

Minutes of the Seventh meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held under the Chairmanship of Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on 18.11.2015 at Conference hall, CWC, R.K.Puram, New Delhi.

The seventh meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers chaired by Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation was held on 18.11.2015 at 14.30 hours at Conference Hall of CWC, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi. Shri Girish Mahajan, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of Maharashtra; Shri Surendra Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Government of Uttar Pradesh; Shri R. Vidyasagar Rao, Advisor, Government of Telangana; Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member (Agriculture), NITI Aayog and members/ representatives from various Central Government and State Government organizations attended the meeting. The list of the Members and participants, who attended the meeting is placed at Annex-I.

At the outset, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation extended a warm welcome to the members and participants of the Special Committee in the meeting. He highlighted the importance of Interlinking of Rivers Programme for enhancing water and food security of the country which would be helpful in providing water to water short, drought prone and rainfed farming areas. He assured about the commitment of the Government of India for the Implementation of ILR Programme with the consensus and cooperation of the concerned State Governments. He recalled that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment of 27th February, 2012 had held the ILR programme to be in national interest and had directed for its early implementation.

Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR) informed that the various clearances in respect of Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I were in the advanced stage of processing. The link project has been recommended by the State Wild Life Board of Madhya Pradesh in its meeting held on 22.9.2015 for forwarding the proposal to the National Board of Wild Life (NBWL) of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change for according Wild Life Clearance to the project. He further mentioned that the Detailed Project Report of Par-Tapi-Narmada link had been submitted to the Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra in August, 2015 and urged both the State Governments to forward their comments/views on the same at the earliest. He observed that the issue of water sharing between Gujarat and Maharashtra in respect of Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects was being taken up on priority and expressed hope to arrive at an agreement on water sharing of both these projects with the co-operation of both the States early. He informed that the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR

was examining all relevant issues in detail and would help in bringing speedy consensus amongst the States on the link projects. He mentioned that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Restructuring of NWDA had submitted its report to Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD & GR) on 21.9.2015. He requested the Ministry of WR, RD & GR to process recommendations of the Sub-Committee for early approval of the Government. The Hon'ble Minister of State solicited the cooperation and assistance of all members especially the concerned State Governments, which was very essential for the successful implementation of ILR Programme.

Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR), thereafter, requested the Hon'ble Ministers from State Governments and Member (Agriculture), NITI Aayog to express their views.

Uttar Pradesh:

Shri Surendra Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Government of Uttar Pradesh stated that his State was fully cooperating for the implementation of the Interlinking of Rivers Programme. He further stated that the Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I should be implemented early and an agreement on the same was necessary. He mentioned that the forest clearance to the project for Uttar Pradesh territory was under process in the Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh. Hon'ble Minister requested that the likely benefits to both the States of MP and UP should be reviewed and based on such review the planning and implementation of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-II shall be taken up. He further mentioned that the work of preparation of DPRs of the inter-State link projects viz., Gandak-Ganga, Kosi-Ghaghara and Sarda-Yamuna links should be expedited.

Maharashtra:

Shri Girish Mahajan, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of Maharashtra mentioned that the water to Maharashtra State in Damanganga-Pinjal link project should be allocated at 75% dependability instead of 100% dependability and as such, the size of the tunnels/water conveyance system should be designed to suit diversion of such quantum of water, ensuring optimum use of diverted water. In water deficit years, the distress should be shared by both the States in proportion of water allocation. Director General, NWDA clarified that as the Damanganga-Pinjal link was a drinking water supply project therefore, the dependability criteria considered was 100% as applicable to such projects. Hon'ble Minister mentioned that NWDA should take up the work of preparation of DPR of Damanganga (Ekdare)-Godavari Basin Intra-State Link and the diversion should be considered as a part of the Damanganga-Pinjal link project. The upstream requirement of Gujarat at Madhuban dam i.e. about 110 MCM should be made in such a manner that it did not adversely affect Damanganga (Ekdare)-Godavari Basin Intra-State Link. He further stated that the DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link was being examined by the State Government and the

comments on the same would be submitted very soon. He desired that NWDA should take up the Detailed Project Report of Koyna-Mumbai City Intra-State link.

Telangana:

Shri R. Vidyasagar Rao, Advisor to Government of Telangana mentioned that the water balance studies of Godavari basin had been prepared by NWDA based on the guidelines approved by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of NWDA from time to time. These studies need to be revised in light of the latest development. He stated that NWDA while formulating the proposals of NPP had considered the lift not exceeding 120m, whereas in Telangana lifting of water upto the height of 300m and above was required to irrigate the command areas. He mentioned that the Tribunal Awards in respect of Godavari and Krishna waters need to be kept in view and the Telangana Government should be taken into confidence while finalising the quantum of water to be transferred through the inter-state link proposals of NPP. The Hon'ble Union Minister of State (WR, RD & GR) observed that Telangana could use their share of water and only surplus waters will be considered for diversion and added that NWDA would carry out the studies in consultation with the Government of Telangana.

NITI Aayog:

Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member (Agriculture), NITI Aayog observed that the interlinking of rivers was crucial to meet future demand for water and to take forward the progress in irrigation sector. He mentioned that the progress of creation of irrigation potential through surface water was almost standstill and whatever irrigation development had taken place was through the ground water. Therefore, Interlinking of Rivers Programme was necessary for the country and it should be implemented speedily. He mentioned that the work of Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I should be expedited and the MoEF&CC should be approached for early environmental, wildlife and forest clearances of the project. He further mentioned that the targets of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) could also be achieved through ILR Programme and the intra-State Link Projects.

Thereafter, with the permission of the Chair, Director General, NWDA and Member Secretary, Special Committee took up the agenda items for discussion.

Item No.7.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 6th meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 15th September, 2015 at New Delhi

Director General, NWDA informed that the minutes of sixth meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers were circulated vide letter dated 06.11.2015. No comments had been received from any of the members of the Committee. However, the representative of the Government of Tamil Nadu had handed over a copy of the comments of the Government of Tamil Nadu just before the meeting. It was observed that the comments were not related to the

‘Record of the Minutes’ of the sixth meeting of the Special Committee but were the observations of Tamil Nadu on the comments of the Karnataka regarding Ponnaiyar (Krishnagiri)-Palar Link. It was decided that the reply to the aforesaid observations of Government of Tamil Nadu would be sent to them separately by NWDA. Accordingly, the minutes of the 6th meeting as circulated were confirmed.

Item No. 7.2: Follow up action on the decisions taken during last meeting

Director General, NWDA informed that as decided during the 6th meeting of the Special Committee following actions were taken.

- i. A meeting of the Sub-Committee on Consensus Building (Sub Committee –IV) under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission was held on 30.10.2015 at New Delhi, to discuss Barakar-Damodar-Subarnarekha Intra-State link project of Jharkhand State. Wherein it was decided that the Pre-Feasibility Report of the Intra-State link would be reviewed as per the discussion.
- ii. As directed by Hon’ble Union Minister (WR, RD & GR), a meeting was held on 15th September, 2015 by the Special Secretary (WR, RD & GR) with the officials of Government of Karnataka and NWDA. All the issues raised by Hon’ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of Karnataka during the 6th meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers were discussed in detail. The issues raised by Government of Karnataka have also been replied vide Special Secretary (WR, RD&GR)’s D.O. letter dated 13th October, 2015.
- iii. As decided, the Report of Sub-Committee on Restructuring of National Water Development Agency had been placed on the website of the NWDA.
- iv. As decided, the updated status of the DPRs of Intra-State link projects of various States have been covered under separate Agenda Item No. 7.8.
- v. As decided, a comprehensive presentation on Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) covering the background, the studies carried out so far, various issues involved in planning of link projects etc. would be made by Director General, NWDA after the completion of all agenda items.

The follow up action as mentioned above was noted by the Committee.

Item No. 7.3: Progress made by various Sub-Committees constituted with the approval of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers

7.3.1: Director General, NWDA informed that a combined meeting of the Sub-Committee for Comprehensive Evaluation of various studies/reports available on

the issue of ILR (Sub-Committee-I) and the Sub-Committee for System Studies for identification of most appropriate alternative plan (Sub-Committee-II) chaired by Shri B.N. Navalawala, Chief Advisor, MoWR, RD&GR and Chairman Task Force- ILR (also Chairman, Sub Committee-I) was held on 29.9.2015 at New Delhi. During the meeting, the revised Mahanadi-Godavari link proposal was discussed. While intervening in the discussions during the meeting of Special Committee the representative of Kerala requested that a member of his State should be included in the Sub-Committee. The Director General, NWDA clarified that the Sub-Committee comprised of the various experts and representatives of the States concerning the link proposal under consideration of the Sub-Committee are invited to attend the meeting of the Sub-Committee as and when required.

7.3.2: Director General, NWDA informed that the Sub-Committee on Restructuring of National Water Development Agency (Sub-Committee-III) had completed its work and submitted its report to Hon'ble Union Minister (WR, RD&GR) and Chairperson, Special Committee on 21.9.2015. He mentioned that further discussion on this Report was proposed under Agenda Item No. 7.10.

7.3.3: Director General, NWDA informed that a meeting of the Sub-Committee for Consensus Building through negotiations and arriving at agreements between concerned States under the Chairmanship of Chairman, CWC was held on 30.10.2015 at New Delhi. The representatives from Government of Jharkhand, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal also participated in the meeting.

While explaining the decisions / outcome of the Sub Committee meeting, Director General, NWDA mentioned that for Netravati – Hemavathi link the details of the planning to utilise Netravati water for meeting domestic water requirement of Bengaluru city and other water short areas for Netravati-Hemavathi Inter-Basin link had still not been provided by the Government of Karnataka to NWDA inspite of repeated assurance by them. He further mentioned that the Government of Karnataka was also not finalizing the Terms of Reference of EIA studies to be taken up for Bedti-Varada Inter-Basin link project area. The representative of Karnataka stated that the State Government had constituted a Committee for looking into the water utilization of Netravathi basin and the information that was promised to be given to the Government of India in the meeting of the Sub-Committee for Consensus Building had been deferred till such time the said Committee submitted its report. He also stated that the report would be completed by February, 2016 and the considered opinion of the Government of Karnataka would be forwarded to NWDA accordingly.

Special Secretary (WR, RD & GR) stated that 14 feasibility studies of Peninsular Component of NPP had been completed and only 2 studies were remaining for want of the details from Government of Karnataka. Therefore, the representative of the State Government needed to spell out the time period by which the information would be provided to the NWDA.

The Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR) decided that the response of the Government of Karnataka should be received in one month time.

Director General, NWDA further informed that Barakar-Damodar-Subarnarekha Intra-State link project was considered by the Sub-Committee in the above mentioned meeting on 30.10.2015 wherein it was decided that the water balance study at proposed Balpahari dam site on Barakar river and Pre-feasibility Report of this link prepared earlier by NWDA may be revised in the light of the comments made by the members during the meeting.

Item No. 7.4 : Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I – Status of various statutory clearances

Director General, NWDA informed that the proposal of Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I was considered by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MOEF&CC for environmental clearance in its 88th meeting held on 26th October, 2015, wherein the Committee sought the wildlife clearance of the project by the State Wildlife Board of Madhya Pradesh and information on mitigation measures to be adopted in Panna Tiger Reserve like detailed Landscape Management Plan (LMP). He further informed that the Madhya Pradesh State Wildlife Board under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh had given its clearance to the project in its meeting held on 22nd September, 2015 and recommended to accord wildlife clearance by the National Board of Wild Life (NBWL). The State Government would be submitting the proposal in prescribed proforma to MoEF&CC shortly for according wildlife clearance by NBWL. The NWDA has also requested Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun to prepare the required LMP at the earliest.

Director General, NWDA further informed that the FRA certificate for diversion of forest land in respect of Chhatarpur district had been uploaded on the Website of the Forest Department, Madhya Pradesh. The technical approval of Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan from CCF Chhatarpur had been received. NWDA was pursuing the matter with concerned Collector/Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) to obtain the pending FRA certificate and technical approval of CAT Plan from CCF, Sagar at the earliest

Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh desired to know the quantum of benefits to Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh under Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I. Special Secretary (WR, RD&GR) stated that the total irrigation benefits under the project were 6,35,661 ha, out of which 2,65,780 ha was in Uttar Pradesh and 3,69,881 ha was in Madhya Pradesh. He further stated that the districts of Banda, Mahoba and Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh and Chhatarpur, Panna and Tikamgarh in Madhya Pradesh would be benefitted. Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh emphasized that all efforts should be made to ensure that the benefits from the project actually reach to the people in the areas as planned.

The details as given in the Agenda notes were noted by the Committee.

Item No. 7.5: Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase -II – Present status of DPR

Director General, NWDA informed that the public hearings for the Lower Orr dam had been conducted at three places i.e. (i) Village Dadauni, District Shivpuri on 17.9.2015, (ii) Village Piproud, District Ashok Nagar on 18.9.2015 and (iii) Village Nauner, District Datia on 19.9.2015 as a part of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study of the Lower Orr Dam. The issues raised by the participants along with the compliance thereof would be included in the final EIA and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Report. The EIA Report would be submitted to EAC, MoEF&CC for according environmental clearance of Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-II. He further informed that necessary information in the prescribed format for diversion of forest land under Lower Orr Dam had been submitted to Collector and District Forest Officer (DFO), Ashok Nagar and Shivpuri for processing the case of forest clearance.

The details as given in Agenda Notes were noted by the Committee.

Item No.7.6: Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects - Present status of DPRs

Item 7.6.1: Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project

Director General, NWDA briefly explained the status of the link project and mentioned that the benefits from Damanganga - Pinjal link project were mainly to Maharashtra by way of drinking water supply to Mumbai City. The DPR of the project is under appraisal in Central Water Commission. It was mentioned that the Hon'ble Union Minister (WR, RD & GR) held a meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra on 7th January, 2015 at Mumbai to expedite the further course of action for implementation of Damanganga - Pinjal link project. The issue of sharing of water, power and cost is under discussion amongst NWDA, Government of Maharashtra and Government of Gujarat at the official level. The water availability study for the project has been accepted by both the states.

Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of Maharashtra stated that the water to Maharashtra State in Damanganga - Pinjal link project should be allocated at 75% dependability instead of 100% dependability. Director General, NWDA clarified that the Damanganga - Pinjal link project was a drinking water supply project and therefore, as per guidelines this project has been planned for availability of water on 100% dependability. However, the sharing of water will be at 75% dependability.

The Hon'ble Chief Ministers of both the States are in favour of implementation of the project. However, Chief Minister, Gujarat has conveyed it to Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD & GR) that an agreement for implementation of Damanganga - Pinjal and Par - Tapi - Narmada link projects should be signed

together after resolving all issues relating to water sharing in both the link projects.

The issue of water sharing was deliberated. Members were of the view that the negotiations in this regard may be expedited and suggested that the discussion may be taken up at the governmental level.

Item 7.6.2 : Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project

Director General, NWDA briefly explained the status of the link project and mentioned that the Par-Tapi-Narmada link project would mainly benefit Gujarat State. It was mentioned that the issue of water and power sharing in respect of the P-T-N link project had been under discussion amongst NWDA and Water Resources Departments of Government of Gujarat and Maharashtra at the official level. The water availability study of the link project has been agreed by both the States. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra vide his D.O. letter dated 16th January, 2015 addressed to Hon'ble Union Minister (WR, RD & GR) had conveyed his agreement for the proposed Par-Tapi-Narmada link project provided that the Maharashtra was allowed to transfer at least 300 MCM of water to Girna Sub-basin and remaining water share of Maharashtra would be compensated elsewhere in Tapi basin. He further observed that the Government of Gujarat would honour the report of Iyengar Committee (1958) which was set up to assess the alternative requirement and allocation of waters for different areas in Tapi basin. The Hon'ble Union Minister (WR, RD & GR) vide her DO letter dated 22nd June, 2015 addressed to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat solicited the views of Government of Gujarat in the matter of honouring the provisions of Iyengar Committee Report. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat vide her D.O. letter dated 10th September, 2015 addressed to Hon'ble Union Minister (WR, RD & GR) indicated that: *the Iyengar Committee Report was a technical study report and it has never been an agreement, duly signed by all the basin States. This Report was submitted in 1958 i.e. before the construction of Ukai Dam. The present total use of Tapi water by Gujarat State at Ukai dam was 5200 MCM per annum. Any reduction in Gujarat's existing requirement of 5200 MCM of Tapi water would affect the existing established command area of Ukai project. After studying the issues related to water sharing and other related matter, Gujarat would take suitable decision accordingly. Gujarat would like to sign an MoU of both the link projects i.e. Par - Tapi - Narmada and Damanganga - Pinjal together after resolving all issues relating to water sharing.*

The Special Secretary (WR, RD & GR) mentioned that the Report of proposed Tapi Mega Recharge Scheme had been recently completed which appeared to be quite promising in addressing the problem of water short areas in Tapi basin in Maharashtra. He further stated that the consent of Maharashtra would be necessary for diversion of waters through Par - Tapi - Narmada link to Gujarat. The Hon'ble Minister (WRD), Maharashtra mentioned that his Government also supported the Par - Tapi - Narmada link project and observed that Maharashtra had not been able to utilise the Nar-Par basin water flowing into the sea due to topographical reasons.

The Members noted the above status in respect of Par - Tapi - Narmada link project and desired that the process of the water sharing agreement between Gujarat and Maharashtra may be expedited. The Director General, NWDA mentioned that Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD & GR) had already stated earlier that she would be having a meeting with the Chief Ministers of both the States regarding Par - Tapi - Narmada and Damanganga - Pinjal link projects soon.

Item No. 7.7: Revised proposal of Mahanadi-Godavari link project

Director General, NWDA informed that the revised proposal of Mahanadi-Godavari link project and the issue of water balance of Mahanadi basin were discussed in the combined meetings of Sub-Committee for Comprehensive Evaluation of various studies/reports available on the issue of ILR (Sub-Committee-I) and the Sub-Committee for System Studies for identification of most appropriate alternative plan (Sub-Committee-II) held on 21st August, 2015 and 29th September, 2015. He further mentioned that the Sub-Committee-II decided that system simulation studies of Mahanadi-Godavari link including the water balance studies to ascertain surplus water should be carried out through National Institute of Hydrology within a three months period.

Shri R. Vidyasagar Rao, Advisor to the Government of Telangana reiterated that there was no surplus water available in Godavari basin in Telangana and urged that NWDA should update the water balance studies. Director General, NWDA clarified that the work of revision of water balance at Inchampalli had been undertaken by NWDA on the direction of the Sub-Committee for System Studies and the same were expected to be completed by the end of November, 2015. Shri Rao mentioned that the NWDA was revising the water balance studies based on its guidelines of 1991 wherein the lifting of water in interlinking projects was limited to 120 m. He further mentioned that most of the irrigable area in Telangana State was at a much higher altitude, in the range of 300 m to 500 m. He, therefore, suggested that there was a need to revise the guidelines and requested NWDA to take up the revision of the guidelines in consultation with the States.

It was decided that NWDA would review its guidelines for water balance studies of ILR projects. The matter would be referred to the concerned Sub Committee for its consideration.

Item No. 7.8: Status of Intra-State link proposals

Director General, NWDA informed that out of 46 proposals of Intra-State links received so far from 9 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh, Pre-feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 35 Intra-State links had been completed and DPRs of 2 Intra-State links namely (i) Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and (ii) Kosi-Mechi of Bihar were also completed. He further informed that the Ponnaiyar-Palar link of Tamil Nadu, Wainganga-Nalganga link of Maharashtra, Barakar-Damodar-Subarnarekha link of Jharkhand and Vamsadhara-Rushikulya of Odisha had been

taken up for preparation of DPR by NWDA on the request made by the concerned States. The present status of intra-state river link proposals received from the State Governments was presented during the meeting.

The representative of Rajasthan stated that out of the 4 Intra-State link proposals, only 2 proposals were found feasible and requested NWDA to provide funds to the State Government for the preparation of DPRs of these two link proposals. Director General, NWDA clarified that NWDA had received only two proposals from WRD, Rajasthan viz; (1) Parbati-Kalisindh river of Chambal basin link with Banas, Gambhir and Parbati River Basin upto Dholpur and (2) Brahmini River (Chambal basin) to link Banas basin upto Bisalpur. These proposals were examined in NWDA and also discussed with the officials of Government of Rajasthan. It was mentioned that subsequently Government of Rajasthan has been requested to provide certain details along with item wise breakup of the estimate for preparation of Detailed Project Report in respect of proposal No.1. The required details are yet to be received from the Government of Rajasthan by NWDA. It was informed that the preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report of proposal at S.No. 2 had already been assigned to a Consultancy Firm by WRD, Rajasthan in March, 2015.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh urged that 4 interlinking proposals in Himalayan Rivers Development Component benefitting Uttar Pradesh namely; Kosi-Ghaghra; Gandak-Ganga; Ghaghra-Yamuna and Sarda-Yamuna links, should be taken up on priority by the Government of India.

The Principal Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh mentioned that their State had started the Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) link by pumping water into the Polavaram right main canal through Pattiseema project. He also expressed the willingness of the State Government to take up the preparation of the DPRs of three Krishna-Pennar links under NPP. The Director General, NWDA clarified that the planning of the downstream three Krishna – Pennar links was dependent on the transfer of surplus water form Mahanadi – Godavari and Godavari-Krishna links. Thus, unless the planning of Mahanadi – Godavari and Godavari-Krishna links is decided with the consent of the concerned States, the work of preparation of DPR of three Krishna-Pennar links cannot be taken up.

Item No. 7.9: Sitting Fee and Travelling Allowance to Non-official members of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers

Director General, NWDA informed that as given in agenda notes, Ministry of WR, RD & GR vide O.M. dated 28.9.2015 had issued the Terms & Conditions regarding the sitting fee and travelling allowance etc. in respect of non-official members of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers.

The above information was noted by the Committee.

Item No. 7.10: Restructuring of National Water Development Agency

Director General, NWDA mentioned that the Sub-Committee for Restructuring of National Water Development Agency (Sub-Committee-III) had submitted its Report to Hon'ble Union Minister (WR,RD&GR) and Chairperson of the Special Committee vide letter dated 21.9.2015. Earlier, a presentation of the Report including the recommendations was made by the Chairman, Sub-Committee during the last meeting of the Special Committee on 15.9.2015 wherein the Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD&GR) had desired that the recommendations of the Sub Committee on Restructuring be processed for early approval of Government. Some members desired to have more time to go through the Report and give their comments / observations.

It was decided that the members may provide their views on the Report in two weeks time. After duly considering the comments / observations of the members the Report will be processed for approval of the Government.

Item No. 7.11: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Miscellaneous observations:

The Principal Secretary, Irrigation, Government of Andhra Pradesh made the suggestions that the both Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component must be implemented so as to achieve complete objective of the National Perspective Plan. He further suggested that guidelines on the pattern of funding for preparation of DPRs of ILR links may be prepared so that the States may come forward to take up the links.

Director General, NWDA clarified that the DPRs of ILR projects under NPP were prepared by NWDA and the cost of preparation of these DPRs was not charged to State Governments. Even the cost of preparation of DPRs of intra-state links is entirely borne by NWDA / MoWR, RD&GR and is not charged to State Governments.

Commissioner (SP), MoWR,RD&GR mentioned that the State Governments should prepare DPRs for Intra-State links at their own, if it was a priority for the State. They could seek funding under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY) for such feasible projects by including them under DIPs & SIPs.

Smt. Sayali Joshi, Member desired to know whether DPRs were placed in the public domain. Director General, NWDA clarified that the DPRs were voluminous and contained large sheets of drawings etc. and therefore, their executive summary and salient features only were placed on the website of NWDA.

Presentation on Interlinking of Rivers by Director General, NWDA:

Director General, NWDA made a comprehensive power point presentation on Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) covering the background, the studies carried out so far, various issues involved in planning of link projects etc. A copy of the presentation is enclosed as Annex – II.

The Advisor to the Government of Telangana stated that Government of Telangana was not inclined to take up the proposal of Inchampalli dam due to the huge submergence involved in it. The Government of Maharashtra has been against submergence in their State. He reiterated that there was no surplus water available in Godavari in Telangana. He suggested that the water balance should be worked out after taking into account various requirements of the water for the State and the project may be planned for 50% dependability instead of 75% dependability.

The Director General, NWDA clarified that so far no communication had been received from Government of Telangana regarding Inchampalli dam. He further clarified that water balance studies at Inchampalli, which was being updated, would be placed before the Sub-Committee for System Studies and representatives of the concerned State Governments including Telangana would be invited in the meeting.

Special Secretary (WR, RD & GR) suggested that likely modifications in NWDA proposals of Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Pulichintala) and Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) should be visualized before taking up their DPRs.

Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR) observed that the concerned States should place their views first before the Sub-Committee for system studies for consideration. He expressed the hope that most of the issues would be sorted out at the Sub Committee level and amicable solution and consensus could be arrived at.

The representative of Government of Kerala stated that earlier a commitment had already been made for not taking up the Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link by NWDA. He reiterated that the Government of Kerala was opposed this link project and it had been assured in various meetings of Special Committee that the Interlinking of Rivers Programme would be taken up only with the consent of the concerned States.

Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR) in his concluding remarks mentioned that Interlinking of Rivers was a dream project of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. He further mentioned that water which is essential for human life is becoming scares as such the work of the ILR Programme should be expedited. He sought cooperation of all for optimum utilisation of water through ILR Programme.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Members, Special Invitees and participants of 7th Meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 18.11.2015 at Sewa Bhawan, CWC, New Delhi.

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| 1. | Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat,
Hon'ble Minister of State (WR, RD & GR)
Govt. of India, New Delhi | In Chair |
| 2. | Shri Girish Mahajan,
Hon'ble Minister,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai | Member |
| 3. | Shri Surendra Singh Patel,
Hon'ble Minister of State,
Irrigation Department,
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow | Member |
| 4. | Prof. Ramesh Chand,
Member (Agriculture),
NITI Aayog, New Delhi | Member |
| 5. | Shri R. Vidyasagar Rao,
Advisor,
Govt. of Telangana | Representing Hon'ble
Minister for
Irrigation, Govt. of Telangana |
| 6. | Shri A.B. Pandya
Chairman,
Central Water Commission,
New Delhi | Member |
| 7. | Shri Brijesh Sikka
Adviser,
MoEF & CC, New Delhi | Representing Secretary,
MoEF & CC |
| 8. | Shri Umesh Dongre,
Advisor (Cost), Ministry of Finance,
Deptt. of Expenditure, New Delhi | Representing Chief Advisor
(Cost),
Ministry of Finance |
| 9. | Shri T. Venkatesh,
Principal Secretary,
Irrigation Department,
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow | Member |

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| 10. Shri Pradipta Pran Chanokakati,
Secretary,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Assam, Dispur | Representing Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Assam |
| 11. Shri Gurupada Swamy B.G.,
Secretary,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Karnataka, Bangaluru | Representing Principal
Secretary,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Karnataka |
| 12. Shri V.J. Kurian
Addl. Chief Secretary,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram | Representing Principal
Secretary, WRD,
Govt. of Kerala |
| 13. Shri R. Selvam,
Chief Engineer, PWD,
Tamil Nadu | Representing Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Tamil Nadu |
| 14. Shri S.V. Bhagwat,
Chief Engineer,
Mahanadi Project,
Raipur, Chhatisgarh | Representing Principal
Secretary,
WRD, Govt. of Chhatisgarh |
| 15. Shri Sumnesh Mathur,
Addl. Secretary cum Chief Engineer,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur | Representing Principal
Secretary, WRD,
Govt. of Rajasthan |
| 16. Shri A.K. Gupta,
Engineer-in-Chief,
Irrigation & Water Resources Deptt.,
Govt. of Haryana, Chandigarh | Representing Chief Secretary,
Irrigation & Water Resources
Deptt.,
Govt. of Haryana |
| 17. Shri D. Rama Krishna,
Chief Engineer,
ISWR, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad | Representing Principal
Secretary,
Irrigation & CAD,
Govt. of Andhra Pradesh |
| 18. Shri K.K. Singh
Additional Resident Commissioner,
Govt. of Puducherry, Puducherry | Representing Secretary
(PWD),
Govt. of Puducherry |
| 19. Shri Biswanath Mohanty,
Executive Engineer, IWDC,
Govt. of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar | Representing Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Odisha |

20. Shri Sriram Vedire
Advisor,
Ministry of WR, RD & GR,
New Delhi Member
21. Smt. Sayali Joshi,
Social Activists,
Pune Member
22. Shri S. Masood Husain,
Director General,
National Water Development Agency, New Delhi Member-Secretary

Special Invitees

23. Dr. Amarjit Singh
Special Secretary, MoWR, RD & GR
New Delhi.
24. Prof. P.B.S. Sarma,
Chairman of Sub-Committee-II of
SCILR
25. Shri A.D. Mohile,
Former Chairman, CWC

Officers from Ministry of WR, RD and GR & Central Government

26. Dr. B. Rajender
Joint Secretary (PP),
MoWR, RD and GR, New Delhi
27. Shri Pradeep Kumar,
Commissioner (SP),
MoWR, RD and GR, New Delhi
28. Shri B.K. Panda
OSD to Minister,
MoWR, RD & GR, New Delhi
29. Shri Shyam Vinod Meena,
PS to Minister of State
(WR,RD&GR),
New Delhi
30. Shri G.R. Choudhary,
Addl. P.S. to Minister of State
(WR,RD&GR), New Delhi.

31. Shri Asit Chaturvedi,
Sr. Joint Commissioner (BM),
MoWR, RD & GR,
New Delhi
32. Shri Samir Sinha
Spokesperson,
MoWR, RD & GR, New Delhi

NITI Aayog

33. Shri Jitender Kumar,
Advisor,
NITI Aayog, New Delhi

Officers of State Governments

34. Shri Navneet Kumar,
Chief Engineer (Betwa),
Jhansi
35. Shri S.C. Sharma,
Superintending Engineer,
Irrigation, Jhansi
36. Shri Pawan Verma
Chief Engineer,
Haryana Irrigation & Water
Resources Deptt.
Govt. of Haryana, Delhi
37. Shri Pramod G. Mandade,
Superintending Engineer & Dy.
Secretary,
Water Resources Department, Govt.
of Maharashtra
38. Shri M.P. Samria,
Executive Engineer & L.P.O.,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Rajasthan
39. Shri Gurdeep Singh,
Deputy Director,
Water Cell, Irrigation Department,
Govt. of Punjab

40. Shri Madan Mohan Sethy,
Asstt. Executive Engineer,
Deptt. of WR, Odisha.
41. Shri Yogesh Kumar Mittal,
Executive Engineer,
Water Resources Department,
Govt. of Rajasthan
42. Shri R. Sivaprasadan Pillai,
Executive Engineer,
Cauvery Special Cell,
Govt. of Kerala, New Delhi.
43. Shri B.K. Basu,
Deputy Executive Engineer,
O/o Chief Engineer,
Interstate & Water Resource Deptt.
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
44. Shri J.K. Sharma,
Assistant Engineer,
UP Irrigation, Lucknow
45. Shri Vijayakumar P.G.
Assistant Engineer & Liaison
Officer, Govt. of Kerala
46. Shri S. Prakash,
Assistant Engineer, Cauvery,
A unit of W.R.D.O, Bengaluru
47. Shri A.M. Patel,
PS to Hon'ble Minister of State
(Irrigation),
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
48. Shri R. Vilvanathan,
Liaison Officer,
O/o Cauvery Special Cell,
Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.

CWC officer

49. Shri Abhishek Sinha,
Deputy Director,
TC Directorate, CWC,
New Delhi

NWDA Officers

50. Shri R. K. Jain,
Chief Engineer (HQ),
New Delhi
51. Shri M. K. Srinivas,
Chief Engineer (South),
Hyderabad
52. Shri H.N. Dixit,
Chief Engineer (North),
Lucknow
53. Shri N.C. Jain,
Director (Tech),
New Delhi
54. Shri K.P. Gupta,
Superintending Engineer, New Delhi
55. Shri O.P.S. Kushwah,
Superintending Engineer,
New Delhi
56. Shri Jabbar Ali,
Deputy Director, New Delhi.
57. Shri R.K. Kharbanda,
Deputy Director,
New Delhi.
58. Shri Nagesh Mahajan
Deputy Director,
New Delhi.
59. Shri M.S. Agrawal
Senior Consultant, NWDA,
New Delhi.
60. Shri M.K. Sinha,
Senior Consultant, NWDA,
New Delhi.
61. Nizam Ali,
Consultant, NWDA,
New Delhi.