



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/400/5/2021/ 1574 -1598

Date: 31.5.22

Sub: Minutes of the Sixteenth (16th) meeting of the "Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers" held on 17.5.2022 at 11:00 A.M., Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi - reg.

Madam/ Sir,

The sixteenth (16th) meeting of the "Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers" was held on 17.5.2022 at 11:00A.M., in the Committee Room, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi, under the Chairmanship of Shri Sriram Vedire, Advisor, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Chairman of the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers. The meeting was held in Hybrid mode.

A copy of the Minutes of the meeting duly approved by the Chairman, Task Force, is enclosed for kind information.

Yours faithfully,

Encl : As above



(D.K.Sharma)

Director (Tech.)

dirtech-nwda@nic.in

To

1. **Shri Sriram Vedire**, Advisor, Ministry of Jal Shakti, DoWR, RD & GR and Chairman, Task Force for ILR, Room No. 428 B, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi, E mail: advtomin-mowr@gov.in, Phone 011-23708418, 09441002730 (M).
2. **Chairman CWC**, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi -110066. Email: chairmancwc@nic.in, Phone : 011-26195415.

Contd./-

3. **Additional Secretary** (DoWR, RD & GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi. Email: aswrs-mowr@nic.in, Phone 011-23714609.
4. **Shri Prodipto Ghosh**, Former Secretary, MoE&F & Distinguished Fellow TERI, Darbari Seth Block, IHC Complex, Lodhi Road , New Delhi-110003. E-mail: prodipto@teri.res.in, prodipto5@gmail.com Phone: 0 1 1 -24682100, 9810490639 (M).
5. **JS & FA**, Ministry of Jal Shakti, DoWR, RD & GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi. E mail: fawr-mowr @nic.in, Phone 011- 23710297.
6. **Shri A.D. Mohile**, Ex. Chairman, CWC, New Delhi. E-mail: anildmohile@gmail.com, Phone: 0124-4055262, 9891154061(M).
7. **Shri M. Gopalakrishnan**, Former Secretary General, ICID, D-1/12, Janakpuri, New Delhi, Email: mgopalakrishnan@hotmail.com, mgopalakrishnan.in@yahoo.com, mgopalakrishnan_in@yahoo.com. Phone: 09538923627 (Bangalore), 011- 28524495 (R), 09811301279 (Delhi).
8. **Dr. Shobha (Vrushali) Waghmare**, 204, Rukmini Heights (Tulsi Developers), Sharda Nagar, Nanded – 431602. E-mail: drvrushaliwaghmare618@gmail.com, Phone: 09823208618 (M).
9. **Prof. Chandan Mahanta**, Deptt. of Civil Engineering , Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati - 781014 (Assam) , E-mail: chandan@iit g.ernet.in, Phone: 0361-2582407.
10. **Prof. K. V. Raju**, Theme Leader, Policy and Impact, Regional Program-Asia, ICRISAT, Lakshmi Nilaya, No. 20, 3rd Floor, 17th Cross, 151 Main, 5th Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangaluru - 560078. Email: kvraju2008@gmail.com, Phone: 98454 15305 (M).
11. The Joint Secretary (North), Ministry of External Affairs, Room no.149-A , South Block, New Delhi - 110011, E-mail: jsnorth@mea.gov.in, usnepal1@mea.gov.in. Phone no.: 011-49016745.
12. **Director General**, NWDA & Member Secretary, TFILR, 18-20, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi -110017, E mail: dg-nwda@nic.in, Phone: 011-2327582.

Contd./-

Special Invitees:

1. Shri S. Masood Husain, Former Chairman, CWC, BD/11/D, DDA Flats, Munirka, New Delhi-110067. Email: syedsmsusain@yahoo.co.in. Mob.: 9810255680.
2. Member (WP & P), CWC, R.K.Puram, New Delhi.
3. Senior Joint Commissioner (BM), MoJS, DoWR, RD & GR, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Email: sjcbm-mowr@nic.in. Phone no.: 24367109.

Copy to:

1. Chief Engineer (HQ), NWDA, Saket, New Delhi, Email: cehq-nwda@nic.in, cehqnwda@rediffmail.com Phone: 011-26852735, Fax: 011-26960841.
2. Chief Engineer (South), NWDA, Hyderabad, E-mail: cesnwda@rediffmail.com, ceshyd-nwda@nic.in. Phone : 040-24601205, Mob.: 09599400193.
3. Chief Engineer (North), NWDA, 4/193 F, Vishal Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (U.P). E-mail : cenlko-nwda@nic.in, cenwdalko@gmail.com. Phone : 0522-4235033. Mob.:08005498787.
4. SE (N) / (S), NWDA, Palika Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. SE, IC, NWDA, BBSR. E-mail: sebbsr-nwda@nic.in.
6. Dir (MDU), NWDA, Saket, New Delhi.

Copy for kind information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti, New Delhi. E-mail: psmwr-mowr@nic.in, Phone: 011-23714200, Fax: 011-23710804.
2. SPS to DG, NWDA, Saket, New Delhi, E-mail: dg-nwda@nic.in, Phone: 011-26519164.
3. PS to CE (HQ), NWDA, Saket, New Delhi, E-mail: cehqnwda@rediffmail.com. Phone: 011- 26852735, Fax: 011-26960841.
4. PS to Advisor, Ministry for Jal Shakti, Room No. 428 B, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi, E-mail: advtomin-mowr@gov.in Phone 011-23708418.

Minutes of the 16th Meeting of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers held on 17th May, 2022, at MoJS, New Delhi.

The sixteenth meeting of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers was held on 17th May, 2022, in Conference Hall, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi as well as through video conferencing under the Chairmanship of Shri Sriram Vedire, Chairman, Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers & Advisor, Ministry of Jal Shakti. List of the participants is given at **Annexure-I**.

At the outset of the meeting, Director General welcomed Chairman and all the participants. He requested Chairman for his opening remarks.

In his opening remarks, Chairman of the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers highlighted the fast pace of progress for Interlinking of Rivers programme, especially in last one year and congratulated all the members of the TFILR and Experts for helping this important and ambitious project move forward. He also informed the members about progress achieved in work related to constitution of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA). He emphasized that Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti is very keen for progress of ILR work and is making all efforts in negotiating with States to build up consensus for the implementation of the links. He referred to recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Nepal that may be beneficial for Pancheshwar Dam. He then requested Director General, NWDA to present Agenda items.

Item 16.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 15th meeting of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers held on 22nd October, 2021, in hybrid mode.

Director General, NWDA informed that the minutes of 15th meeting of the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers (TF-ILR) held on 22.10.21, were circulated to the members vide letter dated 2.11.2021. Since no comments were received from any of the members, the minutes of 15th meeting of the Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers may be confirmed as circulated.

The members of the Task Force confirmed the minutes.

Item no. 16.2 Action Taken Report on The Decisions Taken in the 15th Meeting of TF-ILR

DG, NWDA briefed the members that the proposal for constitution of NIRA as finalized during 15th meeting of TFILR was placed before Special Committee for ILR in its 19th meeting held on 12.11.21 and the proposal was broadly agreed upon by SCILR. As per views obtained from SCILR, a Cabinet Note was prepared and submitted to Ministry of Jal Shakti and finally it was circulated to various Ministries / Departments for comments on 28.2.2022. The most encouraging development is that most of the Ministries have supported the constitution of NIRA. DoE, MoF suggested that the proposal first needs to be appraised by the Committee of Establishment Expenditure (CEE) chaired by Secretary (Expenditure) prior to placing it before the Cabinet for approval. The compliance to the observations of ministries/departments have been submitted. Also, as suggested by DoE, the CEE Note has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry and the same is under submission to DoE. Thereafter, the finalised Cabinet Note shall be placed for approval of the Cabinet.

Sh. M.Gopalakrishnan appreciated the efforts for fast progress of work related to constitution of NIRA.

Item 16.3: Implementation of Ken–Betwa Link Project:

DG, NWDA briefed the members about the present status and progress made in moving forward towards implementation of Ken Betwa Link Project. The project has been approved by Govt. of India for implementation in December, 2021 through Special Purpose Vehicle viz; Ken Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA) with funding pattern of (90 (C): 10(S)). He apprised the members about Gazette Notification that has been issued on 11th February 2022 constituting a Steering Committee and Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA). He explained that initially the focus is on land acquisition, R&R, fulfilling the compliances to the conditions of forest clearance and wildlife clearance. The First meeting of Steering Committee of Ken Betwa Link Project (SC-KBLP) was held on 7.4.2022 under the chairmanship of Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS. In this meeting it was decided that head office of the

Authority may be opened at Bhopal along with two more offices at Chhatarpur and Jhansi. He informed the members that Investigation Divisions of NWDA at Bhopal and Jhansi have been linked with KBLPA and one more Division is being opened at Chhatarpur.

Chairman, TFILR queried about further planning for taking up construction of the Project.

DG, NWDA explained that KBLPA will take up implementation of Daudhan Dam and Ken Betwa Link canal and rest of the components will be constructed by respective States. A Technical Advisory Committee for the complete planning will be constituted shortly and Contract documents will be prepared and finalised very soon.

Sh. A.D. Mohile advised to take up Land Acquisition issue with great care so as to avoid any arbitrations or problems arising out in later stage and to adopt Engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract mode for such huge construction. He suggested to consider the associated risk with "River Diversion" aspect as a part of EPC Contract.

Sh. M.Gopalakrishnan also opined to go for Engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract mode.

Sh Vohra, Member (WP & P), CWC opined to engage experienced professional expertise for MIS and construction management of this mega project. He emphasized to prepare detailed monitoring framework and review of progress at each stage. He also suggested that States should have their own mechanisms of Rehabilitation, Resettlement, Grievance redressal, progress monitoring etc. and amalgamate the two mechanisms to move forward for construction of the project without any major issues / problems.

Chairman, CWC suggested to prepare a detailed planning and framework for implementation and place the same before TFILR.

Chairman, TFILR cited the example of Polavaram Project and advised to take learning in the handling of issues encountered during implementation phase of this project. He said that the contract document should have transparency and clarity of fixing liabilities and accountability. He also emphasized for building a Management

Information System (MIS) to capture the works to be taken by KBLPA and States with clarity and to devise Grievance Redressal system, progress monitoring system and a dedicated sub system for dealing with Land acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement issues right from the beginning.

DG, NWDA told that there is a plan to engage a Project Management Consultant(PMC) to build a strong MIS and carry out robust planning and management during the implementation stage. The ToR for PMC was deliberated during the 1st meeting of Steering Committee held in April, 2022. EoI shall be floated very shortly for same. He further told that we have taken note of all the suggestions given today and shall be incorporated in the implementation plan and advice of TFILR shall be sought at all stages.

Item 16.4: Integration of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) Link as proposed under Peninsular Component of NPP with proposed Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) of Rajasthan

DG, NWDA briefed about the proposal of Integration of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) Link as proposed under Peninsular Component of NPP with proposed Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) of Rajasthan.

Chairman, TFILR explained all the members about basic challenges involved in the proposal of integration. He informed that the issues are related to the dependability criteria for diversion of water for interstate rivers as it is planned at 50 percent dependability for ERCP by the state of Rajasthan. Govt. of MP has stressed to plan all components of ERCP for water available at 75 percent dependability. Another challenge is regarding exchange of water in Kalisindh and Upper Chambal. He apprised all members that Hon'ble Minister (Jal Shakti) convened a meeting recently, in which all the options / alternatives were discussed with both the States and idea of making the integrated link as a National project and a priority link project was also discussed.

DG, NWDA explained about Modified PKC Link proposal in which diversion of inter state rivers (Parbati and Kalisindh) for ERCP will be planned at 75 percent dependability in Phase-I, keeping the scope of expansion in future depending upon

Inter State cooperation. The share of water of both States in each sub-basin shall be kept as per existing understanding between two States. Possible exchange of surplus water of Kalisindh in MP with utilization in Upper Chambal by MP may be explored later in future. The projects as proposed by Govt. of MP in Kuno, Parbati and Kalisindh sub-basins can be integrated with ERCP and modified link be called as Modified PKC link.

Sh A.D. Mohile stressed that planning of the project should not be based on only the availability of the water in the system but on the success rate of the intended purpose. The working tables should be prepared incorporating the availability series, demand series and system to arrive at the right size of the project.

Member (WP &P), CWC stressed that planning of projects on inter state rivers need to be limited to availability of water at 75 percent dependability unless there is an interstate agreement and there is monitoring and regulating mechanism in the basin.

Sh.M.Gopalakrishnan also emphasized to proceed with 75 percent dependability criteria for this project.

Chairman, TF-ILR mentioned that this issue has come up for discussion in the recent past at many levels in the Ministry including in one of the recent meetings taken up by Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti. He opined that valid points were mentioned by Sh. Mohile in this respect and these points need to be thoroughly debated by experts of TF-ILR and also of SCILR committee. He said that the existing guidelines about 75% dependability criteria of both the Planning Commission as well as CWC needs to be discussed at length and appropriate recommendations be made to the Ministry so as to meet the high demands of water especially in the drought prone and arid zones in the country which do not have safe drinking water facilities.

After detailed deliberations, it was decided that the 75% dependability criteria can be further discussed in the subsequent TF-ILR meetings and this issue also to be added as an agenda item to be discussed by experts in the upcoming SCILR meeting.

Also, it was decided that the proposal of modified PKC link incorporating the components as proposed by Govt. of MP in Kuno, Parbati and Kalisindh sub-basins as above along with components of ERCP corresponding to divertible water available

at 75 percent dependability may be proceeded in phase-I. This modified PKC link may be made part of National Perspective Planning of ILR and also be declared as a priority projects looking at the importance of this project for both the states particularly need of water for drinking in the districts of eastern Rajasthan. **TFILR recommended to place the proposal of making the modified PKC link as part of NPP of ILR and declaring this project as a priority interlinking project before SCILR for consideration and approval.**

Item 16.5: Considering Mahanadi-Godavari Link as one of the priority links:

DG, NWDA briefed about present proposal of Mahanadi (Barmul) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link project, originating from Barmul dam, 14 km upstream of Manibhadra dam on river Mahanadi. He informed that 5059 MCM of water will be utilized enroute of link canal and 6500 MCM of water will be transferred to Godavari river and six projects proposed by Odisha Government upstream of Barmul dam will be integrated in this link project.

Consideration of this link as one of the priority link projects was discussed by the members of TFILR.

Member (WP & P), CWC informed all the members that Mahanadi Tribunal has been set under IBWT Act and co-basin States are members of the Tribunal to discuss and decide about share of river water for party States. So proposing Mahanadi-Godavari Link as one of the priority link at this at stage may create problems for Ministry and legal opinion may sought first before taking any decision on the link.

Sh A.D. Mohile suggested that it is high time to approach the tribunal for considering the due share for inter-basin water transfer also in national interest rather than allocating all water amongst party states. He will help in drafting a representation in this regard.

After deliberation, it was decided first to seek a legal opinion in the matter of becoming a party in the Mahanadi Tribunal for inter-basin water transfer. The matter may be reported back in in the next meeting of TFILR.

In the end, the DG, NWDA thanked Chairman, TFILR and expressed his deep gratitude to all the members and special invitees for their valuable guidance and suggestions.

Annexure- I

List of Participants of the 16th meeting of the Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers held on 17.5.2022 at New Delhi in hybrid mode.

1.	Shri Sriram Vedire Chairman, Task Force for ILR& Advisor, Ministry of Jal Shakti.	Chairman
2.	Dr. R.K.Gupta Chairman, Central Water Commission.	Member
3.	Ms Richa Misra, JS & FA, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti.	Member
4.	Shri M. Gopalakrishnan Former Secretary General, ICID & Former Member, Central Water Commission.	Member
5.	Sh. A.D.Mohile Ex Chairman, CWC, New Delhi	Member
6.	Shri Amit Shukla Director (North) Ministry of External Affairs.	Member
7.	Prof. K.V.Raju Theme leader, Regional programme - Asia, ICRISAT, Bangalore	Member
8.	Shri Bhopal Singh Director General, NWDA.	Member- Secretary
9.	Sh. K. Vohra, Member (WP & P), CWC, New Delhi.	Special Invitee

Officers from NWDA

10.	Shri R.K. Jain Chief Engineer (HQ), NWDA.	
11.	Shri Shiva Prakash Chief Engineer (N), NWDA.	
12.	Dr. R.N.Sankhua Chief Engineer (S), NWDA.	
13.	Shri D. K. Sharma Director (Technical), NWDA	
14.	Sh. S.R.Mahor, Superintending Engineer-South, New Delhi.	
15.	Sh.B.L.Sharma, Superintending Engineer, IC, Gwalior.	
16.	Sh.S.K.Gawande, Executive Engineer, ID, Bhopal	
17.	Smt. Deepika Sharma DD(H)	
18.	Sh.K.K.Rao Assistant Director	