

Teesta River has become an important factor in India - Bangladesh relations. What are the hindrances in successful implementation of water sharing agreement and what are its possible implications on India-Bangladesh relations? What could be the possible solutions?

Teesta river flows from Sikkim & West Bengal to Bangladesh, which is highly dependent on river's water for agriculture in its rice bowl.

A/c to Joint water Commission India ought to share 37.5% water with Bangladesh, which is has become crucial for both countries

### HINDRANCE

- 1) A/c to Article 256 of Constitution India (Union govt.) can settle any trans boundary & river dispute with due consultation with affected States
- 2) West Bengal have firmly opposed sharing as Northern part of state is highly dependent on it.

3. Lack of available alternatives for West Bengal
4. Lack of funds available to under-take the project.

### Implication for relations

→ Bangladesh is a crucial neighbour of India & non compliance of Joint river Commission order may lead to sour relations, when the pro-India regime ends.

Moreover, trade may fall with Bangladesh & there might be hostile reaction against the migrants of Both Sides.

Bangladesh is also a crucial import-out Security Partner in South Asia & helps India in countering Pakistan influence in region. All this might go in vain if deal is not completed.

### Possible Solutions

1. River Torsa water can be shared with Bangladesh as it is close to river Padma of Bangladesh
2. India can built rain water capturing reservoirs on its side & share that water
3. Bangladesh demand is majorly for lean season of Nov. to April, we can even share Hista water ~~becau~~ because of ~~the~~ lean demand in India.

JRC recommendations must be implemented quickly in order to nurture our relations with our neighbour Bangladesh.