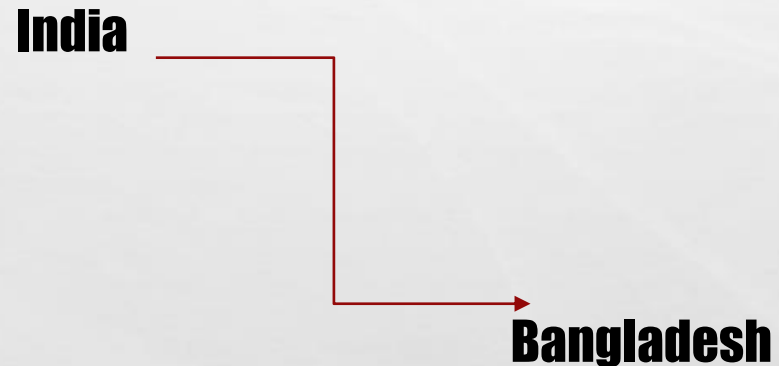


# **FARAKKA RIVER WATER DISTRIBUTION**



# **INTRODUCTION**

**India and Bangladesh are neighbouring countries so there is a common sharing of border ,resources ,goods , and also river waters, there are total 54 transitional river which flows from India to Bangladesh as India being the upper riparian country has the control over the flow of water.**



# FARAKKA BARRAGE :

**The Farakka Barrage is built on river Ganga (which runs 2,500 miles with a basin of 9,243 miles) shared between India, Bangladesh, Nepal and China. It is situated in Murshidabad and Malda District which is very close to Bangladesh border.**



# **BENEFITS TO INDIA:**

**The construction of Farakka Barrage was already crafted 1951 before the Independence of Bangladesh from Pakistan ,however the construction started in the same year when Bangladesh was created .**

- **Hence the barrage was commissioned in April 1975.**
- **The major reason which India cited for the construction of Farakka Barrage was the increase of salinity due to over deposition of sediments by river Ganga.**
- **This barrage gave India control over Ganga flow.**
- **water got diverted to Bhagirathi – Hoogly river , which was than utilized for industrialization , agriculture , domestic, thermal power.**

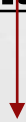
# **BANGLADESH OBJECTION ;**

**Bangladesh objected with the construction of this barrage as they demanded for the continuous flow of water throughout the year .**

**UN General Assembly.**



**Special Political Committee.**



**(That India and Bangladesh should discuss the issue bilaterally)**

# **AGREEMENT OF 1977**

**In 30 September, 1977 an agreement was made according to which from January 1 to May 31 free flow of water was given, added with ten leanest days April 21 to April 30 India got 20,500 cusecs water and Bangladesh – 34,500 cusecs water, and gradually India's share would increase after ten days.**

**However, the basic issue remained unaddressed, leading to its lapse in 1982.**

# **THE GANGA WATER TREATY**

**The GWT was signed in 12 December , 1996 by ( *Indian Prime Minister H.D Deve Gowda and shiek Hasina Wajed*), this treaty established a thirty year water sharing agreement ,Which allowed 40,000 cusecs of flow at Farakka between 1 jan – 31 may ,and if the flow rate falls below 70,000 cusecs than the water shall be distributed on equal level .**

- There is little in agreement that ensure India will not extract water futher upstremms as India has upper hand in the flow of river.**
- That GWT lacks a strong method for dispute resolution ,a joint committee only meet when the flow were to fall below 50,000 cusecs ,and that 50,000 cusecs in not enough and is leading Bangladesh towards the crises.**
- It has not solve any issue that Bangladesh had address for the Farakka Barrage.**
- This was a case of large and powerful countries degrading the needs of weaker neighbour.**

# **CONSEQUENCES :**

**The construction of Farakka has one of the major issue for dispute between India and Bangladesh , and also it has made a great impact in the lives of people living near the barrage as they are prone to flood during the rainy season and during the summer there is the high possibility of drought due to the shortage of water.**

# **CONCLUSION :**

**Acc Bangladesh High Commissioner : “ Transparency in these matters is very important India and Bangladesh must not quibble about cusecs or percentage of share and realize that water is an intangible asset that does not recognize political boundaries there should be an emphasis on water conservation and optimum water management.**

**Therefore this can be resolve through proper negotiation and amendments in GWT which would be beneficial for both the country.**