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## SHORT QUESTION ANSWERS AND SHORT NOTES

### PLSA (SEM 4)

Question: What is the Mahakali Treaty and when was it signed?

Answer: Mahakali Treaty. The Mahakali Treaty, signed in February 1996 between India and Nepal, pertains to sharing water of a river by the same name.

Question: What is the Indo–Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation?

Answer : The Indo–Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation was a treaty signed between India and the Soviet Union in August 1971 that specified mutual strategic cooperation between the two countries.

Question: Discuss the Land Boundary Agreement of 1974 and 2015 between India and Bangladesh?

Answer: The prime ministers of India and Bangladesh signed the Land Boundary Agreement in 1974 to exchange enclaves and simplify their international border. A revised version of the agreement was adopted by the two countries on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015, when the Parliament of India passed the 100th Amendment to the Indian Constitution. The Agreement of 2015 is also known as the Chitmahal Agreement or Enclaves Agreement.

Question: What was the Ganga Water Treaty between India and Bangladesh and when was it signed?

Answer: On 12<sup>th</sup> December 1996, Dhaka and Delhi signed a historic treaty on sharing the waters of the Ganga, that travels through Nepal and India, and then into Bangladesh. Until the signing of the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty, the withdrawal of water in India caused huge environmental, social and economic

consequences for Bangladesh, especially after the commissioning of the Farakka Barrage in 1975.

Question : When did Rajiv Gandhi sent Indian troops or IPKF (Indian Peace Keeping Force) to Sri Lanka ?

Answer: Rajiv Gandhi sent Indian troops or IPKF (Indian Peace Keeping Force) to Sri Lanka during his tenure as prime minister in 1987.

Question: What was the Gandak Agreement and when was it signed?

Answer: In 1959 India and Nepal signed the Gandak Irrigation and Power Project Agreement. As per the agreement, Nepal government allowed India to construct a barrage at her own cost. The barrage was designed to irrigate 920,000 hectares of land in the state of Bihar and 37,000 hectares in western Nepal from the eastern main canal and similarly 930,000 hectares in Uttar Pradesh and 20,000 hectares in Nepal from the western main canal. The barrage was constructed on the Indo – Nepal Border.

Question: What was the Kosi Agreement and when was it signed?

Answer: In 1954 India and Nepal signed the Kosi agreement which entailed construction of a dam on the Kosi river for the use of the river water. The Kosi river is one of the major rivers of Nepal. One of the peculiarities of the river being that it shifts its course frequently and used to flood the plains of Bihar. The Kosi project agreement was signed with the aim of preventing floods in Bihar, diverting the confined water for irrigation and hydropower generation (20,000 KW).The 1.15 km barrage was completed in 1962. The barrage was entirely in Nepal with the eastern main canal in India. the project was seriously criticised at all levels in Nepal, the complaint being that it was a sell out of national property for India's benefits and that nothing had been obtained for Nepal in return for a huge expenditure of resources. Subsequently on Nepal's insistence, talks were held to revise the agreement in 1966. Later in 1982 the western main canal was completed of which 35 km stretch of the canal passed through Nepal which was designed to irrigate 356000 hectares of land as far as Darbhanga in India towards the west and 11000 hectares of land in Nepal. Though the project was completed; however there arose a discontented feeling in Nepal. Nepal's concerns were that the project gave limited benefit to her compared to India. Though India adjusted to the concerns of Nepal, the agreement created a rift in the relations between the two countries and Nepal became cautious for initiation of any new agreement.

Question: When was the Simla Agreement signed and between whom?

Answer: The Simla Agreement on Bilateral Relations between India and Pakistan was signed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and President of Pakistan, Z. A. Bhutto, in Simla on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1972.

Question: Discuss the significance of the Tulbul Navigation Project?

Answer: 'Tulbul navigation project' is a proposed barrage building project on River Jhelum at the mouth of Wullar Lake.

- India proposed to build the barrage in 1984 on the River Jhelum, at the mouth of Wullar Lake, India's largest fresh water lake, near Sopore town in Kashmir Valley.
- India calls the project Tulbul Navigation Project while for Pakistan, it is Wullar Barrage.
- India sees the project as the barrage would make the river navigable in summer, but Pakistan believes it could be used by India to control the flow of the river and can be used as a geo-strategic weapon.
- According to the original Indian plan, the barrage was expected to be of 439-feet long and 40-feet wide, and would have a maximum storage capacity of 0.30 million acres feet of water.
- The only objective of the project is to increase the level of water in the river during lean season.
- Pakistan claimed that the project is a violation of 1960 Indus Waters Treaty.
- The project would stabilise the water level between Khanabal in south Kashmir and Khadanyar in north Kashmir.
- The energy sector will be benefited because of a better discharge during lean season will add to the unutilised capacities of the downstream project.
- The project envisages making of 10-parallel waterways — a lock way, two overflow ways, six non-overflow ways and a fish ladder.
- A constant flow during lean season would also help Pakistan in running its Mangla-dam-fed Hydel Power Project in Muzaffarabad.

Question: Discuss the Mahakali Treaty?

Answer: The Mahakali Treaty

The flow of the Mahakali river is through the districts Danchula, Baitadi and Dadeldh in the hills and subsequently the river flows through the Kanchanpur

district in the plains. After the river arrives into the plains it turns into a border between both the countries. The river joins the Ghagra river in the Indian territory. In 1971, Nepal began her Mahakali Irrigation project. Under the 1920 Sarda agreement, Nepal was permitted to utilise its share of river water. For the project, World Bank provided the assistance.

In 1977 both India and Nepal agreed to jointly investigate the possibilities of harnessing the Mahakali river further between the two countries. It was the fourth major water treaty being considered between the two countries. The treaty concerned the development of Mahakali river for the benefit of both the countries. The treaty was signed between India and Nepal in 1996. The treaty was signed under the back drop of previous treaties which had led to a feeling of mistrust as far as water agreements were concerned and to a great extent shaped the outcome of the Mahakali treaty. The treaty tried to bring within its fold other treaties and tried to arrive with principle of cost benefit sharing. The treaty provides for the construction of and use of a giant, multipurpose project on the Mahakali river called as the Pancheswar project.

In January 1996 the Mahakali treaty was ratified in Nepalese parliament by more than two third majorities. However prior to ratification, the Nepalese parliament unanimously passed a 'stricture' on the treaty which redefined the water rights. The features of strictures were as under

1. The electricity generated by Nepal would be sold to India as per the avoided cost principal.
2. Constitution of Mahakali Commission on agreement with the main opposition party in the parliament as well as with the recognised national parties.
3. Equal entitlement in the usage of the waters of the Mahakali river.
4. The saying that Mahakali is a boundary river on major stretches between the two countries implies that it is basically a border river.

#### THE PROVISIONS OF THE MAHAKALI INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT TREATY

The treaty came into existence in 1996 and is called as the Mahakali Integrated Development Treaty. The treaty is designed by India with the aim of mutual sharing of the river as well as the electricity generated therein. The treaty comprises three projects as under:-

1. The Pancheswar Multi Project is a major project entailing construction of a 315 m high dam across the Mahakali river between Pithoragarh and the Baitadi district of Nepal. This project contains the most important content

of the treaty. It proposes a joint Indo – Nepal hydroelectric project on the river on the basis of 50 percent cost benefit split.

2. The Tanakpur Hydropower Project as per the treaty, Nepal is to continue to have sovereignty over the 2.9 hectare which was needed to build the eastern afflux bund, as well as a hectare of pondage area. In return India would provide 1000 cusecs of water in the wet season and 300 cusecs of water in the dry season. Also India would provide 70 million units of electricity to Nepal and construct an all weather road to connect Tanakpur barrage to Nepal's East West highway.
  3. The Sarda Barrage as per the treaty Nepal has a right to supply 1000 cusecs of water from the barrage during the wet season i.e. between May 15 to October 15 and 150 cusecs in the dry season from October 16 to May 15. Also India is bound to maintain a flow of minimum 350 cusecs of water to preserve the river ecosystem.
- The project tries to develop a principle of sharing cost benefit. It recognises Mahakali as a border river on major stretches between the two countries. The agreement also covers flood management and irrigation aspect apart from power generation.
  - The treaty was signed on 12 February 1996 by the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal at Kathmandu. The treaty comprises twelve articles excluding the preamble as given in succeeding paragraphs.

Question: Discuss the Indo-Bhutan Friendship Treaty?

Answer:

On August 8, 1949 Bhutan and India signed the Treaty of Friendship, calling for peace between the two nations and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. ... The treaty also established free trade and extradition protocols.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE GET THEM CLARIFIED FROM ME.**

