

देवश्री मुखर्जी
Debashree Mukherjee
सचिव
SECRETARY

D.O. No. F-12011/1/2023-Coord

11th December, 2024

Dear Sir,

In compliance with your D.O letter dated 24.10.2024, I would like to bring to your notice the following significant matters of DoWR, RD & GR.

(i) **85th meeting of India-Bangladesh Joint Committee to finalize the annual report for the lean season of the year 2024:** As per article-IV of the India-Bangladesh Treaty of 1996, on sharing of Ganga/Ganges Waters at Farakka, a Joint Committee consisting of members of both the countries has been constituted to oversee the implementation of the Treaty including discharge measurement at Farakka (India) and Hardinge Bridge (Bangladesh). For this purpose, the Joint Committee meets **three** times in a year on alternate basis in India and Bangladesh to monitor (i) the joint hydrological observations at Farakka (India), (ii) joint discharge observations at Hardinge Bridge (Bangladesh) and (iii) to finalize the Annual Report.

The 85th meeting of the committee was held on 14th November 2024 in Dhaka to finalize the Annual Report for the lean season. The previous two meetings for the year had earlier been held from 22nd to 25th January 2024 in Bangladesh (83rd meeting) and from 4th to 8th March 2024 (84th meeting) in India. The Annual Report includes summaries of Joint Committee Meetings, observed hydrological data, and inflows/releases between the two countries.

(ii) **National Workshop of Integrated Flood Risk Management:** A National Workshop on Integrated Flood Risk Management was held on 26th November 2024 in New Delhi, focusing on four key areas: floodplain zoning implementation, sediment management, and advanced technologies for flood warning and reservoir operations. It was attended by 24 States and 19 Central agencies.

All the states acknowledged floodplain zoning (FPZ) as crucial for mitigating flood risks, though challenges were highlighted, particularly by Bihar and West Bengal, citing high population density in flood-prone areas. Commendable progress by Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Manipur in FPZ implementation was noted, with Uttarakhand's experiences offering valuable lessons for other States.

Contd...2/-

This Department circulated the draft technical guidelines on FPZ to States/UTs for customization based on local conditions. Central agencies like CWC, NIH, and GFCC would be providing technical support for FPZ studies, with States supplying required data. States have been urged to send their observations on the guidelines promptly.

(iii) **Storage Position of Important Reservoirs:** Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring the live storage position of 155 important reservoirs spread all over the country and issuing bulletins every Thursday. The overall storage position in 155 reservoirs as on 05.12.2024 was 145.416 BCM which is 125% of the live storage of corresponding period of last year and 117% of average storage of last ten years. Out of the 155 Reservoirs being monitored, 20 reservoirs are of Hydro-Electric projects having total live storage capacity of 35.299 BCM and 15 Reservoirs of these had Storage more than the average of last 10 years.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Debashree Mukherjee)

Dr. T. V. Somanathan,
Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi -110001.
Email: cabinet@nic.in