

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1623
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2013
TEESTA RIVER ISSUE
Sugumar Shri K. ;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has emphasized the need to find the solution to the issue of Teesta water sharing between the two countries without further delay;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government of India thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) The issue of signing of Teesta Water Agreement has been discussed by the two Governments at various fora including the 2nd Joint Consultative Commission meeting at the level of Foreign Minister in February 2013 in Dhaka. At all such discussions Bangladesh has highlighted the need for conclusion of an early agreement.

(c) During the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Dhaka in September 2011, the two Prime Ministers welcomed the progress on the principles and modalities of interim agreements on sharing of waters of Teesta River on fair and equitable basis. They directed the concerned officials to work towards concluding the agreements at the earliest. The endeavour of the Government is to arrive at an agreement on the sharing of Teesta water on a fair and equitable basis which is acceptable to all the parties concerned, and which protects the interests of all stakeholders.