

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5356

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

INDO BANGLADESH JOINT RIVER COMMISSION

Mitra Shri Somendra Nath;Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Panda Shri Prabodh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Sule Supriya ;Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission has met recently in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the meet;
- (c) whether Teesta water sharing issue has also come up at the discussion;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the progress made in regard to resolving the difference between the two countries?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) led by Ministers of Water Resources from both sides has met in New Delhi and held 37th meeting of JRC on March 17-20, 2010. The two sides discussed all issues of bilateral cooperation in water resources including sharing of waters on common rivers, river bank protection works, drinking water supply to Sabroom town of south Tripura & minor irrigation schemes proposed on river Feni, co-operation in flood forecasting, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) During the JRC meeting, the Bangladesh side proposed to have an early agreement on interim sharing of Teesta river waters during dry season (October-April) and presented a draft on interim sharing arrangements for consideration. In this regard, the Indian side suggested that principles on sharing of Teesta water based on joint hydrological observations, to assess the total water availability in the river, may be decided first to arrive at mutual understanding on the sharing of water and presented a draft statement thereof. After discussion, it was agreed that the Secretaries (Water Resources of both the countries would examine the aforesaid documents towards an expeditions conclusion on interim agreement in the sprit of mutual cooperation as reflected in the Joint CommuniquÃ© issued during Bangladesh Prime Minister's visit to India.