

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 833
ANSWERED ON – 26/07/2024
RENEWAL OF GANGA WATER TREATY

833. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governments of India and Bangladesh have announced to begin a high technical-level talks for the renewal of the 1996 Ganga Water Treaty;

(b) if so, the details of the ratified agreement therein;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal a neighbouring State of Bangladesh and a stakeholder in water treaty issues was not consulted over renewal of recent Ganga-Teesta Water Treaty and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government of West Bengal has raised many concerns over the treaty and if so, the details thereof and whether they have been taken into consideration ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a & b) The Governments of India and Bangladesh have decided to begin discussions on renewal of the Ganga Water Treaty signed in

1996, which is due to expire in 2026. The discussions are yet to commence in this regard and no fresh agreement has been ratified between the two countries.

(c & d) There is no 'Ganga-Teesta Water Treaty' signed between India and Bangladesh. However, the Government of West Bengal was consulted by the Union Government in respect of renewal of the Ganga Water Treaty. Its authorized representative took part in the inter-ministerial discussions held on the matter on 30 October 2023, 15 March 2024 and 31 May 2024, where our collective view was formulated. Inputs on drinking water and industrial water requirements have also been received from the Government of West Bengal which have been taken into account while formulating our views.
