolkata from 5th to 8th February, 2006 along with a visit at the joint discharge observation sites near Farakka Barrage.
2. The Indian side was led by Shri M. L. Goyal, Commissioner (Ganga) and Member, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission, Government of India and Chairman, Joint Committee, Indian side and was supported by Shri C. Lal, Senior Joint Commissioner (Ganga), Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Member, Joint Committee and Shri Ravi Shanker, Deputy Commissioner (Ganga), Ministry of Water Resources and Member, Joint Committee.
3. The Bangladesh side was led by Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, Member, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) and Chairman of the Joint Committee, Bangladesh side and was supported by Mir Sajjad Hossain, Director, Joint Rivers Commission and Member, Joint Committee and Mr. Golam Mustafa, Executive Engineer, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh and Member, Joint Committee.
4. Shri M. U. Ghani, General Manager, Farakka Barrage Project, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, Shri A. B. Pandya, Superintending Engineer, Hydrological Observation Circle, Maithon, Jharkhand, Shri Vivek Kumar, Attache (BSM), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and Shri B. B. Halder, Executive Engineer, Lower Ganga Division, Central Water Commission, Berhampore also attended the meeting and site visits as special invitees from the Indian side. Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam, Counsellor (Political), Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh in Kolkata, attended the meeting and the site visit to Farakka as special invitee from Bangladesh side.
5. The Indian side placed before the Committee cross sections, HVD, VVD, Mass curves for the different sections at RD 1030m, 1230m, 1430m, 1730m, 1900m, 2000m and 2653m downstream of the Barrage for the Ganga/Ganges and for 535m, 635m, and 1850m downstream of the Head Regulator in the Feeder Canal.
6. The joint monitoring of flow of river Ganga/Ganges at Farakka started on 1st January, 2006 at section 1030m downstream of Farakka Barrage and in the Feeder Canal at section 535m downstream of the Head Regulator.

7. The Joint Committee inspected the discharge observation sites downstream of the Farakka Barrage of the Ganga/Ganges and downstream of the Head Regulator for the Feeder Canal on 6th February 2006. The Committee during its visit to Farakka observed a number of probable discharge observation sites at 1030m, 1230m, 1430m, 1730m, 1900m, 2000m and 2653m downstream of the Barrage in the Ganga/Ganges and at 535m, 635m and 1850m downstream of the Head Regulator of the Feeder Canal. The Committee also inspected the Navigation Lock of the Farakka Barrage Project.
8. The Joint Committee closely observed the flow measurements at RD 345m and 405m at the cross-section at 1030m downstream of the Barrage during the field visit. After examination of details and relevant information and on the basis of site inspection on 6th February 2006 the Committee decided that the joint observations would be continued at the present site i.e. 1030m downstream of the Farakka Barrage for the Ganga/Ganges. During the visit to the Feeder Canal site the Committee closely observed flow measurements at RD 70 m and 77 m at the cross-section at 535m downstream of the Head Regulator. After examination of details related to discharge observation and on the basis of site inspection it was decided by the Joint Committee that discharge observation in the Feeder Canal would be continued at 535m downstream of the Head Regulator of the Feeder Canal.
9. During discussions in the meeting, the Bangladesh side referred to the flow availability at Farakka during the current dry season till to date and observed that the total availability during the three ten day periods of January were less than the 40 years historical average as shown in Coloum-2 of Annexure-II of the Ganges Water Treaty, 1996. As a consequence, the Bangladesh share during these ten day periods were less than the quanta shown in Coloum-4 of Annexure-II of the Treaty for the respective 10-day periods. The Bangladesh side referred to the provisions of article II (ii) of the 1996 Treaty on sharing of the Ganga/Ganges waters and requested the Indian side to do the needful to avoid such occurrences in the future.

The Indian side stated that the provisions of the Treaty are being honoured by India and pointed out that the releases being made to Bangladesh are in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty. In this regard, it should be noted that the schedule enclosed as Annexure-II of the Treaty is only indicative. Since the schedule at Annexure-II is based on the average of total flows over a period of 1949-88, the same cannot be compared with flows during any particular year, as the flows during a particular year depend upon hydrometeorological conditions in that year.

10. The Joint Committee took note that the First batch of the Indian side comprising Shri Chandeshwar Singh, Deputy Director, Flood Management Planning Dte. CWC, New Delhi, and Shri K. Ravindran, Extra Assistant Director BCD(NW & NWS) CWC, New Delhi has reached Bheramara on 31 December, 2005 and have been participating in the joint discharge observation of Ganga/Ganges at Hardinge Bridge along with their Bangladesh counterparts from 1st January, 2006. It was also noted by the Joint Committee that the First batch of the four

members Bangladesh Observation Team comprising Messers Mohd. Fazlur Rahman, Executive Engineer, Joint Rivers Commission, Md. Reazuddin Ahmed, Executive Engineer, BWDB, Md. Mahmudur Rahman, SDE, JRC and Mr. Mahmud Ilias, SDE, BWDB have been participating in joint daily discharge observation at downstream of Farakka Barrage in the Ganga/Ganges and at downstream of Head Regulator of the Feeder Canal from 1st January, 2006. Shri B. B. Halder, Executive Engineer, CWC, Berhampore has been designated as Team Leader, Indian side of the Joint Observation Team stationed at Farakka, while Mr. Mohd. Fazlur Rahman has been designated as the Team Leader from Bangladesh side.

11. The Joint Committee decided to hold its next meeting at Dhaka on mutually convenient dates.

Kolkata
8th February, 2006

Sd/-
M. L. GOYAL

Sd/-
TAUHIDUL ANWAR KHAN

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