

Name : Attia Altaf.

Subject : Pakistan Affairs

⇒ Q.NO.1

Enlist the major contours of Indus water Treaty IWT 1960 between India and Pakistan. Explain the ramifications for both countries if the treaty is held in abeyance.

(1) ⇒ Introduction:-

The Indus Water Treaty (IWT) 1960 is a landmark agreement between India and Pakistan that governs the use of the Indus River system's waters. The treaty has been a crucial aspect of India-Pakistan relations, providing a framework for cooperation and dispute resolution. The treaty's provisions have enabled both countries to manage their water resources effectively, despite occasional tensions and disputes. The IWT has been instrumental in providing economic development, food security, and regional stability. Its significance extends beyond water ~~mg~~ management to peace and stability in the region. The treaty's success has been

a testament to the power of diplomacy and cooperation. Both countries have benefited from the treaty, and its continuation is essential for their economic and social well-being. The IWT's relevance extends beyond the two countries, as it serves as a model for international water management. Its importance cannot be overstated, and its impact will be felt for generations to come. The treaty's provisions have withstood the test of time, and its framework has enabled both countries to address common challenges.

→ (2) Historical Background:-

The historical background of Indus Water Treaty (IWT) dates back to the Partition of British India in 1947, which created a conflict over the waters of the Indus basin. The newly formed state of India and Pakistan were at odds over how to share and manage the cohesive and unitary network of irrigation.

(i) Inter-Dominion Accord (1948):-

India and Pakistan signed an accord where India would release sufficient water through existing canals to the Pakistani regions of the basin in return for annual payments.

(ii) Negotiations and Stalemate:-

Negotiations for a more permanent solution reached a stalemate, with neither side willing to compromise on their respective positions.

(iii) World Bank Involvement (1951)

David Lilienthal, former chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority visited the region and proposed that India and Pakistan work together to develop and operate the Indus Basin River system.

→ (3) Challenges and Breakthroughs

(i) Engineering Problem:- The World Bank approached the Indus dispute as an engineering problem, which helped to sidestep political considerations.

→ (ii) Working Party:-

The Working Party was tasked with finding a solution to the Indus dispute, focusing on the functional aspects of the Problem.

⇒ (iii) Agreement:- After years of negotiations, India and Pakistan signed the Indus Water Treaty in 1960 allocating the waters of the eastern rivers to India and western rivers to Pakistan.

⇒ (4) Major contours of Indus Water Treaty IWT:-

1. Allocation of Waters:-

The IWT allocates the waters of the eastern rivers (Beas, Ravi, and Sutlej) to India, allowing the country to utilize these waters for irrigation, and other purposes without restrictions. Conversely the treaty allocates the western rivers (Indus, Chenab, and Jhelum) to Pakistan, granting the country unrestricted use of these waters.

for similar purposes. The allocation of waters is based on the principle of equitable apportionment, ensuring fairness and equity in the distribution of water resources between the two countries.

⇒ (2). Permanent Indus Commission:-

The Permanent Indus Commission is a vital institution established under the IWT to facilitate cooperation and exchange of data between India and Pakistan. Composed of representatives from both countries, the Commission's primary function is to promote cooperation and resolve disputes related to water resources.

⇒ (3) Dispute Resolution:-

The IWT provides a robust dispute resolution mechanism to address any issues that may arise between India and Pakistan. The treaty encourages the resolution of disputes through diplomatic channels, with both countries agreeing to resolve disputes peacefully. In cases where diplomatic efforts are

Unsuccessful, the treaty provides for the appointment of a neutral expert or court of arbitration to resolve the dispute.

→ (4) Water Use:-

The IWT allows India to use the western rivers for limited irrigation purposes, while also permitting unlimited non-consumptive uses like power generation. Pakistan, on the other hand, has unrestricted use of the western rivers for irrigation and other purposes.

→ (6) Ramifications if the Treaty is Held in Abeyance:-

For India

1. Economic Losses:-

India's economy could suffer losses due to disruptions in water supply.

2. Agricultural Impacts:-

India's agricultural

For Pakistan

1. Economic consequences:-

Pakistan's economy could suffer significant losses.

2. Agricultural Impacts:-

Pakistan's agricultural

For India

sector might be affected due to changes in water availability

3. Loss of cooperation:-

India would lose the benefits of cooperation and data exchange with Pakistan.

4. Increased Tensions:-

The suspension of the treaty could lead to increased tensions and conflict.

5. Hydroelectric Power Generation:-

India's hydroelectric power generation capacity might be impacted.

6. Diplomatic challenges

India would need to navigate diplomatic

For Pakistan

sector would be severely impacted.

3. water scarcity:-

Pakistan might face severe water scarcity, impacting agriculture.

4. Increased Dependence

on other water sources:-

Pakistan might need to explore alternative water sources.

5. Hydroelectric Power Generation:-

Pakistan ~~hydroelectric~~ ~~hydroelectric~~ ~~hydroelectric~~ hydroelectric power generation capacity might be impacted.

6. Humanitarian Crisis:-

The disruption of water supply could lead

For India

Challenges to resolve disputes.

7. Regional Stability

The suspension could impact regional stability security.

For Pakistan

to a humanitarian crisis.

7. National Security:-

Pakistan's national security might be compromised due to water security.

⇒ 8. Conclusion:-

The Indus Water Treaty is a critical agreement that has governed the relationship between India and Pakistan for over six decades. While the treaty has its limitations, it has provided a framework for cooperation and dispute resolution. If the treaty is held in abeyance, both countries would face significant challenges, and the consequences would be far-reaching and potentially devastating.
