

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH ON SHARING OF THE
GANGA WATERS AT FARAKKA AND ON AUGMENTING ITS FLOWS

(Dated 5th November, 1977)

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH,

DETERMINED to promote and strengthen their relations of friendship and good neighbourliness
INSPIRED by the common desire of promoting the well-being of their people,

BEING desirous of sharing by mutual agreement the waters of the international rivers flowing through
the territories of the two countries and of making the optimum utilisation of the water resources of their
region by joint efforts,

RECOGNISING that the need of making an interim arrangement for sharing of Ganga waters
at Farakka in a spirit of mutual accommodation and the need for a solution of the long-term problem of
augmenting the flows of the Ganga are in the mutual interests of the peoples of the two countries,

BEING desirous of finding a fair solution of the question before them, without affecting the rights
and entitlements of either country other than those covered by this Agreement, or establishing any general
principles of law or precedent,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

A. *Arrangements for sharing of the Waters of the Ganga at Farakka :*

ARTICLE—I : The quantum of waters agreed to be released by India to Bangladesh will be at Farakka.

ARTICLE—II (i) The sharing between India and Bangladesh of the Ganga waters at Farakka from the
1st January to the 31st May every year will be with reference to the quantum shown in column 2 of the
Schedule annexed hereto which is based on 75 percent availability calculated from the recorded flows of
the Ganga at Farakka from 1948 to 1973.

(ii) India shall release to Bangladesh waters by 10-day periods in quantum shown in column 4
of the Schedule :

Provided that if the actual availability at Farakka of the Ganga waters during a 10-day period is
higher or lower than the quantum shown in column 2 of the Schedule it shall be shared in the proportion
applicable to that period;

Provided further that if during a particular 10-day period, the Ganga flows at Farakka come down
to such a level that the share of Bangladesh is lower than 80 per cent of the value shown in column 4, the
release of waters to Bangladesh during that 10-day period shall not fall below 80 per cent of the value shown
in column 4.

ARTICLE—III : The waters released to Bangladesh at Farakka under Article 1 shall not be reduced below
Farakka except for reasonable uses of waters, not exceeding 200 cusecs, by India between Farakka and the
point on the Ganga where both its banks are in Bangladesh.

ARTICLE—IV : A Committee consisting of the representatives nominated by the two Governments (herein-
after called the Joint Committee) shall be constituted. The Joint Committee shall set up suitable teams
at Farakka and Hardinge Bridge to observe and record at Farakka the daily flows below Farakka Barrage
and in the Feeder Canal, as well as at Hardinge Bridge.

ARTICLE—V : The Joint Committee shall decide its own procedure and method of functioning.

ARTICLE—VI : The Joint Committee shall submit to the two Governments all data collected by it and
shall also submit a yearly report to both the Governments.

ARTICLE—VII : The Joint Committee shall be responsible for implementing the arrangements contained
in this part of the Agreement and examining any difficulty arising out of the implementation of the above
arrangements and of the operation of Farakka Barrage. Any difference or dispute arising in this regard,
if not resolved by the Joint Committee, shall be referred to a panel of an equal number of Indian and
Bangladeshi experts nominated by the two Governments. If the difference of dispute still remains unresol-
ved, it shall be referred to the two Governments which shall meet urgently at the appropriate level to resolve
it by mutual discussion and failing that by such other arrangements as they may mutually agree upon.

B. Long-term Arrangements :

ARTICLE—VIII: The two Governments recognise the need to cooperate with each other in finding a solution to the long-term problem of augmenting the flows of the Ganga during the dry season.

ARTICLE—IX: The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission established by the two Governments in 1972 shall carry out investigation and study of schemes relating to the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga, proposed or to be proposed by either Government with a view to finding a solution which is economical and feasible. It shall submit its recommendations to the two Governments within a period of three years.

ARTICLE—X: The two Governments shall consider and agree upon a scheme or schemes, taking into account the recommendations of the Joint Rivers Commission, and take necessary measures to implement it or them as speedily as possible.

ARTICLE—XI: Any difficulty, difference or dispute arising from or with regard to this part of the Agreement, if not resolved by the Joint Rivers Commission, shall be referred to the two Governments which shall meet urgently at the appropriate level to resolve it by mutual discussion.

C. Review and Duration :

ARTICLE—XII: The provisions of this Agreement will be implemented by both parties in good faith. During the period for which the Agreement continues to be in force in accordance with Article XV of the Agreement, the quantum of waters agreed to be released to Bangladesh at Farakka in accordance with this Agreement shall not be reduced.

ARTICLE—XIII: The Agreement will be reviewed by the two Governments at the expiry of three years from the date of coming into force of this Agreement. Further reviews shall take place six months before the expiry of this Agreement or as may be agreed upon between the two Governments.

ARTICLE—XIV: The review or reviews referred to in Article XIII shall entail consideration of the working impact, implementation and progress of the arrangements contained in Parts A and B of this Agreement.

ARTICLE—XV: This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force for a period of five years from the date of its coming into force. It may be extended further for a specified period by mutual agreement in the light of the review or reviews referred to in Article XIII.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by the respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Dacca on 5th November 1977 in Hindi, Bengali and English languages. In the event of any conflict between the texts, the English text shall prevail.

(Sd.)

(Surjit Singh Barnala)
Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation
Government of the Republic of India.
For the Government of the Republic of
India.

(Sd.)

(Rear Admiral Musharraf Hussain Khan
Chief of Naval Staff, and Member, President's
Council of Advisers, Incharge of the Ministry
of Communications, Food Control, Water
Resources and Power,
Government of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh.
For the Government of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh.

Dacca, November 5, 1977.

SCHEDULE

(Vide Article II (i))

Sharing of Waters at Farakka Between the 1st January and the 31st May Every Year

1		2		3		4	
Period		Flows reaching Farakka (based on 75% availability from observed data (1948-73))		Withdrawal by India at Farakka		Release to Bangladesh	
		Cusecs		Cusecs		Cusecs	
January	1—10	98,500	27,500	40,000	11,250	58,500	16,250
	11—20	89,750	25,750	38,500	10,500	51,250	15,250
	21—31	82,500	23,500	35,000	9,750	47,500	13,750
February	1—10	79,250	22,750	33,000	9,250	46,250	13,500
	11—20	74,000	21,000	31,500	8,750	42,500	12,750
	21—28/29	70,000	19,800	30,750	8,250	39,250	11,550
March	1—10	65,250	18,250	26,750	7,750	38,500	10,500
	11—20	63,500	17,500	25,500	7,500	38,000	10,000
	21—31	61,000	16,500	25,000	7,250	36,000	9,750
April	1—10	59,000	15,250	24,000	6,750	35,000	9,250
	11—20	55,500	14,250	20,750	6,250	34,750	8,750
	21—30	55,000	14,000	20,500	6,250	34,500	8,750
May	1—10	56,500	13,500	21,500	6,000	35,000	8,500
	11—20	59,250	14,250	24,000	6,500	35,250	8,750
	21—31	65,500	17,250	26,750	7,750	38,750	10,000