### The Indian Express- 18- April-2023

Top govt panel reviews modification process of Indus Waters Treaty

### HARIKISHAN SHARMA

NEW DELHI, APRIL 17

INDIA ON Monday took stock of the ongoing modification process of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), a pact that was inked 62 years ago between India and Pakistan for the management of cross-border rivers.

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs said the sixth meeting of the Steering Committee on matters related to the IWT of 1960 took place on April 17. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti. The meeting was also attended by Foreign Secretary V M Kwatra.

It added: "Matters related to ongoing Neutral Expert proceedings pertaining to the Kishenganga and Ratle Hydroelectric Projects were also discussed."

Earlier this year, India had issued a notice to Pakistan for modification of the IWT of September 1960. The notice, sent on January 25, through the Commissioner for Indus Waters, gives Pakistan 90 days to consider entering into intergovernmental negotiations to rectify the material breach of the treaty.

The notice had invoked Article XII (3) of the treaty, which says: "The provisions of this Treaty may from time to time be modified by a duly ratified treaty..." **Deccan Chronicle- 18- April-2023** 

## AP, TS PLAN JOINT VISIT TO GODAVARI FLOOD-HIT AREAS

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, APRIL 17

The governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana would jointly undertake a fact-finding visit to six streams located near Bhadrachalam, towards Dummugudem, to gauge the impact of Godavari floods. AP, however, did not agree for a fresh joint survey as such surveys had been conducted visavis adjoining riparian states.

Senior engineers from the water resources departments of AP and TS would study the possibility of submergence of low-lying areas in parts of Badrachalam and also in areas close to the six streams. Such a fear was expressed by the Telangana government, necessitating the visit by the joint team of experts.

It is noted that floodwater from these streams could not empty into the Godavari when the river was in flood. Such a scenario could persist for days. AP authorities maintain that the submergence of lowlying areas along the course of Kinnersani and Murredu rivers, especially when the Godavari is flooded, is a temporary phenomenon. Once the water level recedes in the Godavari, the stagnant rainwater would flow into it.

The Supreme Court recently issued a direction to the Union Jal Shakti ministry to engage the riparian states including AP, Telangana, Odisha and Chhattisgarh on the issue of submergence of low-lying areas during the Godavari floods.

The Tribune- 18- April-2023

# India, Pak hold talks on J&K hydel projects

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

#### NEW DELHI, APRIL 17

India and Pakistan on Monday discussed the ongoing neutral expert proceedings pertaining to the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects at the sixth meeting of the steering committee on matters related to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) of 1960.

Though the committee is chaired by the Secretary, Department of Water Resources, Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra also attended the meeting.

The meeting took stock of the modification process of the Indus Waters Treaty. The World Bank has announced concurrently appointment of a neutral expert and a Chair of the Court of Arbitration in the ongoing matter related to the Kishenganga and Ratle projects. India's Commissioner for Indus Waters had issued a notice on January 25 for the modification of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960, to his Pakistani counterpart.

This notice was issued

## Sixth meeting of panel on Indus Waters Treaty

with the intent to provide Pakistan an opportunity to enter into government to government negotiations to rectify ongoing material breach of the treaty.

India has called upon Pakistan to notify a suitable date for the commencement of interstate bilateral negotiations under Article XII(3) of the treaty within 90 days. Asked about this issue, MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi had said, "I'm not aware of a response from Pakistan as yet. I'm also not aware of any response or comment by the World Bank."

India had requested a neutral expert, while Pakistan had requested a Court of Arbitration.

As mandated by the treaty, on October 17, 2022, the World Bank appointed Michel Lino as neutral expert and Prof Sean Murphy as Chairman of the Court of Arbitration.

# Indus Waters Treaty: India holds meet to study modifications



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

India on Monday held a meeting here of the steering committee to take stock of the ongoing modification process of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). On January 25, India issued a notice to Pakistan seeking a review and modification of the 62-year-old treaty following Islamabad's "intransigence" in handling disputes.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Monday the committee meeting was chaired by the Secretary, in the

Department of Water Resources, the Ministry of Jal Shakti and was attended by Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra among other senior officials of the two ministries.

"The meeting took stock of the ongoing modification process of the Indus Waters Treaty," the MEA said. "Matters related to the ongoing Neutral Expert proceedings pertaining to the Kishenganga and Ratle Hydroelectric Projects were also discussed," it said. The MEA also said it was the sixth meeting of the Steering Committee on matters related to the Indus Waters Treaty.

### Jansatta- 18- April-2023

### सिंधु जल संधि की संचालन समिति की बैठक में संशोधन प्रक्रिया पर चर्चा

नई दिल्ली, 17 अप्रैल (भाषा) ।

सिंधु जल संधि (आइडब्लूटी) की संचालन समिति की सोमवार को बैठक हुई जिसमें संधि को लेकर जारी संशोधन प्रक्रिया का जायजा लिया गया। भारत और पाकिस्तान ने नौ वर्षों की वार्ता के बाद 1960 में सिंधू जल संधि पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे। विश्व बैंक भी इस संधि के हस्ताक्षरकर्ताओं में शामिल था। भारत ने सितंबर 1960 की सिंधु जल संधि में संशोधन के लिए 25 जनवरी को पाकिस्तान को नोटिस भेजा था। पाकिस्तान के विदेश मंत्रालय ने इसके जवाब में तीन अप्रैल को एक पत्र भेजा था। विदेश मंत्रालय के अनुसार, संचालन समिति की बैठक की अध्यक्षता जल संसाधन विभाग के सचिव ने की और इसमें विदेश सचिव विनय क्षत्रा एवं दोनों मंत्रालयों के अन्य वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने हिस्सा लिया। मंत्रालय ने कहा कि बैठक में सिंधु जल संधि को लेकर जारी संशोधन प्रक्रिया का जायजा लिया गया। बयान के अनुसार, ' किशनगंगा और रातले जल विद्युत परियोजना के संबंध में जारी तटस्थ विशेषज्ञ कार्यवाहियों के बारे में भी चर्चा हुई।'

### File No.T-74074/10/2019-WSE DTE

### Dainik Bhaskar- 18- April-2023

