

WORLD NOTES – Part I

1. ASEAN

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

It is a regional intergovernmental organization comprising 10 Southeast Asian countries.

Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Brunei.

Promotes Pan-Asianism and intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and socio-cultural integration amongst its members and other Asian countries.

Formed on 8 August 1967.

ASEAN covers a land area of 4.4 million square kilometers. i.e. 3% of total land area of Earth

ASEAN territorial waters cover an area about three times larger than its land counterpart

ASEAN combined population is about 8.8% of the world's population

ASEAN shares land borders with India, China, Bangladesh, East Timor and Papua New Guinea

And maritime borders with India, China, Palau and Australia

ASEAN association is credited as successful and emerging power house.

2. NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP

The NSG was founded in response to the Indian nuclear test in May 1974

The Indian Test had demonstrated that non-weapons specific nuclear technology could be readily turned to weapons development

The nations already signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) saw the need to further limit the export of nuclear equipment, materials or technology.

Guidelines for exports were issued included the list of items that could be exported to non-nuclear states if certain International Atomic Energy safeguards were agreed to.

3. INTERPOL

The International Criminal Police Organization more commonly known as Interpol is the international organization that facilitates international police cooperation

Headquarter: Lyon, France

It was established as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) in 1923.

Members: 192 countries

It is politically neutral

Its charter forbids it, from undertaking interventions or activities of a political, military, religious or racial nature or involving itself in disputes over such matters.

Interpol is International police organization

Has 192 member countries

Role is to enable police around the world to work together to make the world a safer place.

INTERPOL informs its members that an arrest warrant has been issued for an individual by a judicial authority.

However, Interpol cannot demand that any member country arrest the subject of a Red Notice.

4. RED CORNER ALERT

INTERPOL informs its members that an arrest warrant has been issued for an individual by a judicial authority.

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A red corner notice is actually 'a spot out device on the immigration computer'. When a passenger checks in or checks out of India at the international immigration counter, the moment the passenger's passport number is fed in 'a red flag appears' beside it to alert the immigration officer that this person is wanted by the police of any police station in India.

5. UNO

- The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization.
- It was created to promote international co-operation and to maintain international order.
- It was to avoid another World War.
- Founded: 24 October 1945 after World War II
- 24th October is celebrated as the United Nations Day.
- Initial members: 51 now 193
- HQ: Manhattan, New York City, US
- The organization is financed by contributions from member states.
- The representatives of all member countries are also members of the General Assembly.
- All the nations that accept the Charter of the United Nations can become its member.
- *UNO has 6 Organs:-*
 - General Assembly
 - Security Council
 - Economic and Social Council
 - International Court of Justice
 - Trusteeship Council
 - Secretariat

6. SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council performs the following functions

Maintaining International Peace and Security

Investigating International Disputes

Taking military or economic action against the aggressor countries if necessary etc.

7. OBJECTIVES OF UNITED NATIONS

To enhance international peace and security

To develop friendly relations among nations

To resolve all international issues through peaceful means

To protect and promote human rights and freedom

8. FUNCTIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

It passes resolutions regarding issues of international peace and security

It passes the UN budget

It elects the non-permanent members of the Security Council

It discusses International Issues

It elects the members of the Economic and Social Council

9. FUNCTIONS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

It performs following functions

It discusses global questions of poverty, social and economic inequalities, apartheid

It creates awareness about human rights and freedom

It takes the project about social, cultural and educational issues, etc.

10. INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

The Court decides the disputes between two or more member countries.

It also provides the right interpretation to international laws, norms and traditions, etc.

The office of the International Court is in the Hague in Netherlands.

Security council has 15 members

The five permanent members of the Security Council are United States of America, France, United Kingdom, Russia and China

The Secretariat organizes meetings of the General Assembly and also Security Council

The chief of the Secretariat is called the UN Secretary General

11. FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION

The main function of FAO is to solve the problem of poverty, malnutrition and starvation in the world.

FAO helps developing countries in their efforts in improving agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices.

This is to ensure good nutrition and food security for all.

FAO has 197 member states.

In 1951, FAO's headquarter was moved from Washington, DC, United States, to Rome, Italy.

The members' meet every two years to review the work carried out by the organization and to Work and Budget for the next two-year period.

The Conference elects a council of 49 member states that acts as an interim governing body. Director General heads the agency.

FAO has 8 Departments:

Agriculture and Consumer Protection

Climate

Biodiversity

Land and Water Department

Economic and Social Development

Fisheries and Aquaculture

Forestry

Corporate Services and Technical Cooperation and Program Management

Regular Program Budget is funded by its Members.

2016-17 budget was USD\$ 2.6 billion.

12. VETO POWER (A VETO in Latin means I Forbid)

The five permanent members of the Security Council have the Veto Power. Veto power means the right to reject any decision.

Any decision of the Council must have the concurrence of all five permanent members.

Veto power only applies if they participate in a vote when a resolution is there on substantive issue.

Article 27 of the United Nations Charter states:

1. Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.

2. Decision of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members
3. Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members.

Power of Veto is not explicitly mentioned in the UN Charter. In the period from 1945 to 2009 resolution on substantive issues which were Vetoed stood at 215.

Veto power can also be used to block the selection of a Secretary General. Every permanent member has vetoed atleast one candidate for Secretary-General. Almost half the vetoes were cast by the Soviet Union.

Recent Vetos:

1 June 2018: The United States voted a draft resolution condemning the use of force by Israel in 2018 Gaza border protests.

10 April 2018: Russia vetoed a draft resolution to investigate the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Civil War.

13. SAARC

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of nations in South Asia. Its member states include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

SAARC comprises 3% of the world's area, 21% of the world's population and 3.8% of world's economy.

SAARC was founded in Dhaka on 8 December 1985.

Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The organization promotes development of economic and regional integration.

India has: 1. SAARC Documentation Centre

2. SAARC Disaster management center

SAARC maintains permanent diplomatic relations at the United Nations as an observer and has developed links with multilateral entities, including the European Union.

14. BRICS

BRICS is an association comprising of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. All BRICS countries are G20 members and together account for 42.85% of world's population.

South Africa had joined the forum upon China's invitation in 2010 and the acronym changed from BRIC to BRICS.

CURRENCY OF BRICS NATIONS

India – Rupee

China- Renminbi

Russia- Ruble

Brazil- Real

South Africa- Rand

15. G20

G20 is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey and United Kingdom, the USA, and European Union.

Founded in 1999

G20 aims to discuss policy pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability.

The G20 heads of governments, or head of State, their Finance and Foreign ministers too meet frequently. G20 economies account for around 85% of GDP, 80% of world trade and two-third of the population

16. WORLD BANK

World Bank is an international financial institution that provides loans to countries of the world.

World Bank comprises two institutions:

IBRD – International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

IDA – International Development Association

GOAL of WORLD BANK - Reduction of Poverty

COMMITMENT Promotion of foreign investment and International trade and to facilitation of capital investment.

The World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference along with the IMF.

17. IMF

The IMF is an international organization HQ in Washington DC

Member countries- 189

The IMF is working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WORLD BANK AND IMF

Criteria	IMF	WORLD BANK
Aim	Maintaining the global monetary system	Finance and advice the developing nations to make them economically developed lessen poverty
Focus	Economic stability	Economic growth
Operations	Provides assistance	Facilitates Lending

18. FUNDING OF WORLD BANK AND IMF

World Bank

The World Bank's money comes from a number of different sources- raises most of its funds on the world's financial markets by selling World Bank bonds to investors.

IMF

The member nations contribute finance to the fund, in a fixed quota which is decided according to their national income and international trade. The quota is taken as a base to determine the borrowing rights and voting power of the country.

19. SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION

The SCO is a Eurasian political, economic and security organization.

Its creation was announced on 15 June 2001 with leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

HQ at Beijing, China. Official Language Russian, Chinese

India and Pakistan joined SCO as full members at a summit 9 June 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan

Secretary General - Rashid Alimov

Objective- Social Development, fight against terrorism, Separatism and extremism, Military cooperation and intelligence sharing

20. NATO

NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance between 29 North American and European countries.

The alliance is based on the North Atlantic Treaty that was signed on 4 April 1949.

NATO constitutes a system of collective defence whereby its independent member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.

The combined military spending of all NATO members constitutes over 70% of the global total

Article 5 of North Atlantic Treaty, requiring member states to come to the aid of any member state subject to an armed attack, was invoked for the first and only time after the September 11 attack, after which troops were deployed to Afghanistan under the NATO-led ISAF

21. WTO

WTO. The World Trade Organization is an intergovernmental organization that regulates international trade.

The WTO officially commenced on 1 January 1995 under the MARRAKESH Agreement, signed by 124 nations on 15 April 1994.

WTO came in replacement of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). GATT was commenced since 1948.

The WTO deals with regulation of trade in goods, services and intellectual property between participating countries by providing a frame work for negotiating trade agreements and a dispute resolution process.

Current Director General of WTO - Roberto Azevedo

HQ: Geneva, Switzerland

The WTO prohibits discrimination between trading partners

Trade related disputes are resolved by independent judges at the WTO through a dispute resolution process

The highest decision making body of the WTO is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years

The WTO is also a center of economic research and analysis.

The WTO has 164 members and 23 observer governments

22. WORLD WAR I

World War I was a major conflict fought between 1914 and 1918

World War I was fought between the Allied Powers and Central Powers

The main members of the Allied Powers were France, Russia, and Britain

The United States also fought on the side of the Allies after 1917

The main members of the Central Powers were Germany, Austria, Hungary, the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria.

The majority of the fighting took place in Europe along two fronts

The western front and the Eastern front

The Western front was a long line of trenches that ran from the coast of Belgium to Switzerland

A lot of the fighting along this front took place in France and Belgium

The Eastern front was between Germany, Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria was on one side and Russia and Romania on the other.

The assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz was the trigger point.

After the assassination Austria declared war on Serbia. Then Russia came to protect its ally Serbia

Next, Germany declared war on Russia to protect Austria.

This caused France to declare war on Germany to protect its ally Russia.

Germany invaded Belgium to get to France which caused Britain to declare war on Germany.

All this happened in few days.

The fighting ended on November 11, 1918 when a general armistice was agreed to by both sides. The war officially ended between Germany and the Allies with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.

23. WORLD WAR II

World War II or second world war was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945.

There were two groups: Allies and the Axis

The war had involved over 30 countries

Total deaths were 50 to 85 million

The Empire of Japan was already at war with Republic of China in 1937

The World War II is generally said to have begun on 1 September 1939, the day of invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany and the subsequent declarations of war on Germany by France and United Kingdom.

Germany formed the Axis alliance with Italy and Japan

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The first phase of the Cold War began in the first two years after the end of the Second World War in 1945

The USSR consolidated its control over the states of the Eastern Bloc

The United States began a strategy of global containment to challenge Soviet power, extending military and financial aid to the countries of Western Europe. Like extending support to anti-communist side in Greek Civil War and also creating the NATO alliance.

With the victory of the communist side in the Chinese Civil War and outbreak of the Korean War 1950-53, the conflict expanded
The USSR and the USA competed for influence in Latin America and decolonizing states of Africa and Asia.

25. BERLIN CRISIS of 1961

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26. NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

A small neutral bloc arose with the Non-Aligned Movement, which sought good relations with both sides.

NAM was established in 1961 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. An initiative of Yugoslav president Josip Broz Tito

The countries of the Non-Aligned Movement represent nearly two-thirds of the UNO members and contains 55% of world's population

The purpose of the organization has been enumerated as to ensure "the national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of non-aligned countries" in their "struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, domination, interference or hegemony as well as against great power and block politics.

27. THIRD WORLD

The term 'Third world' arose during the Cold War to define countries that remained non-aligned with either NATO or the Communist Block. The most Third World countries are former colonies.

First world: the US, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Western European Nations and their allies represented the First World.

Second World: Soviet Union, China, Cuba and their allies represented the Second World

28. DISSOLUTION OF SOVIET UNION

The dissolution of the Soviet Union occurred on December 26, 1991.

This granted self-governing independence to the Republic of the Soviet Union

Countries Formed

Estonia Latvia

Lithuania Armenia

Azerbaijan Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan Moldova

Tajikistan Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan Georgia

29. OECD - THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION & DEVELOPMENT

The OECD is an intergovernmental economic organization with 36 member countries founded in 1961 to stimulate economic progress and world trade.

It is a forum of countries describing themselves as committed to democracy and the market economy

It is providing a platform to compare policy experiences

It helps in seeking answers to common problems

It helps in identifying good practices

It helps in coordinating domestic and international policies of its members

Most OECD members are high-income economies with a very high Human Development Index (HDI) and are regarded as Developed countries.

As of 2017, the OECD members States collectively comprised 62.2% of global nominal GDP 49.6 Trillion US\$ and 42.8% of Global GDP 54.2 Trillion US\$ at Purchasing Power Parity.

OECD is an official United Nations observer

HQ: Paris, France

India is not a member of OECD but India is one of the many non-member countries with which the OECD has working relationships. The OECD has been co-operating with India since 1995. India is likely to become its member soon.

30. IEA

International Energy Agency IEA is a Paris based autonomous intergovernmental organization established in the framework of the OECD in 1974 in the wake of 1973 oil crises.

31. 1973 OIL CRISIS

The 1973 oil crisis began in October 1973 when members of the organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries proclaimed an Oil Embargo.

The embargo was targeted at Nations perceived as supporting Israel during Yom Kippur War.

The initial nation targeted were Canada, Japan, Netherlands, UK, & US. Later on, the embargo extended to Portugal, Rhodesia and South Africa.

By the end of the embargo in March 1974, the price of oil had risen from US \$ 3 per barrel to nearly \$12 globally.

The embargo caused an oil crisis or shock with many short and long term effects on global politics and global economy.

It was later called the 'first oil shock', followed by the 1979 oil crisis, termed the 'second oil shock'.

One barrel = 159 litres

42 US Gallons

35 Imperial (UK) Gallons

1 Gallon = 8 pounds of water

= 3.7853 litres

USA 1 Gallon = 3.78 kg UK 1 Gallon = 4.546 kg

32. 1979 OIL CRISIS 2ND OIL SHOCK

Occurred in the world due to decreased oil output in the wake of the Iranian Revolution.

Although the global supply decreased by 4% panic started

The price of crude oil more than doubled to \$ 39.50 per barrel

In 1980, following the outbreak of Iran-Iraq war, oil production in Iran nearly stopped & Iraq's oil; production greatly reduced.

Economic recessions were triggered in the US and other countries.

33. HEGEMONY

Hegemony is the political, economic or military predominance or control of one state over others.

The dominant state is known as the hegemon.

The leader state dictates the internal politics and the societal character of the subordinate states that constitute the hegemonic sphere of influence, either by an internal sponsored government or by an external installed proxy government

34. OPEC

The organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is an intergovernmental Organization of 15 Nations founded in 1960 in Baghdad.

Founding countries:” Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia & Venezuela

The current OPEC members: Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Iran, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Congo, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Venezuela

HQ since 1965 in Vienna, Austria

As of 2018 the 15 countries accounted for an estimated 44% of global oil production and 81.5% of the world's proven oil reserves.

The stated mission of the organization is to coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its member countries and ensure the stabilization of oil markets, in order to secure an efficient economic & regular supply of petroleum to consumers a steady income to producers and a fair return on capital for those investing in the petroleum industry.

OPEC sets the production targets

35. GDP OF THE WORLD

GDP is the market value of all final goods & services from a nation in a given year.

The United States is the world's largest economy with a GDP of approximately \$ 18.56 Trillion

Reasons:

High average income

Large Population

Capital Investment

Moderate Unemployment

High Consumer spending

Technological innovation

World GDP - 80.6 Trillion \$ EU 17 Trillion \$ China 12 Trillion\$
Japan 4.8 Trillion\$ India 2.6 Trillion\$ UK 2.6 Trillion

36. UNCLE SAM

Uncle Sam is a common national personification of the American Government or United States in general.

Uncle Sam has been a popular symbol of the US govt in American culture and a manifestation of patriotic emotion.

The earliest known personification of the United States was a woman named Columbia, who first appeared in 1738 and sometimes was associated with another female personification lady Liberty.

Uncle Sam finally appeared after the war of 1812.

37. ISRAEL

Israel is a country in the Middle East, on the southeastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea and the northern shore of the Red Sea.

It has land borders with Lebanon to the north, Syria to the northeast, Jordan on the east, the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the east and west, respectively and Egypt to the southwest.

Seat of government and proclaimed capital is Jerusalem although this claim is controversial

Israel's economic and technological center is Tel Aviv.

In 1947, the UNO adopted a Partition Plan for Palestine recommending the creation of independent Arab and Jewish states and an internationalized Jerusalem

The plan was accepted by the Jewish Agency and rejected by Arab leaders.

After a year, The Jewish Agency declared the independence of the State of Israel

There was a war between Israel and Arab known as 1948 Arab-Israeli war

Israel established most of the mandated territory.

Israel has since fought several wars with Arab countries

38. UNO PARTITION PLAN FOR PALESTINE

The UNO's plan was a proposal of partition of Mandatory Palestine at the end of the British Mandate.

The British Mandate for Palestine (valid 29 September 1923 – 15 May 1948) also known as the Mandate for Palestine had a mandate for creating of "national home for the Jewish people"

39. OTTOMAN EMPIRE

The Ottoman Empire also historically known in Western Europe as the Turkish Empire.

The Ottoman Empire controlled much of Southeast Europe, Western Asia and North Africa between the 14th and early 20th century.

The Ottoman allied with Germany in the 20th century and thus joined World War I with Germany.

After the defeat in World War I, the empire was divided between the United Kingdom and France.

Britain got the areas roughly comprising the coastal strip between the Mediterranean Sea and River Jordan, Jordan, southern Iraq, and an additional small area that included the ports of Haifa and Acre, to allow access to Mediterranean.

France got control of southeastern Turkey, northern Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.

Russia got Istanbul, the Turkish Straits and Armenia

The British later gained control in 1920 and ruled it as Mandatory Palestine from 1923 until 1948. They also ruled Mandatory Iraq from 1923 to 1932 while French Mandate for Syria and the Lebanon lasted from 1923 to 1946.

40. IRAN

Iran also known as Persia

Officially the Islamic Republic of Iran

Population 81 million

18th most-populous country

Capital – Tehran

Currency- Iranian rial

41. SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN

Iran refuse to suspend its uranium enrichment program

In 2006 UN Security Council passed Resolution 1696 and imposed sanctions

Sanctions initially targeted investments in oil, gas and petrochemicals, export of refined petroleum products

Over years sanctions have taken a serious toll on Iran's economy and people

The European Union, Beijing, Australia, Canada imposed ban on Iran

India enacted a ban on the export of all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology that could contribute to Iran's nuclear program.

India- Iran bilateral relations established on March 15, 1950

During Cold War period Iran was close to USA and India was closer to USSR

Iran has been supporting Pakistan

During Iran- Iraq war India supported Iraq

In the 1990s India and Iran supported Afghanistan against Taliban regime

Iran is the second largest supplier of crude oil to India, supplying more than 425,000 barrels oil per day. Annual trade is more than 12 Billion \$.

In May 2016 PM of India visited Iran

Development of Chabahar port is jointly financed by Iran and India

Work on the Chabahar-Milak-Zaranj-Delaram route from Iran to Afghanistan is in progress. Iran is, with Indian aid, upgrading the Chabahar-Milak road and constructing a bridge on the route to Zaranj. India's BRO is laying the 213 km Zaranj-Delaram road. It is a part of India's USD750 million aid package to Afghanistan.

China is building Gwadar Port in Pakistani Baluchistan. India developing Chabahar port is to counter China's advantage.

42. COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

The Commonwealth of Nations is an intergovernmental organization of 53 member states that are mostly former territories of the British Empire

The commonwealth dates back to the first half of the 20th century with the decolonization of the British Empire through increased self-governance of its territories.

It was originally created as the British Commonwealth of Nations through the Balfour Declaration at the 1926 Imperial Conference, and formalised by the United Kingdom through the Statute of Westminster in 1931.

43. BALFOUR DECLARATION

The Balfour Declaration of 1926, issued by the 1926 Imperial Conference of British Empire leaders in London, was named after Lord President of the Council (and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom) Arthur Balfour.

It declared the United Kingdom and the Dominions to be:

“.....autonomous Communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

44. BANGLADESH

People's Republic of Bangladesh is a country in South Asia. It shares borders with India and Myanmar. The country's maritime territory in the Bay of Bengal is roughly equal to the size of its land area.

Bangladesh is the world's eighth most populous country. Dhaka is its capital and largest city. Other major city is Chittagong, which has a port. Bengali speaking makes up 98% of the population. Islam is the official religion of Bangladesh. The second longest unbroken sea beach of the world, Cox's Bazar Beach is in the southeast.

It is one of the largest textile exporters in the world. Bangladesh is one of the largest contributors to United Nations peacekeeping forces. Muhammad Yunus pioneered Microfinance. In 2015 the country had over 35 million microcredit borrowers. Mr. Yunus was given Noble Peace Prize for his efforts.

Irene Khan was the first Female Secretary General of Amnesty International.

45. TEESTA RIVER

Teesta River is a 315 km long river. It originates from Pahunri glacier above 7,068 meters.

It rises in the eastern Himalayas, flows through the Indian states of West Bengal and Sikkim through Bangladesh and enters the Bay of Bengal. Just before the Teesta Bridge, which joins Kalimpong with Darjeeling, the river is joined its main tributary the Rangeet River.

In India it flows through the cities of Rangpo, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri and Mekhliganj.

It joins the Jamuna River at Fulchhari in Bangladesh. India and Bangladesh have dispute over Teesta river.

The dispute is regarding water sharing. Bangladesh wants a higher share than it is having now.

Teesta is the fourth largest transboundary river shared between India and Bangladesh after Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna river systems.

Total catchment area is 1.75 million Sq.km.

In Bangladesh its length is 121km.

Teesta river flood plain covers about 14% of the total cropped area of Bangladesh and provides direct livelihood opportunities to approximately 73% of its population.

Teesta is the lifeline of North Bengal and almost half a dozen of districts of West-Bengal are dependent on the waters of Teesta.

1972: Joint River Commission was established by India and Bangladesh.

1983: Agreement on Ad-hoc sharing of water

India 39%

Bangladesh 36%

Unallocated 25%

1984: Agreement revised as

India 42.5%

Bangladesh 37.5%

Unallocated 20%

1998: Bangladesh started “Teesta Barrage” irrigation project 3 crops possible

2011: an interim deal supposed for 15 years

India 42.5%

Bangladesh 37.5%

However, West Bengal and Sikkim opposed an interim deal and it remained unsigned.

What Bangladesh Says:

India enjoys a share of 55% of the water

Bangladesh claims 50% of the water between December and May every year because that's when the water flow to the country drops drastically

Over 1 lakh hectares of land in Rangpur- its rice bowl can not be cultivated for winter crops due to excessive withdrawal of water by India.

Bangladesh demands a fair share of river waters during the dry season.

What CM West-Bengal Says:

Explore sharing of rivers like the Torsa, which are closer to the border of Sikkim and Bangladesh

The Torsa, in fact has connectivity with Bangladesh's Padma

Any compromise will dry out northern region of West Bengal and will hurt farmers

Project in West Bengal aims at irrigating 9,22,000 hectares of land in North Bengal and provides 67.6 MW of hydro power.
