Minutes of the 11th meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held under the chairmanship of Shri Vijay Goel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports on 9th November, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

The eleventh meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers chaired by Shri Vijay Goel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was held on 9th November, 2016 at 14:30 hours at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri Narottam Mishra, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Government of Madhya Pradesh; Shri Surendra Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh; Shri S. Venugopal Chary, Special Representative of Telangana Cabinet, 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 Hon'ble Water Resources/Irrigation Ministers of the State Governments and all the members of the Special Committee and participants in the meeting. He mentioned that the Interlinking of Rivers Programme was very important for enhancing water and food security of the country and would be very helpful in providing water to water short, drought prone and rainfed farming areas. Government of India is committed for Implementation of ILR Programme with consensus and cooperation of the concerned State Governments. Hon'ble Minister mentioned that various clearances in respect of Ken-Betwa link project, Phase-I were in the advanced stage of processing. Detailed Project Report of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project was completed by NWDA in August 2015 and submitted to the Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra States. The Detailed Project Report is under revision considering the observations of Government of Gujarat for providing irrigation to the tribal areas located enroute on the right side of the link canal. He indicated that the issue of sharing of water is under discussion amongst the officials of NWDA and Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra in respect of Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada link projects. Hon'ble Chief Ministers of both Maharashtra and Gujarat States have expressed their desire to resolve the issues relating to water sharing under proposed link projects for taking up their implementation.

He stated that the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers was examining all relevant issues in details and will help in bringing speedy consensus amongst the States on the link projects. The Task Force is also examining the issue of 'surplus water' in a basin.

Hon'ble Minister of State (WR,RD&GR), thereafter, requested the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources/Irrigation from the State Governments to express their views.

Madhya Pradesh:

Shri Narottam Mishra, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of Madhya Pradesh supported the initiative of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in expediting the proposal of Ken- Betwa link project (Phase-I) and assured of full co-operation in the matter. Hon'ble Minister requested that Phase –II of the project which consists of Lower Orr dam, Bina project and Kotha barrage etc may be given in principle clearance of the Special Committee. He mentioned that the environmental clearance of Lower Orr dam was already available and its Forest clearance was likely to be considered by the Forest Appraisal Committee (FAC) in its next meeting to be held on 10th November, 2016.

Uttar Pradesh:

Shri Surendra Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh stated that the MOU for DPR of Ken-Betwa link was signed in 2005 and DPR of Ken-Betwa link project was prepared in 2008. Hon'ble Minister desire to know the revised cost of the project and contribution of U.P. State in sharing of cost of the project. He mentioned that the State had already acquired 1447 ha of land and remaining land (over 1050 ha) is to be acquired through purchase. He requested that benefits of Phase-I of the project should be made known to both the States of U.P. and M.P. and Phase-II should be taken up after benefits of Phase-I starts accruing. Hon'ble Minister requested that the action should also be initiated on other links under NPP benefitting U.P. State like Kosi-Ghaghara, Gandak-Ganga, Ghaghara-Yamuna, etc.

Telangana:

Dr. S. Venugopala Chary Special Representative from Government of Telangana thanked Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers and NWDA for considering and accepting request of Telangana regarding raising the limit of lift beyond 120 m for ILR projects. He reiterated the stand of Telangana that for the purpose of guidelines

for preparation of Water Balance Study, the river basins should be considered into two categories- viz (i) basins which are covered under tribunal awards; and (ii) basins where there are no tribunal awards. He mentioned that Telangana is covered mainly by two rivers, i.e. Krishna and Godavari and distribution of waters of both these river basins are governed by the respective Tribunal awards. Therefore, Telangana would be able to spare water for diversion to outside of State/ basin through ILR projects if the water in these two river basins is found surplus after utilising State's share of water as per the Tribunal awards.

Thereafter Director General, NWDA was asked to take up the agenda items for discussions.

Item No.11.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 10th meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 26th July, 2016 at New Delhi

Director General informed that the minutes of the 10th meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 26th July, 2016 at New Delhi were circulated to all the members vide letter dated 22nd August, 2016. No comments have been received from any of the Members. As such, the minutes of the meeting were confirmed as circulated.

Item No.11.2: Follow-up action on the decisions taken during the last meeting

The Director General informed that the modified Guidelines of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) were circulated to all the members of TAC. Comments of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, CGWB, NIH, CEA, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala have been received. He mentioned that this issue was being discussed under Agenda Item 11.7.

Item No.11.3: Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-I – Status of various statutory clearances

Item No.11.3.1: Environmental Clearance

The Director General informed the present status of environmental clearance as given in the Agenda. The project has been considered by Expert Appraisal Committee of MoEF & CC in its 4 meetings held on 24.8.2015 (86th), 20.10.2015 (88th), 9.2.2016 (91st) and 2.6.2016 (94th). Expert Appraisal Committee has desired the wildlife clearance of the project before it considers the same for environmental clearance. Now as the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL) in its 39th

meeting held on 23.8.2016 has agreed to the proposal and recommended for accord of Wild Life Clearance of the project Expert Appraisal Committee of MoEF&CC would now be considering the project for environmental clearance in its next meeting.

Item No.11.3.2: Wildlife Clearance

Director General informed that the proposal was considered by Standing Committee of NBWL in its 39th meeting held on 23.8.2016. After detailed deliberations the Standing Committee of NBWL agreed to the proposal and recommended for accord of Wild Life Clearance of the project with the condition that Landscape Management Plan for the Panna Tiger Reserve being affected by the project will be finalised with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in lead, assisted by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, State Forest Department and Project Proponent. It was informed that the award of work to WII, Dehradun for preparation of Land Management Plan was under process.

Item No.11.3.3: Forest Land Diversion Clearance

The Director General informed the present status of forest land diversion clearance as given in the Agenda. As directed by MOEF&CC site verification of forest land for diversion has been done during 3 – 5 November, 2016. He informed that the proposal of according forest land diversion clearance for the project would be considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) of MoEF&CC in its next meeting scheduled on 10th November, 2016.

Item No. 11.3.4: Clearance from Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)

The Director General informed that the proposal seeking clearance from Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), GoI for Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) plan for Scheduled Tribe Project Affected Families (STPFs) in respect of Ken-Betwa Link Project, Phase-I was submitted to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi in prescribed format along with other documents on 7.06.2016. Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) vide letter dated 14th September, 2016 made some observations which have been replied by NWDA vide letter dated 22nd September, 2016. The clearance of MoTA in this regard is expected shortly.

Item No. 11.3.5: Techno-economic Clearance

The Director General, NWDA mentioned that Ken-Betwa Link Project-Phase-I was considered by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control &

Multipurpose Projects of Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR chaired by the Secretary (WR, RD & GR) in its 129th meeting held on 8th July, 2016. The Advisory Committee accorded the techno-economic clearance to the project subject to the submission of Environment Clearance, Wildlife Clearance, Forest Land Diversion and Clearance of R&R Plan for project affected tribal population from MoTA.

The above details were noted by the Committee.

Item No.11.4: Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-II – Present Status of DPR
Item No.11.4.1: Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr Dam

Director General, NWDA informed the present status of Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr dam as given in the Agenda. EAC has recommended the project proposal for environmental clearance in its 93rd meeting held on 2.5.2016. He mentioned that MoEF & CC has subsequently asked NWDA to submit a copy of the Stage-I Forest Clearance for consideration of recommendations of EAC for issue of Environmental Clearance.

Item No.11.4.2: Forest Clearance of Lower Orr Dam

Director General, NWDA informed the present status of forest clearance of Lower Orr dam as given in the agenda. Principal Secretary, Water Resource Department, Govt. of MP informed that the additional information requested by FAC has been furnished to MOEF & CC on 3rd November, 2016. Proposal for accord of stage - I forest land diversion clearance is scheduled to be considered by FAC in its next meeting scheduled to be held on 10th November, 2016.

Item No.11.5: Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects – Present Status of DPRs
Item No.11.5.1: Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project

Giving reference of decisions of earlier meetings on Par-Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga-Pinjal Projects, the Director General, NWDA informed that the issue of water sharing in both the projects would be discussed first at the senior officers level of the two States and MoWR, RD & GR. The meeting would be organised shortly as per convenience of both the States.

Item No. 11.5.1.1: Forest Land Diversion Clearance

It was informed that the proposal for seeking forest land diversion clearance in respect of Damanganga-Pinjal link had been submitted to MOEF & CC by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) on 30th June 2016.

Item No. 11.5.1.2: Clearance from Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)

It was informed that the proposal seeking clearance from Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), Government of India for Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan for Scheduled Tribe Project Affected Families was submitted by Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi on 30th June, 2016. The proposal is under examination in MoTA.

Item No. 11.5.1.3: Techno-economic Clearance

Director General, NWDA informed that Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project was considered by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects of Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR chaired by the Secretary (WR, RD & GR) in its 129th meeting held on 8th July, 2016 and accorded techno-economic clearance subject to the submission of forest land diversion clearance from MoEF & CC, and clearance for R&R package of tribal population from MoTA.

Item No.11.5.2: Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project

The Director General, NWDA informed that the DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project was under revision considering the observations of Government of Gujarat. Observations of Government of Maharashtra on the DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project are still awaited. The representative of Government of Maharashtra was requested to expedite the same. He assured the submission of their comments/ observations on DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project at an early date.

As mentioned under item 11.5.1, the issue of sharing of water in respect of Par-Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga-Pinjal Projects would be discussed first at the Senior Officers level of the Maharashtra and Gujarat State Governments and MoWR, RD & GR. The meeting would be organised shortly as per convenience of both the States.

Item No. 11.6: System Simulation Studies of Mahanadi-Godavari link

Director General, NWDA informed that the draft report on the hydrological studies and multi reservoir simulation for the proposed Mahanadi-Godavari link was revised by NIH and submitted to NWDA in July 2016. The Report along with observations of Govt. of Odisha was discussed by the Sub-Committee on Systems Study during its 9th meeting held on 30.08.2016. It was decided that the study will be further modified/revised by NIH considering the observations of Govt. of Odisha and the suggestions of the Sub Committee on Systems Study. Requisite data has already supplied by NWDA and the study is under revision in NIH, Roorkee.

The modified report alongwith the comments of Odisha Government would be considered by the Sub Committee for System Studies in its next meeting. Thereafter, the final report would be presented to the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers.

Representative of Tamil Nadu requested a copy of the Study being carried out by NIH as this study is very important for transfer of water to water deficient basin of Cauvery. Director General, NWDA indicated that once the study is finalised by the Sub Committee for System Studies a copy of the report will be made available to Tamil Nadu.

Shri M. Gopalakrishnan, mentioned that even if Mahanadi basin would not be surplus, this link would be getting water from Brahmaputra, a part of Himalayan component for its transfer to down below upto Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery in Southern States.

Representative of Government of Odisha expressed apprehension about use of up-to date data in the study. He also mentioned that his State was not aware of the proposal of transfer of Himalayan rivers water to Mahanadi basin. Director General, NWDA clarified that this aspect was mentioned to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha when a presentation on the link was made before him in February, 2016.

Representative of Kerala expressed that interest of individual States should also be kept in mind while planning the proposals of inter basin transfer of water.

Item No.11.7: Surplus Water in River Basin for Interlinking of Rivers

Director General, NWDA informed that the draft Guidelines of TAC of NWDA for carrying out water balance study in a river basin as modified after

considering the observations of TAC members, State Governments and Central Government organisations were discussed by the Task Force for ILR for finalisation in its 5th meeting held on 25th October, 2016. He informed that after finalisation, these Guidelines would be placed before the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers for approval.

Representative from Govt. of Tamil Nadu mentioned that the ground water should not be included in assessing water resources availability of the basin while planning for ILR Projects and it should be left to the States for utilisation as per their own plan. Representative of Government of Kerala was of the view that assessment of water resources availability cannot be made without considering ground water.

The above status was noted by the Members of the Committee.

Item No.11.8: Status of Intra-State link proposals

Director General, NWDA briefly informed the present status of Intra-State links as given in the Agenda. Representative of Tamil Nadu expressed his gratitude for completing the DPR of Ponnaiyar - Palar intra-State link of Tamil Nadu and requested for providing a copy of the report.

Representative of Government of Kerala mentioned that Barapole - Upper Cauvery intra-State link proposed by Karnataka State was not an Intra-State link and requested to review the link project.

Director General, NWDA informed that the DPR of any Intra-State link would be taken up only with the consent of concerned States.

Representative of Government of Karnataka informed that the Terms of Reference for EIA study of Bedthi - Varda link had been submitted to MOEF & CC for approval. MOEF & CC sought certain clarifications. He requested to drop the following Intra-State links proposed by Karnataka:

i. Diversion of west flowing rivers schemes (Barapole-Upper Cauvery link)
ii. Bhadra - Vedavathi (Vani Vilas Sagar) link.

Item No.11.9: Restructuring of National Water Development Agency

It was informed that the Report of the Sub-Committee for Restructuring of National Water Development Agency (Sub Committee-III) was submitted to the

Ministry of WR,RD&GR in September, 2015. A presentation on "Restructuring of NWDA" was made before Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD&GR) on 30th May, 2016. After presentation Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD&GR) directed that immediate restructuring of NWDA may be expedited by the MoWR, RD & GR. The Report on the Restructuring of NWDA is under consideration in the Ministry.

Shri Gopalakrishnan, Chairman of the Sub - Committee on Restructuring mentioned that the task assigned to NWDA was very huge and unless the restructuring of NWDA was done immediately, the Organisation may not carryout its assigned works in the desired manner.

Item No.11.10: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Shri Maharaj K. Pandit suggested that whenever any ILR project is included in the agenda of the meeting a one page note giving the salient details of the project and the index map may also be enclosed with the agenda notes.

Dr. Amarjit Singh, OSD (WR,RD&GR) mentioned that Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD&GR) is very much particular in holding timely meeting of the Committee. As a result of her constant guidance and monitoring the Ken - Betwa link project is in advanced stage of implementation. He further informed the earlier Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers had suggested to take up first Ken - Betwa link project for implementation on priority. He mentioned that DPRs of Par-Tapi-Narmada link and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects have been completed by NWDA and action for getting their various clearances is under process. He further mentioned that Hon'ble Minister is trying hard to get agreement of both the States (Maharashtra and Gujarat) for implementation of both these projects. He appreciated the observation of Shri Gopalakrishnan regarding the diversion of Himalayan rivers water, where water is available in abundance.

While concluding the meeting, Hon'ble Minister of State (WR,RD&GR) and Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports mentioned that ILR programme is of great importance and in the national interest. The programme will be pursued further on the basis of consensus and nothing would be imposed on the States.

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

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List of Members, Special Invitees and participants of 11th Meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 09.11.2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

1.	Shri Vijay Goel, Hon'ble Minister of State (WR,RD&GR), Govt. of India, New Delhi	In Chair
2.	Shri Narottam Mishra, Hon'ble Minister, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal	Member
3.	Shri Surendra Singh Patel, Hon'ble State Minister (Irrigation), Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow	Member
4.	Dr. S. Venugopal Chary, (Former Union Minister) Special Representative , Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad	Representing Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation, Govt. of Telangana
5.	Shri R.S. Prasad, Retd. Chairman, CWC, New Delhi	Member
6.	Prof. Maharaj K. Pandit, Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi	Member
7.	Shri Pawan Kumar, Advisor, O/o Chief Advisor (Cost), Deptt. Of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi	Representing Chief Advisor (Cost), Ministry of Finance
8.	Shri Pradeep Jena, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar	Representing Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha
9.	Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal	Member
10.	Smt. Tinku Biswal, Secretary (WRD), Govt. of Kerala, hiruvananthapuram	Member

11.	Shri Gurupada Swamy, BG Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka
12.	Shri C.P. Tripathi, Special Secretary, Irrigation Deptt., Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow	Representing Principal Secretary, Irrigation Deptt., Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
13.	Dr. S. Kerketta, Director, MoEF & CC New Delhi	Representing Secretary, MoEF & CC New Delhi
14.	Shri R. Subramanian, Chairman, Cauvery Technical Cell cum ISWW, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai	Representing Principal Secretary, PWD, Tamil Nadu
15.	Shri K.B. Rabadia, Chief Engineer (SG) & Additional Secretary (WRD), Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar	Representing Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar
16.	Shri Avinash Mishsra, Joint Adviser, NITI Aayog, New Delhi	Representing Member (Agriculture), NITI Aayog, New Delhi
17.	Shri Virag Gupta, Social Activist, New Delhi	Member
18.	Shri Sriram Vedire, Social Activist & Advisor, MoWR, RD & GR, New Delhi	Member
19.	Shri Jayanta Kr. Ray, Addl. Resident Commssioner, Govt. of Puducherry, New Delhi	Representing Secretary, PWD Govt. of Pudducherry
20.	Shri Anil Kumar Sharma, Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Rajasthan
21.	Shri Ashok Ram, Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Jharkhand

22.	Shri H.A. Dhangare, Chief Engineer (WR) and Joint Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Maharashtra
23.	Shri S. Narasimha Rao, Chief Engineer (ISWR), Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad	Representing Principal Secretary, Irrigation & CAD, Govt. of Telangana
24.	Shri Anil Malik, Chief Engineer, I&WR Deptt, Govt. of Haryana, New Delhi	
25.	Shri K.S. Dhruv, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Raipur	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Chhattisgarh
26.	Shri S. Masood Husain, Director General, NWDA, New Delhi	Member-Secretary

Special Invitees

27. Dr. Amarjit Singh,
OSD (MoWR, RD & GR),
New Delhi.

28. Shri M. Gopalakrishnan,
Chairman, Sub-Committee-III of SCILR
& Member, Task Force for ILR

29. Shri A.D. Mohile,
Former Chairman, CWC &
Member, Task Force for ILR

Officers of State Governments

30. Shri Rajeev Kumar Sukalikar,
Addl. Secretary, WRD,
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

31. Shri Shrikant Nigam,
Environment Consultant, WRD,
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

32. Shri Sanjay Saksena,
Joint Director (PR),
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

33. Shri R.K. Verma, PS to
Minister of State, Irrigation Deptt.,
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow

34. Shri L.L. Gupta,
Engineer-in-Chief (Projects), Irrigation Deptt.,
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow

35. Shri S.C. Sharma,
Supterintending Engineer, Irrig. Works ,
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Jhansi.

36. Shri Pradeep Yadav,
Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Deptt.,
Govt. of Haryana, New Delhi

37. Shri Sriramaiah,
Technical Advisor, WRD,
Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru

38. Shri Yogesh Kumar Mittal,
Executive Engineer,
Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur

39. Shri R. Venkata Ramana,
Deputy Director (Addl.),
IS&WR Unit, I&CAD,
Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad

Officers from Ministry of WR, RD and GR & Other Union Ministries

40. Shri Virendra Sharma,
Sr. Jt. Commissioner (BM),
MoWR, RD & GR, New Delhi

41. Shri Manmeet Singh,
Manager (Env.),
MoEF&CC, New Delhi

NWDA Officers

42. Shri R. K. Jain,
Chief Engineer (HQ),
New Delhi

43. Shri M. K. Srinivas,
Chief Engineer (South),
Hyderabad

44. Shri N.C. Jain,
Director (Tech),
New Delhi

45. Shri K.P. Gupta,
Superintending Engineer,
New Delhi

46. Shri O.P.S. Kushwah,
Superintending Engineer,
New Delhi

47. Shri Muzaffar Ahmad,
Superintending Engineer,
Patna

48. Ms. Jancy Vijayan,
Director (MDU),
New Delhi

49. Shri Jabbar Ali,
Deputy Director,
New Delhi

50. Shri R.K. Kharbanda,
Deputy Director,
New Delhi.

51. Shri R.K. Sharma,
Deputy Director,
New Delhi.

52. Shri Nagesh Mahajan,
Deputy Director,
New Delhi

53. Shri M.K. Sinha,
Senior Consultant,
New Delhi.

54. Shri Nizam Ali,
Consultant,
New Delhi.