



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
(2016-2017)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2016-17)

{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2016-17)' of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation}

TWELFTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

December, 2016/Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 08 .12.2016

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 08 .12.2016



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

December, 2016/Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

WRC NO.

Price:

2016 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
(2016-17)

Shri Hukum Singh

—

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(iv)

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Water Resources (2016-2017) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Twelfth Report on the Action Taken by Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources on Demands for Grants (2016-2017) of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

2. The Ninth Report of the Committee was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 02 May, 2016. The replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received on 03 August, 2016.

3. The replies of the Government were examined and the Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 23 November, 2016.

4. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Annexure-VI.

NEW DELHI;
27 November, 2016
06 Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

HUKUM SINGH,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Water Resources

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Water Resources deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in their Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2016-17)", which was presented to Lok Sabha on 2 May 2016.

2. Action taken notes were received from the Government in respect of all the 18 Observations / Recommendations of the Committee which have been categorised as follows:-

- (i) Observations / Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (Chapter II):

Para Nos. 1.22, 1.23, 1.24, 2.25, 2.26, 3.16, 3.17, 4.30, 4.30-A, 4.31, 4.32 and 5.11

(Total - 12)

- (ii) Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (Chapter III):

Para Nos. 1.26 and 2.24

(Total - 02)

- (iii) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee (Chapter IV):

Para Nos. 1.25, 2.27, 4.29 and 5.10

(Total - 04)

- (iv) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which final reply of the Government is still awaited (Chapter V):

Para No. NIL

(Total - NIL)

3. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of the Observations / Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

A. Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics scheme

Recommendation (Para No. 1.24)

4. As per information furnished to the Committee, the total Budget Estimates (BE) of the Ministry for the year 2016-17 was Rs. 8764.31 crore comprising of Plan allocation of Rs. 8025.00 crore and Non-Plan allocation of Rs. 739.31 crore. The total Budget allocations for 2016-17 showed an overall increase by 27.19% when compared to total Budget allocations of Rs. 6381.03 crore during 2015-16. The Committee also observed that against a total Budget Estimates (BE) of Rs. 6381.03 crore in 2015-16, the figure was increased during the same year by Rs. 1709.35 crore at the Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The reason put forth by the Ministry for such a big hike in allocation during 2015-16 had been the focus on completion of identified 46 priority irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) scheme, out of which 23 projects are expected to be completed by March, 2017. In this context, the Ministry stated that the enhanced funding will help the State Governments in completing these projects in a time-bound manner. The Committee hoped and expected that the 23 AIBP projects covered under the enhanced Budget allocations during 2016-17 - would achieve their targeted date of completion, i.e. March, 2017 through the concerted efforts of the Ministry / implementing agencies / concerned State Governments. The Committee desired to be apprised of the status of action being taken in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report. Noting further that frequent reductions / increases of Budget allocations at Revised Estimate stage have become a norm with the Ministry over the last several years, the Committee also recommended that before projecting budgetary demands, the Ministry undertake some pre-Budget planning and exercises and then only frame achievable targets for both the Plan and Non-Plan schemes to have the more realistic and achievable

Budget projections in future. Additionally, prior approval of NITI Ayog, EFC, etc. in respect of schemes to be included in Budget proposal each year, as also Rehabilitation and Research issues, land acquisition hurdles, NOC etc. should also be sorted out for each of such projects well within the time. The Committee noted in particular that no specific study has been undertaken by the Ministry to avoid drastic changes of allocations at RE stage but efforts have been made to streamline the releases (of funds) to the projects under AIBP, CAD, SMI and RRR and that a new funding mechanism through NABARD has also been announced, for which, the modalities will be financed during the year. They also noted that implementation of 89 incomplete irrigation projects under AIBP would be fastracked, which will help to irrigate 80.6 lakh hectares. The Committee recommended that the Ministry should initiate a study on modalities to avoid the recurrent problems of changes in Budget allocations at RE stage year after year. The Committee desired also to see a positive outcome on the fastracked implementation of 89 incomplete AIBP projects during this financial year, 2016-17 itself. A report, in this regard, should be submitted to the Committee within the next six months.

5. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“(1) The Plan allocation for 2015-16 was of Rs. 3,632 crore and National Clean Energy Fund(NCEF) fund of Rs. 2,100 crore exclusively for Namami Gange Scheme. In the current year 2016-17, the actual Plan allocation is Rs.3,025 crore and NCEF fund of Rs.2,500 crore for Namami Gange/National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The equal amount of Rs. 2,500 crore provided for Namami Gange/NRCP has been reflected as under the Major Head 2810 “Transfer to NCEF” being Public Account Fund collected by way CESS, is under the administrative control of Ministry of Finance. This form of presentation has been introduced in the current year and allocation of Rs.2,500 crore is accounted for twice. However, the funds actually available to the Ministry for Plan schemes are Rs.5,525 crore against Rs.5,732 crore in the previous year 2015-16.

(2) Ministry is taking all necessary steps to avoid the recurrent problems in Budget allocations at RE state. Presently 2016-17 is the end of 12th Five Year Plan. On Completion of every five years all the Plan schemes are evaluated. In the year 2017 all the schemes/project will be evaluated by independent agencies. Thereafter evaluated report will be followed.

(3) So far as implementation of CAD works of 23 projects prioritised to be completed by March, 2017 is concerned, 21 projects are either ongoing or under the process of inclusion under Command Area Development Programme. Proposal of only two projects are awaited as on date.

(4) During 2015-16 Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. Major and Medium irrigation/multipurpose irrigation projects are being funded under PMKSY-AIBP.

The issues related to implementation of projects under PMKSY-HKKP including prioritization of projects were deliberated in the committee headed by Sh. Brijmohan Agrawal, Minister (Water Resources) of Chhattisgarh. As per the information supplied by concerned States to the committee, 99 projects have been identified for completion up to 2019-20. 23 projects (Priority-1) have been identified to be completed by 2016-17 and another 31 projects (Priority-II) have been identified to be completed by 2017-18. The balance 45 projects (Priority-III) have been identified to be completed by 2019-20.

The completion of above projects is proposed to be done in mission mode. It is proposed to establish a Mission with Additional Secretary/Special Secretary in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) as the Mission Director to overlook the entire programme.

Further, keeping in view of the budgetary constraints, it is also being proposed to borrow Central share/Assistance (CA) from NABARD as per year wise requirements to complete the above

projects. Further the State Governments, if required, may also borrow funds from NABARD for the State Share.”

6. The Committee note from the reply of the Ministry that no mention has been made about the Committee’s earlier recommendation for compiling and uploading on the website of the Ministry detailed census information / data of all the MI censuses (viz. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th) in a condensed, user-friendly format (State/UT-wise). The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation in this regard so that all the stake-holders / users, i.e. farmers, students, academicians, planners, bureaucrats, etc. derive benefits from such information / data and they desire to be apprised of action taken by the Government within three months of presentation of this Action Taken Report. The Committee also note the efforts being made by the Government for completion of the exercise of 5th Minor Irrigation (MI) Census with the reference year 2013-14 being conducted in 34 States / UTs and which is targeted for completion in March, 2017, viz. over 77.44% field work 5th MI Census has been completed, online software for data processing of 5th MI Census has been developed and link intimated to States / UTs, regular review of progress of Census activities like field work / data entry using software, etc. being done by State Governments / UTs is being carried out by senior officers of the Ministry, and regular monitoring is also done through Video Conference with States, DO letters, e-mails, etc. The Committee appreciate these efforts of the Ministry, but, however they would further desire that there should be no let-up or slackness on this count so that the Census activities are duly completed and targets are achieved by States / UTs within the stipulated time-frame, i.e. March, 2017.

B. Inclusion of Water in the Concurrent List

Recommendation (Para No. 1.25)

7. The Committee noted from the reply of the Ministry that although there had been growing demand by the professionals and civil society to bring 'water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, the proposal had been opposed by most of the States. Further, the proposal did not find favour with R. S. Sarkaria Commission (1983-88) and M. M. Punchhi Commission (2007-10) which examined the Centre-State relations. The Committee took note of the view of the Ministry that the matter requires extensive deliberations with the States and other stakeholders so that a broader consensus emerges in the matter. The Committee also took note that the objectives of better conservation, development and management of water resources were stated and sought to be achieved through the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill - which are currently under examination in the Ministry in consultation with different stakeholders. Further, a Committee had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry should expeditiously wind up the process of enactment of the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill which is at present under examination with them. They also wanted to see early outcome of the report of Dr. Mihir Shah Committee in the matter under intimation to them. In this connection, the Committee were, however, of the opinion that the proposed National Water Framework Law would lack teeth if the subject 'Water' is not brought under the Concurrent List of the Constitution, for the implementation of the proposed Framework Law will require coordinated, consultative action on the part of both the Centre and the States. The Committee, therefore, recommended that steps be initiated by the Government to again begin the much needed consultations with the States on the issue of bringing 'water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. Noting the fact that the proposals made to this

end in the past had been opposed by most of the States, the Committee, however, meanwhile liked to be apprised of the names of the States opposing this proposal alongwith their grounds of their opposition.

8. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“The Committee constituted by this Ministry under Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft National Water Framework Bill and the draft River Basin Management Bill has prepared a draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016. The draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 contains several provisions for improved management of water resources in the country. The draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 has been circulated to all the State Governments/ Union Territories for inviting their comments on the report. The draft Bill has also been placed on the website of this Ministry for obtaining comments thereon from general public.

2. The draft River Basin Management Bill is presently under consideration of the Mihir Shah Committee.

3. Specific consultations for bringing ‘Water’ in the Concurrent List of the Constitution have not been undertaken with the States. However, in the course of conferences with the States, suggestion for bringing water in the Concurrent List has by and large not found favour with the States.

4. The recommendations of the Committee to initiate steps to begin consultations with the States on the issue of bringing ‘Water’ in the Concurrent List of the Constitution has been noted for appropriate action.”

9. **The Committee note the reply of the Ministry that the Dr. Mihir Shah Committee constituted by the Ministry to examine the draft National Water Framework Bill and the draft River Basin Management Bill, has prepared a draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 which has been circulated to all the State Governments / Union Territories for inviting their comments on the report besides it’s being posted on the website of the Ministry for obtaining comments thereon from general public. The Committee also observe that the draft River Basin Management Bill is presently under consideration of the Dr. Mihir Shah Committee. The Committee desire that the**

Ministry expeditiously wind up the process of obtaining of comments of the States / Union Territories and the general public on the draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 through concrete initiatives with a view to ensure speedy enactment of an Act in the matter. They also recommend that expeditious action be taken to ensure that the River Basin Management Bill being examined by the Dr. Mihir Shah Committee is brought to Parliament for speedy legislative enactment. The Committee are disappointed that specific consultations for bringing 'Water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution have not been initiated with the States. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with all the States / UTs individually through correspondences and ask for specific comments in the matter in view of the need of the hour as many States are now at loggerheads with each other over water sharing passing through their territories. Moreover, the impact of climate change is being felt by almost all the States on availability of water resources which has become a national issue.

C. Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies

Recommendation (Para No. 2.25)

10. The Committee noted that under the pilot scheme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies initiated in 2005, a total of 1098 water bodies were taken up, out of which 1085 water bodies were completed and irrigation potential of 0.78 lakh hectare was restored through Rs. 197.3 crore released as Central grant. After the pilot scheme, two schemes of RRR of water bodies, one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250 crore and another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 1500 crore, were launched during 12th Plan. Under the RRR scheme with domestic support, Rs. 917.259 crore were released as Grant during 11th Plan for 3341 water bodies, out of which 2501 were completed and 1.195 lakh hectare of irrigation potential restored. While noting the Ministry's reply that Rs. 2175 crore was sought for allocation for PMSKY (SMI, CADWM, GW&RRR) during 2016-17, the Committee were surprised to know that only Rs. 500 crore was provided, meaning thereby that allocation

for RRR scheme would be still much less than adequate. Further, the little available fund allocated would be utilized for only ongoing RRR schemes. The Committee further noted, in this connection, that a query was made by the Committee to the Ministry as to whether the Government has carried out any survey about encroached water bodies in the country, and also whether any stringent action / penalty has been proposed for those guilty of willful encroachments of water bodies in the country. Sadly however, the reply of the Ministry in the matter showed that the Government was putting the onus on the shoulder of State Governments on the plea that the works related to water resources development are taken by the concerned State Governments and that the Central Government act as catalyst by providing Central Assistance to eligible schemes as per the guidelines. The Committee wanted the Ministry to take a proactive role with regard to RRR of water bodies in the country. Noting further that the guidelines issued in October, 2013 for implementation of the RRR scheme enjoins the State Governments to take steps for declaring the water body boundary through a government order and to ensure removal of encroachment in the water body before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment of grant for the RRR scheme, the Committee recommended that the Government keep strict tab on the State Governments to ensure that these guidelines are scrupulously complied with by them before release of funds or approval of projects under the RRR scheme. The Committee also recommended that the Ministry within three months of presentation of this Report issue common, mandatory guideline to all States / UTs enjoining them to identify, record and compile the number of encroached water bodies in their territories and complete the exercise within a year for purpose of compiling a national database at the Centre in this regard. They further recommended that the Ministry vigorously pursue all the concerned States / UTs through consultation, meetings, etc. to ensure that the advisory issued by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on 26 February, 2016 is duly complied and the guilty (if any) are punished in case of the encroachments on the water bodies. The Committee also categorically desired that a scientific study / mapping of water bodies be taken up on priority basis by the Ministry and the Committee be apprised of the results of such study / mapping.

11. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

- “(i) In respect of the observation of the Committee for keeping strict tab on the State Governments to ensure that the guidelines are scrupulously complied for removal of encroachment, it may be mentioned that the guidelines (2013) of RRR on water bodies stipulates for State to take necessary steps for declaring the water body boundary through a Government order and to ensure removal of encroachments in the water body spread area/water body boundary before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment of grant for completion of work on the water body under RRR. This is strictly followed for releasing central assistance to the States. States submit necessary documents/ certificates in this regard before release of 2nd installment.
- (ii) After the pilot scheme, two schemes of RRR of water bodies, one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250 Crore and another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 3700 Crore, were launched during XIth Plan under the RRR scheme with domestic support, Rs. 917.259 Crore were released as Grant during XIth Plan for 3341 water bodies, out of which 2501 were completed and 1.455 lakh hectare of irrigation potential restored.

During the XIIth Plan a total of 1354 water bodies from 9 states have been approved for an estimated cost of Rs. 1025.8723 crore so far. Out of these 1354 water bodies, Central assistance of Rs. 264.67 Crore have been released for 1237 water bodies from 8 states with CCA to be restored of 0.94 lakh ha. In the current financial year 2016-17, there is target of 1000 water bodies to be restored as per the decision taken in the meeting of National Water Mission (NWM).

As regards the query made by the Committee to the Ministry as to whether the Government has carried out any survey about encroached water bodies and any stringent action/ penalty to be proposed for those guilty of willful encroachments of water bodies in the country, it is again stated that these steps are to be taken by the concerned State Govts. only as land, law and order are state govt. subject. The Ministry may play a role in assisting the state govt. to conduct the survey work and enact laws in preventing the encroachment of water bodies.

As per the guidelines issued in October, 2013 for implementation of RRR of Water Bodies schemes, the State Govts need to take steps for declaring the water body boundary through a Government Order (G.O) and to ensure removal of encroachment in water body before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment for grant for the RRR scheme. The CWC field offices may be directed to keep strict watch on the works being carried out by State Govts. so as to ensure that these guidelines are fully complied in letter and spirit before release of funds or approval of projects under RRR scheme. For this proper monitoring of the water bodies needs to be carried out through remote sensing and CWC field offices.

As regards the issuing of common, mandatory guidelines by the Ministry to all State/ UTs enjoining them to identify, record and compile the number of encroached water bodies in their territories and completing the exercise within a year for purpose of compiling a national database at the Centre, this work can be done by the MI (Stat) Wing of MoWR, RD & GR who may issue these guidelines with the help of CWC and compile a data base as being done with other MI schemes. For taking up the scientific study/ mapping of water bodies on priority basis, the MI (Stat) Wing need to engage the State Govts. to conduct a survey of all the water bodies in the country along with the MI census. Further, under the India-Water Resources Information System (WRIS) project, using satellite imageries of 2009-10, about 7,98,908 water bodies with minimum 0.01 hectare area have been mapped using satellite remote sensing technique which includes both rural and urban areas. The details of same has been enclosed as Annexure-II. However, for further detailed study regarding encroachment in the water bodies and other related issues, a census/ survey is to be conducted by State Govts.

As regards the recommendation that Ministry need to vigorously pursue all the concerned States/ UTs through consultation, meeting, etc. to ensure that the advisory issued by Secretary, MoWR, RD & GR on 26th February, 2016 is duly complied and guilty (if any) are punished in case of the encroachments on water bodies, necessary actions are being taken.

As regards the view of the Committee for Ministry to take a proactive role with regard to RRR of water bodies in the country, it is to mention that the state govts. are the overall custodians of the

water bodies as water is a state subject. The State Govts. plan, execute and maintains the various irrigation schemes as per their need and priority. The role of Central Water Commission in this regard is that of advisory in nature and to facilitate them to prepare and execute the projects.

- (iii) MI Stat Wing of Ministry conducts all India Census of Minor Irrigation Structures under RMIS which is a component of Development of Water Resource Information System (DWRIS) Plan Scheme. This Census is conducted every five years so far four census in 1986-87, 1993-94, 2000-01, 2006-07 have been conducted and 5th MI Census with base 2013-14 is in progress.

MI Census collects information on number of Minor Irrigation Structures of Ground Water and Surface Water used for irrigation in rural areas. There are five type of MI structures namely Dugwell, Deep Tubewell, Shallow Tubewell, Surface flow and Surface lift schemes. From Minor Irrigation Census information, data on water bodies is indirectly compiled but this information is limited to number of water bodies in villages used for minor irrigation.

In the ongoing 5th MI Census an attempt has been made to collect information on number of Water Bodies directly in rural areas, by adding an item on Water bodies in the village schedule.

CWC and ISRO under DWRIS have collected information and created a portal under India-WRIS, a layer on Water bodies has been developed in which around 8 lakh water bodies have been mapped. A 16 digit code for these water bodies has been generated.”

12. The Committee note that the States are being strictly insisted to submit documents / certificates before release of 2nd installment of grant for completion of work on water bodies under Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) scheme, in terms of the recommendation of this Committee. However, the Committee are dismayed to see the Ministry is apparently abdicating their responsibility about conducting survey about encroached water bodies and about the question of initiating penalties, etc. / action on those guilty of wilful encroachments of water

bodies. Noting the Ministry's reply that their Ministry may play a role in assisting the State Governments to conduct the survey work and enact laws in preventing the encroachment of water bodies, the Committee desire that the Ministry make necessary consultations with the State Governments on the issue at the earliest and prevail upon them to adopt a universal set of guidelines applicable for encroached water bodies all over the country. They also recommend that stringent penal provisions may be incorporated in such set of guidelines to deter all future encroachers. The Committee also note the Ministry's reply that MI (Stat.) Wing of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation may issue guidelines for compiling national database at the Centre on encroached water bodies with the help of Central Water Commission (CWC), and they desire that needful action be taken at the earliest in this regard. The Committee note and appreciate that necessary actions are being taken for ensuring due compliance of the advisory issued by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation on 26 February, 2016 including punishment of the guilty (if any) in case of the encroachments on water bodies. The Committee desire to be apprised of the details of any such action taken so far in the country. They also desire that the 5th MI Census being undertaken in the country under MI (Stat.) Wing of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation with the base year 2013-14 be completed in a time-bound manner, and the information about water bodies (including public and private, safe and encroached) existing in the country (States/UTs wise) be furnished to them.

D. National Projects

Recommendation (Para No. 2.27)

13. The Committee noted that 16 National Projects had been approved by the Government for implementation in the country. However, although the proposal was approved as early as 2008, only 4 National Projects apart from Indira Sagar Polavaram Project are presently under execution, viz. Gosikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab), Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal) and Sanju-Nahar Pariyojana Project (Uttar Pradesh), while the remaining 10 National Projects have been under appraisal, Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage or under Project Feasibility Report (PFR) stage. The Committee were further distressed to observe that even the 5 National Projects reportedly under execution / implementation are at present facing hurdles in their smooth execution due to various problems like land acquisition, R and R issue, inter-State disputes etc. due to which at least 3 of those National Projects had passed well beyond their targeted date of completion (i.e. March, 2015) viz. Gosikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) and Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal). Even for the remaining National Projects which are under appraisal, DPR stage or under Project Feasibility Report stage, no targets had been fixed for their timely / scheduled completion, even as the Sanju-Nahar Pariyojna Project is targeted to be completed by March, 2017. The Committee recommended that the Ministry should promptly initiate action in consultation with the concerned State Governments to sort out the issues / hurdles that have led to 3 National Projects failing to meet their targeted date of completion (March, 2015) viz. Gosikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) and Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal). They also recommended that concerted efforts should be made by the Ministry to achieve the completion of Saryu-Nahar Pariyojna Project (Uttar Pradesh) in coordination with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh - which is targeted by March, 2017. The Committee further recommended that realistic, achievable targets be also fixed for timely completion of the remaining National Projects which are at various stages of execution appraisal, DPR stage or under PFR stage after addressing all contentious issues in consultation with the concerned States, viz. Indira Sagar Polavaram Project (Andhra Pradesh), Lakhwar – Vyasi Multipurpose Project (Uttarakhand), Renuka Dam Project (Himachal Pradesh), Ujh Multipurpose Project (Jammu & Kashmir), Kishau Multipurpose Project (Himachal Pradesh / Uttarakhand), Ken-Betwa Link Project (Madhya Pradesh), Kulsi Dam Project (Assam), Noa-Dihing Dam Project (Arunachal Pradesh), Bursar HE Project (Jammu & Kashmir), Gyspa HE Project (Himachal Pradesh), 2nd Ravi-Vyas Link Project (Punjab) and Upper Siang Project (Arunachal Pradesh). The

Committee desired to be updated of the action taken in the matter. The Committee also desired that the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Pranahita – Chevella Project should also be expedited and to this end, necessary consultations with the State Government of Telangana be initiated by the Ministry at the earliest to avoid cost and time escalations. The Committee further desired to be apprised of action taken in this regard.

14. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“Status of national projects funded under AIBP is as below:

Sr. No.	Name of Project	State	Status
1.	Gosikhurd Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Under Execution (i) Head Work: Almost completed (ii) Main & Branch canal: Almost at completion stage (iii) Dy. Minor Water courses: About 50% work completed. In respect of Gosikhurd project despite completion of head works, water is not being impounded upto Full Reservoir Level (FRL) due to land acquisition / R&R issues which comes under the preview of State Govt. Project is included in the list of 99 prioritised projects for completion in mission mode under PMKSY. Target date of completion intimated by state is March, 2020. Accordingly provisions for funding of this project upto completion are being proposed.
2.	Teesta Barrage Project	West Bengal	Under Execution:- Main Structures completed. Govt. of West Bengal is finding it difficult to acquire land for distributaries and minors. The State Govt. has not submitted any C.A. proposal since last three years and not indicated any

			priority to complete the same.
3.	Shahpur Kandi Project	Punjab	Under Execution:- The State of J&K has not agreed to lease the land in its territory to the Govt. of Punjab due to certain reservations regarding design of project which may not able to deliver their share of water. Further, they have cited that agreement in this regard has been terminated by Punjab, in view of Punjab termination Agreement Acts (PTAA) enacted by Govt. of Punjab. The issue has been taken up in subcommittee of interstate council for resolution of issue. Further both the States Punjab and J&K have intimated that they are in the process of sorting out issue by consultation at Chief Secretary Level.
4.	Saryu Nahar Pariyojana	Uttar Pradesh	Under Execution: Saryu Nahar Pariyojna is to be implemented in three phases. Main diversion structure and link canals are already complete. Components of project under scheme of Natonal projects are some of balance works phase-II & phase-III of the project which involve construction of main Rapti canal. The revised target of completion of project is indicated by state is March, 2018. It is one of the priority project and funding arrangement for the same are being tied up as may be required.
5.	Indira Sagar Polavaram	Andhra Pradesh	Under Execution: An expenditure of Rs.7194 cr. has been incurred against approved cost of

	Project		irrigation component of Rs. 13142.05 crore. Central assistance of Rs. 850 cr has been provided during 2014-15 & 2015-16. Further the funds required for its completion are being tied up to complete it in a time bound manner. Earth work on dam has been completed upto 31% and main canals have been completed upto 90%.
6.	Lakhwar Multi Purpose Project	Uttarakhand	The revised cost estimate of the Lakhwar project at an cost of 3966.51cr (PL2012) has been accepted by the TAC of MoWR in its meeting dated 14.12.2012 and investment clearance has been granted on 19 th April -2016. Upper Yamuna River Board is taking up the matter with the concerned States regarding sharing of benefits.
7.	Ujh Multi Purpose Project	J & K	DPR is under appraisal in CWC/CEA. Some of the observations are yet to be complied by the State Govt. Further, State Government is yet to obtain the requisite statutory clearances.
8.	Kishau Multi Purpose Project	H.P. & Uttarakhand	Revised DPR submitted to CWC in 2010 by Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (UJVNL). Observations / Comments (2011) on DPR yet to be complied by Project Authority (PA). MoU for formation of Joint Venture (JV) between GoUK and GoHP signed on 20.06.2015. However SPV is yet to be formed.
9.	Renuka Dam Project	H. P.	Technical clearance to the revised DPR of the project is yet to be accorded. Compliances to most of the CWC observations (05/2010) are

			awaited. In principle forest clearance obtained. R&R clearance obtained from Ministry of Tribal Affairs The Environment clearance accorded by MoEF in 2009 is under challenge in National Green Tribunal (NGT). The NGT has made a committee under Principal Chief Conservator of forest Himachal Pradesh in this regard.
10.	Noa-Dehing Dam Project	Arunachal Pradesh	DPR submitted in Oct, 2014 for appraisal. Compliance to CWC/CEA comments awaited from Project Authorities.
11.	Kulsi Dam Project	Assam	DPR submitted in September 2014 by Brahmaputra Board. Compliance to CWC/ CEA comments awaited from PA despite reminders. Brahmaputra Board has been requested to expedite process.
12.	Ken Betwa Link Project	M. P. & U.P.	Phase-1 under appraisal in CWC/CEA. Updated cost estimate (Rs 17647.40 Cr. PI-2015-16) submitted by PA in Feb 2016. Land for compensatory afforestation yet to be identified by states. Fresh agreement between UP and MP for water balance required. NWDA is taking necessary action in this regard.
13.	Bursar Project	J & K	NHPC has intimated that the project is financially unviable.
14.	Gyspa Project	H.P.	Work plan furnished for submission of DPR by May, 2017. S&I works are withheld due to persistent resistance from locals to shift the dam site to upstream site.

15.	2 nd Ravi Vyas Link Project	Punjab	PFR submitted by Punjab in July 2014 not in proper shape and observations sent. The Govt. of Punjab further submitted an inspection Note (March 2015) stating that project is not technically viable.
16.	Upper Siang Project Upper Siang	Arunachal Pradesh Arunachal	NTPC submitted PFR to Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in 11/2009. Presently composite proposal is under active consideration for 300m. Dam Rehabilitation of Yingkiong will be needed.

A High Power Steering Committee under chairmanship of Secretary (Water Resources, RD & GR) has been constituted to review the implementation of National Project. The committee has held 9 meetings so far Last meeting was held on 26.09.2014.

Pranahitha- Chevella Sujjala Sravanthi Project :

An Irrigation Project namely, Pranahitha Chevella was taken up by the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh in the year 2008-09 to serve drought prone areas of Telangana region and was proposed to be taken up as National Project. In view of certain inter-state issues with Maharashtra and difference in the quantum of water availability, the barrage at Medigadda could not be started.

Now, the Govt. of Telangana has intimated that major design modification for optimum utilization of water for Telangana has been carried out while addressing the concerns of Maharashtra. WAPCOS is preparing the DPR of the revised project and the project will now comprise of the following two components:-

1 Pranahitha and 2 Kaleshwaram. DPR is under preparation. It would be examined by CWC once it is completed and is submitted by the State Government.”

15. In their recommendation in respect of 16 National Projects approved by the Government for implementation in the country, the Committee had recommended for initiation of prompt

action in consultation with the concerned State Governments to sort out the issues / hurdles that have led to 03 National Projects failing to meet their targeted date of completion (March, 2015) viz. Gosirkhud Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) and Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal). However, apart from mentioning the taking up of the issue of Punjab Termination Agreement Acts (PTAA) with Inter-State Council in respect of Shahpurkandi Dam Project, the reply of the Ministry has not spelt out any specific action taken by the Government in resolving the bottlenecks hindering the implementation of the said 03 National Projects. Further, whereas recommendation had been made for concerted efforts to be made by the Ministry to achieve the completion of Saryu Nahar Pariyojana Project (Uttar Pradesh) in coordination with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh by its targeted schedule (i.e. March, 2017), the Ministry have sadly informed that the target of completion of the Project has been revised to March, 2018. The Committee disapproved the apathetic attitude of the Government on this issue, and they reiterate their recommendation to promptly begin necessary consultations with the State Government of Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Maharashtra for working out a plan of action for completion of these National Projects, viz. Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab), Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal) and Gosirkhud Irrigation Project (Maharashtra). The Committee note from the Ministry's reply that there are some balance works of Phases II & III in respect of Saryu Nahar Pariyojana Project (Uttar Pradesh) which involve construction of main Rapti Canal, and also that the funding arrangement of this priority National Project are being tied up as may be required. The Committee desire that necessary works for construction of Rapti Canal be started forthwith and the arrangements for funding of the Saryu Nahar Pariyojana Project (Uttar Pradesh) be speedily worked out to avoid any further time and

cost escalations in this regard. The Committee also note that DPR for Pranahitha – Chevalla Sujjalla Sravanthi Project in Telangana comprising two components (viz. Pranahitha and Kaleshwaram) is under preparation by Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Ltd., and they desire that it may be speedily completed so that appraisal and approval by Central Water Commission may be obtained in time for early commissioning of works. The Committee further desire the Ministry to keep tab on the status the remaining 11 National Projects and apprise the Committee of the details of updated position of each of the projects.

E. Budget Allocation for Flood Control and Drainage and Status of Flood Protection Works on Common Border Rivers

Recommendation (Para No. 4.29)

16. The Committee noted that the Plan allocation for Flood Control for the year 2015-16 had been earmarked at Rs. 112.00 crore. However, it was reduced to Rs. 103.26 crore at the Revised Estimate stage for the same financial year and then increased to Rs. 138.37 crore for 2016-17. The reason cited by the Ministry for this reduction in Budget allocation at the RE stage in 2015-16 was that the Plan scheme for Flood Forecasting was approved in December, 2016 due to which no new activities of modernization and expansion of network could be commenced leading to the requirement being reduced at RE stage. For the increase in Plan allocation in the BE 2016-17 to Rs. 138.37 crore from Rs. 112.00 crore in the BE 2015-16, the Ministry stated that the reason therefor was consideration of the requirement of protection works on the common border rivers and funds required for meeting the expenditure of newly set up Pancheshwar Development Authority. The Committee were convinced that the inordinate delay in approval of the Plan scheme Flood Forecasting by as late as December, 2016 which led to reduction in allocation at RE stage in 2015-16, is indicative of the casual approach of the Ministry to tackle the persistent issue of reductions of allocations at the RE stage, against which the

Committee strongly had been advising the Ministry in their earlier Reports on Demands for Grants (2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16). The Committee were of the opinion that the Ministry had not taken the recommendation of the Committee seriously despite their repeated assurances to the contrary. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry make concerted efforts to formulate their Budget estimates judiciously through an objectively conducted pre-planning exercise and by exercising effective control over its various Offices / Agencies so that no room is left for reduction at the Revised estimate stage in Budget estimates. They also wanted the Ministry to immediately take concrete action to simplify and streamline the process of getting approval of schemes especially under the Head Flood Control so as to avoid wastage of manpower and resources in the frequent process of estimation of allocations. They Committee desired to be apprised of the outcome of efforts made in regard to flood protection works on the common border rivers and progress made regarding the Pancheshwar Dam project during 2016-17.

17. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“There are three Plan Schemes being run by this Wing namely:

1. Flood Management Programme (FMP)- A State Sector Scheme
2. River management Activities & Works related to Border Areas (RMBA)-Central Sector Scheme(100% Grant-in-aid)
3. Flood Forecasting Scheme-A Central Sector Scheme

The details of budget allocation during the year 2015-16 are given below:

Rs. In crore

S.N.	Sector	2015-16		
		BE	RE	Actual
1	Flood Forecasting	50.00	35.00	32.93
2	River Management Activities and Works related to Boarder Areas	102.00	240.56	185.52
3	Farraka Barrage Project	100.00	84.00	72.61

4	Flood Management Project	200.00	275.00	264.00
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The recommendations of the Committee have been noted and efforts would be made for judicious planning of the estimates to avoid any reduction of budget at RE stage. The Government has already streamlined the processes involved in approval of the schemes and as per the modified procedure the schemes costing upto Rs. 1000 crore are approved by the Minister of administrative Ministry and Finance Ministry. The schemes costing above Rs. 1000 crore are placed before the Cabinet/ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for approvals.

The flood protection works on common border rivers are fully funded under the plan scheme, “River Management Activities and Works related to Boarder Areas”. The important such works funded by Ministry are mentioned below:

1. Maintenance of embankments of Kosi and Gandak projects located in the territory of Nepal- as per the bilateral understanding these works are funded by Government of India and the same are executed by Government of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh prior to every monsoon. These works have proved to quite useful in providing protection of the embankments, ensuring safety of Kosi and Gandak barrages thereby creating a larger degree of protection against floods to the lives and properties of the people of India residing in the downstream of the barrages.
2. Bank protection/ anti-erosion works in West Bengal and Tripura on rivers having common border with Bangladesh- The common border rivers between India and Bangladesh face acute problem of erosion of river banks and beds which causes loss of land and also endangers the lives and properties of the people residing in concerned areas. Such works are under taken by respective country in its territory. On Indian side, such works are executed by Governments of West Bengal and Tripura and funded fully by Government of India.
3. During 12th Plan, bank protection works on river Ravi and Beas in Punjab have also been funded for strengthening of the embankments and erosion control.

India and Nepal had signed the Mahakali treaty in 1996 for integrated development of river Mahakali (known as Sarada in India). As per bilateral understanding reached between the two countries, a

joint project office (JPO-PI) was set up in 1999 at Kathmandu which carried out field investigations for Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. After the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in August 2014, the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project received a catalytic and accelerated momentum and in September, 2014, a Pancheshwar Development Authority was set up to finalize the DPR of the project and undertake its implementation. The Draft DPR of the project has been prepared by Water and Power Consultancy Services Limited (WAPCOS), which is under examination in PDA and both the countries. As per tentative features finalize so far, the project would generate total power of 5040 MW and provide irrigation in 0.43 mha in both the countries besides the benefit of flood control specially in India."

18. The Committee observe that the Government has already streamlined the process involved in approval of the schemes and has assured for making efforts for judicious planning of the estimates regarding Budget Allocations on Flood Control and Drainage in order to avoid reduction of budget at RE stage in future. The Committee also note that as per the modified procedure, the schemes costing upto Rs. 1,000 crore are to be approved by the Minister of administrative Ministry and Finance Ministry, whereas the schemes costing above Rs. 1,000 crore are placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for approvals. The Committee would like to see speedy clearances of projects / schemes costing upto Rs. 1,000 crore which are currently lying with the Ministry (if any) awaiting clearance approval, and inform the details of such projects / schemes which have been cleared as a result of implementation of the modified procedure till date. The Committee, however, note that whereas they had asked to be updated of the outcome of efforts made in regard to flood protection works on the common borders and progress made regarding the Pancheshwar Dam Project, the Ministry's reply have merely discussed the various projects taken up by the Government under the Plan scheme, "River Management Activities and Works Related to Border Areas", viz. Maintenance of

Embankments of Kosi and Gandak projects in Nepal, Bank protection / anti-erosion works in West Bengal and Tripura on the rivers bordering Bangladesh, Bank protection works on rivers Ravi and Beas in Punjab, Integrated development of river Mahakali / Sarada, and Pancheshwar Multipurpose project. The Committee are dissatisfied with the half-baked reply of the Ministry, and they desire that complete, detailed and updated information on the aforesaid flood protection works on common rivers is furnished to them within one month of the presentation of this Report.

F. Flood Management Programme

Recommendation (Para No. 4.30)

19. As per information provided by the Ministry, flood had affected during 2012-14 a total area of 36.044 Mha. and 45.704 million population, and resulted in damages to the crops of the value of Rs. 5368.115 crore, 987940 nos. of houses valued at Rs. 873.261 crores, 202602 nos. of cattle, and public utilities valued at Rs. 14640.340 crore. The total number of human lives lost was 4152 in the same period. In this connection, the Committee observed that during 11th Plan, the Government of India launched "Flood Management Programme" (FMP) for providing the Central Assistance to the State Government under this scheme, during 11th Plan, the nos. of works approved was 420, for which fund amounting to Rs. 3566.00 crore was released. In comparison, during 12th Plan, the nos. of works approved under FMP was only 97 while a total fund of Rs. 1057.40 crore had been released till date. The Committee noted that the 12th Plan is in its last phase - while the achievements made so far under FMP remain meager to say the least. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry pull up their socks and make all-out efforts to increase the achievements under the FMP during 11th Plan through coordinated efforts with the State Governments and other implementing Agencies. The Committee were however, dismayed to note that the Ministry have not furnished reply regarding short-term, medium-term and long-term approaches and methods to be adopted to manage and control recurrent floods in the country, and they recommended that the relevant information in this regard should be submitted to the Committee within three months after presentation of this Report.

20. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“In order to enable the State Governments to undertake the works related to river management, flood control, anti-erosion, raising and strengthening the embankments and anti sea erosion the Government of India had launched a Flood Management Programme (FMP) in 11th Plan with an outlay of Rs.8,000 crore. During 11th Plan a total of 420 projects having estimated cost of Rs.9,435 crore with central share of Rs. 7,475 crore were approved out of which only Rs.3,477 crore were released leaving Rs. 3,900 crore as spill over of works for 12th Plan. During 12th Plan the Cabinet approved continuation of FMP with an outlay of Rs.10,000 crore which included Rs.3,900 crore towards spill over works and Rs.6,100 crore towards new works proposed to be undertaken during 12th Plan keep in provision for new works for catchment area treatment for attaining flood management in a more effective manner. Due to delay in approval of the FMP, changes in process of investment clearance, reduction in the extent of Central funding, reduced outlays as a result of change in policy of Government of India about devolution of central taxes in the light of recommendations of 14th Finance Commission, the releases under FMP could not be done as per demands of the States. Therefore, during 12th Plan only Rs. 1,157.08 crore could be released towards the spill over works of the 11th Plan and 97 new works approved during 12th Plan. In order to complete the projects already approved under FMP during 11th and 12th Plan sufficient funds need to be provided under FMP.

Short term measures: The measures which can be completed immediately say within 1 year such as closure of breaches, raised platforms, critical anti erosion works fall under this category.

Medium-term Measures: The measures which can be completed within 2-3 years like raising & strengthening of embankments, anti erosion works, drainage development, etc. fall under this category. Such measures also include flood/inundation forecasting under non structural category.

Long-term Measures: The measures, such as reservoirs, which require more time and involve a number of issues to be sorted out before implementing them are categorized as long-term measures. Under non structural category, the measures of real time flood/inundation forecasting and flood plain zoning fall under this category”.

G. Flood Forecasting

Recommendation (Para No. 4.30-A)

21. The Committee noted that the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, through its apex technical arm, the Central Water Commission (CWC), performs the activity of flood forecasting on major rivers and their tributaries in the country, through a network of 175 flood forecasting stations - which consist of 147 level forecast stations and 28 inflow forecast stations. Regarding the measures taken / proposed to be taken to upgrade, expand and improve flood forecasting in India, the Ministry stated that 445 nos. of stations had been modernized with telemetry system upto 11th Plan, and the remaining 219 stations of existing flood forecasting network are proposed to be modernized. Additionally, 100 nos. of level / inflow forecasting stations alongwith 310 base stations are proposed to be established for various towns and reservoirs / dams in the country. All the stations of extended network are to be modernized with telemetry system. Other measures including development of inundation forecast model on pilot basis is also planned for 12th Plan to give information about the area likely to be flooded. The Committee were happy to see the Ministry making ambitious plans for achievements during 12th Plan on the flood forecasting front, but at the same point in time they were equally surprised to note that the Budget allocation for flood forecasting had to be reduced during 2015-16 from Rs. 50.00 crore to Rs. 35.00 crore because of the inability of the Ministry to take up new works of establishing 100 new flood forecasting stations due to delayed approval of the scheme by the Government as late as December, 2015. The Committee wanted the Ministry to make fresh initiatives to curb the issue of delays in securing approval for flood forecasting schemes - which was responsible for reduction of allocations at RE stage during 2016-17 itself and also inform the Committee of the outcome of such efforts made. The Committee, however, recommended the Ministry to initiate specific steps to achieve the ambitious action plan envisaged for flood forecasting during 12th Plan without any loss of time and apprise the Committee accordingly. Noting that a rainfall-based Flood Forecasting model at Ram Munshibag (Srinagar) on river Jhelum had been developed by the CWC and made fully functional during 2015, the Committee recommended that similar models be introduced for other areas of the country facing annual recurrent floods, i.e. Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh,

Mumbai region etc. as well. The Committee desired to be apprised of further developments in this regard within the next six months.

22. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“The Central Water Commission under the Ministry has been making efforts for development of integrated rainfall based run off models. During 12th plan it is proposed to develop Mathematical models for inundation forecast for Mahanadi/ Brahmaputra/Kosi/Sabri river basins using the Digital Elevation Maps (DEMs) available with NRSC.”

23. **The Committee note that due to delay in the approval of Flood Management Programme (FMP), changes in process of investment clearance, reduction in the extent of Central funding, reduced outlays as a result of change in policy of Government of India about devolution of Central taxes in the light of recommendations of 14th Finance Commission, the fund release under FMP could not be done as per demands of the States, resulting in fund release of only Rs. 1,157.08 crore towards the spill over works of 11th Plan and 97 new works approved during 12th Plan. The Committee desire the Ministry to devise innovative steps to streamline and speed up the release of funds for approved projects under FMP. They also note that there are several spill over projects of 11th Plan under FMP, and they, therefore, recommend that the Ministry furnish the details of such projects (State/UT-wise) along with the reasons for spill over, the total costs of projects, the anticipated dates of completion, including the measures taken / being proposed to be taken by the Government to accelerate their completion. The Committee further desire that all-out efforts should be made to complete the 97 new works approved under FMP for completion during 12th Plan, with sufficient allocations provided to FMP during 12th Plan. As regards flood forecasting, the Committee also note that the Central Water Commission (CWC) under the**

Ministry has been making efforts for development of integrated rainfall based run off models, and that during 12th Plan, it is proposed to develop Mathematical models for inundation forecast for Mahanadi / Brahmaputra / Kosi / Sabri river basins using the Digital Elevation Maps (DEMs) available with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC). The Committee strongly recommend these Mathematical models for inundation forecast for Mahanadi / Brahmaputra / Kosi / Sabri river basins using the Digital Elevation Maps (DEMs) be developed and completed by CWC during 12th Plan itself. They also further recommend that necessary steps be taken to curb the frequent delays in securing approval for flood forecasting schemes – the factors responsible for reduction in allocations at RE stage in the year 2016-17 and the Committee be apprised regarding the outcome of such steps.

H. River Basin Management

Recommendation (Para No. 4.31)

24. The objective of the Plan scheme, 'River Basin Management' (RBM) is to provide a forum to all the co-basin States for taking up the necessary studies, evaluation, etc. for finding optimum method for the development and utilization of water resources within that basin and meeting the aspiration of all the stake-holders. The Budget allocation was increased from Rs. 119.00 crore in 2015-16 (BE) to Rs. 173.60 crore in 2016-17 (BE), which, according to the Ministry, was for the preparation of PFRs, FRs & DPRs of Inter-State and Intra-State links, survey and investigation, due to increase in the rates of various goods and services, purchase of survey & scientific instruments and revisions of rates, enhancement of DA/increment and implementation of 7th Pay Commission Report, etc. and also for taking up flood protection in Majuli Island. The RBM Plan scheme comprises of two components (i) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) and (ii) Brahmaputra Board. The Committee noted that three DPRs of ILR projects, viz. Ken-Betwa Phase I & II, Damanganga – Pinjal, and Pai-Tapi-Narmada link projects had been completed alongwith two DPRs of Intra-State links under IWRDS of NWDA component. Under IWRDS of CWC component, DPR of two projects had been completed and

submitted to the State Governments. The Committee recommended that the details of these projects including the time required for completing them, their final status, costs incurred, etc. should be furnished to them within 3 months so that these projects do not incur needless time and cost overruns. The Committee were convinced that the time had come for the country to have an Integrated Water Management for the entire country which would timely assist in fructifying the ambitious scheme of Inter-Linking of Rivers (ILRs) being implemented in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Government create an over-arching National Authority (River Basin Authority) at the Centre which would serve as the apex body for an integrated management of river basins in the country - so as to in turn ensure that the ILRs scheme is provided the much-needed impetus - while at the same time the process of solution of various Inter-State Disputes on river waters is simplified and streamlined for the lasting benefit to all the concerned parties. The Committee desired to be kept informed of the developments made in this regard.

25. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

“(i) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) of NWDA component

The Detailed Project Report of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-I was completed by NWDA in April, 2010 and submitted to Govt. of MP and UP in May, 2010. Detailed Project Report of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-II has been completed in January, 2014 and submitted to the concerned States Government of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in January, 2014. The DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link has been completed in March, 2014 and submitted to Govt. of Maharashtra and Gujarat. The DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project has also been completed in August, 2015 and submitted to Govt. of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of two Intra-State links of Bihar State viz Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and Kosi-Mechi link have been completed in December 2013 and March 2014 respectively.

Ken-Betwa link project Phase-I

The total cost of the project has been estimated to be Rs. 9,393 crores at 2007-08 price level. The benefit cost ratio for the project works out to 1.56 and the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is 12%. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be eight years.

Status

Environment Clearance

- The proposal was considered by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MOEF&CC in its 86th, 88th and 91st meetings held on 24.8.2015; 26.10.2015 and 8-9 February, 2016 respectively at New Delhi for environmental clearance.
- EAC in its 91st meeting held on 9th February, 2016 decided to consider the project for Environmental clearance (EC) only after Wild Life Clearance is obtained from National Board of Wild Life (NBWL).
- NWDA has been advised to submit again the proposal to EAC along with decision of NBWL.
- The meeting of EAC was held on 02.06.2016. The committee has discussed various points in the meeting and given some suggestions.

Wildlife Clearance

- Wildlife clearance considered by State Wildlife Board of Madhya Pradesh in its meeting held on 22nd September, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh and agreed.
- After clearance of State Wildlife Board of M.P., the proposal of Wildlife clearance along with recommendations of State Wildlife Board, MP was submitted to National Board of Wildlife (NBWL), MoEF, New Delhi on 14.12.2016.

- Proposal for wild life clearance was duly considered in 37th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Environment, Forest and Climate Change held on 26th February, 2016.

- Standing Committee, NBWL constituted a Committee comprising representatives of NTCA; Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun; Dr. R. Sukumar, IISc, Bangalore; Dr. H. S. Singh, Retired PCCF & Member of NBWL, representative of Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh and representative of NWDA.

- Above Committee visited concerned areas of Panna Tiger Reserve during 8-11 April, 2016.

- Report is being prepared by the members and will be finalised soon.
- The proposal for wildlife clearance was duly considered during 38th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10/05/2016 chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State(I/C), MoEF&CC in which in principle approval for Wildlife was accorded.

Forest Land Diversion Clearance

- NWDA submitted proposal for forest land diversion clearance online & to MoEF & CC.

- Hard copies of proposal have been submitted to concerned DFOs of State Forest Department and Collectors.

- Identification of double the degraded forest land (about 12034 ha) and other associated works are being done by Forest Department, MP.

Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase – II

The total cost of the project is estimated as Rs.2282.94 crores. The benefit cost ratio of the project works out to 1.56 and the internal rate of return as 14.87%. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be five years.

Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr dam

- Proposal for environmental clearance of Lower Orr Dam was considered during 91st meeting of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MoEF & CC held on 8th February, 2016.

- Compliance to issues/observations raised in the meeting has been submitted to MOEF & CC.
- Proposal for Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr Dam was considered again during 93rd meeting of EAC held on 2nd May, 2016
- Form-I for diversion of forest land submitted to Collector and DFO, Ashok Nagar and Shivpuri for processing case of forest clearance.
- Concerned Collector and DFO of Ashok Nagar and Shivpuri submitted Form-I after completing their parts online to APCCF (Land Management), Bhopal for further processing the case.
- Complete proposal alongwith recommendations submitted to MoEF&CC by Forest Department, Government of MP for according forest land diversion clearance.
- The compliance to the issues/observations have been to MoEF & CC for consideration of EAC and Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr dam has been accorded in its meeting held on 2nd May 2016.

Damanganga-Pinjal link

The cost of project is Rs.2746.61 crore. The B.C. ratio is 1.95. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be seven years.

Status

National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has completed the DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link in March, 2014 and submitted to Govt. of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It was decided that Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) would be responsible for initiating further action for the implementation of the project including statutory clearances.

The Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) has submitted the DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link project to CWC during January, 2015 for appraisal. The report is under appraisal in CWC. The Hon'ble Union Minister (WR,RD&GR) held a meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra at Mumbai on 7th January, 2015 to expedite the further course of action. Govt. of Maharashtra has suggested minor modifications in the planning of the links to make the project more attractive and assured full support for the implementing of Damanganga-Pinjal link project.

Par-Tapi-Narmada link

Total cost of the link project at the price level of year 2014-15 has been worked out as Rs.9279 crores. The Benefit Cost ratio of the project has been assessed to be 1.12 and Internal Rate of Return has been computed as 10.43 %. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be seven years.

Status

The DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project has been completed by NWDA and submitted to Govts. of Gujarat and Maharashtra in August,2015 and is under examination by both the States. Hon'ble Union Minister (WR,RD&GR) has requested the State Govts. of Gujarat and Maharashtra to take up the issue of cost, water and power sharing of both Par-Tapi-Narmada link project and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects for reaching an agreement.

Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga link project

Total cost of the project has been estimated as Rs.4213.75 crore. The benefit cost ratio of project is 1.54. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be three years.

Kosi-Mechi link project

Total cost of the Project has been estimated as Rs. 2903.25 crore. The benefit cost ratio of project is 3.66. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be five years.

Status

DPRs of 2 links of Bihar (Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and Kosi – Mechi links) have been completed and are under appraisal in Central Water Commission.

(i) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) of CWC component

CWC has investigated two nos of projects namely, Suntlay and Kirthai II under IWRDS and DPR of these project have been completed and submitted to State Government. The salient features of the projects are given below:

1	Name of Project	Kirthai Hydro Electric Project-II (J&K)	Suntaley Hydro Electric Project (Sikkim)
2	Type of Project	Hydro Electric	ROR Hydro Electric
3	River Basin	Chandra Bhaga (Chenab)	Teesta Basin
4	State	Jammu & Kashmir	Sikkim
5	River	Chenab	Rangpo Chu
6	Time required for completing of project	60 months (construction period after getting statutory clearance and Financial Closure)	4 Years (construction period)
7	Proposed/installed capacity	930 MW (6x140+2x35+2x10)MW	2x20 MW
8	Estimated cost of the project (in crores)	5158.18	a)531.88 with R&R b)536.61 without R&R

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation had constituted a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice T.S. Doabia (Retd.) to study the activities that are required for optimum development of river basin and changes required in the existing River Board Act, 1956 for achievement of the same. The Committee submitted its Report in November, 2012 and has prepared a Draft River Basin Management (RBM) Bill.

The Draft RBM Bill proposes to establish a River Basin Authority for regulation and development of waters of an Inter-State River Basin or any specified part thereof and further makes it clear that

different Authorities shall be established for different Inter-State River Basin. The Bill also makes provision for creation of a separate River Basin Authority for a sub-basin within an Inter-State River Basin.

The draft RBM Bill also stipulates that a River Basin Authority shall ensure that a River Basin Master Plan for river basin development, management and regulation is prepared for the Inter-State river Basin under its jurisdiction.

The draft River Basin Management Bill is under examination in this Ministry in consultation with different stakeholders. A committee has also been set up under Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft River Basin Management Bill. The committee is yet to submit its report.

Further, for providing impact to Interlinking of Rivers scheme, Ministry has also constituted committee “Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers” vide Gazette notification dated 23.09.2014.”

26. The Committee note from the Ministry’s reply that under Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) of the Plan scheme, ‘River Basin Management’ (RBM), Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of two Intra-State links of Bihar State, viz. Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and Kosi-Mechi link have been completed in December, 2013 and March, 2014 respectively. The Committee desire to know the updated status of these two Intra-State links in Bihar as also the status of Intra-State links Projects in other remaining States / UTs of the country (if any). The Committee also note that the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Ken-Betwa Pink Project (estimated cost: Rs. 2282.24 crore) Phases-I & II were completed by National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in April, 2010 and January, 2014 respectively, but the Project is still awaiting wildlife clearance and environmental clearance respectively from Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) and National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) of Ministry of Environment, Forests &

Climate Change (MoEF&CC). They also note that the NWDA has completed the DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link project (estimated cost: Rs. 2746.61 crore) in March, 2014, which is now with the Central Water Commission (CWC) for appraisal. Further, the DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project (estimated cost: Rs. 9279 crore) has been completed by NWDA in August, 2015 and is under examination by the Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra. The Committee recommend that the Government vigorously pursue the above 03 Inter-Linking Rivers (ILRs) projects with the concerned State Governments / Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) / National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) so as to remove the hurdles hampering their implementation.

I. *Brahmaputra Board*

Recommendation (Para No. 5.10)

27. The Committee noted that the Brahmaputra Board under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in order to achieve an integrated implementation of measures for the control of flood and bank erosion, had so far prepared 57 Master Plans out of which 49 have been approved by Government of India and remaining 8 have been approved by the Board. Besides, 41 Drainage Development Schemes (DDS) had been identified under these Master Plans, out of which 2 schemes have been executed and 4 are under execution. In respect of the flood control and anti-erosion measures, the Committee further noted that the Board had completed Phase – I of the works of protection of Majuli Island at the cost of Rs. 52.63 crore, while Phase – II and Phase – III, initiated in 2009, was completed upto 91.96% and targeted to be completed by June, 2016. The Ministry also informed that Phase – I, Phase – II and Phase – III of the works of Avulsion of Brahmaputra river at Dhola-Hatighuli had been completed while works on Phase-IV had been completed by upto 99.8%. The Committee, however, noted that despite the tall claims about works on the flood control and anti-erosion undertaken by the Brahmaputra Board, Assam faced severe flood of unprecedented proportion in 2015 although an expenditure of Rs. 106.42 crore was incurred by the Board on flood control during the last 3 years. The Committee were also distressed to note that out of 5 DPRs for Multipurpose projects prepared by the Brahmaputra Board in the North-East region, viz. Siang Single Stage, Subansiri Single

Stage, Tipaimukh, Pagladiya, and Bairabi, none of these projects have been completed till date. About the periodic monitoring being done by the Government / Brahmaputra Board regarding the progress of works in the 5 Multipurpose projects, the Ministry had not furnished any reply - which speak a lot about the lackadaisical attitude of the Government / Brahmaputra Board on this vital issue. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry institute an appraisal panel to look into the delays in the execution of the 5 Multipurpose projects for which the Brahmaputra Board has prepared DPRs and apprise the Committee of its findings after fixing responsibility for lapses, acts of commission and omission on the part of the concerned implementing agencies. Side by side, the Committee also recommended that the Ministry should duly complete the balance works regarding protection of Majuli Island (Phase II & III) by the targeted time, i.e. June, 2016 and also wind up Phase – IV works on Avulsion of Brahmaputra river at Dhola-Hatighuli. They further recommended that the Ministry should vigorously pursue the progress of the other Multipurpose projects, viz. Noa-Dehing, Kulsi, Simsang, Jiadhal and Killing - which are at various stages of appraisal, Survey and Investigation and preparation of DPR in the Brahmaputra Board. The Committee desired to be apprised about the results of action taken by the Ministry in this regard within the six months.

28. The Ministry, in its action taken note has replied as follows:

1. “As mentioned in the report, Brahmaputra Board spent Rs. 106.42 crore during the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-2016 (up-to February, 2016) in execution of following works-

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of scheme	Year				Total
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (up to Feb. 2016)	
1. Protection of Majuli Island Phase-II and III	26.88	25.63	12.67	9.42	74.60
2. Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli Phase-IV	8.58	13.69	3.42	2.45	28.14

3. Protection of Balat Village in Meghalaya	--	0.13	0.03	2.22	2.38
4. Protection of Mankachar – Kalair-Alga International Border area	--	--	0.17	1.09	1.26
Total	35.46	39.45	16.29	15.18	106.38

All these works are executed on request of Government of Assam and approval of Ministry of Water resources, RD &GR. In comparison to the vast flood affected area in the State of Assam, Board has been entrusted for protection of only in a few locations of the state. In the above locations Board has been able to attain considerable control of floods and erosion.

The achievement of Brahmaputra Board in control of flood and erosion in these areas are as under:

(a) The scheme Protection of Majuli Island from floods and bank erosion was taken up by Brahmaputra Board in January 2004. Broadly, protection works encompass raising and strengthening of embankment, plugging of breaches, casting and laying of permeable RCC porcupines screens, spurs and dampeners, construction of boulder spurs, river bank revetment and construction of raised platforms. The works were taken up in phases and, Immediate Measure, Phase –I and Emergent works completed Works under Phase-II&III will be completed by March 2017.

Outcome

As a result of the works executed so far, the total area of Majuli Island has increased by 22.08 sq km from the Year 2004 to 2016 as shown in the table below-

Year	Area of Majuli Island (in sq km)	Net Area reclaimed (in sq km)
2004	502.21	
2008	506.37	4.16
2011	520.26	13.89
2012	522.73	2.47
2014	523.88	1.15
2016	524.29	0.41
Total land mass gained from 2004 to 2016		22.08

(b) The scheme Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli was taken up in the year 2004 with the objective to divert the rivers Dibang and Lohit to their original courses. Board executed the work in phases and completed Phase-I, II, III & IV .

As mentioned in the report to wind up the work of Phase-IV, Board has completed the work in March 2016.

Outcome:

11 villages under Doomduma Revenue Circle in an area of about 1500 ha got protection from floods, since the year 2004 onwards, on construction of retirement bund at Hatighuli area on Left bank of Lohit river.

An area of about 900 ha just behind the Tie-bund, on country side, got protection from floods and erosion, on construction of Tie-bund in the year 2003-04. Cultivation has started, afresh, in the area between the Tie-bund and the Ghoramora channel.

(c) The Phase-I work of the scheme protection of Balat village from erosion of river Umngi in the State of Meghalaya for Rs.5.63 crore was taken up in the year 2013-14 and completed in the year 2015. Most of the erosion affected areas has been protected from this work.

(d) The scheme protection of MankacharKalair-Alga area which was approved by Government of India in XII Five Year Plan and taken up actual executive during 2014-15. Laying of RCC porcupine screens has been completed and the bank protection work is in progress. Due to resistance of general public on acquisition of land for construction and inability of civil authority, the progress of work has been slowed down. However, in persuasions from the contractor, some local people and employees of Brahmaputra Board, the bank protection work for 520 m length is in progress. Brahmaputra Board is in regular contact of District authority for acquiring the required land.

Brahmaputra Board undertook preparation of DPRs of 14 Multipurpose Projects in North-East region. The progress of the 5(five) handed over projects are as under-

Sl.	Project	Implementing Agency / Organisation / Government
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No.		
1	Siang Dam Project (3 dams)	Handed over to NHPC during the year 2000. NHPC informed that work relating to Siang Lower was handed over to M/s Jayprakash Associated Ltd.(JAL) on 31.03.2009, work relating to Siang Middle was handed over to M/s Reliance Energy Ltd(REL) and for Siang Upper, Government of Arunachal Pradesh allocated the work to M/s NTPC in February 2009 for preparation of PFR.
2	Subansiri Dam Project (3 dams)	Handed over to NHPC during the year 2000. As stated by NHPC the Lower Subansiri is targeted for completion within the year 2017. Sunbansiri Middle and Subansiri Upper were handed over to M/s Jindal Power Ltd. On 04.02.2011.
3	Tipaimukh Dam Project	Handed over to NEEPCO and subsequently from NEEPCO to NHPC
4	Pagladiya Dam Project	The work of Pagladiya Dam project under execution by Brahmaputra Board was held up due to non-completion of zirat survey. As per decision of 53rd meeting of Brahmaputra Board, all activities were closed from 1st June 2013. In the 7th High Powered Review Board meeting held at Shillong, it was decided to talk to BTAD by Govt. of Assam. Again, in the 60th meeting of Brahmaputra Board held at New Delhi it was decided to take up the matter with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam.
5	Bairabi Dam Project	Handed over to Government of Mizoram. The Government of Mizoram allotted the work of execution of Bairabi Dam Project to M/s Sikaria Power Ltd., Kolkata on 10.08.2012. It has been intimated by Government of Mizoram that Bairabi Dam Project will be completed within seven years.

At present 5 (five) Projects are under different stages of DPR preparation and Survey & Investigation. The progress of two National Projects declared by Government of India out of the 5 multipurpose projects are as under –

Sl. No.	Project	Implementing Agency / Organisation / Government
1	Noa-Dihing Dam Project	<p>The project site is located about 4 km upstream of Miao Town in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh. The installed capacity of the project is estimated at 71 MW with irrigation benefit of 8000 ha. The project has been identified as 'National Project' by Government of India. Preparation of DPR has been completed in March 2014 and submitted to MoWR, RD&GR for approval. The MoWR, RD&GR forwarded the same to CWC for appraisal in coordination with Brahmaputra Board.</p> <p>Brahmaputra Board is in a position to implement the project after obtaining techno-economic clearances. Board has shared the draft DPR with the Government of Arunachal</p>

		Pradesh to issue NOC for execution of the Noa-Dihing Dam Project by Brahmaputra Board. The NOC is awaited.
2	Kulsi Dam Project	The project site is located near Assam and Meghalaya border. The installed capacity of the project is estimated at 55 MW with a gross command area of about 26000 ha to provide irrigation. The project has been identified as 'National Project' by Government of India. Preparation of DPR completed in June 2014 and submitted to MoWR, RD&GR for approval. The MoWR, RD&GR forwarded the same to CWC for appraisal in coordination with Brahmaputra Board. Brahmaputra Board is in a position to implement the project after obtaining techno-economic clearances. Board has requested the Government of Assam and Meghalaya to issue NOC for execution of the Kulsi Dam Project. The draft DPR has been shared with the concerned state Governments. The NOCs are awaited from the State Governments.
3	Simsang Dam Project	Under 'Survey & Investigation' and DPR preparation. Brahmaputra Board has been informed by the Ministry to expedite the same.
4	Jiadhal Dam Project	
5	Killing Dam Project	

29. The Committee are unhappy to note that whereas they had recommended for the Ministry to institute an appraisal panel to look into the delays in the execution of the 5 Multipurpose projects for which DPRs had been prepared by the Brahmaputra Board (viz. Siang Dam Project, Subansiri Dam Project, Tipaimukh Dam Project, Pagladiya Dam Project, and Bairabi Dam Project), however, the reply furnished by the Ministry has made no mention about any initiatives taken in this direction. The Committee deprecate the apathetic attitude of the Ministry regarding the recommendation of the Committee, and they strongly advise them to desist from such approach in the future. The Committee, therefore, reiterate its earlier recommendation in this regard so that an appraisal panel is set up without any further loss of time to investigate the delays in the execution of the stated 05 Multipurpose projects and also apprise the Committee of its findings

after fixing responsibility for lapses, acts of commission and omission on the part of the concerned implementing agencies. Noting further that the 05 (five) other Multipurpose Projects including two National Projects, viz. Noa-Dihing Dam Project and Kulsi Project, and three other projects, i.e. Simsang Dam Project, Jiadhal Dam Project, and Killing Dam Project in the North-East are under various stages of DPR completion, Survey and Investigation and DPR preparation, the Committee also recommend that additional efforts be made by the Ministry to accelerate completion the related works for these 05 other Multipurpose projects and time-schedules for the same be worked out to facilitate work execution in this regard. The Committee desire to be apprised of initiatives taken by the Ministry regarding these 05 other Multipurpose projects of North-East region within 03 (three) months of presentation of this Report.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 1.22)

As per information furnished to the Committee, the total Budget Estimates (BE) of the Ministry for the year 2016-17 is Rs. 8764.31 crore comprising of Plan allocation of Rs. 8025.00 crore and Non-Plan allocation of Rs. 739.31 crore. The total Budget allocations for 2016-17 showed an overall increase by 27.19% when compared to total Budget allocations of Rs. 6381.03 crore during 2015-16. The Committee also observe that against a total Budget Estimates (BE) of Rs. 6381.03 crore in 2015-16, the figure was increased during the same year by Rs. 1709.35 crore at the Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The reason put forth by the Ministry for such a big hike in allocation during 2015-16 has been the focus on completion of identified 46 priority irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) scheme, out of which 23 projects are expected to be completed by March, 2017. In this context, the Ministry have stated that the enhanced funding will help the State Governments in completing these projects in a time-bound manner. The Committee hope and expect that the 23 AIBP projects covered under the enhanced Budget allocations during 2016-17 - will achieve their targeted date of completion, i.e. March, 2017 through the concerted efforts of the Ministry / implementing agencies / concerned State Governments. The Committee would like to be apprised of the status of action being taken in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report. Noting further that frequent reductions / increases of Budget allocations at Revised Estimate stage have become a norm with the Ministry over the last several years, the Committee also recommend that before projecting budgetary demands, the Ministry undertake some pre-Budget planning and exercises and then only frame achievable targets for both the Plan and Non-Plan schemes to have the more realistic and achievable Budget projections in future.

Additionally, prior approval of NITI Ayog, EFC, etc. in respect of schemes to be included in Budget proposal each year, as also Rehabilitation & Research issues, land acquisition hurdles, NOC etc. should also be sorted out for each of such projects well within the time. The Committee note in particular that no specific study has been undertaken by the Ministry to avoid drastic changes of allocations at RE stage but efforts have been made to streamline the releases (of funds) to the projects under AIBP, CAD, SMI and RRR and that a new funding mechanism through NABARD has also been announced, for which, the modalities will be financed during the year. They also note that implementation of 89 incomplete irrigation projects under AIBP would be fastracked, which will help to irrigate 80.6 lakh hectares. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should initiate a study on modalities to avoid the recurrent problems of changes in Budget allocations at RE stage year after year. The Committee would also like to see a positive outcome on the fastracked implementation of 89 incomplete AIBP projects during this financial year, 2016-17 itself. A report, in this regard, should be submitted to the Committee within the next six months.

Reply of the Government

- (1) The Plan allocation for 2015-16 was of Rs. 3,632 crore and National Clean Energy Fund(NCEF) fund of Rs. 2,100 crore exclusively for Namami Gange Scheme. In the current year 2016-17, the actual Plan allocation is Rs.3,025 crore and NCEF fund of Rs.2,500 crore for Namami Gange/National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The equal amount of Rs. 2,500 crore provided for Namami Gange/NRCP has been reflected as under the Major Head 2810 "Transfer to NCEF" being Public Account Fund collected by way CESS, is under the administrative control of Ministry of Finance. This form of presentation has been introduced in the current year and allocation of Rs.2,500 crore is accounted for twice. However, the funds actually available to the Ministry for Plan schemes are Rs.5,525 crore against Rs.5,732 crore in the previous year 2015-16.

- (2) Ministry is taking all necessary steps to avoid the recurrent problems in Budget allocations at RE state. Presently 2016-17 is the end of 12th Five Year Plan. On Completion of every five years all the Plan schemes are evaluated. In the year 2017 all the schemes/project will be evaluated by independent agencies. Thereafter evaluated report will be followed.
- (3) So far as implementation of CAD works of 23 projects prioritised to be completed by March, 2017 is concerned, 21 projects are either ongoing or under the process of inclusion under Command Area Development Programme. Proposal of only two projects are awaited as on date.
- (4) During 2015-16 Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. Major and Medium irrigation/multipurpose irrigation projects are being funded under PMKSY-AIBP.

The issues related to implementation of projects under PMKSY-HKKP including prioritization of projects were deliberated in the committee headed by Sh. Brijmohan Agrawal, Minister (Water Resources) of Chhattisgarh. As per the information supplied by concerned States to the committee, 99 projects have been identified for completion up to 2019-20. 23 projects (Priority-I) have been identified to be completed by 2016-17 and another 31 projects (Priority-II) have been identified to be completed by 2017-18. The balance 45 projects (Priority-III) have been identified to be completed by 2019-20.

The completion of above projects is proposed to be done in mission mode. It is proposed to establish a Mission with Additional Secretary/Special Secretary in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) as the Mission Director to overlook the entire programme.

Further, keeping in view of the budgetary constraints, it is also being proposed to borrow Central share/Assistance (CA) from NABARD as per year wise requirements to complete the

above projects. Further the State Governments, if required, may also borrow funds from NABARD for the State Share.

Recommendation (Para No. 1.23)

The Committee are encouraged to note the Ministry's reply that no schemes / projects are presently pending in the Ministry for approval of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), and that there was no problem of under-utilization or non-utilization of funds in any scheme on this count. The Committee further note that during the current year (2016-17), due to planning and release of additional funds by Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation have been able to spend higher budgetary allocations. The Committee, therefore, recommend that Ministry should keep a strict vigil in this regard so as to make sure that no scope is left for the under-utilization or non-utilization of funds under any scheme as well during the next financial year. The Committee also recommend that the funds are not only allocated on paper but also released in time so that the actual implementation of the schemes / projects by States / various implementing agencies is not hampered in any way.

Reply of the Government

All concerned Wings/Division have been instructed for compliance and follow the directions given by Parliamentary Standing Committee in its Ninth report to avoid curtailment of BE which is done by Ministry of Finance at RE stage.

Recommendation (Para No. 1.24)

The Committee observe that the Centrally-sponsored Plan scheme of “Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics (RMIS)” was launched in 1987-88 with 100% assistance to the States / UTs - with the objective to build up a comprehensive and reliable database in the Minor Irrigation (MI) sector for effective planning and policy making. Under the scheme, the detailed database on the minor irrigation works in the country has been generated through 04 (four) censuses carried out with reference years 1986-87, 1993-94, 2000-01 and 2006-07 respectively. The 5th Minor Irrigation census is being conducted with reference year 2013-14 in 34 States / UTs, which is targeted for release in March, 2017. Noting that it comprises not only detailed information on dug-wells, tube-wells, surface flow / lift irrigation schemes, information on their ownership, social class, holding size of the owner, etc. but also vital information on adoption of water and energy conserving devices such as sprinkler and drip irrigation, use of non-conventional energy sources such as solar pumps, wind mills etc., are collected through Minor irrigation census exercises, the Committee strongly recommend that the 5th MI census be completed by its targeted date, i.e. March, 2017. They also desire that the detailed census information / data of all the MI censuses (viz. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th) be compiled in a condensed, user-friendly format (State/UT wise) and uploaded on the website of the Ministry for the benefit of all the stake-holders / users, i.e. farmers, students, academicians, planners, bureaucrats, etc. and that the Ministry initiate an achievable plan of action in this regard at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of further progress made in this regard.

Reply of the Government

1. Ministry is conducting the 5th Minor Irrigation (MI) Census with reference year 2013-14. Overall, 77.44 % fieldwork of 5th MI Census has been completed at the national level. Field work has been completed in 11 States and another 9 States have completed more than 80% of field work.

2. Online Software for data processing of 5th MI Census has been developed for the first time and link intimated to States/UTs. Data entry has been started by 16 States/UTs using the online software.
3. The State-wise status of 5th MI Census activities is being monitored regularly. Regular review of progress of Census activities like field work/ data entry using online software, etc, carried out by State Govts/ UT is carried out by senior officers of this Ministry. Regular monitoring is also done through Video Conference with States, D.O. letters, emails, etc.

All efforts are being taken to ensure that Census activities are completed by States/UTs within stipulated time frame (i.e. March, 2017).

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 6 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 2.25)

The Committee note that under the pilot scheme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies initiated in 2005, a total of 1098 water bodies were taken up, out of which 1085 water bodies were completed and irrigation potential of 0.78 lakh hectare was restored through Rs. 197.3 crore released as Central grant. After the pilot scheme, two schemes of RRR of water bodies, one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250 crore and another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 1500 crore, were launched during 12th Plan. Under the RRR scheme with domestic support, Rs. 917.259 crore were released as Grant during 11th Plan for 3341 water bodies, out of which 2501 were completed and 1.195 lakh hectare of irrigation potential restored. While noting the Ministry's reply that Rs. 2175 crore was sought for allocation for PMSKY (SMI, CADWM, GW&RRR) during 2016-17, the Committee were surprised to know that only Rs. 500 crore was provided, meaning thereby that allocation for RRR scheme would be still much less than adequate. Further, the little available fund allocated will be utilized for only ongoing RRR schemes. The Committee further note, in this connection, that a query was made by the Committee to the Ministry as to whether the Government has carried out any survey about encroached water bodies in the country, and also whether any stringent action / penalty has been proposed for those guilty of willful encroachments of water bodies in the country. Sadly however, the reply of the Ministry in the matter shows that the Government is putting the onus on the shoulder of State

Governments on the plea that the works related to water resources development are taken by the concerned State Governments and that the Central Government act as catalyst by providing Central Assistance to eligible schemes as per the guidelines. The Committee want the Ministry to take a proactive role with regard to RRR of water bodies in the country. Noting further that the guidelines issued in October, 2013 for implementation of the RRR scheme enjoins the State Governments to take steps for declaring the water body boundary through a government order and to ensure removal of encroachment in the water body before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment of grant for the RRR scheme, the Committee recommend that the Government keep strict tab on the State Governments to ensure that these guidelines are scrupulously complied with by them before release of funds or approval of projects under the RRR scheme. The Committee also recommend that the Ministry within three months of presentation of this Report issue common, mandatory guideline to all States / UTs enjoining them to identify, record and compile the number of encroached water bodies in their territories and complete the exercise within a year for purpose of compiling a national database at the Centre in this regard. They further recommend that the Ministry vigorously pursue all the concerned States / UTs through consultation, meetings, etc. to ensure that the advisory issued by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on 26 February, 2016 is duly complied and the guilty (if any) are punished in case of the encroachments on the water bodies. The Committee also categorically desire that a scientific study / mapping of water bodies be taken up on priority basis by the Ministry and the Committee be apprised of the results of such study / mapping.

Reply of the Government

- (1) In respect of the observation of the Committee for keeping strict tab on the State Governments to ensure that the guidelines are scrupulously complied for removal of encroachment, it may be mentioned that the guidelines (2013) of RRR on water bodies stipulates for State to take necessary steps for declaring the water body boundary through a Government order and to ensure removal of encroachments in the water body spread area/water body boundary before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment of grant for completion of work on the water

body under RRR. This is strictly followed for releasing central assistance to the States. States submit necessary documents/ certificates in this regard before release of 2nd installment.

- (2) After the pilot scheme, two schemes of RRR of water bodies, one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250 Crore and another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 3700 Crore, were launched during XIth Plan under the RRR scheme with domestic support, Rs. 917.259 Crore were released as Grant during XIth Plan for 3341 water bodies, out of which 2501 were completed and 1.455 lakh hectare of irrigation potential restored.

During the XIIth Plan a total of 1354 water bodies from 9 states have been approved for an estimated cost of Rs. 1025.8723 crore so far. Out of these 1354 water bodies, Central assistance of Rs. 264.67 Crore have been released for 1237 water bodies from 8 states with CCA to be restored of 0.94 lakh ha. In the current financial year 2016-17, there is target of 1000 water bodies to be restored as per the decision taken in the meeting of National Water Mission (NWM).

As regards to the query made by the Committee to the Ministry as to whether the Government has carried out any survey about encroached water bodies and any stringent action/ penalty to be proposed for those guilty of willful encroachments of water bodies in the country, it is again stated that these steps are to be taken by the concerned State Govts. only as land, law and order are state govt. subject. The Ministry may play a role in assisting the state govt. to conduct the survey work and enact laws in preventing the encroachment of water bodies.

As per the guidelines issued in October, 2013 for implementation of RRR of Water Bodies schemes, the State Govts need to take steps for declaring the water body boundary through a Government Order (G.O) and to ensure removal of encroachment in water body before submitting the proposal for release of 2nd installment for grant for the RRR scheme. The CWC field offices may be directed to keep strict watch on the works being carried out by State Govts. so as to ensure that these guidelines are fully complied in letter and spirit before release of funds or approval of projects under RRR scheme. For this proper monitoring of the water bodies needs to be carried out through remote sensing and CWC field offices.

As regards to the issuing of common, mandatory guidelines by the Ministry to all State/ UTs enjoining them to identify, record and compile the number of encroached water bodies in their territories and completing the exercise within a year for purpose of compiling a national database at the Centre, this work can be done by the MI (Stat) Wing of MoWR, RD & GR who may issue these guidelines with the help of CWC and compile a data base as being done with other MI schemes. For taking up the scientific study/ mapping of water bodies on priority basis, the MI (Stat) Wing need to engage the State Govts. to conduct a survey of all the water bodies in the country along with the MI census. Further, under the India-Water Resources Information System (WRIS) project, using satellite imageries of 2009-10, about 7,98,908 water bodies with minimum 0.01 hectare area have been mapped using satellite remote sensing technique which includes both rural and urban areas. The details of same has been enclosed as Annexure-II. However, for further detailed study regarding encroachment in the water bodies and other related issues, a census/ survey is to be conducted by State Govts.

As regards the recommendation that Ministry need to vigorously pursue all the concerned States/ UTs through consultation, meeting, etc. to ensure that the advisory issued by Secretary, MoWR, RD & GR on 26th February, 2016 is duly complied and guilty (if any) are punished in case of the encroachments on water bodies, necessary actions are being taken.

As regards the view of the Committee for Ministry to take a proactive role with regard to RRR of water bodies in the country, it is to mention that the state govts. are the overall custodians of the water bodies as water is a state subject. The State Govts. plan, execute and maintains the various irrigation schemes as per their need and priority. The role of Central Water Commission in this regard is that of advisory in nature and to facilitate them to prepare and execute the projects.

- (3) MI Stat Wing of Ministry conducts all India Census of Minor Irrigation Structures under RMIS which is a component of Development of Water Resource Information System (DWRIS) Plan Scheme. This Census is conducted every five years so far four census in 1986-87, 1993-94, 2000-01, 2006-07 have been conducted and 5th MI Census with base 2013-14 is in progress.

MI Census collects information on number of Minor Irrigation Structures of Ground Water and Surface Water used for irrigation in rural areas. There are five type of MI structures namely Dugwell, Deep Tubewell, Shallow Tubewell, Surface flow and Surface lift schemes. From Minor Irrigation Census information, data on water bodies is indirectly compiled but this information is limited to number of water bodies in villages used for minor irrigation.

In the ongoing 5th MI Census an attempt has been made to collect information on number of Water Bodies directly in rural areas, by adding an item on Water bodies in the village schedule.

CWC & ISRO under DWRIS have collected information and created a portal under India-WRIS, a layer on Water bodies has been developed in which around 8 lakh water bodies have been mapped. A 16 digit code for these water bodies has been generated.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 12 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 2.26)

The Committee note that Hydrology Project (HP) was implemented during 1996-2003 with World Bank assistance in 9 peninsular States and 6 Central Government Organisations at an estimated cost of about Rs. 605 crore for water resources data collection, storage and dissemination. During 2006-14, Hydrology Project Phase – II was implemented in 13 States and 8 Central organizations at an estimated cost of Rs. 631.83 crore as a follow up of HP-I and which focused on increased geographical coverage and analytical usage of Hydrological Information System (HIS) created under HP – I. The Committee note that a total of Rs. 94.95 crore was received from the World Bank (IBRD) on Hydrology Project Phase – I between 1996 and 2005 and a total of Rs. 91.58 crore was received for Hydrology Project Phase – II between 2006 and 2015. The Committee are encouraged to further note that HP-I and HP-II had achieved several accomplishments in the States and Organizations - where the projects were

implemented, viz. (i) establishment and consolidation of modernized and standardized water resources measurement system through the procurement and commissioning of innovative hydro-meteorological equipment like automatic / digital water level recorders, radar sensors etc., weather / climatic equipment like Automatic Weather Stations, Snow Pillows etc, Geophysical equipment like meters, loggers etc, water quality equipment like Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometers, UV Spectrophotometers etc, IT related hardware, software etc. (ii) introduction to applications of latest technology through development of software for national level standardized data storage and dissemination, development of various national web based applications like e-GEMS (Ground Water Estimation and Management System), e-SWIS (surfaced water information system), e-WQIS (water quality information system), development of Real Time Decision Support Systems for Flood Forecasting and Reservoir Operators by Bhakra Beas Management Board and by Maharashtra Water Resources Department, Development of 13 no. of Real Time Water Quality Monitoring Systems in Ganga river basins, application of advanced geophysical surveys, including Heliborne survey for aquifer mapping for the first time in the country etc. (iii) establishment of protocols for inter-agency data collection, collation, processing and validation and (iv) capacity building through establishment of State and District level data centres, water quality labs and through regular training and workshops etc. The Committee want the Ministry to keep a tab on the implementation of Hydrology Project so that the country derive maximum benefits from it on water resources front. The Committee also note that the Ministry has envisaged to establish a web based Management Information System (MIS) for monitoring the physical and financial progress of the Hydrology Project - which shall require monthly updation by all the implementing agencies. Besides, the Committee also note that the State and Central implementing Agencies have constituted a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) and also States have finalized the project implementation plans for their

respective Agencies. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter with the States in order to have their project implementation plans concretised at the ground level at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of further development in the matter.

Reply of the Government

1. The Cabinet has approved National Hydrology Project on 06.04.2016 a Central Sector Scheme which envisages establishment of a modern and standardized water resources management system that will provide decision support tools to every State/District/Village for:-
2. Development of Decision Support System (DSS) for real time flood forecasting and reservoir operations. b) River basin assessment and planning of water resources that will help in providing dynamic information to farmers about the surface and ground water for planning their cropping. It is also envisaged to establish a National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) for seamless exchange of hydro-met data amongst the State and Central IAs, placing the data on public domain (India – WRIS) etc.
3. The Ministry is already in touch with States/IAs for finalize their PIPs.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.16)

The Committee observe that the Budget allocation for the Plan scheme, Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM&R) during 2016-17 was increased to Rs. 328.38 crore from Rs. 188.00 crore allocated during 2015-16, and Rs. 188.00 crore was also the figure during Revised Estimate stage (2015-16). The reason attributed by the Ministry for this hike in Budget allocation was for “undertaking data generation activities for aquifer mapping in 8 priority States through outsourcing”. The Committee note that several major achievements have been made under the GWM&R scheme from 2012-13 to 2015-16 (as on 29 February, 2016), under which (i) the pilot projects on Aquifer Mapping covering an area of 3006 sq. km. in the States of Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil

Nadu have been completed, (ii) Aquifer Mapping has been completed in NCR area in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi encompassing an area of 26185 sq. km. and Ground Water Management Plan have been prepared (iii) 9988 nos. of Vertical Electrical Sounding (VES) and 430 nos. of bore hole logging have been conducted (iv) 3037 nos. of ground water exploration wells have been constructed, and 98184 ground water samples have been analyzed. The Committee also note that Aquifer mapping area has been reprioritised in 08 States and Bundelkhand region incorporating an area of 5.25 lakh sq. km., viz. Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bundelkhand areas of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, for which action plans for each State has been prepared. They further note the Ministry's reply that under National Aquifer Mapping and Management Plan, a total area of 116347 sq. km. has been covered in the last 3 years covering 16 States, NCT Delhi and area covered under pilot aquifer mapping in parts of the 5 States of Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bihar. Given the fact that the ground water levels in many parts of the country are fast depleting and also deteriorating qualitatively to a large extent, the Committee see a great potential in Aquifer Mapping as an effective plan component for addressing the depressing ground water scenario obtaining in the country. They, therefore, recommend that the allocation of Rs. 328.38 crore made in 2016-17 be fully utilized to achieve optimum results under the Ground Water Management & Regulation scheme. They also recommend that efforts be made by the Ministry to extend the coverage of National Aquifer Mapping and Management Plan from the 16 States, NCT Delhi and parts of 05 States as exists during the last 03 years, to the remaining parts of the country - which are currently outside Aquifer Mapping. They further recommend that the latest techniques on Aquifer Mapping be roped in and introduced in all priority areas such as critical, semi-critical, over-exploited and quality-affected ground water areas in the country for the benefit of all the stake-holders, and that the

Ministry come up with an action plan to achieve this goal within this financial year, i.e. 2016-17. The Committee also hope and expect that the Government will make earnest efforts to achieve about 3 lakh sq. km. area for Aquifer Mapping envisaged during 2016-17. While taking note of the submission made by the Ministry before the Committee in regard to the inadequacy of the funds for Aquifer Mapping, the Committee recommend that the sufficient funds ranging from Rs. 700 to Rs. 800 crore annually be made available to the Ministry for completing the programme within a span of three years as envisaged by them.

Reply of the Government

Against the allocation of Budget of 328.38 Crore made in 2016-17, Rs.225 crore is of the capital Nature expenditure comprising Motor Vehicle (MV), Machinery & Equipment (M&E) and Major Works. All out efforts are being made to utilize the fund within the year 2016-17.

CGWB proposes to cover Aquifer Mapping in 23 Lakh Sqkm of Mappable area of the country. Out of which around 9.0 Lakh Sqkm has been taken up during the period 2012-17. The remaining area of about 14 Lakh Sqkm is proposed to be taken up during 2017 onwards.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has already utilizing latest techniques on Aquifer Mapping in priority areas such as critical, semi-critical, over exploited and quality affected ground water areas in the country. The latest techniques utilized like Heliborne Dual Moment electromagnetic Survey, 2 D Imaging, Ground Trans Electromagnetic Survey etc for Geophysical studies, Analysis of stable environmental isotopes and latest software like Rock works, ARCGIS, Visual Mod Flow etc for preparing Aquifer Maps and Management Plan etc.

All out efforts are being made to achieve 3 Lakh Sq km area envisaged for Aquifer Mapping during 2016-17.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.17)

The Committee note that the Rajiv Gandhi National Training & Research Institute for Ground Water (Rajiv Gandhi NGWT&RI) is the only Central Institute of its kind catering the needs not only of

Central Ground Water Board but also acting as key resource centre for many of the institutions like Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Public Health and Engineering Departments, World Bank – aided Hydrology Project in the country and State Groundwater agencies etc. A Budget allocation of Rs. 8.00 crore was made for the financial year 2016-17 towards Rajiv Gandhi NGWT&RI, which was higher than Rs. 7.00 crore allocated in 2015-16. The Committee were apprised that during the 12th Plan, 531 nos. of trainings have been imparted in the Institute so far comprising of 44358 trainees. Further, the Institute is implementing a three-tier training programme in view of the capacity building requirements of professionals of CGWB, different State and Central Government agencies and other organisations in the field of ground water with a special emphasis on the requirements of the National Project on Aquifer Management, i.e. Aquifer level, State level and National level. These trainings are aimed at overall capacity building in ground water sector and creation of a trained workforce for implementation of National Project on Aquifer Management for sustainable development of ground water resources. The Committee see a pivotal role for the Rajiv Gandhi NGWT&RI in the coming years given the fact that groundwater has emerged as a pressing national focus of attention due to the potential water scarcity situation likely to be faced by this country in the near future. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government should make earnest efforts to strengthen, equip and modernise the Institute so that it is fully equipped to handle the task of capacity building for its trainees in the vital ground water sector and for creation of a trained, dedicated workforce for implementing National Project on Aquifer Management for sustainable development of ground water resources. The Committee would like to be apprised of action taken in this regard at the earliest. Noting further that the Institute has been taking up R&D studies now still in progress, viz. (i) surface water-groundwater interaction through isotope studies, (ii) mathematical modelling based approach for sustainability of aquifer system underlying Bemetara block,

Chhattisgarh, (iii) per-chlorate contamination in parts of the State of Kerala, and (iv) Artificial intelligence in groundwater management, the Committee recommend that these studies be completed in a time-bound manner. The Committee also recommend that the challenges faced by the Rajiv Gandhi NGWT&RI, i.e. inadequate posting of officers, constraints in Guest Facility due to fund shortage, inadequate international exposure to the Institute's faculty, lack of infrastructure facility, absence of own building for office, hostel and Guest House, lack of training and research policy, etc. be taken up at the earliest with the Government for remedial measures to enable the Institute to function smoothly in fulfilling its mandate.

Reply of the Government

Actions taken in this regard are as follows:

- a) Rajiv Gandhi National Ground Water Training & Research Institute (RGNGWTRI) is planning proliferation through setting up of Regional Centers. One such proposal has already been initiated by acquisition of land at CWPRS campus Pune. Proposals moved for construction of building for an estimated cost of Rs.38.4 crore.
- b) RGNGWTRI has plan to setup five center of excellence to boost the R&D activity in the fields of Ground Water Modeling, Ground Water quality and contamination, Remote Sensing and GIS for Ground Water Studies, Managed Aquifer Recharge & Rain Water Harvesting, Drilling Technology.
- c) Under its training plan, RGI conduct three tier training program to support the NAQUIM. So far 556 training courses were conducted during XII plan, as per the details given below:

Training Year	Tier-I		Tier-II		Tier-III		Total	
	Courses Conducted	Person trained	Courses Conducted	Person trained	Courses Conducted	Person trained	Courses Conducted	Person trained
2012-13	32	565	36	1160	100	15640	168	17365
2013-14	32	486	36	1112	97	12686	165	14284
2014-15	33	581	50	1611	35	4930	118	7122
2015-16	34	690	25	825	46	7437	105	8952

All the four R&D studies are going on in a time bound manner. The progress is given as annexure

-III

Actions taken in this regard are -

- A proposal of overseas training for 16 officers amounting to 72.0 lakh is under consideration of ministry.
- New Human Resources policy for CGWB submitted to Ministry. Question/clarification raised under preparation.
- Restructuring proposal of CGWB includes strengthening of RGNGWTRI, is under consideration of Ministry.

Recommendation (Para No. 4.30)

As per information provided by the Ministry, flood have affected during 2012-14 a total area of 36.044 Mha. and 45.704 million population, and resulted in damages to the crops of the value of Rs. 5368.115 crore, 987940 nos. of houses valued at Rs. 873.261 crores, 202602 nos. of cattle, and public utilities valued at Rs. 14640.340 crore. The total number of human lives lost was 4152 in the same period. In this connection, the Committee observe that during 11th Plan, the Government of India launched "Flood Management Programme" (FMP) for providing the Central Assistance to the State Government under this scheme, during 11th Plan, the nos. of works approved was 420, for which fund

amounting to Rs. 3566.00 crore was released. In comparison, during 12th Plan, the nos. of works approved under FMP is only 97 while a total fund of Rs. 1057.40 crore has been released till date. The Committee note that the 12th Plan is in its last phase - while the achievements made so far under FMP remain meager to say the least. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry pull up their socks and make all-out efforts to increase the achievements under the FMP during 11th Plan through coordinated efforts with the State Governments and other implementing Agencies. The Committee are however, dismayed to note that the Ministry have not furnished reply regarding short-term, medium-term and long-term approaches and methods to be adopted to manage and control recurrent floods in the country, and they recommend that the relevant information in this regard should be submitted to the Committee within three months after presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

In order to enable the State Governments to undertake the works related to river management, flood control, anti-erosion, raising and strengthening the embankments and anti sea erosion the Government of India had launched a Flood Management Programme (FMP) in 11th Plan with an outlay of Rs.8,000 crore. During 11th Plan a total of 420 projects having estimated cost of Rs.9,435 crore with central share of Rs. 7,475 crore were approved out of which only Rs.3,477 crore were released leaving Rs. 3,900 crore as spill over of works for 12th Plan. During 12th Plan the Cabinet approved continuation of FMP with an outlay of Rs.10,000 crore which included Rs.3,900 crore towards spill over works and Rs.6,100 crore towards new works proposed to be undertaken during 12th Plan keep in provision for new works for catchment area treatment for attaining flood management in a more effective manner. Due to delay in approval of the FMP, changes in process of investment clearance, reduction in the extent of Central funding, reduced outlays as a result of change in policy of Government of India about devolution of central taxes in the light of recommendations of 14th Finance Commission, the releases under FMP could not be done as per demands of the States. Therefore, during 12th Plan only Rs. 1,157.08 crore could be released towards the spill over works of the 11th Plan and 97 new works approved during 12th

Plan. In order to complete the projects already approved under FMP during 11th and 12th Plan sufficient funds need to be provided under FMP.

Short term measures: The measures which can be completed immediately say within 1 year such as closure of breaches, raised platforms, critical anti erosion works fall under this category.

Medium-term Measures: The measures which can be completed within 2-3 years like raising & strengthening of embankments, anti erosion works, drainage development, etc. fall under this category. Such measures also include flood/inundation forecasting under non structural category.

Long-term Measures: The measures, such as reservoirs, which require more time and involve a number of issues to be sorted out before implementing them are categorized as long-term measures. Under non structural category, the measures of real time flood/inundation forecasting and flood plain zoning fall under this category.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 23 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 4.30-A)

The Committee note that the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, through its apex technical arm, the Central Water Commission (CWC), performs the activity of flood forecasting on major rivers and their tributaries in the country, through a network of 175 flood forecasting stations - which consist of 147 level forecast stations and 28 inflow forecast stations. Regarding the measures taken / proposed to be taken to upgrade, expand and improve flood forecasting in India, the Ministry stated that 445 nos. of stations have been modernized with telemetry system upto 11th Plan, and the remaining 219 stations of existing flood forecasting network are proposed to be modernized. Additionally, 100 nos. of level / inflow forecasting stations alongwith 310 base stations are proposed to be established for various towns and reservoirs / dams in the country. All the stations of extended network are to be modernized with telemetry system. Other measures including development of inundation forecast model on pilot basis is also planned for 12th Plan to give information about the area

likely to be flooded. The Committee are happy to see the Ministry making ambitious plans for achievements during 12th Plan on the flood forecasting front, but at the same point in time they are equally surprised to note that the Budget allocation for flood forecasting had to be reduced during 2015-16 from Rs. 50.00 crore to Rs. 35.00 crore because of the inability of the Ministry to take up new works of establishing 100 new flood forecasting stations due to delayed approval of the scheme by the Government as late as December, 2015. The Committee want the Ministry to make fresh initiatives to curb the issue of delays in securing approval for flood forecasting schemes - which is responsible for reduction of allocations at RE stage during 2016-17 itself and also inform the Committee of the outcome of such efforts made. The Committee, however, recommend the Ministry to initiate specific steps to achieve the ambitious action plan envisaged for flood forecasting during 12th Plan without any loss of time and apprise the Committee accordingly. Noting that a rainfall-based Flood Forecasting model at Ram Munshibag (Srinagar) on river Jhelum has been developed by the CWC and made fully functional during 2015, the Committee recommend that similar models be introduced for other areas of the country facing annual recurrent floods, i.e. Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Mumbai region etc. as well. The Committee would like to be apprised of further developments in this regard within the next six months.

Reply of the Government

The Central Water Commission under the Ministry has been making efforts for development of integrated rainfall based run off models. During 12th plan it is proposed to develop Mathematical models for inundation forecast for Mahanadi/ Brahmaputra/Kosi/Sabri river basins using the Digital Elevation Maps (DEMs) available with NRSC.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 23 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 4.31)

The objective of the Plan scheme, 'River Basin Management' (RBM) is to provide a forum to all the co-basin States for taking up the necessary studies, evaluation, etc. for finding optimum method for the development and utilization of water resources within that basin and meeting the aspiration of all the stake-holders. The Budget allocation was increased from Rs. 119.00 crore in 2015-16 (BE) to Rs. 173.60 crore in 2016-17 (BE), which, according to the Ministry, was for the preparation of PFRs, FRs & DPRs of Inter-State and Intra-State links, survey and investigation, due to increase in the rates of various goods and services, purchase of survey & scientific instruments and revisions of rates, enhancement of DA/increment and implementation of 7th Pay Commission Report, etc. and also for taking up flood protection in Majuli Island. The RBM Plan scheme comprises of two components (i) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) and (ii) Brahmaputra Board. The Committee note that three DPRs of ILR projects, viz. Ken-Betwa Phase I & II, Damanganga – Pinjal, and Pai-Tapi-Narmada link projects have been completed alongwith two DPRs of Intra-State links under IWRDS of NWDA component. Under IWRDS of CWC component, DPR of two projects have been completed and submitted to the State Governments. The Committee recommend that the details of these projects including the time required for completing them, their final status, costs incurred, etc. should be furnished to them within 3 months so that these projects do not incur needless time and cost overruns. The Committee are convinced that the time has come for the country to have an Integrated Water Management for the entire country which would timely assist in fructifying the ambitious scheme of Inter-Linking of Rivers (ILRs) being implemented in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government create an over-arching National Authority (River Basin Authority) at the Centre which will serve as the apex body for an integrated management of river basins in the country - so as to in turn ensure that the ILRs scheme is provided the much-needed impetus - while at the same time the process of solution of various Inter-State Disputes on river waters is simplified and streamlined for the lasting benefit to all the concerned parties. The Committee would like to be kept informed of the developments made in this regard.

Reply of the Government

(i) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) of NWDA component

The Detailed Project Report of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-I was completed by NWDA in April, 2010 and submitted to Govt. of MP and UP in May, 2010. Detailed Project Report of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-II has been completed in January, 2014 and submitted to the concerned States Government of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in January, 2014. The DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link has been completed in March, 2014 and submitted to Govt. of Maharashtra and Gujarat. The DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project has also been completed in August, 2015 and submitted to Govt. of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of two Intra-State links of Bihar State viz Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and Kosi-Mechi link have been completed in December 2013 and March 2014 respectively.

Ken-Betwa link project Phase-I

The total cost of the project has been estimated to be Rs. 9,393 crores at 2007-08 price level. The benefit cost ratio for the project works out to 1.56 and the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is 12%. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be eight years.

Status

Environment Clearance

- The proposal was considered by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MOEF&CC in its 86th, 88th and 91st meetings held on 24.8.2015; 26.10.2015 and 8-9 February, 2016 respectively at New Delhi for environmental clearance.
- EAC in its 91st meeting held on 9th February, 2016 decided to consider the project for Environmental clearance (EC) only after Wild Life Clearance is obtained from National Board of Wild Life (NBWL).
- NWDA has been advised to submit again the proposal to EAC along with decision of NBWL.
- The meeting of EAC was held on 02.06.2016. The committee has discussed various points in the meeting and given some suggestions.

Wildlife Clearance

- Wildlife clearance considered by State Wildlife Board of Madhya Pradesh in its meeting held on 22nd September, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh and agreed.
- After clearance of State Wildlife Board of M.P., the proposal of Wildlife clearance along with recommendations of State Wildlife Board, MP was submitted to National Board of Wildlife (NBWL), MoEF, New Delhi on 14.12.2016.
- Proposal for wild life clearance was duly considered in 37th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Environment, Forest and Climate Change held on 26th February, 2016.
- Standing Committee, NBWL constituted a Committee comprising representatives of NTCA; Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun; Dr. R. Sukumar, IISc, Bangalore; Dr. H. S. Singh, Retired PCCF & Member of NBWL, representative of Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh and representative of NWDA.
- Above Committee visited concerned areas of Panna Tiger Reserve during 8-11 April, 2016.
- Report is being prepared by the members and will be finalised soon.
- The proposal for wildlife clearance was duly considered during 38th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10/05/2016 chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State(I/C), MoEF&CC in which in principle approval for Wildlife was accorded.

Forest Land Diversion Clearance

- NWDA submitted proposal for forest land diversion clearance online & to MoEF & CC.
- Hard copies of proposal have been submitted to concerned DFOs of State Forest Department and Collectors.
- Identification of double the degraded forest land (about 12034 ha) and other associated works are being done by Forest Department, MP.

Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase – II

The total cost of the project is estimated as Rs.2282.94 crores. The benefit cost ratio of the project works out to 1.56 and the internal rate of return as 14.87%. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be five years.

Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr dam

- Proposal for environmental clearance of Lower Orr Dam was considered during 91st meeting of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MoEF & CC held on 8th February, 2016.
- Compliance to issues/observations raised in the meeting has been submitted to MOEF & CC.
- Proposal for Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr Dam was considered again during 93rd meeting of EAC held on 2nd May, 2016
- Form-I for diversion of forest land submitted to Collector and DFO, Ashok Nagar and Shivpuri for processing case of forest clearance.
- Concerned Collector and DFO of Ashok Nagar and Shivpuri submitted Form-I after completing their parts online to APCCF (Land Management), Bhopal for further processing the case.
- Complete proposal alongwith recommendations submitted to MoEF&CC by Forest Department, Government of MP for according forest land diversion clearance.
- The compliance to the issues/observations have been to MoEF & CC for consideration of EAC and Environmental Clearance of Lower Orr dam has been accorded in its meeting held on 2nd May 2016.

Damanganga-Pinjal link

The cost of project is Rs.2746.61 crore. The B.C. ratio is 1.95. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be seven years.

Status

National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has completed the DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link in March, 2014 and submitted to Govt. of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It was decided that Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) would be responsible for initiating further action for the implementation of the project including statutory clearances.

The Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) has submitted the DPR of Damanganga-Pinjal link project to CWC during January, 2015 for appraisal. The report is under appraisal in CWC. The

Hon'ble Union Minister (WR,RD&GR) held a meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra at Mumbai on 7th January, 2015 to expedite the further course of action. Govt. of Maharashtra has suggested minor modifications in the planning of the links to make the project more attractive and assured full support for the implementing of Damanganga-Pinjal link project.

Par-Tapi-Narmada link

Total cost of the link project at the price level of year 2014-15 has been worked out as Rs.9279 crores. The Benefit Cost ratio of the project has been assessed to be 1.12 and Internal Rate of Return has been computed as 10.43 %. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be seven years.

Status

The DPR of Par-Tapi-Narmada link project has been completed by NWDA and submitted to Govts. of Gujarat and Maharashtra in August,2015 and is under examination by both the States. Hon'ble Union Minister (WR,RD&GR) has requested the State Govts. of Gujarat and Maharashtra to take up the issue of cost, water and power sharing of both Par-Tapi-Narmada link project and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects for reaching an agreement.

Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga link project

Total cost of the project has been estimated as Rs.4213.75 crore. The benefit cost ratio of project is 1.54. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be three years.

Kosi-Mechi link project

Total cost of the Project has been estimated as Rs. 2903.25 crore. The benefit cost ratio of project is 3.66. As per DPR the construction time of the project is estimated to be five years.

Status

DPRs of 2 links of Bihar (Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga and Kosi – Mechi links) have been completed and are under appraisal in Central Water Commission.

(ii) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) of CWC component

CWC has investigated two nos of projects namely, Suntlay and Kirthai II under IWRDS and DPR of these project have been completed and submitted to State Government. The salient features of the projects are given below:

1	Name of Project	Kirthai Hydro Electric Project-II (J&K)	Suntaley Hydro Electric Project (Sikkim)
2	Type of Project	Hydro Electric	ROR Hydro Electric
3	River Basin	Chandra Bhaga (Chenab)	Teesta Basin
4	State	Jammu & Kashmir	Sikkim
5	River	Chenab	Rangpo Chu
6	Time required for completing of project	60 months (construction period after getting statutory clearance and Financial Closure)	4 Years (construction period)
7	Proposed/installed capacity	930 MW (6x140+2x35+2x10)MW	2x20 MW
8	Estimated cost of the project (in crores)	5158.18	a)531.88 with R&R b)536.61 without R&R

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation had constituted a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice T.S. Doabia (Retd.) to study the activities that are required for optimum development of river basin and changes required in the existing River Board Act, 1956 for achievement of the same. The Committee submitted its Report in November, 2012 and has prepared a Draft River Basin Management (RBM) Bill.

The Draft RBM Bill proposes to establish a River Basin Authority for regulation and development of waters of an Inter-State River Basin or any specified part thereof and further makes it clear that different Authorities shall be established for different Inter-State River Basin. The Bill also makes provision for creation of a separate River Basin Authority for a sub-basin within an Inter-State River Basin.

The draft RBM Bill also stipulates that a River Basin Authority shall ensure that a River Basin Master Plan for river basin development, management and regulation is prepared for the Inter-State river Basin under its jurisdiction.

The draft River Basin Management Bill is under examination in this Ministry in consultation with different stakeholders. A committee has also been set up under Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft River Basin Management Bill. The committee is yet to submit its report.

Further, for providing impact to Interlinking of Rivers scheme, Ministry has also constituted committee “Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers” vide Gazette notification dated 23.09.2014.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 26 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 4.32)

The Committee note that under the Central Water Commission (CWC), various activities have been carried out since its inception in 1945, including Flood Forecasting and Assistance to State Governments in Flood Management, with 176 flood forecasting stations covering 10 major river systems including 72 river sub-basins and 17 States; Collection and Analysis of Hydrological Data, through a network of 954 hydro-meteorological observation stations throughout the country on all the major river basins to observe water level, discharge, water quality, silt etc.; Techno-economic Appraisal of Projects; Monitoring of selected projects including those receiving Central assistance; Planning & Design of projects; surveys, Investigations and Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR); Studies on Environmental and Socio-economic issues; Studies related to Irrigation Planning and Water Management; National Water Resources Assessment; Assistance in Resolution of Inter-State Water Disputes; Studies on Dam Safety; Operation of Reservoir; Training and Capacity Building; International Co-operation in Water sector etc. The Committee understand and underline the pivotal role being played by the CWC as a premier technical organisation in the field of water resources in the country. In their 3rd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2015-16), the Committee had expressed dissatisfaction

over delay in the proposed restructuring of the CWC which, according to the Ministry, was due to disagreement on some observations of the Ministry of Finance. The Committee now note that in September, 2015, the Ministry constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah, Ex-Member, Planning Commission to undertake a detailed study and make suitable recommendations on restructuring of the CWC along with the CGWB by May, 2016, and the Terms of Reference of the Committee was reportedly extended upto 10.03.2016. The Committee recommend that submission of the Mihir Shah Committee Report should be hastened so that the restructuring of the CWC will see light of the day soon. The Committee would, however, like to be informed of the progress made in this regard within 2 months.

Reply of the Government

The report of the committee has been received and is being examined in the Ministry.

Recommendation (Para No. 5.11)

The Committee note that the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), a Government of India Society, under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation established in December, 1978 at Roorkee (Uttarakhand), is conducting basic applied and strategic research in the fields of hydrology and water resources development. They also note that the NIH Centre for Flood Management Studies for Brahmaputra Basin (NIH-CFMS) established in August, 1988 is engaged in R&D studies related to flood estimation and routing, structural / non-structural measures for flood management, integrated management for flood control, hydrological database management system, drainage congestion and erosion problems, water quality problems, socio-economic aspect of flood disaster and technology transfer activities. Noting further the multifarious R&D studies carried out for the North-Eastern States by NIH-CFMS, specially in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh,

Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Sikkim, the Committee strongly recommend that sufficient funds be allocated by the Ministry to enable the NIH-CFMS to undertake its R&D activities more effectively and more widely. Further, the Ministry should initiate steps so that the results of these R&D studies are utilized optimally in such a way that they translate in the flood control, anti-erosion and other related water resources development / management in the North-East.

Reply of the Government

Many research studies have been carried out by National Institute of hydrology (NIH) in the North-East Region in the field of Hydrology and water resources development for utilizing the results of these R&D studies in such a way that they translate in the flood control, anti-erosion and other water resources development/ management in North-East.

The NIH-Centre for Flood Management Studies for Brahmaputra basin (NIH-CFMS), Guwahati is engaged in various R&D studies related to flood estimation and routing, structural/ non structural measures for flood management, integrated watershed management for flood control, hydrological data base management system, drainage congestion and erosion problems, water quality problems, socio-economic aspect of flood disaster and technology transfer activities. A list of various research studies carried out by NIH in the North-East Region in the field of hydrology and water resources development at Annexure-IV for utilizing the results of these R&D studies in such a way that they translate in the flood control, anti-erosion and other water resources development/ management in the North-East.

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation (Para No. 1.26)

The Committee observe that in some States like Punjab where flood irrigation is prevalent, much water has to be extracted for the purpose. They also note that the Ministry have taken initiatives to adopt micro irrigation systems as far as possible for the development of common infrastructure to facilitate the use of sprinkler/drip irrigation systems in the command areas of new projects. The Committee are convinced that micro irrigation systems such as sprinkler/drip irrigation are the panacea to the drought-like situations prevailing in many water-scarce regions specially in the over-exploited, critical and semi-critical blocks of the country. The Committee, accordingly, recommend that much concerted efforts are needed to be made by the Government at the earliest to make micro irrigation as a popular movement all over the country so as to achieve the goal of efficient use of irrigation water. The Committee want to be apprised of initiatives taken by the Government in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

The new projects included under CADWM programme during XII Plan have to cover at least 10% of CCA of each project under micro-irrigation. The Micro-irrigation component (10%) of a project in Punjab with CCA of about 26 thousand hectare has already been approved. Another project of Punjab with CCA of about 19.867 thousand hectare has also been approved by the competent authority. In addition, a project to cover 100% micro-irrigation of Rajasthan with CCA of 320.117 thousand hectare has been approved by the competent authority.

Recommendation (Para No. 2.24)

The Committee observe that the Budget allocation for Non-Plan expenditure increased from Rs. 282.09 crore in 2015-16 (BE) to Rs. 320.51 crore in 2016-17. The reasons attributed by the Ministry to this increase was basically due to hike on account of Dearness Allowance, new recruitment, increase in cost of procurement of goods and services, accounting for inflation, etc. The Committee also note with dismay that the Ministry have not furnished information about the steps taken by them to curb the tendency to increase allocations for the Non-Plan expenditure, which is indicative of the casual approach of the Ministry towards the issue of proper Budgetary projections, allocations and fund utilizations. The Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry make all-out efforts to achieve full utilization of the allocation of Rs. 320.51 crore made towards Non-Plan expenditure in 2016-17 - while at the same time making continuous efforts for curbing the general tendency towards increasing expenditure under this Head year after year. They also recommend that concrete steps be taken by the Ministry to avoid drastic reduction of Rs. 467.44 crore allocated for Plan expenditure in 2016-17 at RE stage

Reply of the Government

- (1) The Non-Plan allocation for Central Soil and Material Research Station (CSMRS) - The BE for 2015-16 was Rs.11.85 Crores which was subsequently enhanced to Rs.11.89 crore. Out of the allocated amount, expenditure of Rs.11.63 Crore was incurred by the Research Station. Thus, the utilization of fund under Non Plan so far is CSMRS concerned was nearly 98%. The unutilized amount was mainly on account of Rs.23.62 Lakhs unutilized under the salary head. The expenditure statement is at Annexure-I.
- (2) Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee (SSCAC) is subordinate office of Ministry of Water Resources of temporary nature constituted as per decision of NWDT Award in year 1980.

The expenditure incurred by the SSCAC's Secretariat is borne equally by the four party states of Sardar Sarovar Project namely Gujarat, MP, Maharashtra & Rajasthan. Initially, the expenditure is

reflected in the Union Budget under the Ministry of Water Resources as “Non-Plan” expenditure which is subsequently reimbursed from the participating states in equal proportion. Thus there is no burden on Government of India for expenditure to be incurred by SSCAC.

The budget allocation is as under.

(in thousand of Rs.)

<i>Year</i>	<i>BE</i>	<i>RE</i>	<i>Actual Expenditure</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
2015-16	10200	8200	7900	1) BE 2015-16 and BE 2016-17 are almost equal. 2) The actual expenditure for F.Y. 2015-16 is less than BE 2015-16 due to vacant post. 3) Further, the expenditure for F.Y. 2016-17 is likely to increase due to propose filling up of vacant post & Dearness Allowance.
2016-17	10000	-	-	

- (3) For Upper Yamuna River Board, Rs. 147.78 lakh was requested for BE 2016-17 and allocation for 2016-17 is Rs. 175 lakh. The higher provision in the requested BE 2016-17 was kept for enhancement in pay, hike in DA, accounting for inflation and other allowances and filling of the sanctioned posts in the UYRB.
- (4) Budget Allocation under Non-Plan for Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) Pune during 2015-16 & 2016-17 are as under:

(Rs Crore)

<i>Sr No</i>	<i>Non Plan</i>	<i>2015-16</i>	<i>2016-17</i>
1	Salary	55.82	57.54
2	Non Salary	3.66	4.80
	Total	59.48	62.34

From the above table it is seen that under Non Plan – Salary budget is increased by 3% as against budget of 2015-16 and in this year Dearness Allowance has increased by 12% but salary budget has increased marginally. There is also increase in Non salary expenditure such as payment of Energy Charges in 2015-16 which is alone costing Rs 67.00 lakh as these services are now costly due to increase in energy charges and this office is considered under industrial unit and charges are levied as per industrial unit by the state Government. Still all efforts are being made to minimize the Non Plan expenditure and avoiding wasteful expenditure by regular monitoring expenditure. Budgetary projections are made as per expenditure trends and realistic view.

In the Plan Scheme : R&D Water Sector the Budget Allocation in 2015-16 was Rs 5.40 Crore and in the Second supplementary Batch an additional funds under this scheme amounting to Rs 6.25 crore were allotted by re-appropriation and final expenditure during 2015-16 under this scheme was Rs 11.40 crore. Nearly 97% funds were utilized under plan scheme and in the current financial year an amount of Rs 11.50 crore has been allotted and necessary steps are being taken to utilize the allotted funds.

- (5) For National Institute of Hydrology, the expenditure on account of Salary & allowances of Officers and Staff of the Institute is to meet out from the Budget allocation under Non-Plan. The Budget allocation (BE), Non-Plan expenditure for 2015-16 was 15.43 Crore which was increased as Rs. 19.00 Crore for 2016-17. The reason for increase in BE for 2016-17 was mainly due increase in salary on a/c of Annual Increments, Dearness Allowance, anticipating expenditure on a/c of implementation of 7th Pay Commission Report etc. It is assured that Budget allocation made towards Non-Plan expenditure for 2016-17 for Rs. 19.00 Crore will be fully utilized. BE for Plan expenditure for 2016-17 is Rs. 16.75 Crore. Necessary steps have been taken to avoid any reduction of allocation for Plan expenditure at RE stage during the year 2016-17.
- (6) For Central Water Commission, the Non-Plan BE for the year 2015-16 was 282.09 crore. However the same was restricted to Rs. 265.43 crore at RE stage and entire fund was utilized. The provision for the year 2016-17 has been made as Rs. 320.51 crore at BE stage. It is mentioned that the major expenditure under Non-Plan head is towards payment of establishment related expenses such as salary, medical, travel etc. and all efforts are made to keep the same

as bare minimum. The provisions made at BE stage will be fully utilized. Further instructions has been issued to all concerned Directorate implementing Plan Scheme in CWC to ensure full utilization of fund at BE stage.

- (7) For Bansagar Control Board, Budget under Non-Plan as BE Rs. 36.00 lakh for financial year 2015-16 and BE Rs. 40.00 lakh for financial year 2016-17 is allotted to Bansagar Control Board, Rewa. A marginal increase of Rs. 4.00 lakh has been made in the financial year 2016-17 against financial year 2015-16 due to increase in Salary and Dearness allowances of employees.

CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Para No. 1.25)

The Committee note from the reply of the Ministry that although there has been growing demand by the professionals and civil society to bring 'water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, the proposal has been opposed by most of the States. Further, the proposal did not find favour with R. S. Sarkaria Commission (1983-88) and M. M. Punchhi Commission (2007-10) which examined the Centre-State relations. The Committee take note of the view of the Ministry that the matter requires extensive deliberations with the States and other stakeholders so that a broader consensus emerges in the matter. The Committee also take note that the objectives of better conservation, development and management of water resources are stated and sought to be achieved through the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill - which are currently under examination in the Ministry in consultation with different stakeholders. Further, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should expeditiously wind up the process of enactment of the draft National Water Framework Law and the draft River Basin Management Bill which is at present under examination with them. They also want to see early outcome of the report of Dr. Mihir Shah Committee in the matter under intimation to them. In this connection, the Committee are, however, of the opinion that the proposed National Water Framework Law will lack teeth if the subject 'water' is not brought under the Concurrent List of the Constitution, for the implementation of the proposed Framework Law will require coordinated, consultative action on the part of both the

Centre and the States. The Committee, therefore, recommend that steps be initiated by the Government to again begin the much needed consultations with the States on the issue of bringing 'water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. Noting the fact that the proposals made to this end in the past have been opposed by most of the States, the Committee would, however, meanwhile like to be apprised of the names of the States opposing this proposal alongwith their grounds of their opposition.

Reply of the Government

The Committee constituted by this Ministry under Dr. Mihir Shah to examine the draft National Water Framework Bill and the draft River Basin Management Bill has prepared a draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016. The draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 contains several provisions for improved management of water resources in the country. The draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 has been circulated to all the State Governments/ Union Territories for inviting their comments on the report. The draft Bill has also been placed on the website of this Ministry for obtaining comments thereon from general public.

2. The draft River Basin Management Bill is presently under consideration of the Mihir Shah Committee.
3. Specific consultations for bringing 'Water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution have not been undertaken with the States. However, in the course of conferences with the States, suggestion for bringing water in the Concurrent List has by and large not found favour with the States.
4. The recommendations of the Committee to initiate steps to begin consultations with the States on the issue of bringing 'water' in the Concurrent List of the Constitution has been noted for appropriate action.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 9 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 2.27)

The Committee note that 16 National Projects have been approved by the Government for implementation in the country. However, although the proposal was approved as early as 2008, only 4 National Projects apart from Indira Sagar Polavaram Project are presently under execution, viz. Gosikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab), Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal) and Sanju-Nahar Pariyojana Project (Uttar Pradesh), while the remaining 10 National Projects have been under appraisal, Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage or under Project Feasibility Report (PFR) stage. The Committee are further distressed to observe that even the 5 National Projects reportedly under execution / implementation are at present facing hurdles in their smooth execution due to various problems like land acquisition, R&R issue, inter-State disputes etc. due to which at least 3 of those National Projects have passed well beyond their targeted date of completion (i.e. March, 2015) viz. Goshikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) and Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal). Even for the remaining National Projects which are under appraisal, DPR stage or under Project Feasibility Report stage, no targets have been fixed for their timely / scheduled completion, even as the Sanju-Nahar Pariyojna Project is targeted to be completed by March, 2017. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should promptly initiate action in consultation with the concerned State Governments to sort out the issues / hurdles that have led to 3 National Projects failing to meet their targeted date of completion (March, 2015) viz. Gosikhurd Irrigation Project (Maharashtra), Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Punjab) and Teesta Barrage Project (West Bengal). They also recommend that concerted efforts should be made by the Ministry to achieve the completion of Saryu-Nahar Pariyojna Project (Uttar Pradesh) in coordination with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh - which is targeted by March, 2017. The Committee further recommend that realistic, achievable targets be also fixed for timely completion of the remaining National Projects which are at various stages of execution

appraisal, DPR stage or under PFR stage after addressing all contentious issues in consultation with the concerned States, viz. Indira Sagar Polavaram Project (Andhra Pradesh), Lakhwar – Vyasi Multipurpose Project (Uttarakhand), Renuka Dam Project (Himachal Pradesh), Ujh Multipurpose Project (Jammu & Kashmir), Kishau Multipurpose Project (Himachal Pradesh / Uttarakhand), Ken-Betwa Link Project (Madhya Pradesh), Kulsi Dam Project (Assam), Noa-Dihing Dam Project (Arunachal Pradesh), Bursar HE Project (Jammu & Kashmir), Gyspa HE Project (Himachal Pradesh), 2nd Ravi-Vyas Link Project (Punjab) and Upper Siang Project (Arunachal Pradesh). The Committee would like to be updated of the action taken in the matter. The Committee would also like that the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Pranahita – Chevella Project should also be expedited and to this end, necessary consultations with the State Government of Telangana be initiated by the Ministry at the earliest to avoid cost and time escalations. The Committee would further like to be apprised of action taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Status of national projects funded under AIBP is as below:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Status</i>
1.	Gosikhurd Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Under Execution (i) Head Work: Almost completed (ii) Main & Branch canal: Almost at completion stage (iii) Dy. Minor Water courses: About 50% work completed. In respect of Gosikhurd project despite completion of head works, water is not being impounded upto Full Reservoir Level (FRL) due to land acquisition / R&R issues which comes under the preview of State Govt. Project is included in the list of 99

			prioritised projects for completion in mission mode under PMKSY. Target date of completion intimated by state is March, 2020. Accordingly provisions for funding of this project upto completion are being proposed.
2.	Teesta Barrage Project	West Bengal	Under Execution:- Main Structures completed. Govt. of West Bengal is finding it difficult to acquire land for distributaries and minors. The State Govt. has not submitted any C.A. proposal since last three years and not indicated any priority to complete the same.
3.	Shahpur Kandi Project	Punjab	Under Execution:- The State of J&K has not agreed to lease the land in its territory to the Govt. of Punjab due to certain reservations regarding design of project which may not able to deliver their share of water. Further, they have cited that agreement in this regard has been terminated by Punjab, in view of Punjab termination Agreement Acts (PTAA) enacted by Govt. of Punjab. The issue has been taken up in subcommittee of interstate council for resolution of issue. Further both the States Punjab and J&K have intimated that they are in the process of sorting out issue by consultation at Chief Secretary Level.
4.	Saryu Nahar Pariyojana	Uttar Pradesh	Under Execution: Saryu Nahar Pariyojana is to be implemented in three phases. Main diversion structure and link canals are already complete.

			Components of project under scheme of National projects are some of balance works phase-II & phase-III of the project which involve construction of main Rapti canal. The revised target of completion of project is indicated by state is March, 2018. It is one of the priority project and funding arrangement for the same are being tied up as may be required.
5.	Indira Sagar Polavaram Project	Andhra Pradesh	Under Execution: An expenditure of Rs.7194 cr. has been incurred against approved cost of irrigation component of Rs. 13142.05 crore. Central assistance of Rs. 850 cr has been provided during 2014-15 & 2015-16. Further the funds required for its completion are being tied up to complete it in a time bound manner. Earth work on dam has been completed upto 31% and main canals have been completed upto 90%.
6.	Lakhwar Multi Purpose Project	Uttarakhand	The revised cost estimate of the Lakhwar project at an cost of 3966.51cr (PL2012) has been accepted by the TAC of MoWR in its meeting dated 14.12.2012 and investment clearance has been granted on 19 th April -2016. Upper Yamuna River Board is taking up the matter with the concerned States regarding sharing of benefits.
7.	Ujh Multi Purpose Project	J & K	DPR is under appraisal in CWC/CEA. Some of the observations are yet to be complied by the State Govt. Further, State Government is yet to obtain the requisite statutory clearances.

8.	Kishau Multi Purpose Project	H.P. & Uttarakhand	Revised DPR submitted to CWC in 2010 by Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (UJVNL). Observations / Comments (2011) on DPR yet to be complied by Project Authority (PA). MoU for formation of Joint Venture (JV) between GoUK and GoHP signed on 20.06.2015. However SPV is yet to be formed.
9.	Renuka Dam Project	H. P.	Technical clearance to the revised DPR of the project is yet to be accorded. Compliances to most of the CWC observations (05/2010) are awaited. In principle forest clearance obtained. R&R clearance obtained from Ministry of Tribal Affairs The Environment clearance accorded by MoEF in 2009 is under challenge in National Green Tribunal (NGT). The NGT has made a committee under Principal Chief Conservator of forest Himachal Pradesh in this regard.
10.	Noa-Dehing Dam Project	Arunachal Pradesh	DPR submitted in Oct, 2014 for appraisal. Compliance to CWC/CEA comments awaited from Project Authorities.
11.	Kulsi Dam Project	Assam	DPR submitted in September 2014 by Brahmaputra Board. Compliance to CWC/ CEA comments awaited from PA despite reminders. Brahmaputra Board has been requested to expedite process.
12.	Ken Betwa Link Project	M. P. & U.P.	Phase-1 under appraisal in CWC/CEA. Updated cost estimate (Rs 17647.40 Cr. PI-2015-16) submitted by PA in Feb 2016. Land for

			compensatory afforestation yet to be identified by states. Fresh agreement between UP and MP for water balance required. NWDA is taking necessary action in this regard.
13.	Bursar Project	J & K	NHPC has intimated that the project is financially unviable.
14.	Gyspa Project	H.P.	Work plan furnished for submission of DPR by May, 2017. S&I works are withheld due to persistent resistance from locals to shift the dam site to upstream site.
15.	2 nd Ravi Vyas Link Project	Punjab	PFR submitted by Punjab in July 2014 not in proper shape and observations sent. The Govt. of Punjab further submitted an inspection Note (March 2015) stating that project is not technically viable.
16.	Upper Siang Project Upper Siang	Arunachal Pradesh Arunachal	NTPC submitted PFR to Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in 11/2009. Presently composite proposal is under active consideration for 300m. Dam Rehabilitation of Yingkiong will be needed.

A High Power Steering Committee under chairmanship of Secretary (Water Resources, RD & GR) has been constituted to review the implementation of National Project. The committee has held 9 meeting so far Last meeting was held on 26.09.2014.

Pranahitha- Chevella Sujjalla Sravanthi Project :

An Irrigation Project namely, Pranahitha Chevella was taken up by the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh in the year 2008-09 to serve drought prone areas of Telangana region and was proposed to be taken up as National Project. In view of certain inter-state issues with Maharashtra and difference in the quantum of water availability, the barrage at Medigadda could not be started.

Now, the Govt. of Telangana has intimated that major design modification for optimum utilization of water for Telangana has been carried out while addressing the concerns of Maharashtra. WAPCOS is preparing the DPR of the revised project and the project will now comprise of the following two components:-

1 Pranahitha and 2 Kaleshwaram. DPR is under preparation. It would be examined by CWC once it is completed and is submitted by the State Government.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 15 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 4.29)

The Committee note that the Plan allocation for Flood Control for the year 2015-16 was earmarked at Rs. 112.00 crore. However, it was reduced to Rs. 103.26 crore at the Revised Estimate stage for the same financial year and then increased to Rs. 138.37 crore for 2016-17. The reason cited by the Ministry for this reduction in Budget allocation at the RE stage in 2015-16 was that the Plan scheme for Flood Forecasting was approved in December, 2016 due to which no new activities of modernization and expansion of network could be commenced leading to the requirement being reduced at RE stage. For the increase in Plan allocation in the BE 2016-17 to Rs. 138.37 crore from Rs. 112.00 crore in the BE 2015-16, the Ministry stated that the reason therefor was consideration of the requirement of protection works on the common border rivers and funds required for meeting the expenditure of newly set up Pancheshwar Development Authority. The Committee are convinced that the inordinate delay in approval of the Plan scheme Flood Forecasting by as late as December, 2016 which led to reduction in allocation at RE stage in 2015-16, is indicative of the casual approach of the Ministry to tackle the persistent issue of reductions of allocations at the RE stage, against which the Committee strongly had been advising the Ministry in their earlier Reports on Demands for Grants (2011-

12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16). The Committee are of the opinion that the Ministry have not taken the recommendation of the Committee seriously despite their repeated assurances to the contrary. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry make concerted efforts to formulate their Budget estimates judiciously through an objectively conducted pre-planning exercise and by exercising effective control over its various Offices / Agencies so that no room is left for reduction at the Revised estimate stage in Budget estimates. They also want the Ministry to immediately take concrete action to simplify and streamline the process of getting approval of schemes especially under the Head Flood Control so as to avoid wastage of manpower and resources in the frequent process of estimation of allocations. They Committee desire to be apprised of the outcome of efforts made in regard to flood protection works on the common border rivers and progress made regarding the Pancheshwar Dam project during 2016-17.

Reply of the Government

There are three Plan Schemes being run by this Wing namely:

1. Flood Management Programme (FMP)- A State Sector Scheme
2. River management Activities & Works related to Border Areas (RMBA)-Central Sector Scheme(100% Grant-in-aid)
3. Flood Forecasting Scheme-A Central Sector Scheme

The details of budget allocation during the year 2015-16 are given below:

(Rs. In crore)

S.N.	Sector	2015-16		
		BE	RE	Actual
1	Flood Forecasting	50.00	35.00	32.93
2	River Management Activities and Works related to Boarder Areas	102.00	240.56	185.52

3	Farraka Barrage Project	100.00	84.00	72.61
4	Flood Management Project	200.00	275.00	264.00

The recommendations of the Committee have been noted and efforts would be made for judicious planning of the estimates to avoid any reduction of budget at RE stage. The Government has already streamlined the processes involved in approval of the schemes and as per the modified procedure the schemes costing upto Rs. 1000 crore are approved by the Minister of administrative Ministry and Finance Ministry. The schemes costing above Rs. 1000 crore are placed before the Cabinet/ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for approvals.

The flood protection works on common border rivers are fully funded under the plan scheme, "River Management Activities and Works related to Boarder Areas". The important such works funded by Ministry are mentioned below:

4. Maintenance of embankments of Kosi and Gandak projects located in the territory of Nepal- as per the bilateral understanding these works are funded by Government of India and the same are executed by Government of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh prior to every monsoon. These works have proved to quite useful in providing protection of the embankments, ensuring safety of Kosi and Gandak barrages thereby creating a larger degree of protection against floods to the lives and properties of the people of India residing in the downstream of the barrages.
5. Bank protection/ anti-erosion works in West Bengal and Tripura on rivers having common border with Bangladesh- The common border rivers between India and Bangladesh face acute problem of erosion of river banks and beds which causes loss of land and also endangers the lives and properties of the people residing in concerned areas. Such works are under taken by respective country in its territory. On Indian side, such works are executed by Governments of West Bengal and Tripura and funded fully by Government of India.
6. During 12th Plan, bank protection works on river Ravi and Beas in Punjab have also been funded for strengthening of the embankments and erosion control.

India and Nepal had signed the Mahakali treaty in 1996 for integrated development of river Mahakali (known as Sarada in India). As per bilateral understanding reached between the two countries, a joint project office (JPO-PI) was set up in 1999 at Kathmandu which carried out field investigations for Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. After the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in August 2014, the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project received a catalytic and accelerated momentum and in September, 2014, a Pancheshwar Development Authority was set up to finalize the DPR of the project and undertake its implementation. The Draft DPR of the project has been prepared by Water and Power Consultancy Services Limited (WAPCOS), which is under examination in PDA and both the countries. As per tentative features finalize so far, the project would generate total power of 5040 MW and provide irrigation in 0.43 mha in both the countries besides the benefit of flood control specially in India.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 18 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Para No. 5.10)

The Committee note that the Brahmaputra Board under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in order to achieve an integrated implementation of measures for the control of flood and bank erosion, has so far prepared 57 Master Plans out of which 49 have been approved by Government of India and remaining 8 have been approved by the Board. Besides, 41 Drainage Development Schemes (DDS) have been identified under these Master Plans, out of which 2 schemes have been executed and 4 are under execution. In respect of the flood control and anti-erosion measures, the Committee further note that the Board has completed Phase – I of the works of protection of Majuli Island at the cost of Rs. 52.63 crore, while Phase – II and Phase – III, initiated in 2009, is completed upto 91.96% and targeted to be completed by June, 2016. The Ministry also informed that Phase – I, Phase – II and Phase – III of the works of Avulsion of Brahmaputra river at Dhola-Hatighuli have been completed while works on Phase-IV have been completed by upto 99.8%. The Committee,

however, note that despite the tall claims about works on the flood control and anti-erosion undertaken by the Brahmaputra Board, Assam faced severe flood of unprecedented proportion in 2015 although an expenditure of Rs. 106.42 crore was incurred by the Board on flood control during the last 3 years. The Committee are also distressed to note that out of 5 DPRs for Multipurpose projects prepared by the Brahmaputra Board in the North-East region, viz. Siang Single Stage, Subansiri Single Stage, Tipaimukh, Pagladiya, and Bairabi, none of these projects have been completed till date. About the periodic monitoring being done by the Government / Brahmaputra Board regarding the progress of works in the 5 Multipurpose projects, the Ministry have not furnished any reply - which speak a lot about the lackadaisical attitude of the Government / Brahmaputra Board on this vital issue. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry institute an appraisal panel to look into the delays in the execution of the 5 Multipurpose projects for which the Brahmaputra Board has prepared DPRs and apprise the Committee of its findings after fixing responsibility for lapses, acts of commission and omission on the part of the concerned implementing agencies. Side by side, the Committee also recommend that the Ministry should duly complete the balance works regarding protection of Majuli Island (Phase II & III) by the targeted time, i.e. June, 2016 and also wind up Phase – IV works on Avulsion of Brahmaputra river at Dholahat. They further recommend that the Ministry should vigorously pursue the progress of the other Multipurpose projects, viz. Noa-Dehing, Kulsi, Simsang, Jadhahat and Killing - which are at various stages of appraisal, Survey and Investigation and preparation of DPR in the Brahmaputra Board. The Committee would like to be apprised about the results of action taken by the Ministry in this regard within the next six months.

Reply of the Government

As mentioned in the report, Brahmaputra Board spent Rs. 106.42 crore during the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-2016 (up-to February, 2016) in execution of following works-

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of scheme	Year				Total
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (up to Feb. 2016)	
1. Protection of Majuli Island Phase-II and III	26.88	25.63	12.67	9.42	74.60
2. Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli Phase-IV	8.58	13.69	3.42	2.45	28.14
3. Protection of Balat Village in Meghalaya	--	0.13	0.03	2.22	2.38
4. Protection of Mankachar – Kalair-Alga International Border area	--	--	0.17	1.09	1.26
Total	35.46	39.45	16.29	15.18	106.38

All these works are executed on request of Government of Assam and approval of Ministry of Water resources, RD &GR. In comparison to the vast flood affected area in the State of Assam, Board has been entrusted for protection of only in a few locations of the state. In the above locations Board has been able to attain considerable control of floods and erosion.

The achievement of Brahmaputra Board in control of flood and erosion in these areas are as under:

- (a) The scheme Protection of Majuli Island from floods and bank erosion was taken up by Brahmaputra Board in January 2004. Broadly, protection works encompass raising and strengthening of embankment, plugging of breaches, casting and laying of permeable RCC porcupines screens, spurs and dampeners, construction of boulder spurs, river bank revetment and construction of raised platforms. The works were taken up in phases and, Immediate Measure, Phase –I and Emergent works completed Works under Phase-II&III will be completed by March 2017.

Outcome

As a result of the works executed so far, the total area of Majuli Island has increased by 22.08 sq km from the Year 2004 to 2016 as shown in the table below-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Area of Majuli Island (in sq km)</i>	<i>Net Area reclaimed (in sq km)</i>
2004	502.21	
2008	506.37	4.16
2011	520.26	13.89
2012	522.73	2.47
2014	523.88	1.15
2016	524.29	0.41
Total land mass gained from 2004 to 2016		22.08

- (b) The scheme Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli was taken up in the year 2004 with the objective to divert the rivers Dibang and Lohit to their original courses. Board executed the work in phases and completed Phase-I, II, III & IV .

As mentioned in the report to wind up the work of Phase-IV, Board has completed the work in March 2016.

Outcome:

11 villages under Doomduma Revenue Circle in an area of about 1500 ha got protection from floods, since the year 2004 onwards, on construction of retirement bund at Hatighuli area on Left bank of Lohit river.

An area of about 900 ha just behind the Tie-bund, on country side, got protection from floods and erosion, on construction of Tie-bund in the year 2003-04. Cultivation has started, afresh, in the area between the Tie-bund and the Ghoramora channel.

- (c) The Phase-I work of the scheme protection of Balat village from erosion of river Umngi in the State of Meghalaya for Rs.5.63 crore was taken up in the year 2013-14 and completed in the year 2015. Most of the erosion affected areas has been protected from this work.

(d) The scheme protection of MankacharKalair-Alga area which was approved by Government of India in XII Five Year Plan and taken up actual executive during 2014-15. Laying of RCC porcupine screens has been completed and the bank protection work is in progress. Due to resistance of general public on acquisition of land for construction and inability of civil authority, the progress of work has been slowed down. However, in persuasions from the contractor, some local people and employees of Brahmaputra Board, the bank protection work for 520 m length is in progress. Brahmaputra Board is in regular contact of District authority for acquiring the required land.

Brahmaputra Board undertook preparation of DPRs of 14 Multipurpose Projects in North-East region. The progress of the 5(five) handed over projects are as under-

Sl. No.	Project	Implementing Agency / Organisation / Government
1	Siang Dam Project (3 dams)	Handed over to NHPC during the year 2000. NHPC informed that work relating to Siang Lower was handed over to M/s Jayprakash Associated Ltd.(JAL) on 31.03.2009, work relating to Siang Middle was handed over to M/s Reliance Energy Ltd(REL) and for Siang Upper, Government of Arunachal Pradesh allocated the work to M/s NTPC in February 2009 for preparation of PFR.
2	Subansiri Dam Project (3 dams)	Handed over to NHPC during the year 2000. As stated by NHPC the Lower Subansiri is targeted for completion within the year 2017. Sunbansiri Middle and Subansiri Upper were handed over to M/s Jindal Power Ltd. On 04.02.2011.
3	Tipaimukh Dam Project	Handed over to NEEPCO and subsequently from NEEPCO to NHPC
4	Pagladiya Dam Project	The work of Pagladiya Dam project under execution by Brahmaputra Board was held up due to non-completion of zirat survey. As per decision of 53rd meeting of Brahmaputra Board, all activities were closed from 1st June 2013. In the 7th High Powered Review Board meeting held at Shillong, it was decided to talk to BTAD by Govt. of Assam. Again, in the

		60th meeting of Brahmaputra Board held at New Delhi it was decided to take up the matter with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam.
5	Bairabi Dam Project	Handed over to Government of Mizoram. The Government of Mizoram allotted the work of execution of Bairabi Dam Project to M/s Sikaria Power Ltd., Kolkata on 10.08.2012. It has been intimated by Government of Mizoram that Bairabi Dam Project will be completed within seven years.

At present 5 (five) Projects are under different stages of DPR preparation and Survey & Investigation. The progress of two National Projects declared by Government of India out of the 5 multipurpose projects are as under –

Sl. No.	Project	Implementing Agency / Organisation / Government
1	Noa-Dihing Dam Project	<p>The project site is located about 4 km upstream of Miao Town in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh. The installed capacity of the project is estimated at 71 MW with irrigation benefit of 8000 ha. The project has been identified as 'National Project' by Government of India. Preparation of DPR has been completed in March 2014 and submitted to MoWR, RD&GR for approval. The MoWR, RD&GR forwarded the same to CWC for appraisal in coordination with Brahmaputra Board.</p> <p>Brahmaputra Board is in a position to implement the project after obtaining techno-economic clearances. Board has shared the draft DPR with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to issue NOC for execution of the Noa-Dihing Dam Project by Brahmaputra Board. The NOC is awaited.</p>
2	Kulsi Dam Project	<p>The project site is located near Assam and Meghalaya border. The installed capacity of the project is estimated at 55 MW with a gross command area of about 26000 ha to provide irrigation.</p>

		<p>The project has been identified as 'National Project' by Government of India. Preparation of DPR completed in June 2014 and submitted to MoWR, RD&GR for approval. The MoWR, RD&GR forwarded the same to CWC for appraisal in coordination with Brahmaputra Board.</p> <p>Brahmaputra Board is in a position to implement the project after obtaining techno-economic clearances. Board has requested the Government of Assam and Meghalaya to issue NOC for execution of the Kulsi Dam Project. The draft DPR has been shared with the concerned state Governments. The NOCs are awaited from the State Governments.</p>
3	Simsang Dam Project	<p>Under 'Survey & Investigation' and DPR preparation. Brahmaputra Board has been informed by the Ministry to expedite the same.</p>
4	Jiadhal Dam Project	
5	Killing Dam Project	

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 29 of Chapter I of the Report)

CHAPTER V

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLY OF THE
GOVERNMENT IS STILL AWAITED

- NIL -

NEW DELHI;
27 November, 2016
06 Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

HUKUM SINGH
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Water Resources

ANNEXURE-I**STATEMENT SHOWING PROGRESSIVE EXPENDITURE UP TO MARCH 2016, NON-PLAN IN
R/O CSMRS**

(In thousand of rupees)					
Unit of Appropriation Major Head- 2701	BE 2015-2016	RE 2015-2016	Expd. In March - 2016	Progressive Expenditure	Balance
04.03.01-Salaries	115000	115000	681	112638	2362
04.03.03- Over time Allow.	20	20	0	17	3
04.03.06-Medical treatment	850	1250	344	1249	1
04.03.11- Domestic T.E.	320	320	0	292	28
04.03.13- Office Expenses	1050	1050	72	982	68
04.03.17-BCTT	0	0	0	0	0
04.03.20- Other Admn. Exp.	200	200	0	140	60
04.03.27- Minor Works	650	650	110	645	5
4701.80.0002.03. Capital outlay on Medium Irrigation- (Major Head) Gen.					
02.03.51- Motor Vehicles	380	380	122	356	24
02.03.52- Machinery & Equipment	30	30	19	19	11
Total	118500	118900	1348	116338	2562

STATE-WISE STATISTICS OF WATER BODIES AS PER INDIA-WRIS PROJECT

Sl. No.	State Name	Water bodies (no.)
1	Andhra Pradesh*	35472
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1212
3	Assam	14204
4	Bihar	59600
5	Chhattisgarh	104716
6	Chandigarh	1
7	Daman & Diu	21
8	Delhi	52
9	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	3
10	Goa	418
11	Gujarat	15261
12	Himachal Pradesh	206
13	Haryana	5523
14	Jharkhand	38739
15	Jammu & Kashmir	843
16	Karnataka	53694
17	Kerala	11876
18	Lakshadweep	0
19	Meghalaya	25
20	Manipur	1591
21	Madhya Pradesh	65811

22	Maharashtra	39682
23	Mizoram	494
24	Nagaland	463
25	Odisha	90865
26	Punjab	5770
27	Puducherry	11
28	Rajasthan	43841
29	Sikkim	255
30	Tamil Nadu	73082
31	Telangana*	16070
32	Tripura	131
33	Uttarakhand	802
34	Uttar Pradesh	15680
35	West Bengal	102490
36	Andaman & Nicobar Island	4
	Total	798908

Size Range of Water bodies: 0.0102-67536.19 Ha.

*Figures of AP & Telangana are based on tentative boundary

R&D SCHEMES UNDER RGI

Sl. No.	Title	Collaborating Organisations	Progress as on 31.03.2016
1	Sustainability of aquifer systems underlying Bemetara block, Bemetara, Chhattisgarh-a mathematical modelling approach.	RGNGWTRI, CGWB, Raipur & CGWB, NCCR, Raipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Basic data collection and compilation completed – Monthly monitoring for dynamic data of 84 Dug wells and 14 Bore wells completed up to March-2016 – On site measurements of EC, pH and temperature and Collection of 70 ground water sample for analysis completed. <p><u>Works plan for 2016-2017</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Monitoring ground water regime of the study area. – Study the suitability of water for different purposes like drinking, irrigation by analysis of different chemical parameters. – Development of a conceptual model of the area. – Simulation of the ground water flow on finite difference based mathematical model. – Evolution of an alternative development management plans of ground water utilisation. – Tests the plans on simulation model. – Recommend the optimal plan for implementation which is maximum positive impact on ground water system. <p>Date of Completion of project -24 months</p>
2	Stable isotope investigations to study surface water – ground	RGNGWTRI, CGWB, Raipur & PRL, Ahmedabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Study area demarcated, historical data on ground water level, exploratory wells details of the study area have been compiled. Protocols of collection of water samples for isotope

	water interaction in a hard rock terrain in parts of Durg District, Chhattisgarh.		<p>analysis finalised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The GIS layers of geology, drainage, surface water bodies, village location, topographic contours, and road network of the study area have been prepared. <p><u>Work plan for 2016-17</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ground water level monitoring, collection of water samples from surface water bodies and ground water structures during pre-monsoon and post-monsoon periods. – Analysis of surface and ground water samples for isotopic signature. – Collection of rainwater samples and their analysis for isotopic signature. <p>Date of Completion of project -24 months</p>
3	Application of Artificial Intelligence in Ground Water Resource Evaluation and Management	RGNGWTRI, CGWB, Raipur & Department of Geology & Geophysics and Department of Computer Science, IIT-Kharagpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The study aimed to use innovative computational techniques by using artificial intelligence/machine learning tools to simulate the prediction by using the existing hydrogeological data. – It is envisaged to provide long-term prediction of groundwater storage, level and its variability of Ganga Basin, in response to various climatic and water use scenarios. – Chalk out the modalities of the Research project and its application with the field data. – Basic data acquisition and compilation completed – Project started from 01-04-2016 with a duration of 24 months.

4	Assessment of Perchlorate contamination of water resources and contaminant plume migration in the groundwater system near Aluva, Ernakulum district, Kerala	RGNGWTRI, CGWB, Raipur and CGWB, KR, Trivandrum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Project proposal for R&D study on perchlorate contamination of ground water in Kerala has been submitted by Regional director, CGWB, KR, Trivandrum. – Basic data collection and compilation completed – The analysis of the samples is proposed to be outsourced. – Total duration of R&D study is 18 months..
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R&D STUDIES CARRIED OUT FOR NE STATES

	Assam
1.	Ground Water quality monitoring and evaluation in and around greater Guwahati (Assam) Part-I: Preliminary
2.	Application of HEC2 programme for water surface profile determination of river Digaru at Sonapur, Assam
3.	Ground Water quality monitoring and evaluation in and around greater Guwahati (Assam): Part-II Chemical analysis
4.	Ground Water quality monitoring and evaluation in and around greater Guwahati (Assam) Part-III: Trace elements
5.	Ground water quality in Greater Guwahati, Assam with reference to trace elements
6.	Preliminary hydrological investigations of Deepar Beel and strategies for its monitoring and management
7.	Crop water requirements for Krishnai Irrigation Project (Medium) of Assam
8.	Raingauge network design for pagaladiya basin
9.	Water balance study of Krishnai river basin according to Thornthwaite's concept of potential evapotranspiration.
10.	Runoff and sediment modeling in a part of Brahmaputra River basin using ANN
11.	Study of sedimentation and useful life of Barapani reservoir using radiometric dating of sediments
12.	Design flood estimation of Krishnai basin
13.	Floodplain delineation and zoning in Burhi Dihing, Brahmaputra using remote sensing and GIS
14.	Floodplain delineation and risk zoning in Gai River of assam using remote sensing and GIS
15.	Study of shifting of a typical river using remote sensing and GIS techniques, Gabharu, Assam
16.	Hydro-meteorological Aspects of Dudhnai sub -basin
17.	Infiltration Studies at Dudhnai sub-basin
18.	Soil Classification of Dudhnai representative Basin (Assam/Meghalaya)
19.	Watershed Prioritization of Jiadhal Basin through R.S & G.I.S.
20.	Estimation of Design Flood using GIUH approach for Jadukata Basin
21.	Estimation of Design Flood for Kulsi Basin using GIUH Approach
22.	Flood Estimation of Jadukata basin with SCS method.
23.	Daily time series analysis of Discharge data of Tributaries of Brahmaputra

24.	Determination of soil Hydrologic properties and Infiltration Modelling in a Hilly Watershed.
25.	Flash flood Studies (Jiadhal Basin)
26.	Hydrological Investigations of Dhansiri River Basin: Flood and Erosion Studies.
27.	Hydrological Soil classification of Dudhnai Sub- Basin(Assam/ Meghalaya) Part-I
28.	Hydrological Soil classification of Dudhnai Sub- Basin(Assam/ Meghalaya) Part-II
29.	Implementation of SCS model in Dudhnai Sub- Basin(Assam/ Meghalaya)
30.	Hydrogeomorphological Studies: Dudhnai Sub- Basin(Assam/ Meghalaya)
Arunachal Pradesh	
1.	Design Flood Estimation for Tenga Dam (Kameng Hydro-Electric Project , 600 MW) Arunachal Pradesh
2.	Design Flood Estimation for Bichom Dam (Kameng Hydro-Electric Project , 600 MW) Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Design Flood Estimation for Kameng Hydro-Electric Project (600 MW), Arunachal Pradesh
4.	Modelling non—point source pollution: Rainfall- runoff modelling for Dikrong Basin using AvSWAT
5.	Flood hazard mapping in Dikrong Basin, Arunachal Pradesh.
6.	Design of Rainguage station network for Arunachal Pradesh.
Meghalaya	
1.	Geomorphological study of Myntdu river basin
2.	Development of Geomorphological instantaneous unit hydrograph for Myntdu- Leska basin
3.	Precipitation network design for Myntdu-Leska basin
4.	Dam break study of Myntdu Leska dam using DAMBRK model
5.	Rainfall–Runoff Analysis using flood analysis and protection systems (FLAPS) Model
6.	Design Flood estimation of Myntdu-Leska basin (Meghalaya)
7.	Flood Plain Mapping of Phulbari (Meghalaya) area using satellite data
8.	Reservoir sedimentation studies for Barapani reservoir using nuclear technique
9.	Assessment of Water Quality in Meghalaya
10.	Plan for upgradation water Quality imonitoring network for Meghalaya
11.	Acid Mine Drainage in Coal mining areas of Meghalaya
12.	Hydrological soil classification of Dudhnai sub-basin (Assam/Meghalaya) Part-I
13.	Hydrological soil classification of Dudhnai sub-basin (Assam/Meghalaya) Part-II
14.	Hydro meteorological aspects of Dudhnai basin (Assam/Meghalaya)
15.	Infiltration studies of Dudhanai sub-basin
16.	Implementation on SCS Model in Dudhnai sub- basin (Assam/Meghalaya)
17.	Hydrological Soil Classification of Dudhnai sub- Basin
18.	Hydrogeomorphological studies: Dudhnai sub- basin (Assam/Meghalaya)
Mizoram	
1.	Tuirial H.E. Project (Mizoram) –Mathematical modelling for prediction of floods of various return periods.
Manipur	
1.	Loktak Lake Studies

	Nagaland
1.	Network design of raingauge stations for Nagaland
	Sikkim
1.	Discharge measurement of river Teesta in Sikkim using tracer dilution method
2.	Assessment of Environmental Flow Requirement in River Teesta at Teesta Stage IV Project Site
3.	Chapter for Glacier & Climate Change Commission , Govt of Sikkim

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2016-17)
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2016

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1510 hours in Committee Room 'C', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukum Singh – **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Radheshyam iswas
3. Shri Sudhir Gupta
4. Shri Abhijit Mukherjee
5. Shri Vijaysinh Mohite Patil
6. Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram
7. Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah
8. Smt. V. Sathyabama

RAJYA SABHA

9. Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur
10. Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde
11. Shri Hishey Lachungpa
12. Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu
13. Shri Sanjay Seth
14. Shri A.V. Swamy
15. Shri Pradeep Tamta

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Rita Jaikhani | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Kushal Sarkar | - | Additional Director |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration and adoption (a) Draft Report on Action Taken by Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the subject “Review of Ground Water Scenario, need for a comprehensive policy and measures to address problems in the country - with particular reference to (i) Dark Blocks; and (ii) Contamination of underground water by certain industries”; and (b) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the aforesaid two draft Reports without any modification.

3. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present these two Reports to both the Houses of Parliament in the current Winter Session.

The Committee then adjourned

[Vide Para 4 of the Introduction]

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE
OBSERVATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE NINTH REPORT
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE COMMITTEE**

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (i) | Total number of Observations/ Recommendations | 18 |
|-----|---|----|

- (ii) Observations/ Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government

Para Nos.1.22, 1.23, 1.24, 2.25, 2.26, 3.16, 3.17, 4.30, 4.30-A, 4.31, 4.32 and 5.11

Total : 12

Percentage : 66.66%

- (iii) Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies

Para Nos. 1.26 and 2.24

Total : 02

Percentage : 11.11 %

- (iv) Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee

Para Nos. 1.25, 2.27, 4.29 and 5.10

Total : 04

Percentage : 22.22 %

- (v) Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which final reply of the Government are still awaited

Para No. NIL

Total : NIL

Percentage : 0%