

**Minutes of the Sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) Meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) under the Chairmanship of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) held on 21.08.2019 at New Delhi.**

The sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) chaired by Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) was held on 21.08.2019 at New Delhi.

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Shri Malladi Krishna Rao, Hon'ble Minister of Health & Irrigation and Flood Control, Government of Puducherry, Shri Sanjay Kumar Jha, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar and Shri Ramchandra Sahis, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Department, Government of Jharkhand and Members/representatives from various Central Government and State Government Organisations attended the meeting.

The list of members and other officers who attended the meeting is at Annex-I.

Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) extended warm welcome to the Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation/Water Resources of the State Governments & members and participants of the Special Committee of Interlinking of Rivers.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti Shri Rattan Lal Kataria conveyed his heartiest welcome to all the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources / Irrigation of various States and other members and participants of the meeting. He mentioned that Interlinking of Rivers programme is a flagship programme of the Ministry. Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) is actively pursuing the programme and every possible effort is being made by my Ministry to achieve the goal of Interlinking of Rivers. NWDA has completed Feasibility Reports of 16 link projects and Detailed Project Reports of 6 link projects. He further mentioned that 4 priority links have been identified by my Ministry for taking up the work of Interlinking of Rivers programme further. Ken-Betwa link is the first ILR Project to be taken up for implementation for which various clearances have been obtained. He further informed that the Detailed Project Reports

of Par-Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga – Pinjal links involving Gujarat and Maharashtra States have been completed and discussions are being made at highest level to have agreement with both the State Governments on water sharing. Draft DPR of Godavari-Cauvery link comprising of 3 links namely Godavari (Inchampalli/Janampet) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link, Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) – Pennar (Somasila) link and Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link has been completed and sent to concerned States.

Hon'ble Minister of State further mentioned that the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers is continuously working and deliberated the various issues like surplus water in a river basin, legal aspects and financial aspects of ILR projects. He solicited cooperation of all the States for the success of Interlinking of Rivers Programme, which shall bring prosperity to the nation.

Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources Department, Government of Jharkhand Shri Ramchandra Sahis, while supporting ILR program, mentioned that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of our country is affected by flood & at the same time many other parts of our country are suffering by drought. For ensuring water availability for drinking, irrigation, industries etc., Interlinking of River programme is useful. The Jharkhand State has planned three intra-State links i.e. Sankh-South Koel, South Koel-Subernarekha and Barakar-Damodar-Subernarekha. He requested cooperation from Odisha and West Bengal States and hope that they will give their consent for taking up preparation of DPRs of these link projects.

Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar mentioned that the NWDA ever since its inception has undertaken the Task of ILR programme under NPP and preparation of DPRs of intra-State link projects also included in the functions of NWDA. He mentioned that DPRs of two Intra-State river linking projects of Bihar i.e. (i) Kosi-Mechi link and (ii) Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga Link Projects have been prepared and submitted by NWDA to Central Water Commission in 2014.

The DPR of Kosi-Mechi link project was accorded techno-economic approval by the Technical Advisory Committee, MoWR, RD & GR, Government of India in its 129<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. He further informed that the environmental clearance for the Kosi-Mechi link project has been received from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019. This project will provide assured irrigation to an area of 2.15 lakh hectare in Araria, Kishanganj, Purnea and Katihar districts. He requested the Investment Clearance of this project by the Jal Shakti Ministry, Government of India and accord of National Project status on the similar lines of the Ken-Betwa link project.

Regarding Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga link project, Hon'ble Minister, Bihar indicated that the CWC advised NWDA to plan this project as Flood Management Project and requested for preparation of the revised DPR by NWDA. Hon'ble Minister, Bihar further requested for strengthening NWDA offices located in Bihar State.

Regarding National Project status, Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR) clarified that as of now funding pattern of 90:10 is not available except for North-East Region. The funding pattern for National projects presently is 60:40. Also, there is no provision of funding of intra-State links. However, our Ministry is making efforts for 90:10 funding pattern for ILR projects under NPP including that of Intra-State link projects.

Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti expressed that this is a best opportunity for the States to sit together and sort out their differences for speedy implementation of Interlinking of Rivers Programme. He mentioned that Task Force for ILR is making best efforts in this direction.

**Item No.16.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 20.08.2018 at New Delhi**

Director General, NWDA informed that the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) held on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 at

New Delhi were circulated to all the members vide letter dated 04.10.2018. Government of Karnataka has sent their comments vide letter dated 06.02.2019 and same have been clarified by NWDA vide letter dated 18.06.2019.

Since no other comments have been received, the minutes as circulated were confirmed.

## **Item No.16.2: Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) / Feasibility Reports**

### **(I) Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) completed.**

#### **1. Alternative proposal of Diversion of Godavari waters upto Cauvery basin**

Director General, NWDA informed that the draft DPRs of three links namely Godavari– Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link, Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) – Pennar (Somasila) link and Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link under Godavari-Cauvery alternative link proposal have been completed and circulated to the party States in March, 2019 for their views. Hon'ble Minister requested concerned States to send their views, if any, so that the DPR can be finalized.

#### **2. Wainganga (Gosikhurd) – Nalganga (Purna Tapi) intra-State link of Maharashtra**

Director General, NWDA informed that the DPR of Wainganga (Gosikhurd) – Nalganga (Purna Tapi) intra-State link of Maharashtra has been completed by NWDA and sent to Govt of Maharashtra in November 2018. The Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra informed that the Maharashtra cabinet has resolved to implement this link project.

#### **3. Ponnaiyar-Palar intra-State link of Tamil Nadu**

Director General, NWDA informed that DPR of Ponnaiyar-Palar intra-State link of Tamil Nadu has been completed and sent to Government of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka in August 2018.

## **(II) Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in progress**

Director General, NWDA informed that preparation of DPRs of (i) Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari and (ii) Damanganga-Vaitarna-Godavari intra-State link projects of Maharashtra are in progress. He informed that for preparation of these two DPRs by NWDA on consultancy basis an agreement was signed between WRD, Government of Maharashtra and NWDA which was unilaterally cancelled by Government of Maharashtra resulting in delay of DPR works.

Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra assured to resolve all the issues expeditiously so that the DPRs of these two projects could be completed in time.

## **(III) Feasibility Reports completed**

### **1. Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga Link**

The draft FR of the alternative alignment completed and will be sent to Government of West Bengal, Assam and Bihar for their views after its finalisation.

### **Item No.16.3: Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP)**

Director General, NWDA informed that various statutory clearances of Ken-Betwa Link Project except 2<sup>nd</sup> stage Forest Clearance are obtained. The annual sharing of waters is agreed by both States and issue of sharing of water during non-monsoon is under discussion which was noted by members of committee.

### **Item No.16.4: Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects – Present Status of DPRs**

Director General, NWDA informed that Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects are twin links concerning Maharashtra and Gujarat States. Detailed Project Reports of both these link projects have been completed. The techno-economic clearance of Damanganga-Pinjal link has been obtained and techno-

economic appraisal of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project is in advance stage. Draft MoU for both the Par-Tapi-Narmada link and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects alongwith four intra-State links of Maharashtra has been sent to Govt of Maharashtra and Gujarat in Sept.2017.

Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra mentioned that the issue of compensating the Maharashtra State in lieu of water transfer from Maharashtra catchment in Par-Tapi-Narmada Link is still under discussion with Gujarat. He indicated that 434 Mm<sup>3</sup> of Maharashtra catchment water is proposed for transfer through Par-Tapi-Narmada Link for use by Gujarat and in lieu of this Maharashtra should be allowed utilisation of an equal amount of water (434 Mm<sup>3</sup>-41 Mm<sup>3</sup> evaporation loses) in Tapi basin upstream of Ukai reservoir. Gujarat State probably due to the existing command area already planned by them in the downstream of Ukai reservoir is not allowing Maharashtra State to utilise (398 Mm<sup>3</sup>) equivalent quantity of water upstream of Ukai dam.

Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR) mentioned that the 434 Mm<sup>3</sup> of water generated from Maharashtra catchment, utilization of this water by Maharashtra State may not be feasible due to involvement of very high lift. Also, Ukai reservoir is not filling up every year. As such to compensate Maharashtra State implementation of 4 intra-State link projects of Maharashtra has been included in the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for implementation of Par-Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects.

Hon'ble Minister suggested to workout suitable options agreeable for both the States. Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR) may discuss the issue with officers of both the States and resolve the issues involved in these two link projects.

#### **Item No. 16.5: Status of Intra-State link proposals**

Director General, NWDA informed about the present status of intra-state link proposals of various States as given in the Agenda Notes which was noted by the Members of Committee.

**Item No. 16.6: Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers**

Director General, NWDA informed that Shri B .N. Navalawala, Chairman, Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers has tendered his resignation. Now Shri Sriram Vedire, Advisor, DoWR, RD & GR has been appointed as Chairman, Task Force.

Legal Group and Financial Group constituted by the Task Force submitted their reports in November, 2018.

The information was noted by the Members of the Committee.

**Item No.16.7: Extension of Tenure of Sub-Committee I & II.**

Director General, NWDA mentioned that the Sub-Committee-I & II are to provide technical inputs to Task Force for ILR and Special Committee for ILR, therefore it was felt necessary that these Committees will run alongside of Task Force for ILR and Special Committee for ILR. After detailed discussion it was decided that the tenure of these two Sub-Committees will be co-terminus with the tenure of Task Force for ILR and Special Committee for ILR. The ToRs of both these Sub-Committees need to be reviewed to remove any duplication of functions.

**Item No.16.8: Modification in functions of National Water Development Agency**

Director General, NWDA informed that the issue of modifications in the functions of NWDA was considered in the 6<sup>th</sup> Special General Meeting (SGM) of NWDA Society held today in the morning. The modifications in the function were approved by the SGM.

The information was noted by the Members of the Committee.

**Item No.16.9: Draft bill for the constitution of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA)**

Director General, NWDA informed that in order to implement the National Perspective Plan for Interlinking of Rivers, a draft bill for formation of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) has been prepared. It was pointed out that the draft cabinet note on funding of ILR projects including the proposal of formation of NIRA is under consideration.

The information was noted by the Members of the Committee.

**Item No.16.10: Any other item with the permission of the Chair**

Shri Sriram Vedire, Chairman of the Task Force for ILR explained the possibility of integrating Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link planned by NWDA with Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) of Rajasthan State. He desired that NWDA may prepare a brief technical note on this.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**Annex – I****List of members, Special Invitee and Participants of 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 at New Delhi.**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name &amp; Designation of Member</b>	<b>Member</b>
1.	Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti, New Delhi	President
2.	Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti, New Delhi	Vice-President
3.	Shri Malladi Krishna Rao, Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation and Flood Control, Govt. of Puducherry	Member
4.	Shri Sanjay Kumar Jha, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Govt. of Bihar	Member
5.	Shri Ramchandra Sahis, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Govt. of Jharkhand	Member
6.	Shri U.P. Singh, Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi	Member
7.	Shri Arun Kumar Sinha, Chairman, Central Water Commission, New Delhi	Member
8.	Shri R.S. Prasad, Former Chairman, CWC, New Delhi	Member
9.	Shri A.D, Mohile, Former Chairman, CWC, New Delhi	Member
10.	Shri M. Gopalakrishnan, Former Secretary, ICID, New Delhi	Member
11.	Shri Sriram Vedire, Chairman Task Force for ILR	Member
12.	Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, Chairman and CTO, Paramarsh Engineer Pvt. Ltd. Nagpur	Member
13.	Ms. Rachna Chopra, Additional Chief Advisor (Cost) O/o CAC, New Delhi	Member

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| 14. Shri Suresh K. Bhandari,<br>Special Secretary, Urban Development,<br>Government of NCT of Delhi   | Member  |
| 15. Shri Vishal Gagan,<br>Spl. Secretary, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Odisha  | Member  |
| 16. Shri Aditya Nath Das,<br>Special Chief Secretary, Irrigation<br>Govt. of Andhra Pradesh   | Member  |
| 17. Shri Sanjeev Hans,<br>Secretary, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Bihar  | Member  |
| 18. Shri I.S. Chahal,<br>Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Maharashtra   | Member  |
| 19. Shri Arun Kumar Singh,<br>Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Jharkhand   | Member  |
| 20. Shri Naveen Mahajan,<br>Secretary, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Rajasthan  | Member  |
| 21. Shri Rajendra Pawar,<br>Secretary (CAD), Water Resources Department,<br>Government of Maharashtra   | Member  |
| 22. Shri Sandeep Taneja,<br>Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Water Resources,<br>Govt. of Haryana   | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>Irrigation, Haryana |
| 23. Shri S. Narasimha Rao,<br>Chief Engineer (ISWR),<br>Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad   | Representing<br>Principal Secretary<br>Telangana            |
| 24. Shri M. Bangaraswamy,<br>Chief Engineer, ISW,<br>WRD, Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru   | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>WRD, Karnataka      |
| 25. Shri S.K. Singla,<br>Hydrologist, Water Resources Department,<br>Govt. of Punjab  | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>Irrigation, Punjab  |
| 26. Shri Manish Sharma,<br>Dy. Resident Commissioner,<br>Govt. of West Bengal   | Representing<br>Secretary,<br>Govt. of West Bengal          |
| 27. Shri K.S. Ramkumar,<br>Vice-Chairman,<br>Cauvery Technical Cell Cum Inter State Waters Wing,<br>Water Resources Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu | Representing<br>Secretary, PWD,<br>Tamil Nadu               |

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| 28. Shri Omkar singh,<br>Joint Secretary,<br>Irrigation Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand          | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>WRD, Uttarakhand    |
| 29. Shri K.S. Dhruv,<br>Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project,<br>Raipur, Govt. of Chhattisgarh        | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>WRD, Chhattisgarh   |
| 30. Shri Jagdish Singh,<br>Chief Engineer, Irrigation,<br>Water Resources, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh | Representing<br>Principal Secretary,<br>Irrigation, UP      |
| 31. Shri K.H. Shamsudeen,<br>Chief Engineer, ISW,<br>Govt. of Kerala                              | Representing<br>Commissioner &<br>Secretary, WRD,<br>Kerala |
| 32. Shri Shrikant Dandekar,<br>Commisisoner (CAD), Bhopal and<br>Chief Engineer GB                | Representing<br>Principal Secretary of<br>Madhya Pradesh    |
| 33. Shri M.K. Srinivas,<br>Director General, NWDA,<br>New Delhi                                   | Member-Secretary  |

**Officers from DoWR, RD & GR**

1. Smt. T. Rajeshwari,  
Additional Secretary,  
DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti,  
New Delhi
2. Shri Jagmohan Gupta,  
Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor,  
DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti,  
Govt. of India, New Delhi
3. Shri Kushvinder Vohra,  
Commissioner (SPR),  
DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS,  
New Delhi
4. Shri Sanjay Singh,  
PA to Minister of State,  
Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi
5. Shri T.D. Sharma,  
Senior Joint Commissioner (BM),  
DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS, New Delhi
6. Shri Amardeep Singh Choudhary,  
Advisor (Cost), O/o CAC, Ministry of Finance,  
Department of Expenditure, New Delhi.

### **Officers from Union Ministries & Departments**

1. Shri R.K. Sinha,  
Member (RM),CWC,  
New Delhi
2. Shri S.K. Juneja,  
Scientist D, CGWB,  
NH-IV, Faridabad.
3. Shri P.K. Shukla,  
Chief Engineer, Central Electricity Authority,  
Ministry of Power, New Delhi
4. Dr. Ashok Kumar Das,  
Scientist 'E', India Meteorological Department,  
New Delhi
5. Dr. Sanjay Kumar,  
Scientist 'D', Ministry of Science and Technology,  
New Delhi

### **Officers from State Governments**

- 1 Shri Nagesh Mishra,  
Chief Engineer, Project Planning &Monitoring,  
WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand
- 2 Shri Girish Lodha,  
Chief Engineer, WRD,  
Government of Rajasthan
- 3 Shri G. P. Roy,  
Chief Engineer, Planning and Investigation,  
WRD, Govt. of Odisha
- 4 Dr. A. Dwivedi,  
Superintending Engineer, Irrigation and WR Department,  
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
- 5 Shri K.P. Panday,  
Executive Engineer,  
UP Irrigation, Lucknow
- 6 Shri J. Lucien Pedko Kumar,  
Superintending Engineer, PWD,  
Puducherry
- 7 Shri Shankar Kumar Saha,  
Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department,  
Uttarakhand
- 8 Shri B.K. Nageswara Rao,  
Chief Engineer, ISWR,  
Government of Andhra Pradesh

- 9 Shri Naveen Singh,  
Superintending Engineer,  
Irrigation Department, Uttarakhand
- 10 Shri Vijay Kumar P.G.,  
Nodal officer, WRD,  
Kerala
- 11 Shri N. Veera Pratap,  
Deputy Director,  
Interstate, Government of Andhra Pradesh
- 12 Shri V. Krishna Rao,  
Executive Engineer (ISWR),  
Government of Andhra Pradesh
- 13 Shri J.V. Rama Rao,  
Asstt. Executive Engineer, WRD,  
Government of Andhra Pradesh
- 14 Shri Anurag Sharma,  
Assistant Engineer, I&CAD Department,  
Government of Telangana
- 15 Shri C. Chandra Mishra,  
Executive Engineer, WRD,  
Govt. of Bihar
- 16 Shri Kamal Kant,  
Director, Planning and Design,  
WRD, Punjab
- 17 Shri Manoj Kumar,  
Executive Engineer, ID,  
Haryana
- 19 Shri Padma Kant Jha,  
Liaison Officer, WRD,  
Govt. of Bihar

**Officers of National Water Development Agency (NWDA)**

1. Shri R. K. Jain,  
Chief Engineer (HQ),  
New Delhi
2. Shri N.C. Jain,  
Chief Engineer (North),  
Lucknow
3. Dr. R.N. Sankhua,  
Chief Engineer (South),  
Hyderabad
4. Shri K.P. Gupta,  
Director (Technical),  
New Delhi

5. Shri Muzaffar Ahmad,  
Superintending Engineer,  
New Delhi
6. Shri B.L. Sharma,  
Superintending Engineer,  
Bhubaneswar
7. Shri C.P.S. Sengar,  
Superintending Engineer,  
Patna
8. Shri R.K. Sinha,  
Director (Finance),  
New Delhi
9. Shri S.C. Awasthi,  
Superintending Engineer,  
Gwalior
10. Shri Chirabrata Sarkar,  
Director (Admn.),  
New Delhi
11. Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta,  
Executive Engineer(HQ),  
New Delhi
12. Shri R.K. Sharma,  
Dy. Director,  
New Delhi
13. Shri Rajesh Kumar,  
Dy. Director (Admn.),  
New Delhi
14. Shri K. K. Rao,  
Dy. Director (H),  
New Delhi
15. Shri Anil Kumar Jain,  
Dy. Director,  
New Delhi
16. Shri S. R. Mahor,  
Dy. Director,  
New Delhi