



राष्ट्रीय जल विकास अभिकरण

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

(जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग)

National Water Development Agency

Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India

(Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)



सं. एससीआईएलआर/निदे.(तक.)/400/1/2022/7060-7164 दिनांक: 30.12.2022

विषय: दिनांक 13.12.2022 को विज्ञान भवन, नई दिल्ली में आयोजित नदियों को जोड़ने के लिए विशेष समिति की 20वीं बैठक के कार्यवृत्त।

महोदया/महोदय,

नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने के लिए विशेष समिति की 20वीं बैठक 13.12.2022 को समिति कक्ष "ए" (एनेक्सी), विज्ञान भवन, नई दिल्ली में हाइब्रिड मोड में आयोजित की गई थी। माननीय केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री और विशेष समिति के अध्यक्ष द्वारा विधिवत अनुमोदित इस बैठक के कार्यवृत्त यहां संलग्न हैं।

यह अनुरोध किया जाता है कि कृपया अपनी टिप्पणी, यदि कोई हो, ई-मेल द्वारा जल्द से जल्द भेजें: dg-nwda@nic.in / cehq-nwda@nic.in / dirtech-nwda@nic.in.

भवदीय,

संलग्नक : यथोपरि।

(भोपाल सिंह)

महानिदेशक, राजविअ और

सदस्य-सचिव

☎ 011-26519164, 24195700

प्रति

सभी सदस्य और आमंत्रित
(संलग्न सूची के अनुसार)



राष्ट्रीय जल विकास अभिकरण
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
(जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग)
National Water Development Agency
Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India
(Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)



No. SCILR/Tech/400/1/2022/7060-7164

Date: 30.12.2022

Sub: Minutes of 20th meeting of the Special Committee for interlinking of Rivers (SCILR), held on 13.12.2022 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode – reg.

Madam/Sir,

The 20th Meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers was held on 13.12.2022 in the Committee Room "A" (Annexe), Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode. Minutes of the meeting duly approved by Hon'ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti and Chairman of the SCILR, are enclosed herewith.

It is requested to kindly send your comments, if any, as early as possible by e-mail to : dg-nwda@nic.in / cehq-nwda@nic.in / dirtech-nwda@nic.in.

Encl : As above

Yours faithfully,

(Bhopal Singh)
Director General, NWDA &
Member-Secretary
☎ 011-26519164, 24195700

To

**All Members & Invitees
(As per list enclosed)**

List of Members & Invitees of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers

1	Hon'ble Union Minister, Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi- Chairperson
2	Hon'ble Minister of State, Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
3	Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
4	Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi.
5	Chairman, Central Water Commission, New Delhi.
6	Director General, National Water Development Agency - Member Secretary
	<i>Chairman-TFILR</i>
7	Shri Sriram Vedire, Adviser to Minister (Jal Shakti), Government of India, and Chairman, Task Force for Inter-linking of Rivers.
	<i>Experts</i>
8	Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member (Agriculture), NITI Aayog, Room No. 110, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001.
9	Shri R.S. Prasad, Former Chairman, Central Water Commission, 48 Engineers Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034.
10	Chief Advisor (Cost), Office of Chief Advisor (Cost), Department of Expenditure, Room No. 207, 2 nd Floor, C-Wing, Loknayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi-110003
11	Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, Chairman & CTO, Paramarsh Engineers Pvt. Ltd., 23 & 24, Bajiprabhunagar, Near Ramnagar, Nagpur-440033 (Maharashtra)
12	Dr. Maharaj K. Pandit, Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi.
	<i>Ministers for Water Resources and / or Irrigation with Principal Secretary</i>
13	Hon'ble Minister for Major and Medium Irrigation with Principal Secretary (P), Irrigation & Command Area Development Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Velegapudi, Guntur – 522503 (AP).
14	Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources with Secretary (Water Resources), Narmada Water Resources, Water Supply and Kalpsar Department, Government of Gujarat, Gandhi Nagar.

15	Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources with Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
16	Hon'ble Minister, Water Resources Department with Addl. Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
17	Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources with Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
18	Hon'ble Water Resources Minister with Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
19	Hon'ble Minister (Public Works), Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.
20	Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti with Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.
21	Hon'ble Minister in charge of Water Resources Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
22	Hon'ble Minister Water Resources with Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar, Patna.
23	Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation with Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Haryana, Chandigarh.
24	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry with Secretary (Public Works) Chief Secretariat, Government of Puducherry, Puducherry.
25	Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
<i>Chief Secretary or his nominee not below the rank of Principal Secretary of concerned Department</i>	
26	Principal Secretary (N) nominee of the Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
27	Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
28	Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Government of Tamil Nadu as a nominee of the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.
29	Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
30	Principal Secretary, Irrigation and Waterways Department, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata.
31	Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.

32	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
33	Principal Secretary (Urban Development), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, New Delhi.
34	Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, Dispur.
35	Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar, Patna.
36	Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana or its nominee not below the rank of Principal Secretary, Chandigarh.
37	Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
38	Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
39	Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh.
40	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Irrigation & CAD Department, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad
41	Shri Narendra Virthare, Ex MLA, Rajpura Road, Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh.
<i>Social Activists</i>	
42	Shri Manoj Agrawal, A 58/4, Central Avenue Gate No.1, Sainik Faram, Mehrauli, Badarpur Raod, M.G. Road, New Delhi -110062.
43	Shri K.K. Payasi, Chief Engineer (Retd.), PHE Department, Government of MP, Diversion Road, Civil Lines, Satna, Madhya Pradesh.
44	Smt. Sayali Joshi, CEO-Shrishti Eco-Research Institute, B-106, Devgiri, Opposite P.L. Deshpande Garden, Near Ganesh Mala, Pune-411030
<i>Amicus Curiae, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India</i>	
45	Shri Ranjit Kumar (Amicus Curiae), Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
<i>Special Invitees</i>	
46	Shri A. D. Mohile, Former Chairman, Central Water Commission, D-6, Golf View Apartment, Saket, New Delhi.
47	Prof. P.B.S. Sarma (Retd.), CED, IIT Delhi – Chairman of Sub Committee for System Studies.

48	Shri M. Gopalakrishnan, Former Secretary General, ICID and former Member (RM) CWC, D-1/12, Janakpuri, New Delhi– Chairman of Sub Committee for Restructuring of NWDA.
<i>Copy to: (with request to attend the meeting)</i>	
49	Additional Secretary, Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
50	Joint Secretary (Admn.), Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
51	JS & FA, Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
52	Commissioner (SPR), Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
53	Sr. Joint Commissioner (PP), Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
54	Sr. Joint Commissioner (BM), Deptt. of WR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
<i>Copy for information to:</i>	
55	PS to Hon'ble Union Minister, Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
56	PS to Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Jal Shakti, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Copy to:

1.	The Chief Engineer (North), NWDA, Lucknow.
2.	The Chief Engineer (South), NWDA, Hyderabad.
3.	The Superintending Engineer, Investigation Circle, NWDA, Hyderabad.
4.	The Superintending Engineer, Investigation Circle, NWDA, Patna.
5.	The Superintending Engineer, Investigation Circle, NWDA, Gwalior.
6.	The Superintending Engineer, Investigation Circle, NWDA, Valsad.
7.	The Superintending Engineer, Investigation Circle, NWDA, Bhubaneswar.

Copy also to:

1.	SPS to DG, NWDA, New Delhi.
2.	SPS to CE (HQ), NWDA, New Delhi.
3.	The Director (Tech), NWDA, New Delhi.
4.	The Director (Finance), NWDA, New Delhi.
5.	The Director (MDU), NWDA, New Delhi.
6.	The Director (Admn.), NWDA, New Delhi.
7.	The Superintending Engineer, Unit – I, NWDA, New Delhi.
8.	The Superintending Engineer, Unit – II, NWDA, New Delhi.

Minutes of the 20th meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) held on 13.12.2022 at 10:45 A.M. at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode.

The 20th meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) was held on 13.12.22 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti in hybrid mode. The list of members and other participants in the meeting is annexed.

1.0 At the outset, Ms Debashree Mukherjee, Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Water Resources, welcomed Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Bishweswar Tudu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Hon'ble Ministers of various States, all the members of the Society, invitees and other participants. She mentioned that NWDA Society and Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) are two apex platforms for deliberations on various aspects of Interlinking of River projects, for building consensus on implementation of link projects, taking policy decisions, setting priorities of works etc. pertaining to interlinking of rivers in the country. She highlighted the commencement of implementation of Ken-Betwa link project. The cooperation, guidance and assistance of all the members of NWDA Society and SCILR is essential for the successful implementation of Interlinking of Rivers Programme. Special Secretary then requested Hon'ble Minister, MoJS, who is the President of NWDA Society and also Chairperson of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers for his opening remarks.

2.0 The Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti in his opening remarks, underlined that "water" is the prime necessity for all of us and increase in population, industrialisation and urbanisation is leading to the increased demand for water significantly. Effects of climate change on water resources are now clearly visible. As our economy is progressing forward, demand for water would further increase. Hon'ble Minister highlighted the fact that our nation is facing a big challenge in management of this

precious resource due to inequitable distribution of water resources in the country with floods occurring at some places and droughts at some other places.

As Interlinking of Rivers programme is designed to transfer water from surplus basins to deficit ones, the programme is accorded priority by Govt. of India. Hon'ble Minister referred to the vision of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India, for the programme of Interlinking of Rivers in the country. Hon'ble Minister also emphasised the significance of year 2021 and said that signing of tripartite Memorandum of Agreement for the implementation of Ken-Betwa link project and approval of the Ken-Betwa Link Project by Govt. of India with very liberal central financial support is a new beginning for the programme and should lead to taking up further linkages of rivers.

Hon'ble Minister also highlighted the fact that since last three decades discussions and deliberations were done for Interlinking of Rivers but in last two to three years, ILR programme has shown remarkable progress. Also, he mentioned about efforts being put up for constitution of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA). NIRA would provide a platform for consultation and negotiations proactively and build consensus amongst States for timely implementation of link projects. He requested all States to work jointly with common objective for successful achievement of targets in water sector management projects particularly for meeting the emerging demands of water.

3.0 Thereafter, Sh. Bishweswar Tudu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, in his remarks, stressed that water is needed in all sectors and we should join hands to complete the pending projects. We can address the big challenge of water resources management with "Cooperation" only.

4.0 Shri Govind M. Karjol, Hon'ble Minister (WR), Karnataka, in his remarks, highlighted that there has been progressive downslide in share of Karnataka from 283 TMC to 164 TMC in surplus water of Mahadayi and Godavari rivers. He referred to assurance given by Ministry of Water Resources long back that share of Karnataka would be decided keeping in view the allocations done by various Tribunals. He told

that Karnataka has not been allocated any share in the proposed Godavari-Cauvery link as per DPR of Godavari – Cauvery link project. He conveyed his disagreement for recent proposal of Godavari – Cauvery link for transfer of 4000 MCM water from Godavari along with supplementation in Krishna basin through Bedti-Varda link . He expressed his concerns on Cauvery-South Vellar- Vaigai-Gundar link project and Krishna (Almatti) - Pennar link project.

He thanked President of Society to give him an opportunity to put forth views of Govt. of Karnataka.

5.0 Sh. Tulsiram Silawat, Hon'ble Minister (WR), Madhya Pradesh mentioned that he agrees with views of Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti regarding challenges related to water resources put forth by him. He fully supports the Interlinking of Rivers programme. He thanked Govt. of India for their support for commencement of implementation of Ken-Betwa link project. State of Madhya Pradesh will take all requisite measures and support for timely completion of Ken-Betwa Link Project. He requested that other States shall also come forward to meet the challenges of water resources sector in a cooperative manner.

6.0 Shri Duraimuragan, Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources), Tamil Nadu greeted all participants and thanked Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) for efforts being made for implementation of Godavari-Cauvery link project. He requested to keep diversion from Godavari river as 7000 MCM as proposed in DPR made by NWDA in year 2021 and take the termination point of the link canal to Kattalai barrage instead of Grand Anicut. He informed that Grand Anicut is a barrage with small holding capacity whereas Kattalai barrage was constructed to serve as terminal point of Godavari-Cauvery link project and by terminating the link there, regulation of water can be done in better way at three locations viz; Kattalai Barrage, Upper Anicut and Grand Anicut. He further requested to increase the allocation of water from Godavari-Cauvery link project to State of Tamil Nadu.

7.0 Thereafter, Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR requested DG, NWDA to present the agenda items.

DG, NWDA made a power point presentation covering agenda items one by one. The deliberations held and decisions taken on agenda items are as follows:

Item no. 20.1 and 20.2 : He briefed about the comments received from various States on minutes of 19th meeting of SCILR and the replies sent and other follow up actions taken on decisions taken during the meeting.

Members of the Committee confirmed the minutes of the 19th meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers.

7.1 Item no. 20.3: Progress achieved during year 2021-22 and Programme of Works for the Year 2022-23: DG, NWDA apprised the members that Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of eight (8) link projects are completed and work of preparation of eight (8) more DPRs has been taken up. It is planned to complete 18 to 20 doable DPRs by year 2024. Twenty four (24) Feasibility Reports (FRs) are completed. FRs of all the link projects are planned to be completed by March, 2023. Pre Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of all the links have been completed. He briefed about programme of works as planned for year 2022-23 for link projects.

7.2 Item No. 20.4: Priority links / Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) completed.

7.2.1 Ken – Betwa Link Project :

DG, NWDA explained about the progress of activities related to modalities for setting up KBLPA, meetings of Steering Committee and KBLPA, Land acquisition work progress, constitution of Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC), expenditure incurred till date and also explained about issues related to KBLP which need attention like finalization of Tender document for Daudhan dam, completion of land acquisition process, finalization of R& R Plan and engagement of a Project Management Consultancy for implementation of the project. He informed that all these issues will be deliberated in forthcoming meeting of Steering Committee that will be held shortly.

7.2.2 Damanganga-Pinjhal link and Par-Tapi-Narmada link projects: DG, NWDA briefed about status of links and informed the members that not much further progress is made during the current year as both the States are not keen to pursue the PTN link.

7.2.3 Godavari (Inchampalli barrage) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link proposal : DG, NWDA informed the Society about continuous and vigorous efforts being made to obtain consensus from concerned States after the DPR was circulated to the party States. He informed that four consultation meetings have been held so far. He apprised the members that as per decisions of 3rd consultation meeting, a Technical Feasibility Report (TFR) has also recently been prepared by NWDA to recast the proposal limiting the transfer from Godavari to about 4000 MCM, which is available in Indravati sub-basin on account of non utilisation by Chhattisgarh in the interim period, along with combining the proposal for supplementation in Krishna basin through Bedti-Varda link. He explained in details about water quantum to be diverted and State wise benefits due to this alternative study.

7.2.4 Kosi – Mechi Intra-state Link Project : DG, NWDA gave the status of link project and informed members that recently, Govt. of Bihar has requested to take the work of preparation of Working DPR for the implementation of project. The issue is being discussed with State authorities. The work of updating the DPR has been initiated by NWDA and is under progress. He informed that NWDA would provide all help to Bihar Govt. for preparation of PIB Note for seeking central grant.

7.2.5 Bedti – Varada link (IBWT) : As per request of Government of Karnataka, NWDA has prepared the draft DPR and submitted to State authorities for observations. The alternative as suggested by Govt. of Karnataka to have storage at Hirevaddti village has also been examined by NWDA and is not found techno-economically viable.

7.3 Item no. 20.5 : Integration of PKC with ERCP : DG, NWDA presented in details the proposal of Integration of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project and Parbati – Kalisindh - Chambal link of NPP. The issue of Integration of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) link of NPP with Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) was discussed in 11th and 12th meeting of the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TFILR). Thereafter, the issue has been deliberated with both the states of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh at various platform.

The PFR study of NWDA led to the proposal of an exchange of 131 MCM of water in Kuno and Parbati sub-basins between the two states. Both the states are agreeable to proposal of said exchange of water in two sub-basins.

Based on deliberations at various platforms, a **proposal of modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (Modified PKC) link**, incorporating the components as proposed by Govt. of Madhya Pradesh in Kuno, Parbati and Kalisindh sub-basins along with components of **ERCPC** corresponding to divertible water available at 75 percent dependability, has been framed in Phase-I.

Modified PKC Link Proposal

Under Modified PKC link, it is proposed to exchange equal quantum of water (about 131 MCM) in Kuno and Parbati sub-basins between states of MP and Rajasthan. This will help in reducing the length of ERCPC and water conductor required for transfer of surplus water of MP in Parbati to Kuno/Sindh sub-basins.

Modified PKC Link Proposal under Phase-I broadly includes:

I. Components Benefitting Madhya Pradesh State

- A dam proposed at Kumbhraj across Parbati river utilizing of 182 MCM.
- SMRS dam proposed across Kuno river utilizing about 564 MCM of water including the surplus water of about 131 MCM of Rajasthan water on exchange basis.

Overall, these two projects would provide benefits to MP of 746 MCM of water (679 MCM for irrigation covering 194447 ha and 36 MCM of water for drinking purpose in Shivpuri, Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Rajgarh and Guna districts).

- Lakhunder Barrage across Lakhunder river in Kalisindh to divert about 105 MCM water to Kundaliya dam which shall be further diverted to Ranjit Sagar dam proposed upstream of Kundaliya dam site.

II. Components Benefitting Rajasthan State - The components of ERCPC covering:

- Five barrages namely Ramgarh, Mahalpur, Navnera, Mej and Rathod on river Kul, Parbati, Kalisindh, Mej and Banas respectively.
- Doongri Dam across Banas river.

- Water conductor system from Ramgarh barrage to Doongri dam to divert about 1775 MCM of water available at 75 percent dependability.
- Renovations and Integration of Isarda dam and 13 nos of tanks (existing) with various conservation points of ERCP.

This will provide drinking and industrial water in 13 districts of eastern Rajasthan apart from stabilization of irrigation in about 0.8 lakh ha area and supplementation of en-route tanks.

The proposal of Modified PKC link was deliberated during the 16th meeting of Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers (TF-ILR) held on 17.5.2022. TFILR recommended to make the Phase-I of the Modified PKC link as part of NPP of ILR and declaring this project as a priority interlinking project.

The modified PKC link will be beneficial to both the states utilizing the available water resources of Chambal basin optimally and economically. DG, NWDA requested to accord the approval to the proposal so that consensus building can be expedited.

As recommended by the Task Force on interlinking of rivers, the proposal for making *the Phase-I of Modified Parbati-Kalisindh- Chambal link duly integrated with ERCP as part of NPP of ILR and declaring this project as one of the priority link projects in the country, was approved by the Committee. The Committee requested both the states to reach consensus for the implementation of Phase-I of Modified PKC link at the earliest.*

7.4 Item no. 20.6 : Constitution of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) : DG, NWDA apprised the members about progress made in work related to constitution of NIRA.

The proposal was deliberated at length in 15th meeting of TFILR covering the need for its constitution, mode of creation, mandate, functions, structure and staff requirements alongwith subsuming staff of NWDA into NIRA. The proposal finalised by TFILR was discussed in 19th meeting of SCILR held on 12.11.2021 and concurred.

The Cabinet Note for proposal of constitution of National Interlinking of River Authority (NIRA) was prepared and circulated to various departments /Ministries in February, 2022. He informed that the Note was modified by incorporating the views so

received and after approval from Hon'ble Minister, MoJS, the same has been submitted recently to Cabinet Secretariat for approval.

DG, NWDA explained the proposed three tier structure of NIRA emphasising that Governing Council and Governing Body of NIRA shall have wider representations from States, Central Ministries / Departments, experts in field, Civil society etc. He presented the functions of NIRA in details and highlighted its important function of coordination with neighbouring countries / States for consensus building for implementation of projects.

DG, NWDA mentioned that NIRA would act as the most appropriate platform for intense interaction and active participation of States and would focus on implementation of link projects with consensus amongst States.

Members of the Committee noted the progress.

7.5 Item no. 20.7 : System Studies of four link projects : Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga, Farakka-Sunderban, Ganga-Damodar-Subernarekha and Subernarekha-Mahanadi links:

DG, NWDA informed that work of System Studies for Mahanadi- Godavari link is completed by NIH, Roorkee and Report is being finalised after getting approval in 21st meeting of Sub Committee-II. He also mentioned that system studies of four more links viz ; Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga, Farakka-Sunderbans, Ganga-Damodar-Subernarekha and Subernarekha-Mahanadi links have been awarded to four institutes and action for taking up the system studies for Godavari – Krishna – Pennar – Cauvery – Vaigai- Gundar links system has also been initiated

7.6 Item No. 20.8: Status of Intra-State link proposals : He gave a status of Intra State link projects for information of members of Society.

7.7 Item No. 20.9 : Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers : DG, NWDA briefed about the status of progress of work of Task Force for ILR.

7.8 Item No. 20.10 : Constitution of "Sub-Committee for Comprehensive Evaluation and System Studies on Interlinking of Rivers":

DG, NWDA informed about constitution of "Sub-Committee for Comprehensive Evaluation and System Studies on Interlinking of Rivers" under the Chairmanship of Shri A. B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID, New Delhi vide Office Memorandum dated

28.9.2022. The Sub Committee is constituted by merging of Sub-committee-I (Comprehensive Evaluation of Various Studies/Reports available on the issue of ILR) and Sub-Committee-II (System Studies for identification of most appropriate alternative plan) which have already been working under Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR). The Sub-Committee is co-terminus with tenure of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers and SCILR.

Members of the Committee took note of the various activities of NWDA highlighted by DG, NWDA.

8.0 Thereafter, Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR requested the States' representatives and dignitaries to express their viewpoints / comments on presentation made by DG, NWDA on various items.

8.1 Sh. Sandeep Saxena, ACS, WRD, Tamil Nadu reiterated the views put forth by Shri Duraimuragan, Hon'ble Minister (WR), Tamil Nadu. He explained that Tamil Nadu State wants to have a win-win situation for all the party States but being the last State to receive water from Godavari-Cauvery link canal, it would be able to maximize the utilization of water if design of canal changes and terminal point of the link canal is at Kattalai Barrage. He apprised the members that there would be considerable cost reduction by avoiding construction of many cross drainage works if link canal terminates at Kattalai and this change would not affect any of the Upstream States.

Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) suggested Tamil Nadu State to conduct a meeting with NWDA officials exclusively to deliberate on these issues and arrive at a suitable decision.

8.2 Sh. Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Bihar apprised the members that State government's views on the agenda points of the meeting have been made available to NWDA. He appreciated the initiatives taken by MoJS and NWDA for the proposed Kosi-Mechi link and the progress made so far. On behalf of Hon'ble Minister, WRD, Bihar, he requested that sanction for the project should be granted as early as possible as State government has conveyed consent for 60% (Central Share): 30% (Central Loan): 10% (State Share) ratio and also requested to finalise the MoU for preparing the working DPR of this project.

He referred to recent visit of DG, NWDA to Patna, wherein discussions for taking up some more viable river linking projects in Bihar were held. These links viz;

Kosi(Bagmati)-Ganga Link , Burhi Gandak- Noon –Baya-Ganga Link, Gandak-Daha-Ghaghra Link, Gandak-Chhari-Ganga Link and Bagmati-Burhi Gandak Link would provide good potential for flood mitigation as well as irrigation /industrial/domestic demands. He informed that Bihar State would incorporate the suggestions of NWDA and Chairman, Special Committee on Inter Linking of Rivers (SCILR) to make these link projects more fruitful so that benefits from these projects can be optimized as Bihar is in dire need of such projects due to menace of flood and droughts. He also suggested the strengthening of NWDA office at Patna.

8.3 Shri Pranabjyoti Nath, Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Kerala requested to provide them a copy of PFR of Pennar (Somasila) – Palar – Cauvery (Kattalai) link project and Godavari (Inchampalli) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project

(with a diversion of 15600 MCM water). He also requested to provide them details of system studies conducted for Godavari – Krishna – Pennar – Cauvery – Vaigai- Gundar links system.

8.4 Shri M. Gopala Krishnan, Former Secretary General, ICID & Former Member, Central Water Commission, appreciated the significant progress made in last two-three years in ILR related works and on constitution of NIRA. He applauded proposal for constitution of NIRA that has finally come up after lots of deliberations during the previous meeting of SCILR.

He mentioned that for the issues raised by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in the meeting and other similar issues / apprehensions, NIRA is the best platform to solve such issues and especially, the Central limb of NIRA is essentially meant for resolving such issues.

He suggested that event like IWW needs to be given more emphasis in the Agenda items of such meetings, especially, IWW – 2022 event witnessed global, national and regional stakeholders' participation for the first time. He commented that proceedings of IWW- 2022 tried to put focus on water governance in cooperative manner. NIRA is a significant step of such water governance along with River Basin

Authorities. States can sit together and discuss the issues through NIRA by viewing basin as a whole and Centre can provide technical and financial support.

He mentioned that issues of States for giving due significance to Intra State links has also been taken proper care by NWDA by studying the Intra State link Proposals as thoroughly as Inter State link projects.

He specifically appreciated the progress done for Kosi-Mechi Intra State link and for proposal of integration of PKC with ERCP. Regarding, views of States for injustice done to them by Tribunals, he explained that water is a dynamic issue and water related disputes and issues can be resolved through a non tribunal mechanism like Governing Council of NIRA, which is meant for resolving such issues.

8.5 Sh. Venkateswara Rao, Advisor to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh informed that comments of Andhra Pradesh on Godavari-Cauvery link have already been communicated to NWDA. He requested for a copy of Technical Feasibility Report prepared by NWDA for alternate study of diversion of 4000 MCM of water from Godavari river and copies of system studies Report for Mahanadi-Godavari link project and Godavari-Cauvery link project. He suggested that quantum of water allocation to States from Godavari-Cauvery link project can be decided after the study on hydrology and water availability are completed by CWC for the link project. He raised an apprehension for using unutilised water of Chattisgarh for Godavari-Cauvery link project without the consent of that State and suggested that proper assurance from concerned States should be taken so that tail end States should not get affected. Regarding Mahanadi-Godavari link project, he raised the the issue of farmers' apprehensions related to water diverted to Godavari delta system as number of lifts involved are large.

He also requested for a suitable mechanism specifying quantity of water that can be used by Karnataka as supply of 280 MCM of water on substitution basis from Almatti reservoir would impact water availability for State of Andhra Pradesh.

He referred to suggestion of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh given in South Zonal Council meeting of last year and requested to consider the same. It was suggested that an alternate alignment shall be studied for drawing water from Polavaram

utilising Nagarjunasagar and Srisailem reservoirs and then diverting water to Rayalaseema drought prone region of Andhra Pradesh limiting this diversion to monsoon season.

Regarding using Nagarjunasagar and Somasila reservoirs as online reservoirs, it is proposed to use independent reservoirs so as not to impact Andhra Pradesh utilisation. He also requested that rights of Andhra Pradesh as per GWDT should be protected.

Regarding Bedti -Varda link, he requested that Andhra Pradesh should be entitled a share in water diverted from Bedti to Krishna basin.

He requested to provide copies of studies of Intra State links pertaining to Godavari, Krishna and Vamsadhara rivers, done by NWDA for those links where Andhra Pradesh is one of the basin States.

8.6 Sh. Ravi Solanki, Chief Engineer, Govt. of Rajasthan referred to proposal of integration of PKC link with ERCP and informed that they have no objection for the linkage and they have already communicated their views on certain issues to NWDA. He suggested to have written replies / correspondence with Government of Rajasthan on issues raised by them related to water allocation and diversion and construction of structures for the link project.

8.7 Sh. V. Mohan Kumar, Chief Engineer, ISWR, Govt. of Telangana suggested that Godavari-Cauvery link project shall be considered only after the completion of Mahanadi-Godavari link as Chattisgarh State is not agreeing for diversion of its unutilised share. Regarding, Bedti -Varada link, since Krishna basin is being augmented, Telangana is within its right for claiming 50% of allocation. As there are vast unirrigated areas in Godavari and Krishna basins, irrigation needs to be ensured as first priority and diversion can be contemplated only after catering to Telangana requirements.

8.8 Sh. Sriram Vedire, Chairman, TFILR appreciated the progress made in Interlinking of Rivers projects especially for Godavari-Cauvery link project and integration of PKC and ERCP and he mentioned that projects are moving forward with consent / consensus of States only. He assured that issues raised by States would be perused, technically studied and examined and thereafter, these would be deliberated in next meeting of TFILR.

Further, he requested States to consider substitution basis where a State is not able to utilise water from its one particular project, then that State shall provide that unutilised water to its neighbouring State, where it can get water on substitution basis from some other location or from some other project. Only this approach would enhance consensus building among States.

8.9 Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, mentioned that NWDA Society is a National Body with membership of all States and Water is National Resource so to build consensus for Inter State sharing of this National resource, a positive approach of “Give and Take” is requested from States. Management of water resources has become more critical due to climate change issues and cooperation of all States is necessary to meet the challenges in water sector.

9.0 Sh. Bishweswar Tudu, Hon’ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, in his concluding remarks, emphasized the need of mutual understanding among States to resolve water sharing issues. He requested that States should work to solve their own issues with help of Government and stakeholders. For Inter State issues, like Interlinking of Rivers, a accommodative and cooperative attitude is required to take the projects forward. He requested States to cooperate with neighbouring States as well as Centre with a serious, constructive and positive approach.

10.0 Thereafter, DG, NWDA thanked Hon’ble Minister for Jal Shakti for sparing his valuable time and his enthusiastic approach towards Interlinking of Rivers project. He thanked , Hon’ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Hon’ble Ministers of various States, all the members of the Society, special invitees and other participants and expressed his deep gratitude to all, for their valuable guidance and deliberations. He mentioned that every State has right to safeguard its own interests but a cooperative attitude is needed for Inter State water sharing issues. He assured that the views / observations of States on link projects shall be duly considered.

DG, NWDA thanked SCILR for granting approval to the proposal of making the modified PKC link as part of NPP of ILR and declaring this project as a priority interlinking project .

He specifically thanked Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR for propelling the meetings.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to Chair.

Annexure-I

List of Participants of the 36th Annual General Meeting of NWDA and 20th Meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers held on 13.12.2022 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode.

Sl. No.	Name and Designation	Mode of Joining
1.	Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, New Delhi & President, Annual General Body of NWDA & Chairman, SCILR	Physical
2.	Shri Bishweswar Tudu, Hon'ble Minister of State Jal Shakti & Vice President, Annual General Body of NWDA	Physical
3.	Shri. Govinda M Karajol, Hon'ble Minister, Water Resources, Government of Karnataka	Physical
4.	Shri. Tulsiram Silavat, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	Virtual
5.	Shri Durai Murugan, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Government of Tamil Nadu	Physical
6.	Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Special Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi.	Physical
7.	Shri. SriramVedire, Advisor to Minister, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti & Chairman, Task force for ILR	Physical
8.	Shri. Avinash Mishra, Advisor, NITI Aayog, New Delhi.	Virtual
9.	Shri. J Chandrashekhar Iyer, Chairman, Central Water Commission, New Delhi.	Physical
10.	Shri. Kushvinder Vohra, Member (WP& P), CWC	Physical
11.	Shri. M A K P Singh, Member(Hydro), Central Electricity Authority, New Delhi	Physical
12.	Shri. Navin Kumar, Member (D&R), CWC	Physical
13.	Shri. Inam Amil, DSG, Survey of India	Virtual

14.	Dr. A Subburaj, Member, CGWB	Virtual
15.	Shri. M.Venkateswara Rao, Advisor to Govt., WRD, Govt. of AP	Physical
16.	Shri. Nagendra Karmakar, Dy, Secretary II, WRD, Govt. of Assam	Virtual
17.	Shri. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Bihar	Virtual
18.	Shri. Krishnamurthy B. Kulkarni, Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Karnataka.	Physical
19.	Shri. Rakesh Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka	Virtual
20.	Shri. Pranabjyoti Nath, Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Kerala.	Physical
21.	Shri. S N Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	Virtual
22.	Smt. Jaya Potdar, Deputy Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra.	Virtual
23.	Smt. Anu Garg, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha	Virtual
24.	Dr. Sandeep Saxena, Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	Physical
25.	Shri. Kuldeep Srivastava, Joint Secretary, Irrigation & Water Resources , Govt. of Uttar Pradesh	Virtual
26.	Shri R. Subramanian, Chairman, CTC cum ISWW, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.	Physical
27.	Shri. Ajay Kumar Singh, Chairman and CTO, Paramarsh Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur and Expert (SCILR).	Physical
28.	Shri. R S Prasad, Former Chairman, CWC (Expert, SCILR)	Virtual
29.	Shri. M. Gopalakrishnan Ex. Secretary General, ICID, & Special invitee.	Physical
30.	Shri. Bhopal Singh, Director General, NWDA & Member Secretary, AGM & SCILR	Physical

Officers from State Governments and other Ministries & Departments		
31.	Shri. Gulshan Raj, Chief Engineer, Civil Design, CWC	Physical
32.	Shri. P K Shukla, Chief Engineer, Central Electricity Authority, New Delhi	Physical
33.	Shri. K Srinivas, Chief Engineer, IS&WRD, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.	Physical
34.	Shri. Pranab Kumar Turung, Additional Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Assam	Virtual
35.	Shri. M F H Laskar, Executive Engineer, Design Division, WRD, Govt. of Assam	Virtual
36.	Shri. Charu Chandra Mishra, Executive Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar.	Physical
37.	Shri. I.J Uikey, Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Govt. of Chhattisgarh	Virtual
38.	Shri. R.K. Nagariya Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Chhattisgarh	Virtual
39.	Shri. K.S Bhandari, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Chhattisgarh	Virtual
40.	Shri. Jai Pal Singh, Chief Engineer, Irrigation Dept., Dehradun.	Physical
41.	Shri. M R Patel, Chief Engineer, Narmada Water Resources, Govt. of Gujarat	Virtual
42.	Shri. Rakesh Chauhan, Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation & WRD, Govt. of Haryana.	Physical
43.	Shri. Manoj Kumar, Executive Engineer, Interstate & Liaison Division, Govt. of Haryana	Physical
44.	Shri. Nagesh Mishra, Engineer-in-Chief, Govt. of Jharkhand	Virtual
45.	Dr. Alok Kumar, Assistant Engineer, WRD Govt. of Jharkhand.	Virtual
46.	Shri. K B Krishna Rao, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka	Physical
47.	Shri. Mallikarjuna B.Gunge,	Physical

	Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka	
48.	Smt. Sweethi M G, Assistant Executive Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka	Physical
49.	Shri. Gaurav F Nayak, WRD, Govt. of Karnataka	Physical
50.	Shri. Vijay Kumar P.G., Nodal Officer, WRD, Govt. of Kerala.	Physical
51.	Smt. Meena Kumari S S, Executive Engineer, Inter State Waters, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Kerala.	Virtual
52.	Shri. M S Dawar, Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.	Virtual
53.	Shri. O P S Kushwah, Consultant, WRD, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.	Virtual
54.	Shri. V.Sathyamurthi, Chief Engineer, PWD, Govt. of Puducherry	Physical
55.	Shri. A Rajasekharan, Superintending Engineer, PWD, Govt. of Puducherry	Physical
56.	Shri. Rakesh Kumar Krail, Chief Engineer, Govt. of Punjab	Virtual
57.	Shri. Ravi Solanki Chief Engineer, State Water Planning Department, Govt. of Rajasthan.	Physical
58.	Shri.V Mohan Kumar, Chief Engineer, ISWR, Govt. of Telangana	Virtual
59.	Shri. Shankar Kumar Saha, Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Dept., Govt. of Uttarakhand	Physical
60.	Shri. P K Tiwari, Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Dept., Govt. of Uttarakhand	Physical
61.	Shri. Mustaq Ahmed, Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation & WRD, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.	Virtual
62.	Shri. S C Upadhyay, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.	Virtual
63.	Shri. Kayum Mohammad, Director, CMDD(NW & S), CWC	Physical
64.	Shri. Indranil Chakraborty, Director, LS&EG Division, GSI	Virtual
65.	Dr. B.P. Yadav,	Virtual

	Scientist – G, IMD, New Delhi	
66.	Shri. Yogendra Pal Singh Scientist 'E', MoEF&CC, New Delhi	Virtual
67.	Shri. Laxmikanth Joshi, OSD to Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Govt. of Karnataka	Physical
68.	Shri. Janmejy Panda, PA to Hon'ble Minister of State Jal Shakti	Physical
69.	Shri. Shibananda Dalei, Personal Staff of Hon'ble MoS	Physical
70.	Shri. Askar Ali, PA to Hon'ble Water Resource Minister, Tamil Nadu	Physical
Officers from DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi		
71.	Dr. Dhura Ram, Addl. Commissioner (NRM), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare	Virtual
72.	Shri. Anand Mohan, JS (RD & PP)	Physical
73.	Shri. Rakesh Kumar, Sr. Joint Commissioner(BM).	Physical
74.	Smt. Richa Mishra, JS & FA, MoJS	Physical
75.	Shri. O P Gupta, Senior Joint Commissioner (PP)	Virtual
Officers from National Water Development Agency (NWDA)		
76.	Shri. Baleshwar Thakur, Chief Engineer (HQ)	Physical
77.	Dr. R. N. Sankhua, Chief Engineer (South), Hyderabad.	Physical
78.	Shri. Shiva Prakash, Chief Engineer (North), Lucknow .	Virtual
79.	Shri. D.K.Sharma, Director (Technical), New Delhi.	Physical
80.	Shri. R. K. Jain, IWW Head, New Delhi.	Physical
81.	Shri. S.C. Awasthi, Superintending Engineer, New Delhi.	Physical

82.	Shri. S.R. Mahor, Superintending Engineer, New Delhi.	Virtual
83.	Shri. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Superintending Engineer, BBSR.	Virtual
84.	Shri. N. G. Rao, Superintending Engineer, Hydrabad	Virtual
85.	Shri B.L. Sharma, Superintending Engineer, Gwalior.	Physical
86.	Shri. Subrata Halder, Director (Finance), New Delhi.	Physical
87.	Shri. Chirabrata Sarkar, Director (Admn.), New Delhi.	Physical
88.	Shri. R Vinod Kumar, Executive Engineer (HQ), New Delhi	Physical
89.	Shri. R Balakrishnan, Executive Engineer, Chennai	Virtual
90.	Smt. Deepika Sharma, Deputy Director (H), New Delhi.	Virtual
91.	Shri. K.K. Rao, Assistant Director, New Delhi.	Physical
92.	Shri. S. James Assistant Director, New Delhi.	Physical
93.	Shri. Krishnamurthy M P, Assistant Director, New Delhi	Physical
94.	Smt. Vineeta Sharma, Assistant Director, New Delhi	Virtual
95.	Shri. Deepak Verma, Accounts Officer, New Delhi	Physical
96.	Shri. Lalit Kumar Siyaniya, Assistant Engineer, New Delhi	Virtual
97.	Shri. Hari Om Varshney,	Virtual

	Assistant Engineer, Lucknow	
98.	Shri. Manoj D Dhimmar, Assistant Engineer, New Delhi	Physical
99.	Shri. Ankit Kumar, Assistant Engineer, New Delhi	Physical
100.	Shri. Dharm Singh Bairwa, Junior Engineer, New Delhi	Physical
101.	Shri. Nikhil V.J., Junior Engineer, New Delhi.	Virtual
102.	Shri. Subodh Kumar, Junior Engineer, New Delhi	Physical
103.	Shri. Rakesh Kumar Kharbanda, Consultant, New Delhi.	Physical
104.	Shri. Nagesh Mahajan, Consultant, New Delhi.	Physical
105.	Shri. C.P.S Sengar, Consultant, New Delhi.	Physical