

**RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE THIRTY-THIRD (33RD) MEETING OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON SHARING OF THE GANGA/GANGES WATERS AT
FARAKKA BETWEEN INDIA AND BANGLADESH HELD AT DHAKA
ON MAY 3, 2006 (INCORPORATING VISIT TO JOINT OBSERVATION SITE AT
BHERAMARA ON MAY 2, 2006).**

The 33rd meeting of the Joint Committee on sharing of the waters of Ganga/Ganges was held at Dhaka on May 3, 2006 after visit to the joint observation site at Hardinge Bridge, Bheramara on 2nd May, 2006. The Bangladeshi delegation was led by Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan, Member Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) and Chairman, Joint Committee, Bangladesh side. The Indian delegation was led by Shri S. P. Kakran, Commissioner (Ganga), Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, Member, Joint Rivers Commission and Co-Chairman, Joint Committee. The list of participants is given at Annex-I. The list of observers presently stationed for joint observation at Farakka and Hardinge bridge is give at Annex-II.

2. At the outset, the Team Leader of Bangladesh side welcomed the Indian Team Leader and his delegation. The Indian Team Leader expressed his sincere thanks to the Leader of Bangladesh Team for making excellent arrangements for their stay at Dhaka and for their field visit to joint observation site.
3. The Joint Committee inspected the joint observation site at Hardinge Bridge on May 2, 2006. The Bangladesh side placed before the Committee an index plan of the Hardinge Bridge reach of the Ganga/Ganges and river cross sections including HVD, VVD and Mass Curve for the alternative site locations at 7500 ft., 8500 ft., 8910 ft., 9500 ft. and 10000 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge on the basis of survey conducted during November-2005 and March-2006. The Committee noted that the Joint Discharge Observation at the Hardinge Bridge during the dry season of 2006 had commenced on 1st January 2006 at the cross section 7500 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge which was mutually selected by joint observation teams. The Committee also noted that due to technical problem faced in March 2006, the Joint Observation team had changed the observation sites at 8910 ft., following the guidelines for joint observations.



The Joint Committee also observed the flow measurements at RD 1080, 1120, 1160, 1200 and 1240 m at the cross section at 8910 ft. upstream of Hardinge Bridge and found the observations satisfactory. The Committee agreed the joint observations to be continued at 8,910 ft. during the remaining lean season of 2006.

4. 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 flow availability at Farakka during the ten-day periods of January, February, March and April were less than the 40 years average availabilities as shown in Column-2 of Annexure-II of the Ganges Water Treaty, 1996. As a consequence, the Bangladesh share during those ten-day periods excepting the 2nd 10-days of March and 1st 10-days of April were less than the quanta shown in Column-4 of Annexure-II of the Treaty. 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 occurrence.
5. The Indian side stated that the provisions of the Treaty are being honoured by India in letter and spirit, and emphasized that the releases being made to Bangladesh at Farakka are in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty under Annexure-I and Annexure-II. It also pointed out that due to inadequate rainfall in the upper catchment during lean season, India too had received less than its due share in all the ten-day periods during January to April 2006 (up to April 20, 2006) except for three ten-day periods. At the same time, the Indian side clarified that the schedule enclosed as Annexure-II of the Treaty is only indicative and it can be followed only when the actual availability corresponds to the average flows. Therefore, it cannot be compared with flows during a particular year, as the flows during a particular year depend upon hydro-meteorological conditions in that year.
6. The Joint Committee agreed to hold its next meeting in June 2006 at New Delhi on mutually convenient dates for finalization of its Annual Report of 2006.

Dated 3rd May, 2006

Sd/-

(TAUHIDUL ANWAR KHAN)

Chairman

Sd/-

(S. P. KAKRAN)

Co-Chairman



Annex-I

Sl. No.	Indian Delegation		Bangladesh Delegation	
1.	Mr. S. P. Kakran Commissioner(Ganga)and Member Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission	Leader of the Delegation	Mr. Tauhidul Anwar Khan Member, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission	Leader of the Delegation
2.	Mr. M. U. Ghani General Manager Farakka Barrage Project Ministry of Water Resources	Member	Mr. Masud Bin Momen Director General (SA) Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Special invitee
3.	Mr. C. Lal Senior Joint Commissioner (Ganga), Central Water Commission Ministry of Water Resources	Member	Mr. Mir Sajjad Hossain Director Joint Rivers Commission Bangladesh	Member
4.	Mr. Sanjeev Singla First Secretary (Political) High Commission of India in Bangladesh	Member	Mr. Golam Mustafa Executive Engineer Joint Rivers Commission Bangladesh	Member
5.	Mr. B. B. Haldar Executive Engineer Lower Ganga Division Central Water Commission Bherhampore	Member		

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Annex-II

Sl. No.	Indian Observers		Bangladesh Observers	
	Hardinge Bridge		Hardinge Bridge	
1.	Mr. K. K. Rajan Executive Engineer	Team Leader	1. Mr. Md. Abdul Hai Baqui Executive Engineer	Team Leader
2.	Mr. N Chattopadhyay Assistant Engineer	Member	2. Mr. Md. Anisur Rahman Deputy Director	Member
			3. Mr. Md. Daulatuzzaman Sub-Divisional Engineer	Member
			4. Mr. Md. Mofazzal Hossain Section Officer	Member
Sl. No.	Farakka		Farakka	
	Farakka		Farakka	
1.	Mr. B B Halder Executive Engineer	Team Leader	1. Mr. Jahid Hossain Jahanger Executive Engineer	Team Leader
2.	Mr. M. S. Ghosh Assistant Engineer	Member	2. Mr. Gulam Mostafa Deputy Director	Member
3.	Mr. S. C. Roy Junior Engineer	Member	3. Mr. Mofazzal Hossain Executive Engineer	Member
4.	Mr. A. K. Yadav Assistant Silt Analyst	Member	4. Mr. Mohammad Mahadi Hasan Assistant Engineer	Member
5.	Mr. K. K. Deb Junior Engineer	Member		
6.	Mr. P. K. Dhali Research Assistant	Member		


