SEMINAR ON "INDUS WTER TREATY"

HELD ON May 10, 2025

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The **Indus Waters Treaty (IWT)** is a landmark water-sharing agreement signed between **India and Pakistan** on **September 19, 1960**, with the **World Bank** acting as a broker. The treaty governs the use of waters from the **Indus River system**, which includes six major rivers: the Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej.

Under the treaty:

- **Pakistan** was granted exclusive rights over the **three western rivers—**Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab.
- **India** retained control over the **three eastern rivers—**Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej.

The agreement also established a **Permanent Indus Commission** to facilitate cooperation and resolve disputes. Despite geopolitical tensions, the IWT has endured for over six decades and is widely regarded as one of the most successful examples of transboundary water management.

In recent years, the treaty has faced challenges due to climate change, infrastructure development, and regional security concerns, prompting calls for modernization and enhanced dialogue.

On May 10, 2025, the Pakistan Engineering Congress organized a highly insightful seminar addressing multidimensional aspects of the Indus Waters Treaty, drawing an impressive turnout from professionals, academics, and policymakers. The event featured two distinguished lectures by subject-matter experts, offering legal and technical perspectives on one of South Asia's most critical transboundary water agreements.

Key Lectures Delivered

- **"Legal Aspects of Indus Waters Treaty" by Mr. Ahmer Bilal Soofi**

Mr. Soofi, a leading legal authority and Founding President of RSIL, shared his expertise on treaty interpretation, international dispute resolution, and Pakistan's legal standing in water-sharing frameworks. His extensive experience—spanning appearances at ICJ and ICSID—provided participants with a robust understanding of how international law interfaces with regional water diplomacy.

- **"Technical Aspects of Indus Waters Treaty" by Mr. Mirza Asif Baig**

As a former PCIW Commissioner and infrastructure leader, Mr. Baig discussed engineering challenges, hydrological nuances, and the strategic importance of data and infrastructure in managing the western rivers allotted to Pakistan under the treaty. His insights reinforced the role of technical expertise in shaping policy responses and future water negotiations.

Special Participation

The seminar was graced by Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari as Guest of Honor, whose remarks underscored the intersection of water governance, policymaking, and institutional resilience. With notable experience as a legislator and provincial minister, Mr. Leghari emphasized the need for integrated approaches to water sustainability.

Closing & Recognition

A vibrant Q&A session enabled meaningful interaction between speakers and attendees, fostering a deeper understanding of Pakistan's water landscape. The

President of Pakistan Engineering Congress, Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif, delivered the Concluding Remarks, appreciating the speakers' contributions and affirming the Congress's commitment to addressing national challenges through expert discourse. Shields were formally conferred upon the speakers as a gesture of acknowledgment.

The seminar served as a dynamic platform for exchanging knowledge and reinforcing multidisciplinary collaboration on water issues central to Pakistan's future.

GLIMPSES OF THE SEMINAR
ON
"INDUS WTER TREATY"

LECTURE ON THE INDUS WATER TREATY ON 10-05-2025



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC along with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal, Secretary-PEC, Rana Imran Arshad Manager-PEC, Welcoming the Chief Guest Mr. Bilal Ahmer Soofi



(From Right) Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Rana Imran Arshad Manager-PEC & Mr. Rana Ross Masood



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Muhammad Riaz Member Executive Council, Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Welcoming the Guest of Honor Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Leghari, Ex-Minister for Irrigation, Punjab



Engr. Muhammad Ammar Member Executive Council Conducting the Proceedings



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC delivering Address of Welcome



Mr. Ahmer Bilal Ahmer Soofi presenting Lecture on “Legal Aspects of Indus Waters Treaty”



Mr. Rana Ross Masood presenting his remarks



Mirza Asif Baig presenting Lecture on “Technical Aspects of Indus Waters Treaty”



Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Laghari presenting his remarks





Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Presenting Congress Shield to Mr. Ahmer Bilal Soofi for his lecture of “Legal Aspects of Indus Water Treaty”



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Presenting Congress Shield to Mirza Asif Baig for his lecture of “Technical Aspects of Indus Water Treaty”



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Presenting Congress Shield to Rana Ross Masood Advocate



Engr. Ch. Muhammad Arif President-PEC with Engr. Dr. Javed Iqbal Secretary-PEC, Presenting Congress Shield to Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Laghari