

STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

(2016-17)

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2017-18)

SIXTEENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2017 / Phalguna, 1938 (Saka)

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GANGA REJUVENATION

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(2017-18)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 16.03.2017

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 16.03.2017



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2017 / Phalguna, 1938 (Saka)

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SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri Shiv Kumar	-	<i>Joint Secretary</i>
2.	Smt. Rita Jaikhani	-	<i>Director</i>
3.	Shri Kushal Sarkar	-	<i>Additional Director</i>
4.	Smt. Shanta Banerjee Datta	-	Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Water Resources (2016-17) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Sixteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2017-18) of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

2. The Demands for Grants have been examined by the Committee under Rule 331E(1)(a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on 14 February, 2017.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 14 March, 2017.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the representatives of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation for providing them the requisite written material and for making oral depositions before the Committee in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their sense of deep appreciation for the assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI
8 March, 2017
17 Phalguna, 1938 (Saka)

HUKUM SINGH,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Water Resources

PART I

CHAPTER I

1.1 Water is the basic necessity for sustenance of life, livelihood, food security, energy security and sustainable development. With increasing population, rapid industrialisation, growing urbanisation and climate change, water availability has become a serious issue. As per Water Resources Information System of India (India WRIS), utilisable water resources in India are only 28 percent. Therefore efficient management of water resources is crucial for ensuring water security, environmental sustenance and sustainable economic development.

1.2 The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India is responsible for the development, conservation and management of water as a national resource; overall national perspective of water planning and coordination in relation to diverse uses of water; general policy, technical assistance, research and development, training and matters relating to irrigation and multi-purpose projects, ground water management; conjunctive use of surface and ground water, command area development, flood management including drainage, flood-proofing, water logging, sea erosion and dam safety. The Ministry have also been allocated the subject of regulation and development of inter-state rivers, implementation of awards of Tribunals, water quality assessment, bilateral and external assistance and cooperation programmes in the field of water resources and matters relating to rivers common to India and the neighboring countries.

Budgetary Allocations

1.3 The detailed Demands for Grants in Demand No. 98 of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) was laid on the table of Lok Sabha

on 08 February, 2017. A total budgetary provision of Rs.6,887 crore (net) has been made for the year 2017-18. The following table shows the allocation of Budget for the MoWR, RD and GR for the year 2017-18:-

Table 1: Budgetary Allocation (2017-18)

(Rs. in crore/net)

Revenue	6,102.51
Capital	784.49
Total	6,887.00
NABARD	9,020.00
Grand Total	15,907.00

Analysis of Demands for Grants

1.4 The total budgetary allocation for the MoWR, RD and GR is Rs. 6,887 crore. Further there is a provision of loan of Rs. 9,020 crore from NABARD. Thus the total budget of the Ministry is Rs. 15,907 crore. The following table shows the comparison of Budget Allocation this year as against the last year:

Table –2: Comparative Analysis of Demands for Grants (BE)

(Rs. in crore / net)

Year	Revenue	Capital	Total
2016-17	5,812.60	388.61	6,201.21
2017-18	6,102.51	784.49	6,887.00

1.5 Total Demand for the year 2017-18 is Rs. 6,887 crore, consisting of Rs. 6,102.51 crore under Revenue section and Rs. 784.49 crore under Capital section. In comparison to last year, there is an increase of Rs. 289.91 crore in Revenue section and Rs. 395.88 crore in Capital section. Thus the total Demand has increased by Rs. 685.79 crore this year.

Utilisation of Budgetary resources

1.6 The Budget Allocations and utilization in respect of the MoWR, RD and GR for the last five years are as follows:

Table – 3: Allocation and Utilisation of funds

(Rs. in crore/net)

Year	BE	RE	Expenditure	% w.r.t RE
2012-13	2,041.00	1,209.85	1,035.00	85.55
2013-14	2,076.55	1,241.00	1,057.42	85.21
2014-15	13,836.64	6,009.32	5,487.81	91.32
2015-16	4,232.43	7,032.43	6,863.73	97.60
2016-17	6,201.21	4,755.50	4,450.00*	93.58
Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR)	0.00	8,181.50	3,981.00	
Total	6,201.21	12,937.00	8,431.00	

*Expenditure till 7th February, 2017.

1.7 On being asked by the Committee to furnish reasons for the reduction in allocated funds by Rs. 1,445.71 crore at Revised Estimate (RE) stage during 2016-17, the Ministry, in its written submission stated as follows:

“The Ministry had projected a requirement of Rs.9799.63 cr in the RE, 2016-17 and this was also conveyed at the time of discussions with the Ministry of Finance. While, the reduction of Rs 1445.71 cr has taken place in the Budgetary outlays, but Government has permitted funding of two important schemes i.e. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Polavaram Project through borrowings from NABARD. The Ministry as on 07.02.2017 has already released Rs 3,981 crore of these funds to the State Governments and the total borrowing is likely to be Rs 8,181.50 crore. Thus taking into account the NABARD borrowings, the actual budget has actually increased to Rs.12,937 crore as compared to BE of Rs.6201.21 crore in FY 2016-17.

The Actual Expenditure till 07.02.2017 is approximately Rs.4,440 crore out of a RE allocation of Rs. 4,755.50 crore.”

1.8 When asked about the details of schemes/programmes/projects/activities which got affected due to curtailment of allocations at RE stage, thereby, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated as follows:

“The list of schemes which have received lesser allocations in RE is enclosed as **Annexure-I**. The major flagship programmes of the Ministry viz. Namami Gange and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) are not affected owing to restrictions under Namami Gange for release of funds due to elections, etc. and extra-budgetary resources provided for PMKSY (Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and Command Area Development and Water Management) from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The progress is likely to be affected only marginally in other schemes.”

1.9 Replying further to a query on the reasons for increasing allocation during the year 2017-18, the Ministry submitted:

“The increase in allocations, other than funds being provided under National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) and from NABARD is on account of increase in establishment expenditure flowing from implementation of 7th Central Pay Commission (approx 35%), inclusion of Damodar Valley Corporation as a benefitting agency under Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP) (up 600%), Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM&R) (up 56%) for procurement of services and equipments (aquifer mapping) and National Hydrology Project for expected flow of funds in second year of scheme. “

1.10 When asked about the measures taken by the Ministry to avoid drastic changes in allocation at RE stage, the Ministry, in its written reply stated:

“Ministry has not proposed any reduction in expenditure at RE stage and in fact higher requirement of funds was projected. While no drastic reduction of BE in allocations at RE stage have taken place, some adjustment in allocation of funds is natural considering the faster/slower progress of various schemes/projects. In fact, the overall allocation of funds has increased both in 2015-16 and 2016-17. Further, with the early presentation of Budget for 2017-18, Ministry will be in a better position to utilise funds during the next fiscal.”

New Budgeting Exercise

1.11 Since the Budget 2017-18, Plan and Non Plan distinction in the Budget has been removed. The basic classification in the Budget is now along Revenue and Capital lines, making the budget more transparent and enabling better evaluation of performance and outcome budget. With the removal of all salary related payments from Schemes and shifting them to non-Schemes, clear demarcation of funds for projects/schemes is available leading to better planning and implementation.

1.12 In case of the Statement of Budgetary Estimates (SBE), the Central Government expenditure would now be classified into six broad categories indicated below:-

A. Centre's Expenditure:

- (i) Establishment Expenditures of the Centre;
- (ii) Central Sector Schemes;
- (iii) Other Central Expenditure, including those on CPSEs and Autonomous Bodies;

B. Centrally Sponsored Schemes and other Transfers:

- (iv) Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- (v) Finance Commission Transfers; and
- (vi) Other Transfers to States.

1.13 On being asked by the Committee as to how the new budgeting method is expected to result in better monitoring of resources allocation and uses, the Ministry in its written reply, submitted as follows:

“In the SBE 2017-18 of this Ministry the whole allocation has been divided in three categories viz

- (i) Establishment Expenditures of the Centre;
- (ii) Central Sector Schemes/Projects; and
- (iii) Transfer to States - Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Thus the Establishment expenditure is separately classified and strictly monitored. In addition the expenditure under various

schemes is monitored continuously by the respective Wing head and Secretary and through weekly review meeting by the Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD & GR)."

1.14 On being asked about the implications of classifying expenditure under Revenue and Capital section, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

"The majority of schemes had earlier allocations for both Plan and Non-Plan. Now the establishment related expenditure is largely kept at one place to make easier for resource allocation on schemes/ projects and also to provide a satisfactory classification of developmental and non-developmental dimensions of Government. While Capital expenditure is primarily for creation of capital assets, the revenue expenditure will cover not only the salaries and establishment related expenditure but also to maintain and operate the assets created earlier."

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana – Har Khet Ko Paani

1.15 Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) was introduced in 2015-16 with basic programme to focus on faster completion of ongoing Major and Medium irrigation projects including National Project with sub-components PMKSY (Har Khet ko Pani), PMKSY (Water shed) and PMKSY (Per Drop More Crop).

1.16 Under the component of Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) there are three schemes of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. They are Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) schemes, Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies scheme and Ground Water Development scheme for which Central assistance is proposed to be released. Under SMI schemes, diversion structures and lift schemes are constructed for the creation of irrigation potential upto 2000 ha. Under RRR of Water Bodies scheme, traditional water bodies are restored mainly by desilting the water bodies and repair of off take and intake channels. The sub-components of PMKSY(HKKP) include:

- (i) Creation of new water resources through minor irrigation (both surface and ground water);
- (ii) Repair, Restoration and Renovation of water bodies;
- (iii) Strengthening carrying capacity of traditional water resources;
- (iv) Construction of rain water harvesting structures (Jal Sanchay);
- (v) Command area development;
- (vi) Strengthening and creation of distribution network from source to the farm.
- (vii) Improvement in water management and distribution system for water bodies to take advantage of the available sources which is not tapped to its fullest capacity deriving benefits from low hanging fruits;
- (viii) At least 10% of the command area to be covered under micro/precision irrigation;
- (ix) Diversion of water from source of different location where it is plenty to nearby water scarce areas;
- (x) Lift irrigation from water bodies /rivers from low elevation to supplement requirement beyond Integrated Water Resource Management Programme (IWMP) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) irrespective of irrigation command;
- (xi) Creation and rejuvenation of traditional water storage systems like Jal Mandir (Gujarat); Khatri, Khul (H.P.); Zabo (Nagaland) 40 Eri,Oranis (Tamil Nadu); Dongs (Assam) Katas, Bandhas(Orissa and M.P.)etc at feasible location

1.17 It was further stated by the Ministry that the Central assistance has been released to States for On-Farm Development works including supply of irrigation water to farmers' fields under

Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) programme as a sub-component of Har Khet Ko Pani component of PMKSY from 2015-16. CAD works of 99 prioritised AIBP projects are being implemented, now, under Har Khet Ko Pani component of PMKSY through NABARD borrowing under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) loan from 2016-17 onwards.

1.18 When asked about the number of States implementing this scheme, the Ministry furnished following information, in its written reply:

“So far, 21 States have implemented this scheme. The details of the state wise ongoing SMI and RRR schemes are given in **Annexure-II**:

Eighteen States (viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) have implemented CAD works under PMKSY-Har Khet Ko Pani under XIIth Plan. However, presently only 99 prioritized projects in 18 States (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh) are covered under the Scheme.”

1.19 The Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure under this scheme is as given below:

Table - 4: Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure under PMKSY – Har Khet Ko Paani

(Rs. in crore)			
BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
500.00	420.89	420.00	1450.00

1.20 Asked to furnish reasons for substantial reduction in allocation under this Head in the last financial year, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“CAD works of 99 prioritized projects taken up for completion, under HKKP component of PMKSY is now being implemented through NABARD borrowing under LTIF from 2016-17 onwards; and hence central budgetary support for CADWM implementation is not required.

In the last Financial Year of 2016-17 total Rs. 1200 crore was requested in RE stage for PMKSY (HKKP) component. But only Rs. 420.89 crore has been provided in RE 2016-17.”

1.21 On being further asked by the Committee to provide the reasons for increasing allocation this year, the Ministry submitted:

“Provision of Rs. 1000 crore to service the interest requirement of the loan raised through NABARD have been kept under HKKP component .However an amount of Rs. 2000 crore would be required to service interest component for NABARD loans which was sought in BE 2017-18

There are 2381 nos of ongoing SMI schemes and 881 nos of water bodies ongoing RRR of water bodies scheme with targeted year of completion 2017-18 in XII Plan. Balance central assistance towards these schemes is to the tune of Rs. 3585.37crore for ongoing SMI schemes and 338.402 crore for ongoing RRR schemes with targeted potential creation of 5.621 lakh ha for SMI and 0.76110 lakh ha for RRR schemes. State wise details are given in the **Annexure-II**. Thus, next year requirement for HKKP were sought to be Rs. 1200 crore in BE 2017-18

No budgetary allocation has been requested for CADWM works under HKKP component of PMKSY during 2017-18.

Further Central assistance of Rs. 691.7483 crore has been released by National Water Development Authority to the States through NABARD borrowing under LTIF during 2016-17 (upto January, 2017).”

1.22 When asked about the proposed works to be undertaken to ensure full utilisation of funds in the current year, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“The funds available will be used for completion of ongoing SMI and RRR schemes. The CADWM Scheme for 99 prioritized projects will continue through NABARD borrowing under LTIF.”

1.23 On being asked about the measures taken by the Government to ensure ‘more crop per drop’ along with increase in water availability, the Ministry, in its written submission stated as below:

“Micro-irrigation is being promoted in place of flood irrigation under CADWM programme for ensuring more crop per drop. The Participatory Irrigation Management is also given focus for effective implementation of the CADWM Scheme.”

1.24 During the oral evidence, held on 14 February, 2017, a query was raised by the Committee with regard to improvement in water use in agriculture which is the maximum user of water. To reply this, the representative of the Ministry stated as:

“There are two types of irrigation approach in it – flood irrigation and micro irrigation. Conventional flood irrigation is there, if we continue this project, no extra improvement is likely to be come therein. Actually we can extend coverage area in none other than the micro irrigation. There is a Ramtal project implemented recently in Karnataka. When they shifted from the conventional irrigation to micro irrigation over there, they made the CCA double, and thus, they are now irrigating the double area with the same project. Even wheat is being produced in micro irrigation there. That gives us a confidence that if we are shifted to micro irrigation, our CCA may become double. But we have the target of minor irrigation only 10% in ongoing scheme.”

1.25 Responding to a further query on targeted area to be covered under micro irrigation and time period fixed for achieving the same, the official submitted:

“We have the target of projects covering 72 lakh and 99 hectare area out of which we will cover around 7 lakh hectare under the micro irrigation. We have the target to be achieved by December, 2019. We hope that we will be able to do it.

In addition to this 72 lakh hectare we are targeting one more new scheme further where we want to bring about 55 lakh hectare under the scheme in a new way at all. We will bring it as per experiences we have got so far. First of all we will focus on non-structural form in place of structural one in respect of that scheme that is, we used to form Water User Association till date because the work of CAD was to be carried out. Now we will do the work of CAD for Water User Association under the scheme, that is, we are getting it reversed. We will not assume that scheme complete at all unless the Water User Association is handed over the control and management of that irrigation system. Its focus will be shifted slightly.

Apart from these, there is target of 10% for micro irrigation. This time we wish to raise it upto 30% so that more and more areas could be covered. We are making the target of 30% for it under our new scheme.”

Central Ground Water Board

1.26 Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), is a multidisciplinary scientific Organization with a mandate to develop and disseminate technologies, monitor and implement national policies for the scientific and sustainable development and management of India's Ground Water resources

including their exploration, assessment, conservation, augmentation, protection from pollution and distribution based on principles of economic and ecological efficiency and equity.

1.27 The Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure for CGWB is as follows:

Table - 5: Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure for CGWB

(Rs. in crore/net)

BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
171.80	172.00	161.27*	240.00

*Upto 31st January, 2017

1.28 The Committee desired to know the specific reasons for increasing Budget Allocations under this Head, in the year 2017-18. In response thereto, the Ministry replied:

“The main reasons for enhancement in allocation for 2016-17 and 2017-18 is due to the enhancement of salary and related component in 7th Pay Commission and shifting of salary components from Plan to Non Plan allocation.”

1.29 Asked to furnish the details of major activities / programmes undertaken by CGWB in the last five years, the Ministry submitted:

Table – 6 : Major Physical Achievements during (2012-2017) upto January 2017

Sl. No	Major Activity	Item/ Unit	Years					Cumulat ive (2012- 17)
			2012-13	2013- 14	2014- 15	2015- 16	2016-17 As on 31.01201 7	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Compilation of Data & Identification of Data Gap	Lakh sq.km .	1.30	1.70	5.89	-	-	8.89
2	Data Generation Activities							

i.	Vertical Electrical Sounding (VES)	Nos	2217	2792	2124	3760	1634	12527
ii.	Ground water Exploration	Nos	842	861	664	1003	584	3988
iii.	Water Quality Sampling & Analysis	Nos	21939	24199	22017	35787	27226	131168
3	Preparation of Aquifer Maps and Management Plan	Lakh Sq.K m.	-	-	-	2.28	2.92	5.20
4	Ongoing activities							
i.	Monitoring of existing ground water observation wells(4 times in a yr)	No of wells	18200	20638	22645	23131	23633	
ii.	Ground Water Resources Assessment		-	Based on 2011 completed	-	-	Based on 2013 completed	Ground water resource based on 2011 and 2013 completed
iii.	State/UT Report	Nos	18	11	10	6	13	58
iv.	Ground Water Year Book	Nos	23	23	23	23	21	113

1.30 In reply to another pertinent query by the Committee about any change required in the functioning of CGWB to enable it to manage ground water in a more effective manner, the Ministry submitted:

“Central Ground Water Board is required to be strengthened both in terms of manpower and equipment. Since water is a State subject, closer coordination is needed with the State

Governments. To improve coordination with State Governments and upscale the activities, the State Ground Water Departments are required to be strengthened with domain specialists.”

1.31 On being asked about the effectiveness of existing monitoring and regulatory system in respect of ground water withdrawal and its contamination, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“Ground water withdrawal data collected from Minor Irrigation Census and State agencies are used for assessment of ground water resources and categorization of areas for management interventions and regulation. Further strengthening of database on ground water withdrawal is required for more effective regulation of ground water development. As regards to monitoring of ground water contamination, CGWB generates background data on ground water quality based on which poor quality areas are demarcated during ground water resources assessment jointly carried out with State Agencies.”

1.32 In pursuance of the order passed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India, Central Ground Water Board has been constituted as Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under subsection (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide Notification No. S.O. 38 (E) dated 14.01.1997 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development in the country. The Central Ground Water Authority was reconstituted vide S. O. 1121 (E) dated 13th May, 2010.

1.33 Again in reply to a specific query on adequacy of manpower with CGWA to monitor the use of ground water by various industries, the Ministry submitted:

“CGWA does not have adequate manpower to monitor the use of various industries, use of ground water in agriculture and domestic purposes. Proposal for strengthening and restructuring of CGWB is under consideration.”

National Water Framework Law

1.34 The National Water Policy, 2012, *inter-alia*, recommends that there is a need to evolve a National Framework Law as an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of

legislative and/or executive (or devolved) powers by the Centre, the States and the local governing bodies. In pursuance, the Ministry had constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh to prepare Draft National Water Bill. The Committee submitted its Report in May, 2013. Later a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah has been constituted on 28.12.2015 to examine the provisions of the draft National Water Framework Law and suggest changes / modifications therein taking into account *inter-alia* the emerging challenges in the water sector, reuse of waste water after treatment, the likely impact of climate change on water resources, importance of river restoration / rejuvenation, water contamination issue etc. The Mihir Shah Committee submitted a Draft Report in May, 2016 containing the National Water Framework Bill, 2016. After receiving the comments from various quarters, the Committee has submitted its final Report on 18th July, 2016. It seeks to provide an overarching national legal framework based on principles for protection, conservation, regulation and management of water as a vital and stressed natural resource, under which legislation and executive action on water at all levels of governance can take place. Every individual should have a right to sufficient quantity of safe water for life. The States shall hold water resources as a Common Heritage and Public Trust. The draft Bill proposes that the appropriate Government shall strive towards rejuvenating river systems with community participation, ensuring: (a) Aviral Dhara, (b) Nirmal Dhara and (c) Swachh Kinara. It proposes that the appropriate Government shall take all measures to protect the ecological integrity necessary to sustain eco-systems dependent on water and should adopt people-centred decentralized water management, for both surface and ground water, including local rainwater harvesting, watershed development and participatory irrigation management, shall be prioritized, while recognizing, encouraging and empowering local initiatives. It proposes that the appropriate Government shall take into consideration the following:

- Water use and Land Use
- Appropriate Treatment and Use of Waste water
- Standards for Water Quality and Water Footprints
- Water Use Prioritization. Provided that these uses of water are consistent with objective of sustaining aquifers and ecosystem indispensable to long terms sustenance of the resource.

Integrated River Basin Development and Management, wherein a river basin, including associated aquifers, shall be considered as the basis hydrological unit for planning development and management of water. It proposes for establishment of a River Basin Authority for each inter-State river basin, or for a sub-basin for sub inter-State river basin wherever appropriate for optimum and sustainable development of the inter-State rivers and river valleys, with active participation and cooperation by all basin States to ensure equitable, sustainable and efficient utilisation of water resources with emphasis on demand management through conjunctive and integrated use of resources. Each River Basin Authority shall prepare a Master Plan for the River Basin. Appropriate Government shall prepare and oversee the implementation of a Water Security Plan.

1.35 The Committee in their 12th Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the 9th Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) had recommended 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. The Committee further recommended that the Ministry should take up the matter of bringing water under the concurrent list urgently 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 of rivers passing through their territories.

1.36 When the Committee asked about the status of the National Water Framework Law, the Ministry, in its reply, stated:

“Recently, Secretary of this Ministry vide D.O. letter dated 20.01.2017 has communicated the benefits of National Water Framework Law (NWFL) to the Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs and requested them to support the Bill.”

1.37 Again on being asked to specify the States, which have expressed their opinion / views on the draft Bill, the Ministry submitted:

“Only a few States have responded so far. States such as Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have agreed with certain amendments to the Bill whereas, States such as Punjab and Tamil Nadu have not agreed to this Bill.”

1.38 Asked further about the expected time period by which the National Water Framework Law will be enacted, the Ministry, in its reply, stated:

“Introduction of the Bill in the Parliament is subject to the concurrence/support of the State Governments/UTs.”

1.39 In reply to a query on how enactment of the National Water Framework Law will result in more effective management of water resources, the Ministry, in its reply, stated:

“The draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 seeks to provide an overarching national legal framework based on principles for protection, conservation, regulation and management of water as a vital and stressed natural resource, under which legislation and executive action on water at all levels of governance can take place. It shall lead to more effective management of water resources by the Ministry.”

CHAPTER II

MAJOR IRRIGATION

Farakka Barrage Project (FBP)

2.1 The Farakka Barrage project was commissioned in 1975 for preservation and maintenance of the Kolkata port and for increasing the navigational depth of the Bhagirathi – Hooghly waterway. The Budgetary Allocation and Actual Expenditure under Farakka Barrage Project as furnished in Expenditure Budget (2017-18) is as follows:

Table - 7: Budget Allocation and Expenditure under Farakka Barrage Project

(Rs. In crore/net)

Actual 2015-16	BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	BE 2017-18
114.16	143.40	128.13	155.00

2.2 Asked by the Committee to furnish the details of main components of works envisaged by the Ministry for incurring the expenditure of the allocated amount this year, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated the following:

- (a) “Replacement of gates of Farakka barrage under phase-II (35 gates),
- (b) Construction of ‘Walk-way bridge’,
- (c) Maintenance and repair of PSC road bridge over the piers of Farakka Barrage,
- (d) Anti erosion works as recommended by TAC on river Ganga u/s of barrage near Birnagar.
- (e) Filling of scour pocket in the Feeder Canal.
- (f) Maintenance of inspection / service road along the Feeder Canal.
- (g) Repair and Maintenance of project colony, roads, water supply and sewerage system etc.”

2.3 When asked as to why the Budgetary allocation was increased in the year 2016-17 as against the Actual Expenditure in the year 2015-16 as well as increasing the allocation in the year

2017-18 after reducing it at RE stage in the previous year, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“It was envisaged that the work of replacement of gates under phase-II (35 gates), repair of PSC road bridge etc. shall be awarded during the financial year, however no expenditure could be booked for the above works. Hence, the allocation under BE for the FY 2017-18 has been increased for taking up above mentioned works.”

2.4 In response to a specific query by the Committee about the measures taken by the Ministry to improve the condition of Farakka Barrage, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“The measures taken to improve the condition of Farakka Barrage along with the details for gate erection in the last three years (year-wise) is as given below:

The works of replacement of gates are being carried out in phased manner. So far 42 gates of Farakka Barrage have been replaced which were badly distressed. The overall health condition of gates of the barrage has now improved. Strict vigil is being kept on the health condition of remaining gates to avoid any gate failure. The year wise replacement of gates is as under:

FY 2016-17:	4 Gates have been replaced.
FY 2015-16:	14 Gates have been replaced.
FY 2014-15:	15 Gates have been replaced.
Upto FY 2013-14:	9 Gates have been replaced.

2.5 During the examination of Demands for Grants (2015-16), the Committee, while taking note of the condition of gates of Farakka Barrage had recommended the following in their 3rd Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16):

“The Committee further notice that work of replacement of all the 123 gates was delayed due to non-approval of Scheme in XII Plan and therefore, a goal of replacing 55 gates during the period of XII Plan has been fixed and the work has started in a phased manner. However, the Committee's examination has revealed that out of the total provision of Rs. 91.00 crore for repair/replacement of gates kept for XII Plan, so far the Ministry has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 3.7135 crore in 2012-13, Rs. 4.3008 crore in 2013-14 and Rs. 9.3843 crore in 2014-15, which shows the sluggish manner in which this work has proceeded. The Committee deprecate such attitude of the Ministry in completion of work. They, therefore, desire that the work of replacement of gates should be undertaken in a time bound and target oriented manner and fix the responsibility for laxity in the matter. They also desire that immediate measures should be taken to recruit more technical manpower and be apprised accordingly.”

2.6 In reply thereto the Ministry, in the action taken note stated:

“.....proposal for administrative approval and expenditure sanction of competent authority for replacement of remaining gates in a phased manner is under consideration. A copy of Action plan for replacement of Gates of FBP has been prepared and necessary action is being taken accordingly subject to certain limitations at Annexure-VII. In addition painting of Hoist Bridge and Counter Weights of Farakka Barrage is also being taken up shortly. Administrative approval of competent authority for construction of Walkway bridge of Farakka Barrage has been obtained and tendering process is ongoing. Administrative approval of competent authority for rehabilitation of Road Bridge over Farakka Barrage as per CRR I report have been obtained and further formalities for tendering etc. is in progress. At present all the posts at the level of the General Manager and Superintending Engineer are filled up. Further, promotion order of 5 Nos. of Assistant Engineer to Executive Engineers is likely to be issued shortly.”

2.7 However, when asked about the adequacy of manpower with the Farakka Barrage Authority to carry out the works in a time-bound manner, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“Due to mass retirement of staff in FBP during the last 2-3 years, a phenomenon which is continuing, FBP do not have sufficient manpower to carry out the assigned works in time bound manner. Efforts are being made to fill the regular posts at all levels. A proposal for outsourcing of manpower at MTS (Gr.-D) level is being prepared by FBP for carrying out day to day works for various units like FBPHS School; Running, Maintenance and operation of Farakka Barrage; Office Buildings etc.”

2.8 During the course of oral evidence, the Committee raised the issue of lack of synchronisation in the functioning of Farakka Barrage Authority and State Barrage Authority which at times led to simultaneous release of water, thereby breaching the embankments and flooding nearby areas. The Committee also pointed out the problem of desiltation and breaching of embankment due to movement of ships. Responding to this, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR submitted the following:

“Sir, this is a very valid issue that you have raised. A study is going on the river Ganga starting from Uttranchal to Bay of Bengal. There will be a plan, how much water is coming from various rivers into Ganga at various points and what is going to be the impact on floods. On that basis, the CWC will prepare an integrated plan so that there is no flooding and people are not affected. So, that is one point. The second point is, now we are working

on a proposal for an integrated release plan. So, all the people who are manning the dams in those places, have an integrated plan to release water so that there is no flooding. We are working on that. But this project will help greatly in that because everybody will have information how much water is being released by other dams so that they can synchronise their work with them. That is the second part.

The third part is, the CWC has prepared a very good plan on the floods in Ganga, especially on the effect of Farakka Barrage Project. We are working on that.”

(b) Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP)

2.9 Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) has been taken up with World Bank assistance. About 225 dam projects in 7 States i.e. Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand would be rehabilitated under this project. DRIP is a six-year project. Apart from structural and non-structural measures for rehabilitation and improvement of identified dams, the scope of project includes the development of appropriate institutional mechanisms for the safe operation and maintenance of all large dams in participating States. In addition, strengthening of the institutional set up for national level dam safety surveillance and guidance would be taken up in Central Water Commission. The total project cost is estimated at Rs 2,100 Crore, out of which 80% cost will be financed by World Bank while balance 20% will be financed by respective State Government and MoWR, RD & GR. DRIP has become effective from 18th April, 2012. The Budget Allocation under this head is as given below:

Table – 8 : Budget Allocation under DRIP

(Rs. in crore)			
BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
23.98	45.00	15.97	160.00

2.10 The data on fund allocated, released and utilized State-wise on DRIP since 2012 is as follows:

Table – 9: State-wise allocation and utilization of funds since start of DRIP
(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Implementing Agency	First Year (FY 2012-13)		Second Year (FY 2013-14)		Third Year (FY 2014-15)		Fourth Year (FY 2015-16)		Fifth Year (FY 2016-17)	
	Allocation	Utilization	Allocation	Utilization	Allocation	Utilization	Allocation	Utilization	Allocation	Utilization
Madhya Pradesh	350	207.82	3000	1238.34	7000	2316.89	4006	3604	5000	2211
Odisha	400	32.14	1050	65.91	2000	410.71	3790	3560	6100	3839
Tamil Nadu	120.65	55.89	39487	596.56	20105	2684.55		6872	25846	8508
Kerala	6125	5.69	8012	527.50	8600	979.95	6000	1267	8190	3653
CWC(Central Component)	230	42.41	3600	463.32	3000	1364.10	2900	1470	2398	1565
Karnataka								28	6382	5823
DVC									900	399
UJVNL								1676	6320	385
Total	7225.65	343.95	55149	2891.63	40705	7755.80		18477	61136	2638

2.11 The Committee asked about the major components of works undertaken so far under this project. To which, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“There are three main components of the project:

- a) Rehabilitation and Improvement of Dams and Associated Appurtenances,
- b) Dam safety institutional strengthening, and
- c) Project Management.

The first component is the dam rehabilitation and basic safety improvement work component amounting about 82% of total project cost. The second component is institutional strengthening component amounting about 9 % of total project cost and targeting the capacity building of the officials / staffs of participating States and Central Water Commission in the dam safety areas for the development of appropriate skills and modern tools to adequately operate and maintain

dams safely, Organization of Dam Safety Conferences, International Training programs, study tour etc. Third component is the project management, which is accounting for the 9% of total project Cost.”

2.12 Responding to a query on under utilisation of funds under this project, the Ministry, in its written reply, submitted:

“There were no shortfall in the budget allocation; however, there was substantial gap between the budget allocation and actual utilization for the initial period of DRIP implementation, primarily owing to complex preparatory requirements and limited capacity of the implementing agencies. The finalization of the rehabilitation proposal for each DRIP dam was linked with various studies, investigations and dam safety expert inspections and suggestion and it took considerable time. However, the project has now moved out of this phase, and the pace of Project implementation has picked up in a big way in all the 9 Implementing Agencies in DRIP.

Many necessary corrective actions were taken to increase the pace of DRIP implementation and financial progress including close monitoring by National Level Steering Committee (NLSC). Five meeting of NLSC have been held till date. Due to continuous efforts and endeavours, there is a substantial jump in the award of works during the last one year and the recent trend gives the confidence that very soon all the works will be awarded. As on date, works have been awarded on 186 dams amounting to Rs 1,388 Crore against Rs. 616.60 Crore in May 2016.

The total expenditure till December 2016 is Rs. 558 Cr, which was Rs. 294 Cr upto March 2016 for the last 4 years. It indicates that total expenditure this year only in last ten months is Rs. 264 Cr which is about 47% of the total expenditure of project till date. An additional expenditure of Rs. 300 Cr is expected to be incurred by all the implementing agencies during January-March 2017. Therefore, total expenditure under DRIP is anticipated to the tune of Rs. 858 Cr upto March 2017. It is worth to mention here, that during current financial year, an expenditure of more than double of total expenditure incurred during last four years (FY 2012-13 to FY 2015-16) is anticipated which is itself a prominent indicator to judge the momentum of Project at present. As per present status of January 2017, a commitment of Rs. 1533 Cr is achieved; further works amounting to Rs. 381 Cr have already been tendered. As per the current action plan, all the planned works are expected to be awarded by June 2016 with commitment amounting to Rs. 2100 Cr (i.e. Project Cost). It indicates that project has started delivering its financial progress.

Based on overall progress of project implementation, implementation arrangement, evaluation of key challenges, timely corrective measures taken for achieving defined objectives and milestones by IAs as well as CPMU, World Bank upgraded the performance rating of the Project from Moderately Unsatisfactory to Moderately Satisfactory.”

2.13 In reply to a query on works identified for taking up during 2017-18 under DRIP, following information was submitted by the Ministry, in its written reply:

“It is to submit that a budget outlay of Rs. 160 Crore has been kept for the FY 2017-18 for the two Central agencies participating in Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project, namely Central Water Commission and Damodar Valley Corporation, whose budget are being provided by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. Central Water Commission is having the responsibility of overall co-ordination and supervision of the whole project, while DVC is participating in the project for the rehabilitation of their three dams, namely, Maithon, Konar and Panchet. DVC joined the DRIP in July 2015 with overall approved rehabilitation cost of Rs. 139 Crore by the World Bank.

For the CWC Component, following are the main key works for the FY 2017-18:

- Implementation of CPMU Consultancy
- Funding to four Academic Institutes for their capacity building requirement in dam safety areas
- Organization of Fourth National Dam Safety Conference in Kerala in Feb, 2018
- Two International training programs/Seminars/Workshop (USBR, USA & Deltares) in dam safety areas.
- Preparation of 4 guidelines on varied areas of dam safety.
- Preparation of Emergency Action Plan for about 70 DRIP Dams.

For the DVC, Rs. 107 Crore has been allocated for FY 2017-18 mainly for the rehabilitation of their three dams, namely, Maithon, Konar and Panchet.

Besides, two Central Agencies, there are nine more State Implementing agencies involved in the implementation of DRIP.”

2.14 During the course of oral evidence held on 14 February, 2017, a query was raised by the Committee with regard to outcome under the programme during the last four years in which almost Rs. 300 crore has been paid by the Government. In reply, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR stated:

“Last three years was just diagnoses, finalising the consultants, getting the people to visit those dams and prepare detailed reports as to what work needs to be done. Then, there is preparation of tender documents and issue. So, all the work was in the pipeline which now, we have been able to mobilise.”

2.15 On being further asked, as to whether the programme will be implemented immediately, the Secretary, further informed the Committee:

“No, Sir. It has been going on for the last two or three years. This job will be completed by 2017 or by 2018 not this year. But the tenders are in the pipeline. All the work is in pipeline.”

Legislation on Dam Safety

2.16 The Dam Safety Bill, 2010 was examined by the Committee and the Report on the Bill was presented on 17.08.2011. During the course of oral evidence, the Committee were informed that National Dam Safety Bill, 2016 is in advance stage of preparation. Currently consultation process with States is going on.

CHAPTER III

MEDIUM IRRIGATION

(a) National Water Mission

3.1 The Government of India launched National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which inter-alia identified the approach to be adopted to meet the challenges of impact of climate change through eight National Missions including National Water Mission with the main objective of conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management. The National Water Mission (NWM) document, approved by the Union Cabinet on 6th April, 2011, has identified five goals for the mission.

3.2 The five goals of the Mission are: (a) comprehensive water data base in public domain and assessment of impact of climate change on water resource; (b) promotion of citizen and State action for water conservation, augmentation and preservation; (c) focused attention to vulnerable areas including over-exploited areas; (d) increasing water use efficiency by 20%, and (e) promotion of basin level integrated water resources management.

3.3 The Budgetary allocations and expenditure under this programme are as follows:

Table – 10 : Budgetary Allocation and Expenditure under National Water Mission
(Rs. in crore)

BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
25.00	5.00	3.50*	15.00

*Upto January, 2017

3.4 When the Committee enquired about reasons for under-utilisation of resources under this head, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“This is a new scheme. Implementation of National Water Mission (NWM) was approved during 2013-14 and NWM directorate has been established by drawing officials/staff from MoWR, RD & GR organizations on informal basis. Consultants/Young Professionals have been engaged to undertake activities of NWM during 2015-16. The implementation of NWM through outsourcing and redeployment is a time consuming process and lack of adequate staff is a hindrance in achieving the goals envisaged. Most of the activities envisaged in Mission document are being implemented through the Central/State Governments organizations and the activities are being undertaken as per response of State Governments.”

3.5 Asked further to state the rationale for allocation of Rs. 15 crore under this Head during the year 2017-18, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated that components of NWM are proposed to be taken up during this Financial Year and hence the budgetary provision of 15 crore has been earmarked:

- “Preparation of State Specific Action Plans for water sector-9 States/UTs,
- Human Resource Development and Capacity Building-25 programmes,
- Baseline Studies-21 water resources projects,
- Implementation of Pilot/ Demonstration projects and Improving Water Use Efficiency Projects-5,
- Organising Regional Conventions of Water User Associations,
- Undertaking NWM-Industry association collaborative activities to improve Water User Efficiency.”

3.6 When the Committee asked about the details of activities undertaken / being undertaken under the National Water Mission, the Ministry stated the following in its written reply:

“Various strategies for achieving the goals have been identified which lead to integrated planning for sustainable development with active participation of the stakeholders. Eight Advisory Groups/Committees as envisaged in the NWM Mission document have been constituted. Implementation of various activities by NWM include carrying out Baseline studies, Formulation of State Specific Action Plans (SSAPs), HRD & Capacity Building activities, Establishment of demonstration projects and setting up of National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NBWUE).”

3.7 The Committee in their 17th Report (15th Lok Sabha) were informed that National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NBWUE) will be operationalised in 2013-14, subject to approval of EFC. Further in their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry furnished that efforts are being made to secure the

approval of EFC of National Water Mission (NWM) and to set up NBWUE under Section 3(3) of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 during the financial year 2013-14.

3.8 Further, the Committee in their 3rd Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) had noted that despite the EFC's recommendation for setting up NBWUE in 2013, the organisation was not formed and therefore, felt that with the slow pace of work, the actual implementation will not take place even after decades. The MoWR, RD and GR in their action taken reply had stated that the draft Cabinet Note for establishment of "National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NBWUE)" was approved by the Hon'ble Minister (W, RD & GR). The same has been circulated to concerned Ministries for the comments vide O.M. No. 11/8/2012-NWM dated 12.05.2015.

3.9 As regards setting up of NBWUE, the Ministry in their Annual Report (2015-16) have stated that the draft Cabinet note has been circulated for inter-ministerial consultations and responses have been received. The clarifications sought by NITI Ayog, MoEF and CC and PMO are under consideration of the Ministry.

(b) River Basin Management

3.10 The scheme consists of two Broad Components namely, (1) Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) and (2) Bhramaputra Board.

3.11 The Budgetary allocations and Actual Expenditure under this Head is as follows:

Table – 11 : Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure under River Basin Management

(Rs. in crore)			
BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
173.60	175.00	116.28	199.99

3.12 When asked by the Committee about the main objectives and goals of the scheme and their achievement till January, 2017, the Ministry submitted:

- (1) “IWRDS is being implemented by A. National Water Development Authority (NWDA) and B. Central Water Commission (CWC).

A. IWRSD-NWDA- The main objective of the scheme is to carry out activities related to survey, field Investigations in respect of preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), Feasibility Reports (FRs) of river link proposals and preparation of Prefeasibility Reports (PFRs) / FRs/ DPRs of intra - State link proposals and activities considered incidental, supplementary or conducive to attainment of above objectives.

NWDA has completed water balance studies of basins/sub-basins and catchments up to diversion points, toposheet studies of reservoirs and link alignments, storage capacity studies of reservoirs, pre-feasibility studies, feasibility studies and Detailed Project Report (DPR) towards the implementation of inter-linking of rivers in the country as follows:

Table – 12 : Activities of National Water Development Agency

Sl.No	Particulars	Peninsular Component	Himalayan Component	Total
A	Proposals under National Perspective Plan			
1.	Water balance studies of basins/sub-basins	137	--	137
2.	Water balance studies of diversion points	52	19	71
3.	Toposheet and storage capacity studies of reservoir	58	16	74
4.	Toposheet studies of link alignment	18	19	37
5.	Prefeasibility reports (PFR)	18	14	32
6.	Surveys and Investigations and Preparation of Feasibility Reports (FR) of specific links	14	2 (Indian Portion)	16
7	Detailed Project Report of link Projects	4		
B	Intra-State link proposals of State Governments			
1	Pre-Feasibility Report		36	

2	Detailed Project Report of link	2
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Under the National Perspective Plan for water resources development through inter basin transfer of water, for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins, prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation, now Ministry of Water Resources, RD and GR, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports. The pre-feasibility report of the all 30 links have been prepared and circulated to the concerned State Governments by the NWDA. After survey and investigations, Feasibility Reports of 14 links under Peninsular Component and Feasibility Reports of 2 links and draft Feasibility Reports of 7 links (Indian portion) under Himalayan Component have been completed.

Four priority links for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) under Peninsular Rivers Component have been identified viz; Ken-Betwa Link, Phase –I and II, Damanganga-Pinjal Link, Par-Tapi-Narmada link and Mahanadi-Godavari link. The preparation of DPR of a project is taken up only after consent of concerned State Governments. Based on the concurrence of the concerned States, Detailed Project Reports of Ken-Betwa link project Phase-I and Phase-II, Damanganga-Pinjal link and Par-Tapi-Narmada link have been completed. The techno-economic clearance has been accorded to the Ken-Betwa link project phase-I and Damanganga-Pinjal link projects subject to various statutory clearances.

The consensus building for preparation of the Detailed Project Report of the Mahanadi – Godavari link, a mother link of 9 link system viz., Mahanadi – Godavari – Krishna – Pennar – Palar – Cauvery – Vaigai – Gundar linkage with concerned State of Odisha is under process.

Intra-State link projects

- NWDA has received 46 proposals of intra-state links from 9 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh.
- Out of these 46 proposals, Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 36 intra-state links have been completed by NWDA up to March, 2016.
- DPRs of Burhi Gandak-Noon-Baya-Ganga Link Project (Bihar) and Kosi-Mechi Link Project (Bihar) were completed and submitted to Government of Bihar.
- The Kosi-Mechi Link Project report (Bihar) has been duly considered by Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD & GR during its 129th meeting held on 08.07.2016 and accorded Techno-economic clearance.
- DPR of Ponnaiyar-Palar link (Tamil Nadu) has been completed and will be circulated shortly.
- DPR of Wainganga (Gosikurd)-Nalganga (Purna Tapi) link(Maharashtra) is under progress.

B. IWRSD-CWC: - The objective of this scheme is to carry out survey, Investigation and studies for preparation of DPR of identified water resources projects for making investment decisions towards project implementation with a view of development of country's water resources.

The works of survey and investigation proposed by CWC under the scheme and status / achievement till Jan, 2017 is as given below:

Table – 13 : Survey and Investigation activities of CWC

Name of Scheme	Achievements till Jan 2017
(a) Tawang Chu H.E. Project in Arunachal Pradesh.	Final status report has been submitted. S&I activities had been disbanded and all sites closed due to allotment of project to private developer by State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
(b) Manas-Sankosh-Teesta Link Canal Reach-II, Bhutan / WB	Work Transferred to NWDA
(c) Rukni Irrigation Project, Cachar, Assam	Topographical/ Seismological/ Property Survey completed. Hydrological/ Meteorological observations continued. DPR to be submitted by March'2017.
(d) Sonai Irrigation Project, Cachar, Assam	Topographical/ Seismological/ Property Survey completed. Hydrological/ Meteorological observations continued. DPR to be submitted by March'2017.
(e) Kirthai H.E. Project, Stage-II (J&K)	DPR has been submitted in Oct. 2015.
(f) Ujh Multipurpose Project, 280 MW, Kathua (J&K)	DPR has been submitted in Sept. 2013. EIA studies are underway.
(g) Bursar HE National Project	Implementation by NHPC, who were required to be provided funding by CWC after signing of MoU. MoU has been forwarded to MoWR, RD & GR for approval before funds are released to NHPC. MoU is yet to be signed.
(h) Gyspa National Project(170 MW)	Implementation by HPPCL, who are required to be provided funding by CWC. The works have been stopped due to local problems and scheme is being re-engineered by HPPCL. HPPCL has to submit revised proposal and thereafter re-engineered scheme is yet to be accepted by CWC. Meanwhile HPPCL has been provided Rs. 7.5 cr. of funds during FY:2011-12. Utilization Certificate for the released funds is yet to be submitted by them.
(i) Kalez Khola H.E. Project, West Sikkim	Field Works are completed and DPR is being prepared and to be submitted by March'2017.
(j) Suntley H.E. Project	DPR has been submitted in July' 2015.

(k) Manas-Sankosh-Teesta Link Canal Reach-I, Bhutan	Work Transferred to NWDA
(l) R&M of Hyd. & Met. Obs. in Sankosh Basin	Continuing works.
(m) Tlawng H.E. Project, Mizoram	Works are under progress.
(n) Dras-Suru Link and other Projects in Indus basin	Berinium project has been taken up. The proposal for administrative approval & Expenditure sanction submitted to MoWR, RD &GR.
(o) Tarum Chu H.E. Project	G&D observations at proposed Dam site is continued.
(p) Kali Khola H.E. Project	G&D observations at proposed Dam site is continued.
(q) Survey & Investigation and preparation of feasibility reports (Identification of location of suitable sites for Irrigation on Adhwara group of Rivers in Sitamarhi Distt.	The work was awarded to WAPCOS. The report has been submitted by them on which CWC has raised a few observations. WAPCOS has to comply the observations on the report.

(2) Brahmaputra Board:-

The objective of this scheme is

- Survey & investigation and preparation of Master Plan, DPRs for Drainage Development Schemes, DPRs for Multipurpose Project.
- Execution of Anti- erosion schemes & Flood Management schemes
- Execution of Drainage Development Schemes
- Construction of raised platforms
- Feasibility studies of channelization of river Brahmaputra
- Operation and maintenance and upgradation of NEHARI
- Construction of HQ complex and R&M of assets created by the board.”

3.13 The details of expenditure incurred under this Head during the last three years along with actual for the year 2016-17 are as follows:

Table – 14 : Expenditure incurred under River Basin Management Scheme

Components of RBM	Expenditure 2013-14 (Rs Crore)	Expenditure 2014-15 (Rs Crore)	Expenditure 2015-16 (Rs Crore)	Actual Expenditure during 2016-17 upto December, 2016 (Rs Crore)
Brahmaputra Board	85.00	70.06	84.31	58.33
IWRDS-CWC component	14.55	13.25	11.7133	9.79
IWRDS-NWDA	50.30	62.01	69.01	48.16

component				
Total	149.85	145.32	165.0333	116.28

3.14 The Committee further desired to know the reasons for consistently increasing allocation under this Head. To which, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“The allocations are based on estimates for works and establishment expenditures which also increase on account of price escalation.”

3.15 Asked further to explain the various activities proposed to utilize the Budgetary allocation during the year 2017-18, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“The Ministry expects to utilize the budgetary allocation during the year 2017-18 by carrying out the following works proposed in the scheme years 2017-18.

(1) IWRDS

A. NWDA.

(a) Survey & Investigations for preparation of Feasibility Report under Inter Basin Water Transfer Proposals

(i) Himalayan component

1. Manas – Sankosh – Tista – Ganga (M – S – T – G)
2. Ganga-Damodar-Subernarekha link
3. Subarnarekha – Mahanadi link
4. Sarda – Yamuna link

(ii) Peninsular Component

1. Mahanadi (Baramul)- Godavari link (Revised FR)

(c) Preparation of Prefeasibility reports of intra-State link proposals, as proposed by State Govts.

(i) one link

(d) Preparation of DPR of intra-State links

(i) Wainganga (Gosikhurd)- Nalganaga (Purna Tapi) link of Maharashtra

(ii) one new link of Maharashtra

(iii) Damanaganga-Sabarmati-Chorwad link of Gujarat

(e) Post DPR work of Ken-Betwa Phase-I & II, Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada, IBWT links & Kosi- Mechi, Burhi Gandak- Noon- Baya-Ganag intra - State Links

B. CWC

Submission of DPR of Kalez Khola, Sikkim, Rukni & Sonai Irrigation Projects, Assam. Survey and Investigation of new project in NER (Tlawang in Mizoram), Sikkim (Tarum Chu

HEP, Kali Khola), Berinium HEP, J&K , HP and funding of national project Gypsa to continue.

(2) Bhramaputra Board

- i. Survey and investigation and Preparation of 3 Master Plans, DPRs of DDS, DPR of Simsang MP Project.
- ii. Execution of Anti- erosion schemes and Flood management Schemes
- iii. Protection of Majuli Island Phase –IV -5%
- iv. Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola Hatighuli-Phase-IV-Balance additional works Phase V-2%
- v. Balat Village, Meghalaya, Phase II works
- vi. Mankachar, Kalairalga, Assam 40%
- vii. Masalabari area, Assam -80%
- viii. Execution of Drainage Development Schemes 25% works of Barbhag DDS, 50% of Jengrai , 25% of Demow DDS
- ix. Construction of new raised platforms
- x. Feasibility studies of channelization of River Brahmaputra
- xi. Operation and maintenance and upgradation of NEHARI
- xii. Construction of HQ complex and R and M of assets created by the board.”

3.16 When a specific query was raised by the Committee with regard to problems encountered in implementation of activities / works under this Scheme, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“The problems encountered /faced in implementation of activities /works under the schemes are as follow :

The most important challenge in the ILR Programme is achieving consensus of concerned State Govts. on various link projects. MoWR,RD&GR is making all efforts in this direction. The Detailed Project Report of any link projects can be prepared only when an agreement is reached about the basic planning aspect of a link project among the concerned States. The interstate disputes are also an important factor for the lack of consensus on certain link projects among the concerned States.

The Government is however pursuing the Interlinking of River programme in a consultative manner. The implementation of Inter linking of Rivers (ILR) projects involves various steps such as preparation of Pre-feasibility Reports(PFRs) /Feasibility Reports (FRs) of links, negotiation and consensus among concerned States, agreement with neighboring countries if link involves area lying in those countries, preparation of DPRs of the projects, clearance from appraisal agencies which includes clearance by Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), techno-

economic clearance by Technical Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources and investment clearance and issue of funds for the project.

MoWR, RD and GR has constituted a committee called Special Committee on Interlinking of Rivers chaired by Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD&GR) vide Gazette Notification dated 23rd September, 2014 as per the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to expedite the progress in the Interlinking of Rivers projects which meets every two months. Eleven meetings of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) have been held so far and last meeting held on 09.11.2016 at New Delhi. The Irrigation / Water Resources Ministers of concerned State Governments alongwith their Principal Secretaries are members of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers. The members of Special Committee regularly participate in the meetings of the Special Committee and have conveyed their views from time to time. Views and observations on the Interlinking of Rivers Programme have been received from various State Govts, experts and other stakeholders in the meetings of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR). The Special Committee would consider all such observations appropriately while planning and formulating the ILR projects.

Permission is required from neighbouring countries of Nepal and Bhutan for carrying out survey and investigations in their territories for Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga and Kosi-Ghaghagra links. NWDA through MoWR is pursuing the matter with MEA for expediting the dialogue with neighbouring countries. In view of this, the target date of completion for all the Himalayan links may not be fixed. NWDA has carried out alternative studies of Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga link to avoid Jogighopa – Tista – Farakka (Alternative to M–S–T–G). In the alternative proposal of M-S-T-G link Manas Tiger Reserve and Buxa Tiger Reserve and other Forests will be avoided. Therefore, NWDA is doing alternative alignment of MSTG link which merges both MSTG and JTF alignments.

For Sone Dam-STG Link survey and investigation work is under progress. Link involved Naxal infested area, therefore the work may be delayed. Further, a DPR normally takes 3-4 years for preparation.

Major problems in respect of CWC:

- Delay in obtaining Forest clearance.
- Hindrance due to civil groups etc.
- Problem in making advance payment to GSI and other agencies for special studies related to projects.
- Appropriate delegation of financial powers to executive level officers.
- Inadequate inspection vehicles suitable for suggested & inhospitable terrain."

3.17 The Committee, in their 9th Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) had recommended that the Government should 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 ILR scheme is provided the much-needed impetus – while at the same time the process of solution of various Inter-State Disputes on river water is simplified and streamlined for the lasting benefit to all the concerned parties.

3.18 While furnishing their action taken reply on the above recommendation the Ministry had submitted:

“Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and 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.”

CHAPTER IV

MINOR IRRIGATION

Ground Water Management and Regulation

4.1 The Ground Water Management and Regulation scheme was taken as Central Sector Scheme during XII Plan (2012-17). The scheme has four components which includes National Aquifer management (NAQUIM), technological up gradation, participatory Ground water management and ongoing activities. The main objectives of the scheme are :

- (i) Delineation of Aquifer disposition in 3-D along with their characterization,
- (ii) Quantify water availability and water quality parameters to formulate Aquifer Management Plan for facilitating sustainable management of ground water resources,
- (iii) Regulate and control the development and management of ground water resources,
- (iv) Upgradation of technological capabilities and infrastructure of the Central Ground Water Board,
- (v) Periodic long term monitoring of ground water regime etc.

4.2 The Budgetary Allocations and Actual Expenditure for Ground Water Management and Regulation scheme are as follows:

Table – 15 : Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure for Ground Water Management and Regulation scheme

(Rs. in crore)			
BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
303.39	115.00	95.63*	500.00

*Upto 31st January, 2017

4.3 The total Budgetary Allocations and Actual Expenditure under this scheme during the last five years is:

Table – 16 : Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure for Ground Water Management and Regulation scheme since 2012-13

Year	BE (PLAN)	RE (PLAN)	Actual Expenditure
2012-13	330.00(G)	192.00(G)	129.65(G)
	318.00(N)	180.00(N)	118.64(N)
2013-14	287.00(G)	152.00(G)	94.84(G)
	275.00(N)	140.00(N)	84.18(N)
2014-15	350.00(G)	155.00(G)	137.82(G)
	325.00(N)	143.00(N)	124.89(N)
2015-16	188.00(G)	188.00(G)	154.36(G)
	163.00(N)	163.00(N)	140.84(N)
2016-17	328.38(G)	127.00(G)	105.88(G)
	303.38(N)	115.00(N)	95.63(N)

G – Gross, N – Net

4.4 The Committee desired to know about the reasons for increasing Budget allocation under this Head in the year 2016-17 as against Actual Expenditure in the previous year and again reducing allocations drastically in the RE stage. To this, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“During 2016-17, the increase in budgetary allocation was mainly made due to additional work of data generation through outsourcing which could not be completed during 2015-16 due to various reasons, in addition to work envisaged for the year 2016-17. Further, due to several constraints in outsourcing work during the year 2016-17 as well the amount was reduced at RE stage in 2016-17.”

4.5 Asked further about the work components envisaged for utilising Rs. 500 crore allocated in the Budget 2017-18, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“The various Work components for 2017-18 includes Data Generation through outsourcing for Aquifer Mapping which envisages construction of Exploratory wells/ Observation wells in priority areas of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and water quality affected areas in Bihar (Bahrampur block), Jharkhand (Sahibganj, Rajmahal, Udhwa block) and West Bengal (Pandua Block) and water stress areas in Bundelkhand of U.P and M.P .

In addition, the in house activities includes Data Generation for Aquifer mapping (in house) through construction of Exploratory wells/ Observation wells, Ground Water Monitoring, Ground water Assessment, Regulation, Seminar etc. To supplement these activities various types of equipments/software's will also be procured during 2017-18. The allocation is adequate at present. Additional requirement, if any would be raised at later stage."

4.6 In response to a specific query by the Committee about the steps taken to avoid the reduction of allocation at Revised Estimate stage during 2017-18, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

"Steps taken to achieve the financial goal set up for the year includes setting up internal mechanism for physical and financial monitoring at various level, preparation of standard Tender documents."

4.7 On being particularly asked by the Committee about the effectiveness of the measures so far taken to control the excess withdrawal of ground water and its wasteful usages, the Ministry, in its written reply, submitted:

"Some of the steps taken by this Ministry to control excess withdrawal of ground water and its wasteful usages are as follows:

- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under "The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986" for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country has so far notified 162 areas in the country for the purpose of regulation of ground water. Under the CGWA guidelines, in notified areas, no permission is accorded to extract ground water through any energized means for any purpose other than drinking water. For non-notified areas, ground water withdrawal by industries is regulated as per guidelines/criteria specified by CGWA.
- CGWA has issued advisories to States and UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rain water harvesting. 30 States/UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory by enacting laws or by formulating rules & regulations or by including provisions in Building bye-laws or through suitable Government Orders.
- As the ground water extraction is increasing, to meet the increasing demands from domestics, irrigation and industrial sectors there is a need to enhance ground water resource availability. Artificial recharge and rainwater harvesting is the most suitable method for augmentation of ground water resources.
- In this direction, CGWB has prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" during 2013, involving ground water scientists/experts. The Master Plan envisages construction of 1.11 crore rain water

harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 85 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre) of water. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.

- To develop sustainable management plan for ground water resource considering the demand and supply side interventions, CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management programme during XII Plan. The Aquifer Mapping is aimed to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/area specific ground water management plans, with community participation.
- CGWB had taken up Demonstrative Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge projects in 22 States of the Country, under Central Sector Scheme "Ground Water Management & Regulation" during XI plan period. Under the scheme, 133 demonstrative recharge projects were approved for construction of recharge structures in various States/UTs with an anticipated annual recharge to ground water at about 55.20 MCM (Million Cubic Metre)."

4.8 During the course of oral evidence held on 14 February, 2017 a query was raised about the measures taken by the Ministry to provide alternative sources of water in over-exploited and critical areas. Responding to this, the representative of the Ministry submitted:

"Sir, you have approved a Rs. 6,000 crore for Natural Groundwater Improvement Scheme. We are going to use that data, wherever there is no water, there is possibility to recharge those areas and where there is issue of quality, to make sure that alternative sources of water are provided."

4.9 In reply to a query on any evaluation / assessment of performance of the scheme, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

"No external evaluation of the scheme of Ground Water Management & Regulation has been undertaken so far. However, self appraisal of the scheme has been initiated by Ministry at various level."

4.10 When asked to specify the areas/blocks identified under the scheme, he further stated following during his evidence:

"Sir, we have taken up Jhansi and Bundelkhand blocks of Western Uttar Pradesh. The plan for all these blocks will be prepared so as to recharge the water where the water level is declining and to provide alternate sources of drinking water where the water is contaminated."

4.11 In reply to a further query on time-frame fixed for completion of this Project, the Secretary informed that this Project will be completed in six years. There is a plan for each of the overdrawn blocks and pollutants will be identified in each block.

4.12 Further asked when this project is going to be implemented, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR informed the Committee as follows:

“Sir, the project has to be put up in EFC and thereafter we will pass on this project to the Department of Drinking Water.”

CHAPTER V

Ecology and Environment

(a) National River Conservation Programme

5.1 A total of 85 projects have been sanctioned under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 8,240.68 crore. This includes ongoing non-Externally Aided Projects (EAP), World Bank projects and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) funded projects. Out of these projects, 35 projects have been completed and the rest are targeted to be completed by 2020. Funding pattern under this Central Scheme is 70:30 i.e. 70 % is Central share and 30% is from the State Government in respect of World Bank funded project whereas funding pattern for JICA assisted projects is 85:15.

5.2 The Budgetary allocations and expenditure under this programme are as follows:

Table -17 : Budgetary Allocations for National River Conservation Programme

(Rs. in crore/Revenue)

Actual 2015-16			BE 2016-17			RE 2016-17			BE 2017-18		
EAP component	Programme component	Less amount met from National Clean Energy Fund	EAP component	Programme component	Less amount met from National Clean Energy Fund	EAP component	Programme component	Less amount met from National Clean Energy Fund	EAP component	Programme component	Less amount met from National Clean Energy Fund
408.00	124.00	-	130.00	120.00	-250.00	87.10	80.40	-167.50	130.00	120.00	-

5.3 The Committee desired to know about the specific reasons for drastic reduction in allocations under this programme since 2016-17. In reply thereto, the Ministry in its written submission stated:

“The reduction from the year 2015-16 onward has been due to under utilization of the funds provided in previous years. This in turn is due to slow progress of the projects on the ground and low demand for funds therefore.”

5.4 Asked further to explain the problems / bottlenecks hindering implementation of this programme, the Ministry, in its written reply stated:

“The implementation of the programme is facing various challenges such as delay in tendering process, retendering in some of the cases, land non availability, legal issues, natural calamities such as floods & earthquake, delay in permission from local authorities for road cutting / crossing, local festivals, higher funding requirement, pending cabinet approval from the State Government etc.”

(b) Namami Gange -National Ganga Plan

5.5 An Integrated Ganga conservation Mission called “Namami Gange” was set up during the Union Budget 2014-15. Namami Gange approaches Ganga Rejuvenation by consolidating the existing ongoing efforts and planning for a concrete action plan for future.

5.6 The focus under the mission ‘Namami Gange’ has been on pollution abatement interventions namely Interception, diversion and treatment of waste water flowing through the open drains through bio-remediation / appropriate in-situ treatment / use of innovative technologies / Sewage Treatment Plant (STPs) / Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs); rehabilitation and augmentation of existing STPs and immediate short term measures for arresting pollution at exit points on river front to prevent inflow of sewage etc. in river; Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) for major industrial clusters and Operation & Maintenance (O&M) for a definite period etc. Apart from these, projects / interventions on rural sanitation, river front development / management, solid waste / pious refuse management, sewerage network, national ganga monitoring centre, capacity building, research / pilot studies, non-point pollution mitigation, GIS mapping / applications, restoration of special properties of Ganga, sand mining, biodiversity

conservation, habitat improvement, institutional development, river flow improvement, Ganga task force, Ganga Vahini, communication and public outreach activities and other activities / pilot projects included in National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) Programme Framework and the ones arising from Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) aiming at Ganga rejuvenation will also be undertaken.

5.7 The target set vide Cabinet note on Namami Gange Programme are as follows:

Table – 18 : Targets set under Namami Gange programme

SI	Milestone	Target Date from Date of Sanction	Achievement
1	Preparation of DPRs for STPs	October 2015	<p>States were advised to prepare the DPRs for I&D and STPs for the identified 118 towns along river Ganga. While States were in the process of developing and submitting the DPRs, the process was kept on hold in consideration and approval of the Cabinet for taking up the projects on hybrid annuity based PPP model to address four requirements namely, (a) assurance of desired levels of performance, (b) assurance of continued performance over long term, (c) distinct accountability at entity level, and (d) sustainability, both technical and financial.</p> <p>In order to take projects on Hybrid annuity mode Condition assessment and Feasibility Study (CA&FS) are being taken up through CPSUs from December 2015 onwards. Till date nearly 100 such CA&FS reports are</p>

			received and reviewed out of 118 towns. Along with these CA&FS reports, DPRs of respective towns are now being correlated to finalize the actual scope of work to be taken up for STP/I&D structures and networks.
2	Tendering of STPs	March 2016	Tendering of the projects on hybrid annuity mode is in progress, till date for 2 towns namely Haridwar (Jagjeetpur) and Varanasi (Ramana) tendering on Hybrid-annuity mode has been done.
3	Award of Works	September 2016	
4	Completion of STPs	September 2018	
5	Creation of online real time water quality monitoring network - 113 Stations	Year 2020	Phase I - 5 RTWQM stations have been installed while remaining 31 RTWQM stations are expected to be operational by March 2017. Phase II activities are in process.
6	Improved sanitation access through MoDWS & NMCG in identified villages, panchayats including Ganga Grams	Year 2020	

5.8 It was further stated by the Ministry that the municipal sewage generation from the 118 towns along the river Ganga in 5 States is estimated at 4,790 mld. Against the sewage generation, treatment capacity of 1,017 mld is available while 1,187 mld is under construction / approval,

thereby leaving a gap of 2,618 mld. It is expected that the required capacity will be created by 2020.

5.9 The total outlays and Actual Expenditure by way of release under this programme since its inception are as follows:

Table – 19 : Outlays and Expenditure under the National Ganga Plan since 2014-15
(Rs. in crore)

FY	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure by Govt. of India
2014-15	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
2015-16	2,100.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
2016-17	2,150.00	1,440.50	1,440.50
Total	5,750.00	3,940.50	2,440.50

5.10 Further, the Budget Allocations and Actual Expenditure under the National Ganga Plan, are as follows:

Table – 20 : Budgetary Allocations under the National Ganga Plan
(Rs. in crore)

BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
2,150.00	1,440.50	1,440.50	2,250.00

5.11 On being asked by the Committee to furnish the reasons for underutilization of funds under this programme, the Ministry, in its written submission, submitted:

“While implementation of the programme has various challenges as enumerated earlier, the delay has also been caused due to changes in policy such as avoiding network and focus

on Infrastructure and Development (I&D) and STP projects causing revision in the DPRs by the State Governments. Further, once such DPRs on STP and I&D was prepared by State Government there was again a change in policy for implementing the projects on hybrid annuity mode. For implementing the projects on hybrid annuity, condition assessment and feasibility study for all the 118 towns was initiated through 5 CPSUs. Based upon the CA&FS, detailed projects will be formed and bid document on hybrid annuity based PPP mode to be prepared by Transaction advisors. Such processes also took some time in framing the projects.”

5.12 Asked further to state the reasons for increasing allocation under this Programme during the current year, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“Anticipating sanction of new projects especially under hybrid annuity model and expected demand on ongoing projects.”

5.13 On being specially asked about the time period fixed for cleaning of river Ganga and whether the target is achievable at the current pace of work, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“The cabinet approval for Namami Gange is from the year 2014-15 to the year 2020 (December 2020).The NGRBA has resolved that by the year 2020 no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluent will be discharged into river Ganga. Certain measures have been initiated to expedite the implementation process. National Mission For Clean Ganga has been restructured and strengthened recently so that it is empowered to discharge its functions in an independent and accountable manner in a fast track manner.It has been empowered for sanction of projects upto Rs.1000 crore.

The NGRBA has resolved that by year 2020 no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluent will be discharged into river Ganga. The programme implementation faces various challenges.”

5.14 During the course of oral evidence another query was raised on pollution of river Ganga due to traditional way of cremating dead bodies and remains being thrown into the river Ganga. To this, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation responded as follows:

“We have taken up condition assessment work in 118 cities including Jangipur. Right now, the work is being carried out in six cities of West Bengal. Earlier, we have taken up work in

three cities namely – Gaispur, Kalyani and Bhatpara where Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are being set up and sewage line is being laid. Work in three cities namely Haliashahar, Bajbaj and Bairakpur has been taken up recently. Hence, work in these six cities is being carried out and remaining cities are under planning stage. But our target is to carry out said work in each such city where the same is feasible and where BOD level is high.

Secondly, we have taken up the work at need based ghats and crematorium. We have sanctioned 118 crematoriums. We have prepared a number of proposals and we are conducting field visits in this regard. We will take up the work to set up crematorium as per the requirement. We are not converting all crematorium into electric crematorium. Since, there are a number of places where the concept of electric crematorium has not been widely accepted. Efforts are being made to make green kind of crematorium but it is possible to use wood in such crematorium. As far as the specific question asked in this regard, we will look into it.”

5.15 On being asked by Committee about the total expenditure incurred so far on cleaning of Ganga river, the Ministry, in its written reply, submitted:

“After inception of NMCG since the year 2011-12, an expenditure of Rs.4321.05 crore incurred till January,2017 against the overall mandate of Rs.20000 crore given by cabinet.”

5.16 Replying to another pertinent query by the Committee about the major hindrances being faced in implementation of this programme, the Ministry submitted:

“In addition to the implementation challenges indicated earlier, a significant time has elapsed in development and fine tuning of hybrid annuity based PPP model and market consultations. Though tenders for construction of Sewage Treatment Plants(STPs) on Hybrid Annuity PPP mode at Ramana (Varanasi) and Jagjeetpur, (Haridwar) have been floated, but considering that this model in the sector is being applied for the first time in the country, the real outcome, after resolving issues may take a while.”

5.17 When the Committee enquired about the recent directions by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and its repercussions on cleaning operations of Ganga between Haridwar and Unnao in UP, the Ministry in its written reply stated as follows:

“The NGT vide its order dated 19.01.2017 has inter-alia directed that Namami Gange, Ministry of Water Resources will not take any projects in segment –B phase I till NGT pass further order. No specific reason has been given in the order for issue of such direction. The order probably has been passed, as the NGT felt that the data provided by the State

Governments and other agencies on the actual number of industries /drains and the quantum of the effluent load was not consistent satisfactory and consequently it may affect the designing of the projects .The directions are likely to delay the execution of projects. The State Government and other concerned agencies are taking necessary action in assimilating and furnishing the data to the satisfaction of NGT. For execution of specific projects in this segment, permission of NGT will be obtained if required.”

5.18 The Committee therefore, desired to know as whether the Ministry has taken any corrective measures in the light of the observations made by the NGT, the Ministry in its written submission, stated:

“The NMCG has held meetings / consultation with the officials of the State /and other concerned agencies in providing the information to the NGT.”

5.19 During a meeting held on 04.11.2016 in connection with examination of the subject ‘Conservation, Development, Management and Abatement of pollution in river Ganga and its tributaries’, the Committee were informed that monitoring of STPs will be done by independent agencies. Also the release of payment and selection of projects will be done on the basis of certification / recommendation of the independent agencies like IITs and local Governments. Further an online monitoring system for quality control will be set up. This system will be in place at every outlet of the project. It was also stated in particular that to address the concern for misappropriation of funds and to supervise the monitoring of all the projects and submission of regular report, Tata Consultancy Engineers will be the overall Project Management Consultant who will keep all records and they will be paid by the Government.

(c) Ghats works for beautification of river fronts

5.20 Asked to furnish the details of works / activities undertaken (both ongoing and completed) under this Programme during the last three years, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated as follows:

“The budget is allocated for 7 towns, namely Kedarnath, Haridwar, Delhi, Allahabad, Kanpur, Varanasi, and Patna. The River Front Development (RFD) project in Patna is already sanctioned under World Bank funding (i.e under NRCP) so no new project has been taken up in Patna for ghat and its beautification. Along with Patna, projects are also taken up in Haridwar, Delhi, Allahabad and Kanpur. Projects are yet to be taken for Kedarnath and Varanasi, details are given below:

Table – 22 : Projects under Ghat works for beautification of river fronts

S.No	Projects/Towns	Cost (In Rs. Crore)	No. of Ghats (G) + Crematoria (C)
1	Haridwar-Chandighat	50.36	1G +1C
2	Delhi-Chatghat	1.97	1G
3	Allahabad-Ghat and Crematoria	88.03	10G + 6C
4	Kanpur Ghats and Crematoria	47.39	11G + 2C
	Total	187.75	23G + 9C

5.21 The Budget Allocations and Expenditure under this programme is as given below:

Table – 21 : Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure under Ghat Works for beautification of river fronts

(Rs. in crore)

BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	BE 2017-18
100.00	67.50	67.00	50.00

5.22 Further asked to state the proposed works / activities to be taken up under this programme in the year 2017-18, the Ministry, in its written reply, stated:

“In addition to the above 30 projects of Ghats and crematoria have been sanctioned for estimated cost of 996.54 crore comprising of 159 Ghats and 109 crematoria.”

5.23 The Committee specifically desired to know as to why there was reduction in allocations under this Programme, the Ministry, in its written submission, stated:

“Due to slow progress of projects on account of non availability of NOC from the State Government.”

CHAPTER VI

INITIATIVES IN THE NORTH EAST

Brahmaputra Board

6.1 The Brahmaputra Board is a Statutory Authority, set up under Section (4) of the Brahmaputra Act, 1980. The Headquarter of the Board is at Guwahati. The main function of the Board is planning and implementation of measures for the control of flood and bank erosion in Brahmaputra Valley. The Act highlighted core functions of the Board, which are as follows:

- (a) the Board shall carry out surveys and investigations in the Brahmaputra Valley and prepare a Master Plan for the control of floods and bank erosion and improvement of drainage in the Brahmaputra Valley
- (b) the Board may prepare the Master Plan in part with reference to different areas of the Brahmaputra Valley or with reference to different matters relating to such areas and may as often as it considers necessary so to do, revise the Master Plan or any part thereof.
- (c) in preparing the Master Plan, the Board shall have regard to the development and utilization of water resources of the Brahmaputra Valley for irrigation, hydro power, navigation and other beneficial purposes and shall, as far as possible, indicate in such plan the works and other measures which may be undertaken for such development.

6.2 In order to make the functions as indicated above more effective and efficient, the Ministry of Water Resources, R.D. & G.R. has been considering restructuring of the Brahmaputra Board, since 2004. Initially, it was thought that an “Authority”, namely, North-East and Brahmaputra River Rejuvenation Authority (NEBRRRA) may be created to replace the Board. However, it was later thought that a “Corporation” may be set up in place of the Board, with the title “Brahmaputra Barak

North-East River Development Corporation (BBNERDC)". The Ministry was working closely with all stakeholders, such as North-Eastern States, Sikkim and West Bengal, as well as with Central Ministries/Departments regarding making the changes as indicated above. The process of creating a different organisation, especially to replace an organisation set under an Act of the Parliament requires certain steps, which finally culminates in the approval of the Parliament, after all the above stakeholders come to a consensus.

6.3 It was further stated by the Ministry that the time that requires making the desired changes of setting up of a new Organisation in place of the existing Board is substantial. Meanwhile, it was felt by this Ministry that an attempt may be made to make the Brahmaputra Board more effective and efficient, within the ambit of the existing Act.

6.4 The Budgetary Allocation and expenditure for Brahmaputra Board for the current year and last five years is as follows:

Table – 23 : Budgetary Allocations and Expenditure for Brahmaputra Board

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Allocation	Amount released	Expenditure
1.	2011-12	49.00	49.00	49.00
2.	2012-13	76.00	76.00	76.00
3.	2013-14	85.00	85.00	85.00
4.	2014-15	80.00	70.06	70.06
5.	2015-16	78.15	78.15	84.31
6.	2016-17 (Current FY)	67.61	56.9868 (till date)	58.33 (till January, 2017)

6.5 A query was raised by the Committee during the course of oral evidence about ineffective performance of the Board in resolving various problems in the North East States. Replying to this,

the representative of the Ministry informed the Committee that at present the Board is Guwahati centric and 95% of the works that are taken up by the Brahmaputra Board relate to Assam.

6.6 When the Committee pointed out that currently the Board is functioning from Delhi as senior officers of the Board are stationed in Delhi, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR submitted:

“It is not possible. That is what the plan is. They should be stationed in those States. There was no system till now.”

6.7 On being further asked about Organisation and staff strength of the Board, the Secretary, during his deposition before the Committee stated the following:

“Surplus staff has been shifted to other places. 45 employees of Brahmaputra Board have been posted to other places. The problem with Brahmaputra Board is that there was no senior level offices in Brahmaputra Board and we going to fill up the post from the CWC staff. We will make efforts that the person should be posted within the State. Persons below that age group were not available. Now, we have advertised the same and the post is likely to be filled in next 2-3 months.”

6.8 Further in a written submission, the Ministry furnished details of the proposed restructuring before the Committee as follows:

“Keeping in view the functional need of the Bramhaputra Board and to revamp the existing structure to make it more effective and efficient, following steps have been suggested:

- a) creation of 4 new posts of Deputy Chief Engineers.
- b) number of posts in Junior Engineer(JE) grade to be reduced and number of posts in Assistant Engineer(AE), which is the next higher level of JE and also the number of posts in Assistant Executive Engineer, which is the next higher level of AE may be increased.
- c) number of posts in each grade of SE, EE, AEE, AE and JE will be worked out and support services will be restructured.
- d) In order to infuse new talent and to cope up with the need of immediate manpower, it was felt that there could be direct entry element at Assistant Engineer level also. It was suggested that at least 50% of the posts in AE level could be recruited through Direct Recruitment basis, while the remaining 50% posts could be filled up through promotion of JEs.
- e) The matter relating to training of Engineers/Officers of the Board was also considered and it was felt that in any organisation, training should be treated as an integral part in the Human Resource Development. Hence, it was felt that there should be a training calendar for all Engineers/Officers of BB, who could be trained through the

established training institutes of CWC and for the matters of rules etc through ISTM, New Delhi. It was also felt that there could be induction training for newly recruited Engineers/Officers and refresher training for existing Engineers/Officers of the Board as indicated above. Promotion from one grade to the other would necessarily require completion of mandatory training by each Engineer/Officer.

The Ministry is taking all possible steps to complete the restructuring as indicated in the above paragraphs in the shortest possible time, so that the Board can be strengthened to function effectively and efficiently.

Proposal for restructuring of Engineering cadre of Brahmaputra Board

1. To open regional offices in each state under jurisdiction of Brahmaputra Board with the following Head of Offices:-

S. N.	State	Location	Head of office
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Dy. CE
2	Assam	Guwahati	Dy. CE
3	Sikkim & North Bengal	Gangtok	Dy. CE
4	Tripura	Agartala	Dy. CE
5	Manipur	Imphal	SE
6	Meghalaya	Shillong	SE
7	Mizoram	Aizawl	SE
8	Nagaland	Dimapur	SE

2. Four Field Circle offices will be located at :
 - i) Guwahati
 - ii) Nalbari
 - iii) Jorhat
 - iv) North Guwahati/NEHARI
3. Two SEs will be stationed at HQs offices, one each under CE – I and CE-II
4. Two EEs will be under each Dy. CE and SE
5. The following NEHARI posts are proposed to be filled up from the Engineering cadre included under para 1 above.

River Engineering Division:

Chief Research Officer (CRO)/SE	1
Senior Research Officer (SRO)/EE	1

Research Officer (RO) /AEE	1
Research Assistant (RA)/AE	2
<u>Material Testing Division:</u>	
Senior Research Officer (SRO)/EE	1
Research Officer (RO)/AEE	3
Research Assistant (RA)/AE	<u>3</u>
Total	12"

6.9 Major activities undertaken by the Brahmaputra Board till date as submitted by the Ministry in its note are as follows:

A. "MASTER PLANS

Preparation of Master Plans (Status)

Brahmaputra Board had taken up preparation of Master Plans of the main stem of the Brahmaputra and Barak along with 68 major tributaries of Brahmaputra including Majuli Island, River Dhaleswari and rivers of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura in three parts as under-

Table – 24 : Status of Master Plans prepared by the Brahmaputra Board

Part	River	Number	Status
Part-I	Main stem Brahmaputra River	1	Approved by Government of India
Part-II	Master Plan on Barak River and its tributaries except Dhaleswari	1	Approved by Government of India

Part-III	Master Plan on tributaries of the Brahmaputra and rivers of Tripura including Majuli Island and Dhaleswari	68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved by Government of India-47 Master Plans ○ Approved by the Board and submitted to MoWR,RD and GR for approval. Further observations of MoWR,RD and GR, Further updated as per suggestion of MoWR,RD and GR utilising tools of modern technology- 8 Master Plans ○ Draft Master Plan completed and under process of submission to MoWR,RD and GR, for Approval of Government of India-5 Master Plans ○ New Master Plans identified - 8 Sub-basins
Total		70	

All 57 Master Plans identified up-to XI Plan have been completed by Brahmaputra Board. Out of above, 49 Master Plans have been approved by Government of India.

During the year 2016-17: 8 Master Plans approved by the Board were submitted for approval of MoWR,RD and GR. These Master Plans are further modified incorporating some additional data collected utilizing tools of modern technology.

Master Plan of Imphal River in Manipur, Feni River in Tripura and 2 Master Plans in the State of Mizoram, namely, Tuichang and Kaladan (Kolodyne) are identified for preparation of Master Plans during XII Plan.

B. 'Survey & Investigation' and Preparation of Detailed Project Reports of Multipurpose Projects:

Brahmaputra Board took up 'Survey and Investigation' of 14 of Multipurpose Projects in Brahmaputra and Barak Basin and in the south flowing rivers of Meghalaya.

Table – 25 : Survey & Investigation' and Preparation of Detailed Project Reports of Multipurpose Projects

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Basin	Installed Capacity (MW)	Status
A-	Completed DPR			
1	Dihang (Siang) Dam Project	Brahmaputra	20000	Single- stage project DPR was completed in 1983 by the Board.Handed over to

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Basin	Installed Capacity (MW)	Status
				NHPC under 3 stage development in 2000
2	Subansiri Dam Project	Brahmaputra	4800	Single stage project DPR was completed in 1983 by the Board.Handed over to NHPC under 3 stage development in 2000
3	Tipaimukh Dam Project	Barak	1500	DPR completed in 1995.Handed over to NEEPCO in 1999
4	Bairabi Dam Project	Barak	75	Handed over to Govt. of Mizoram in 2000
5	Pagladiya Dam Project	Brahmaputra	3	Under Implementation of Brahmaputra Board. Field activities halted due to non completion of zirath survey by Government of Assam.
B- DPR Partially completed				
1	Dibang Dam Project	Brahmaputra	4900	S & I Executed by the Board and DPR partially completed.Handed over to NHPC in 2006.
2	Lohit Dam Project	Brahmaputra	3000	S & I completed. Project entrusted to Private Developer by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in 2009
3	Kynshi Stage-I Dam Project	Others	450	S & I was under final stage of completion.
4	Kynshi Stage-II Dam Project	Others	450	Govt of Meghalaya assigned the Project private developers in 2011

Table – 26 : Status of Projects currently under S and I and DPR preparation

Name of Project	State	Basin	Installed Capacity (MW)	Status
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Kulsi Multi-Purpose Project(Identified as National Project)	Assam & Meghalaya	Brahmaputra	55	DPR Completed in June 2014 is under appraisal of CWC for techno-economic clearance
Noa-Dehing Dam Project(Identified as National Project)	Arunachal Pradesh	Brahmaputra	71	DPR Completed in March 2014 is under appraisal of CWC for techno-economic clearance
Simsang Dam Project	Meghalaya	Others	65	DPR to be completed by March 2019
Killing Dam Project	Assam & Meghalaya	Brahmaputra	85	DPR to be completed by December 2017
Jiadhal Dam Project	Arunachal Pradesh	Brahmaputra	70	DPR to be completed by March 2018

C. ANTI-EROSION AND FLOOD MANAGEMENT SCHEMES

1. PROTECTION OF MAJULI ISLAND FROM FLOOD AND EROSION

Majuli is the largest inhabited fresh water River Island in the world. Majuli Island has constantly been subjected to erosion by the mighty Brahmaputra. Responsibility for undertaking anti-erosion works for protection of certain spots in Majuli Island was given to Brahmaputra Board in the year 1999. Physical activities on the ground started in the year 2004.

The total area of the land mass of Majuli Main Island was 502.21 sq km in the year 2004. Since the year 2004, with regular implementation of anti-erosion / bank protection measures by Brahmaputra Board, the total area of Majuli Island has increased to 524.29 sq km till the year 2016. Currently, works under Phase-II and III are under execution. Construction of 4 out of 5 spurs, river bank revetments, laying permeable RCC porcupine screens, construction of 'Raised Platforms' in low lying flood vulnerable areas completed. Remaining works of Spur No. 2 will be completed by March 2017.

2. Financial Implication

Expenditure incurred by Brahmaputra Board on undertaking measures for protection of Majuli Island from floods and erosion under Phase-II and Phase-III are detailed below-

Table – 27 : Expenditure on protection of Majuli Island

Sl. No.	Description	Estimated Cost	Actual Expenditure	Remarks
1	Phase-II & Phase-III	115.99 cr	117.50 cr (upto 31.12.2016)	96.27% of physical progress has been achieved. Targeted to be completed by March, 2017.

2	Phase-IV	MoWR, RD&GR, accorded approval of Rs. 35.00 crore to implement additional works.
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D. RESTORATION OF DIBANG AND LOHIT RIVERS AT DHOLA-HATIGHULI

The scheme "Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli (Measures for diversion of River Dibang to its original course) with ancillary anti-erosion measures" prepared by Government of Assam was approved by Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India in the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting held in May, 2002 and Brahmaputra Board was entrusted with the responsibility for execution of the scheme. Total expenditure of Rs 74.48 crore has so far been incurred by Brahmaputra Board on execution of works envisaged under Phase-I, Phase-II, Phase-III and Phase-IV. With construction of 'Tie-Bund', the lands which hitherto were part of main channel of Dibang River are now completely protected from floods and erosion. The desertees from the areas have returned back and restarted cultivation in a big way.

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. Phase – IV works completed in March 2016.

Table – 28 : Expenditure on Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dhola-Hatighuli, Phase-IV

Sl. No.	Description	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crore)	Actual Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	Remarks
1	Phase-IV (December 2013)	54.43	56.50 (up to December'16)	Completed in March 2016.

E. OTHER SCHEMES

1. Protection of Balat Village in Meghalaya on River Umngi. Part –I of scheme amounting Rs. 5.63 crore was taken up for implementation and completed with an expenditure of Rs. 4.82 crore.
2. Anti-erosion works for protection of Mankachar, Kalair-Alga International Border area from erosion of river Brahmaputra, Assam- Implementation of the scheme started in March 2015. Work of bank revetment works with boulder spur has to be modified substituting boulder with Geo-bag due to ban by Hon'ble High Court of Meghalaya on boulder extraction. The DPR has been revised substituting boulder by geobag; it was cleared by CWC for Rs. 20.25 crore. Further, due to inability of state Government to provide land, the work of construction of retirement bund is held up. Expenditure is Rs. 3.45 crore upto December 2016.
3. An anti-erosion measure in Maslabari in Assam near International Border- tender for implementation of the scheme is under process.

F. DRAINAGE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES (DDS)

Brahmaputra Board identified 41 drainage congested areas for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) based upon the studies carried out under 49 approved Master Plans. During 2016-17, the DPR of Pola DDS completed and Techno-economic clearance has been received.

Regarding Demow DDS, CWC requested to get the design of the DPR of Demow DDS to be vetted from CWC headquarters.

G. MONITORING OF SCHEMES UNDER FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME - A STATE SECTOR SCHEME UNDER CENTRAL PLAN - IN BRAHMAPUTRA AND BARAK VALLEY

Brahmaputra Board is entrusted with monitoring of schemes under Flood Management Programme in respect of entire North Eastern Region including Sikkim and part of West Bengal falling under Brahmaputra Basin since X Five Year Plan. Details of schemes undertaken by Government of India under Flood Management Programme and monitored by Brahmaputra Board is shown below –

○ During X Plan

Sl. No.	Name of State	Nos of schemes	Central Grant released (Rs. in crore)
1	Assam	44	78.8182
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7	16.3755
3	Manipur	4	7.911
4	Mizoram	3	6.1980
5	Tripura	7	12.7635
6	Meghalaya	2	2.635
7	Nagaland	1	3.897
8	Sikkim	3	8.595
9	West Bengal	3	9.01
	Total	74	146.2032

○ During XI Plan

Rs incrore

Sl. No.	Name of State	Nos of schemes	Central Grant released
1	Assam	100	748.860
2	Arunachal Pradesh	21	80.409
3	West Bengal	6	13.394
4	Sikkim	28	83.689
5	Nagaland	11	28.965
6	Manipur	22	66.3365
7	Tripura	11	23.625
8	Meghalaya	0	3.814

9	Mizoram	2	14.4845
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○ Status during XII Plan

State	No of Scheme	Estimated Cost	Central Share	State Share	Central Share Released upto 31.03.12	No of schemes completed during XI Plan	No of schemes spilled over to XII Plan	Spill over Central Share	Schemes approved in XII Plan	Central Share released
Arunachal Pradesh	21	224.68	202.21	22.47	78.77	11	10	123.44	0	64.219
Assam	100	1146.79	1032.12	114.67	744.9	77	23	287.22	41	66.14
Manipur	22	109.34	98.41	10.93	65.03	20	2	33.37		6.45
Meghalaya	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		0
Mizoram	2	9.13	8.22	0.91	3.4	Nil	2	4.82		0
Nagaland	11	49.35	44.42	4.93	28.96	9	2	15.46	3	15.59
Tripura	11	26.57	23.91	2.66	20.91	4	7	3		0
Sikkim	28	165.59	149.03	16.56	82.86	21	7	66.17	17	8.15
West Bengal	6	22.33	16.75	5.58	13.39	6	0	3.36		0
Total	201	1753.78	1575.07	178.71	1038.22	148	53	536.84	61	16.549

Work proposed to be undertaken during 2017-18

All the works such as execution of Drainage development schemes, preparation of Master Plans, preparation of DPRs of Drainage development schemes, multipurpose projects and protection of areas from floods of Brahmaputra river will be continued .Special emphasis will be on protection of Majuli island from floods and erosion which will be undertaken with financial; assistance received from Mo DoNER.”

PART II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Analysis of Demands for Grants

1. The Committee observe that an amount of Rs. 6,887 crore (net of recoveries) has been allocated in the Budget 2017-18 - in respect of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR,RD&GR). In addition, the Ministry has been allowed to borrow an amount of Rs. 9,020 crore from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) for expenditure under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) – Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and Polavoram project. They further note that as compared to the last financial year (2016-17), there is an increase of Rs. 289.91 crore in Revenue section and Rs. 395.88 crore in Capital section of the budget, showing a total increase of Rs. 685.79 crore in 2017-18. However the Committee find it intriguing to note that while the budget allocations have always been kept at higher level, they have been invariably reduced at RE stage during the last five years except for the year 2015-16. The Committee note that as claimed by the Ministry, the reduction in Budget allocation by Rs. 1,445.71 crore in 2016-17 at RE stage did not affect the implementation of various schemes and projects as the same were financed through borrowings from NABARD resulting in actually increasing the budget to Rs. 12,937 crore. However, the Committee find the tall claims of the Ministry in this regard hollow as despite there being no dearth of funds, the Ministry should not forget that the same has been arranged through borrowing, which ultimately results in future burden on the Ministry. Therefore, while expressing their apprehension on borrowings as it will result in creation of

debt and also additional provisions have to be made for servicing the same in future. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry to manage the finances prudently so that it does not add to future obligations / commitments of the Ministry. The Committee, however, would like to be apprised of the details of servicing the debt including the time period fixed and interest to be paid thereon along with principal.

Utilisation of Budgetary resources.

2. The Committee observe that the percentage of utilisation of RE allocations by the Ministry during the last five years has been constantly improving except the year 2016-17 when it came down marginally i.e. from 97.6% to 93.58%. However, there has been a constant reduction in allocations of funds at RE stage, a fact, always highlighted by the Committee in their earlier Reports on Demands for Grants. They note that last year, the curtailing of funds has been compensated by loans from NABARD as the requirement of Rs. 9,799.63 crore in RE 2016-17 (higher than BE allocation of Rs. 6,201.21 crore) demanded by the MoWR, RD and GR was not allocated by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee feel that the Ministry has not been able to project its Budgetary Estimates accurately - which results in anomaly in allocation of funds at RE and BE stages. Keeping in view the pressing need for higher allocation of funds to meet various challenges in the water sector, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should rejig its internal mechanism and procedures to project its budgetary requirements correctly so as to improve utilisation of budget allocations projected initially.

New Budgeting Exercise

3. The Committee note that since 2017-18, budget has been classified under Revenue and Capital sections, which will give a clear picture of physical and financial progress achieved in respect of various programmes/ schemes implemented by the Ministry. They further note that all Establishment Expenditure has been separated from expenditure on programmes / schemes enabling better assessment of productive expenditure. The Committee hope that with advancing of budget preparation exercise and changes in budgetary classifications, the Ministry would be able to not only, minimise the wasteful expenditure but utilise the available funds in a more judicious and productive way. They further hope that with the above changes in budget making process, the Ministry would be in a better position to assess the future needs and make more realistic projection of Budgetary Estimates thereby reducing the gap between Budget and Revised Estimates.

PMKSY(HK KP) - Budget Allocation and Expenditure

4. The Committee find that Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) was introduced in 2015-16 to enable fast completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects including National Projects. Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) is one of the components of PMKSY which seeks to provide water to every field through such sub components and as (i) Creation of new water resources through minor irrigation (both surface and ground water); (ii) Repair, restoration and renovation of water bodies; (iii) Strengthening carrying capacity of traditional water resources; (iv) Construction of rain water harvesting structures (Jal Sanchay); (v) Command area development; (vi) Strengthening and creation of distribution network from source to the farm; (vii) Improvement in water management and distribution

system for water bodies to take advantage of the available sources which is not tapped to its fullest capacity driving benefits from low hanging fruits; (viii) At least 10% of the command area to be covered under micro/precision irrigation; (ix) Diversion of water from source of different location where it is plenty to nearby water scarce areas; (x) Lift irrigation from water bodies /rivers from low elevation to supplement requirement beyond Integrated Water Resource Management Programme (IWMP) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) irrespective of irrigation command; (xi) Creation and rejuvenation of traditional water storage systems like Jal Mandir (Gujarat); Khatri, Khul (H.P.); Zabo (Nagaland) 40 Eri,Oranis (Tamil Nadu); Dongs (Assam) Katas, Bandhas(Orissa and M.P.) etc. at feasible location.

The Committee further note that under this Scheme, a budgetary allocation of Rs. 1,450 crore has been provided for the year 2017-18 as against Actual Expenditure of Rs. 420 crore in the previous year. They further note from the Ministry's submission that there is a requirement of Rs. 2000 crore for servicing of interest component of NABARD loans and Rs 1200 crore for completion of ongoing schemes of Surface and Minor Irrigation and Repair Renovation and Restoration of Water bodies, to be completed in the targeted year 2017-18 i.e. by the end of XII Plan. While expressing concern over the availability of sufficient funds for completion of projects by the end of 2017-18 (last year of XII Plan), the Committee apprehend that there is possibility of these projects being spilled over subsequent years. They, therefore, recommend the Ministry to prepare a schedule for completion of the projects within a fixed time frame so that the desired objectives of the scheme of HKKP are

achieved within a fixed time period. They would like to be apprised of the details in this regard along with irrigation potential created under this scheme since 2015-16.

Maximum use of Water through 'Per drop more crop'

5. The Committee note that under the Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) programme, 'per drop more crop' is being emphasised through micro irrigation and Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM). They observe that Culturable Command Area (CCA) has been successfully doubled through micro irrigation in Karnataka. The Committee believe that there should be more emphasis on micro irrigation to save water use in agriculture which is the largest (approximately 80 percent) user of water. In this regard, they appreciate the commitment of the Ministry to bring 72 lakh ha. area under micro irrigation out of which 7 lakh ha. is proposed to be covered by December, 2019. They further find that the Ministry has proposed to raise the existing target of mandatory 10 percent of area under micro irrigation in the CAD&WM scheme to 30 percent. However the Committee are of the view that all these measures are still in proposal stage and yet to be implemented. Therefore concrete action need to be undertaken on an urgent basis so as to ensure efficient use of water in agriculture along with increase in the coverage of irrigated area. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to take appropriate measures in this matter at the earliest in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture in a time bound manner to achieve the laudable objectives of " per drop more crop" under PMKSY. They would like to be apprised of the details of the action plan in this regard.

Central Ground Water Board

6. The Committee note that Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), a multidisciplinary scientific Organisation has been entrusted with the responsibility to develop and disseminate technologies, monitor and implement national policies for the scientific and sustainable development and management of ground water resources. Further, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted as per the orders of the Supreme Court of India under sub section (3) of Section of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 - for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development. They observe that allocation for CGWB has been raised by Rs. 68.20 crore to Rs. 240 crore in BE 2017-18 as compared to BE 2016-17 to provide for enhancement of salary and related component as a result of implementation of 7th Pay Commission Report and shifting of salary component from Plan to Non Plan allocation. They further observe that as on 31 January, 2017 the Board has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 161.27 crore. Further, the Board has so far compiled data on ground water resources over 8.89 lakh sq. Km. area, prepared aquifer maps for 5.20 lakh sq. Km. area, carried on 58 inspections of ground water in various States and Union Territories and prepared 113 Ground Water Year Book. They also notice that the proposal for strengthening and restructuring of CGWB is currently under examination. However ground water situation in the country is at an alarming stage and despite all the measures and efforts made by the Board so far, it has not been able to effectively manage and regulate the use of ground water - which is fast depleting as a result of over drawl and contamination/ pollution.

As per the Ministry's own admission, there is a serious need for strengthening the Board both in terms of manpower and equipment as also closer coordination with the State Governments. Further State Ground Water Departments also need to be strengthened with domain specialists. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to impress upon the State Governments to take desired steps for strengthening the State Ground Water Departments in whose collaboration, the Board can effectively manage and develop ground water resources. The Committee are also concerned by the fact that the CGWA is also not able to monitor and control the use of ground water by various industries as it is not equipped with adequate manpower to carry out these activities. The Committee are, therefore, of the view that there is an urgent need to overhaul the structure of CGWB so as to enable it to function in a more effective manner. Therefore, they recommend the Ministry to initiate immediate steps to restructure and modernise the Board to infuse more expertise by recruitment of specialists in the field and use of advance equipment. Further, the Committee are of the view that in order to strengthen monitoring and regulation by CGWA, it is imperative to completely separate CGWA from the CGWB (including the Management of Authority and Board) with clear demarcation of their activities to enable it to function in an independent manner. Therefore, the Ministry should take utmost measures to address the issue of inadequate manpower so as to ensure better monitoring of use of ground water and its contamination by the CGWA. They would like to be apprised of the details of action taken in this regard at the earliest.

National Water Framework Law

7. The Committee observe that the draft National Water Framework Law prepared by Dr. Mihir Shah Committee was circulated among the States and Union Territories to elicit their views and suggestions, after which the legislation is proposed to be enacted by Parliament. They further observe that while many States such as Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have agreed with the proposed law with certain amendments, a few other States such as Tamil Nadu and Punjab have raised objections. They further notice that the Secretary MoWR, RD and GR has issued a letter on 20.01.2017 to all the Chief Secretaries requesting them to support the Bill for facilitating early enactment of the law. However, taking into account the fact that considerable time has elapsed in the consultation process, the Committee desire that the Ministry should engage with State Governments more vigorously to resolve the contentious issues and clear the apprehensions of the States in this regard to enable early enactment of the bill.

8. Further, while noting the various laudable features of the proposed law such as protection, conservation, regulation and management of water as a vital and stressed natural resources, right to sufficient quantity of safe water for life, States to hold water resources as a common heritage and public trust, efforts for rejuvenating rivers for ensuring (a) Aviral Dhara; (b) Nirmal Dhara and (c) Swachh Kinara, integrated river basin development and management and implementation of a Water Security Plan, etc. - the Committee are astonished to find that the draft bill does not speak of any measure for protection of river banks/ anti erosion measures which is a serious problem endangering the river banks and associated problem of floods and submergence. The Committee

therefore, recommend the Government to incorporate the suggested changes so as to make the proposed law more comprehensive and effective to resolve the challenges faced at the ground level.

Farakka Barrage Project

9. The Committee observe that Farakka Barrage Project was commissioned in 1975 for the preservation and maintenance of the Kolkata port and for increasing the navigational depth of the Bhagirathi – Hooghly waterway. They further observe that budget allocations under this Head was kept at Rs. 143.40 crore in 2016-17 (BE), which has been raised to Rs. 155 crore in BE (2017-18). However, the expenditure envisaged for the year 2016-17 could not be made as the work of replacement of 35 gates under phase – II and repair of PSC road bridge, etc. could not be awarded. During the last 4 years, 42 gates of Farakka Barrage have been replaced, with maximum no. of gates replaced in the year 2014-15 and 2015-16. The Committee find that the work of replacement of gates is not being done in a time bound manner and after picking up the pace for two years, the work is again being taken up at a slow pace with rare possibility of the work getting finished by the XII Plan. The Committee are surprised and disappointed to note that no work could be started under Phase –II of work despite the whopping budgetary allocation made for this purpose during the year 2016-17. The general apathy of the Government towards upkeep and maintenance for Farakka Barrage is also reflected in the casual approach to the problem of staff crunch. Despite the project facing severe shortage of staff to carry out the activities and projects in a time bound manner, the proposal for increasing manpower is still under consideration and no concrete steps have been taken in this direction as yet. The Committee are distressed to

note such state of affairs in Farakka Barrage Project despite their earlier recommendations contained in 3rd Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) to undertake the replacement of gates in a time bound and target oriented manner and fix the responsibility for laxity in the matter in addition to taking immediate measures for recruitment of more technical manpower. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend to prepare action plan and initiate the work of replacing gates of the Farakka Barrage on a war footing to complete it by the end of the targeted year 2017-18.

10. The Committee also notice that there is lack of coordination in the functioning of Farrakka Barrage Authority and State Barrage Authority, which results in unplanned release of water breaching the embankments due to overflow of water. Consequently lots of village and agricultural land nearby get submerged under the river without any possibility to recover them again. The Committee, therefore , recommend that an in-depth study should be made about the reasons for breaching of the embankments due to over flow of water and other factors leading to submergence of agricultural land nearby and immediate solutions to the problem of the flooding in the adjoining areas of Farakka Barrage could be arrived at the earliest. Further the Ministry should, in particular, look into the aspect of desiltation and breaching of embankments due to movement of ships in the barrage and take appropriate measures to arrest the same. The Committee would like to be apprised of the details of measures taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)

11. The Committee note that Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) is being implemented in 7 States of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka,

Uttarakhand and Jharkhand to rehabilitate and improve identified dams and develop appropriate institutional mechanism for the safe operation and maintenance of all large dams in participating States. The Committee observe that in addition to dam safety, the matter of strengthening institutional set up for national level dam safety surveillance and guidance is also being taken up in the Central Water Commission (CWC). The total cost of the project has been estimated at Rs. 2100 crore, out of which 80 percent is being financed by World Bank while balance 20 percent will be financed by respective State Governments and the MoWR, RD & GR. The project has become effective from 18 April, 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in six years. However, the Committee find that even after a lapse of five years, the Actual Expenditure under the Project, so far, has been meagre, a fact admitted by the Ministry, due to reasons such as complex preparatory requirements and limited capacity of implementing agencies. Further they find that finalization of rehabilitation proposal for each of dam to be taken under DRIP required various studies, investigation and dam safety expert inspections and suggestions, which took a considerable time. However all these procedures are stated to have been completed now and works have been awarded on 186 dams amounting to Rs. 1,388 crore. So far a total expenditure of Rs. 558 crore has been made till December, 2016. Further Rs. 160 crore has been provided in the Budget allocation for the current year for CWC for over all coordination and supervision and Damodar Valley Corporation for rehabilitation of its three dams namely Maithon, Konar and Panchet.

The Committee are distressed to note that the project has not taken off properly at the initial stage due to various issues, which has delayed its implementation. Although

work has started now on a fast track, the Committee apprehend the completion of the project may get delayed as the implementation work has just begun. They therefore, recommend the Ministry to speed up the work so that the project is completed by 2018, as assured by the Secretary. They further desire to be apprised of the details of the dams along with action taken in respect of each of them under the DRIP so far. They would also like to know, in particular, the details of initiatives taken under the Project to strengthen institutions and the capacity building of officials / staff for safe operation and maintenance of large dams.

12. The Committee further observe that the legislation on Dam safety has been delayed by a considerable time, despite their Report on the Bill, way back in 2011. They note that currently, the National Dam Safety Bill, 2016 is being prepared and consultation with States is going on. They, therefore, recommend the Ministry to wind up the process at the earliest and take speedy measures for its enactment.

National Water Mission

13. The Committee note that the National Water Mission (NWM) was approved during the year 2011. The main objective of the National Water Mission is conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management. Implementation of various activities by NWM include carrying out Baseline studies, Formulation of State Specific Action Plans (SSAPs), HRD & Capacity Building activities, Establishment of demonstration projects and setting up of National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NBWUE). The Committee note that as compared to the BE allocation of Rs. 25 crore for the year

2016-17 the RE allocation was Rs. 5 crore where as the actual utilisation was only Rs. 3.50 crore. About the reasons for under utilisation of resources, the Ministry has informed that the implementation of NWM thorough outsourcing and redeployment is a time consuming process and lack of adequate staff is a hindrance in achieving the goals envisaged. The Committee also note that for the year 2017-18 Rs. 15 crore has been allocated and various activities are proposed to be taken up during this financial year which inter-alia include (i) Preparation of State Specific Action Plans for Water sector-9 States/UTs, (ii) Human Resource Development and Capacity Building-25 programmes, (iii) Baseline Studies-21 water resources projects, (iv) Implementation of Pilot/ Demonstration projects and Improving Water Use Efficiency Projects-5, (v) Organising Regional Conventions of Water User Associations, (vi) Undertaking NWM-Industry association collaborative activities to improve Water User Efficiency. Further, with regard to establishment of National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NBWUE), during examination of DFG (2013-14), the Committee were informed that it will be operational in the year 2013-14, however, it is a matter of concern that even after more than 3 years the NBWUE is yet to be set up and made functional. While recollecting the apprehension made in the 3rd Report on DFG (2015-16), wherein it was observed that with the slow pace of work, the actual implementation will not take place even after decades, the Committee deplore the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend the Ministry to form the NBWUE within this financial year as it would go a long way in meeting the objectives of National Water Mission (NWM). The Committee also recommend the Ministry to have a permanent solution for having adequate staff in the National Water Mission (NWM) directorate so that there is no

further delay in achieving the goals of National Water Mission (NWM) due to informal arrangements, outsourcing and redeployment of staff.

River Basin Management

14. The Committee note that the scheme of River Basin Management (RBM) consists of two broad components namely Investigation of Water Resources Development Scheme (IWRDS) and Brahmaputra Board. IWRDS is being implemented by (a) National Water Development Authority (NWDA) and (b) Central Water Commission (CWC). The NWDA has completed 137 water balance studies of basins/sub-basins and catchments up to 71 diversion points, toposheet studies of 74 reservoirs and of 37 link alignments, storage capacity studies of reservoirs, 32 pre-feasibility studies, 16 feasibility studies and 4 Detailed Project Report (DPR) towards the implementation of inter-linking of rivers in the country. In addition, 36 Pre-Feasibility Report and 2 Detailed Project Report have also been completed for Intra-State Link proposals of State Government. Responding to a specific query regarding problems encountered in implementation of activities / works under this scheme the Ministry has informed that the most important challenge in the Inter Linking of Rivers (ILR) Programme is achieving consensus of concerned State Governments on various link projects. The Government is, however, pursuing the Interlinking of River programme in a consultative manner and have called Special Committee on ILR chaired by Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD&GR). Views and observations on the Interlinking of Rivers Programme have been received from various State Governments, experts and other stakeholders in the meetings of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR). This special Committee would consider all such observations appropriately while planning and formulating the ILR

projects. While acknowledging the larger vision of inter linking of rivers the Committee recommend the Ministry to come out with the Report of Special Committee on ILR at the earliest. The Committee desire to be apprised about the action taken on the recommendations of the aforesaid Special Committee on ILR.

15. The Committee note that the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and 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 the creation of a separate River Basin Authority for a sub-basin within an Inter-State River Basin. The Committee have been informed that the draft River Basin Management Bill is under examination by the MoWR, RD and GR - in consultation with different stakeholders. While deploring the delay made in formation of River Basin Authority, the Committee strongly recommend to establish the same at the earliest.

Ground Water Management and Regulation

16. The Committee observe that the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation has been implemented during XII Plan with four components of National Aquifer Management (NAQUIM), technological upgradation, particularly Ground Water Management

and ongoing activities. They find that an allocation of Rs. 500 crore has been made in the year 2017-18 for this Scheme despite actual expenditure of only Rs. 95.63 crore in the previous year. Although main reasons for underutilization of funds are stated to be the constraints in outsourcing the work of Data Generation for aquifer mapping last year, the Committee are concerned to note that the Ministry has not been able to utilise the budgetary allocation under this Scheme, as is evident from the trend of allocation and expenditure of the last five years. They observe that an internal mechanism has been proposed to be set up to monitor physical and financial progress of various activities/ works during the current year, besides preparation of standard documents. They also observe that proposed work components for the year 2017-18 includes Data Generation for aquifer mapping, which could not be completed in previous year. While collection of data is an important input for identifying the dimensions of the problem, the Committee are perturbed to find that no tangible benefit has been noticed on the ground to improve the water availability in over exploited blocks / dark zones of the country. The Committee notice that the data generated will be used for identification of areas for inclusion under the National Ground Water Improvement Scheme, which is proposed to be implemented with a corpus of Rs. 6000 crore. Under this scheme measures are proposed to be taken to recharge the ground water in areas where there is a possibility to do the same and alternative sources of drinking water will be provided to those areas where the ground water quality has been severely affected due to underground pollution and contamination. The Committee are of the view that despite lot of grandiose schemes being implemented/ proposed to be implemented and crores of rupees being spent, the ground water situation has not improved. Rather the problem has gone from bad to worse. Therefore, in view of the Committee, supply of

alternative source of drinking water should be given top priority and immediate measures should be taken towards this in coordination with the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. The Ministry can also involve the Members of Parliament and State Legislatures in coordinating activities of various Departments to help the people in the affected areas such as in West Bengal, Bihar, Western Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, etc. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take target oriented measures in this regard and apprise them of the details of such action plan within three months of presentation of this report.

National River Conservation Programme (NRCP)

17. The Committee observe that under the Central Sector scheme of the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP), 85 projects, including ongoing Externally Aided Projects (EAP), World Bank projects and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) projects, have been sanctioned with a total estimated cost of Rs. 8,240.68 crore. However, so far only 35 projects have been completed and the remaining 50 projects are scheduled to be completed by the year 2020. They also note that the project cost under this programme is being shared between the Centre and the State Governments on 70:30 basis for World Bank funded projects and on 85:15 basis for JICA assisted projects. They further note with utmost concern that the actual utilisation of funds under this programme has not been satisfactory. From the allocation and expenditure incurred in the last year, the Committee find that there was a substantial reduction in allocation at RE stage as demand for funds were not forthcoming due to slow progress of the projects. They observe that principal reasons affecting the implementation of projects under this programme are delay in

tendering process, retendering, non availability of land, legal issues, natural calamities, delay in permission from local authorities for road cutting, crossing, local festivals, higher fund requirement, pending cabinet approval from the State Government etc. While expressing their regret over the poor implementation of this programme which aims at rejuvenation of rivers, the life line for people in this country, the Committee believe that there is an urgent need to change the mindset to give this programme a top priority. Today, water has become a stressed natural resource due to changes in global climate and massive pollution making it further scarce. In such circumstance, it is high time that cleaning and rejuvenation of rivers are undertaken at a rapid pace to provide for water security to the masses, as also enunciated in the proposed National Water Framework Law. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to give a big thrust to this programme by coordinating with State Governments to remove the procedural bottlenecks and administrative hurdles so that projects are completed by the targeted period of 2020.

Namami Gange –National Ganga Plan

18. The Committee observe that ‘Namami Gange’ was set up during the Union Budget 2014-15 to undertake Ganga rejuvenation and conservation by amalgamating all the existing measures by 2020. The basic thrust of this programme is abatement of pollution in the river through measures such as interception, diversion and treatment of waste water, rehabilitation and amalgamation of existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for major industrial clusters, interventions on rural sanitation, solid waste / pious refuse management, sewerage network, etc. They note that under this programme, a total expenditure of Rs. 2440.50 crore has been made in the last

three years. Further total expenditure by National Mission for Clean Ganga is Rs. 4,321.05 crore, out of Rs. 20,000 crore approved by the Cabinet. While appreciating the ambitious programme of Namami Gange, which aims at cleaning and rejuvenating Ganga by December, 2020, the Committee are concerned to note that the implementation of this programme has not been able to keep pace due to changes in policy with regard to preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by States and model for implementation of projects. Now the DPRs have been revised with the main focus on Infrastructure and Development and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) - which will be implemented through hybrid annuity based public private partnership (PPP) model. The Committee find that at present 5 CPSUs have initiated Condition Assessment and Feasibility Study (CA&FS) for all 118 towns. However, the details of CPSUs entrusted with this work has not been furnished. The Committee therefore, desire to be apprised of the details of 5 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), which have been selected to prepare CA and FSs including the status of such studies and further preparation of DPRs. They would also like to know the number of STPs selected on hybrid annuity based PPP model and the status of work on these projects.

19. With regard to implementation of projects for mitigation of pollution in the river, the Committee note the recent orders of the National Green Tribunal to stop cleaning work in segment-B, Phase-I (Haridwar to Unnao stretch) of river Ganga as the data provided by the State Governments and other agencies on the actual number of industries / drains and the quantum of effluent load was not consistently satisfactory - which could have affected designing of the project. Taking cognizance of this order, the Committee believe that a

proper mechanism need to be instituted to quantify the amount of pollution in the selected part of the river before finalising the projects on its bank to ensure that the money does not go waste and projects are operated successfully. The Committee desire to be apprised of the details of action taken in this regard.

Installation of STPs

20. The Committee further observe that establishment of STPs has been targeted to be completed by September, 2018 as per the milestones set under the Namami Gange programme. But as of now, sewage treatment capacity of only 1,017 mld. has been created and further treatment capacity of 1187 mld is under construction / at approval stage, leaving a gap of 2,618 mld. The Committee have serious apprehension that corresponding capacity can be created in the remaining one and half years. They, therefore, recommend that as resolved by National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA), the work of setting up STP projects should be completed fast to meet the target of cleaning Ganga by 2020. In order to achieve this, the Committee recommend that installation of STPs should be closely monitored with monthly submission of progress report based on actual ground level implementation progress town wise for all the 118 towns situated on the bank of river Ganga. In addition to taking up establishment of STPs on a war footing manner, the Committee would also like to emphasise the need to focus on minimizing waste generation and disposal of waste in alternative eco-friendly manner. The Committee believe that awareness programmes should be initiated to publicize the use of electric crematoria to increase its acceptance among masses.

Monitoring Mechanism

21. The Committee further observe that selection, monitoring of STP projects to be operated on hybrid annuity based PPP model, and release of payments to them, have been proposed to be done on the basis of certification / recommendation of independent agencies like IITs and local Governments. Further, Real Time Water Quality Monitoring (RTWQM) system has been proposed to be created at every outlet of the project. They find that out of 113 RTWQM stations targeted to be installed by 2020, so far only 5 RTWQM stations have been installed and further 31 such stations are expected to be installed by March, 2017. All this, again is demonstrative of the sluggish manner in which the mammoth task of cleaning Ganga has been progressing. They further observe that concerns of misappropriation of funds, monitoring of all projects and regular submission of reports will be addressed by appointing Project Management Consultant - for which Tata Consultancy Engineers has been selected. The Committee would like to be apprised of the details of the monitoring mechanism created for overseeing the success of different projects in cleaning the river. They also desire that the monitoring reports should be uploaded in public domain as an important feedback / information about the success of ongoing operation for cleaning Ganga. The Committee would therefore, recommend to make it compulsory for monitoring agency to submit its monitoring report every three months, which should be uploaded on Ministry website for an objective assessment of the programme by all the stakeholders including general public.

Ghat Works for beautification of river fronts

22. The Committee are concerned to notice that as against an outlay of Rs. 100 crore in BE 2016-17, an amount of only Rs. 67 crore was spent under this Head during the year 2016-17. They note that projects for river front development has been taken up in 7 towns of Kedarnath, Haridwar, Delhi, Allahabad, Kanpur, Varanasi and Patna. However, projects in case of Kedarnath and Varanasi are yet to be taken under this Head. The Committee observe that non-availability of No Objection Certificates from State Governments is the main reason for the slow progress of the projects for beautification of Ghats. The Committee are of the considered view that special initiatives are needed to be taken in consultation with the concerned State Governments to speed up the projects in the selected States specially for the aforesaid purpose.

Brahmaputra Board

23. The Committee have been informed that in order to make the functions of the Brahmaputra Board more effective, the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is considering restructuring of the Brahmaputra Board since 2004 for putting up an altogether new set up under a new Act of Parliament. However, due to certain constraints, envisaged in the setting up a new organisation in place of the existing Brahmaputra Board, it was felt by the Ministry that an attempt be made to make the Brahmaputra Board more effective and efficient within the ambit of the existing Act. The Committee were also told that all the works such as execution of drainage development

scheme, Preparation of Master Plans, Preparation of DPR of drainage development schemes, Multipurpose Projects and Protection of areas from floods of Brahmaputra river will be continued during 2017-18. Special emphasis will also be laid on the protection of Majuli Island from floods and erosion and it will be undertaken with financial assistance from the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

Going through the figures for the year 2011-12 to 2016-17 made available to them on Budgetary allocation and expenditure for Brahmaputra Board, the Committee find that there has been nearly 100% utilization of funds by the Brahmaputra Board, all these years. However, despite this achievement, the Committee expressed their dissatisfaction over this and also draw attention of the Ministry to the fact that virtually the ineffective performance of the Board in resolving various problems in the North East States Board is being run from Delhi as Senior Officers of the Board are stationed in Delhi. On this, a representative of the Ministry admitted that at present the Board is Guwahati centric and 95% of the works taken up by the Brahmaputra Board relate to Assam. The Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR also candidly stated that the Senior Officers of the Board should be stationed in North Eastern States instead of being stationed in Delhi. While the Committee felt that the Brahmaputra Board is supposed to look after the entire North Eastern Region, it has failed in its objectives for catering to the requirement of other States of the Region except Assam.

The Committee feel unhappy with the lopsided Assam centric activities of the Brahmaputra Board and concentration of its top officers in Delhi. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the officers and Staff of the Board should be stationed in an appropriate manner in all the North Eastern States depending on the requirements, by revisiting the

priorities in taking up projects and chalking out strategy and programmes in order to give impetus to activities regarding water management in all the States of NE Region as per the Board's mandate.

NEW DELHI

8 March, 2017

17 Phalguna, 1938 (Saka)

HUKUM SINGH,

Chairperson,

Standing Committee on Water Resources

PART III

Annexure-I

List of schemes with lesser Revised Estimate (RE) allocation during the year
2016-17

S.No.		Scheme	PLAN BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17
A.		Major Irrigation Projects		
	1	Polavaram Project	100.00	100.00
	2	Farakka Barrage Project	80.00	65.00
	3	DRIP	23.98	45.00
	4	Emergent Flood Protection	0.00	0.00
	5	Water Project of NCT	0.02	0.00
		Total	204.00	210.00
B.		Namami Gange		
	1	National Ganga Plan	2150.00	1440.50
	2	Ghat Beauf of River Front	100.00	67.00
C.		National River Conservation Plan		
		a. EAP Component	130.00	87.10
		b. Program Component	120.00	80.40
		Total	2500.00	1675.00
D.		River Basin Management		
	1	National Water Mission	25.00	5.00
	2	RBM	173.60	175.00
	3	Flood Forecasting	60.00	42.00
	4	Interlinking of Rivers	1.00	0.01
		Total	259.60	222.01
E.		Water Resource Management		
	1	DWRIS	84.87	70.00
	2	Ground Water	303.39	115.00
	3	NHP	165.00	54.93
	4	R&D	55.00	35.00
	5	IMP	0.01	0.01
	6	HRD/CB	32.00	16.00
	7	Infra. Development	20.00	10.00
		Total	660.27	300.94

F.		PMKSY - AIBP & HKKP		
	1	AIBP	1000.00	999.86
	2	PMKSY (HKKP)	500.00	420.88
	3	Impact Assessment Studies	1.00	0.05
	4	Assistance to SYLCP	0.00	0.00
	5	FMP	150.00	149.99
	6	RMA & BA	200.00	61.77
	7	Irrigation Census	25.13	15.00
	8	National Groundwater Management Improvement Scheme (new)	0.00	0.00
		Total	1876.13	1647.55
		GRAND TOTAL	5500.00	4055.50
		NON - PLAN	BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17
G.		Secretariat - Economic Services	61.70	61.70
H.		Attached, Subordinate & Other offices		
	1	CWC	312.90	312.00
	2	CSMRS	12.37	12.37
	3	CWPRS	52.24	52.00
	4	Sardar Sarovar Cons Advisory Committee - SSCAC	1.00	1.00
	5	Bansagar Control Board	0.40	0.40
	6	Upper Yamuna River Board	2.40	2.40
	7	CGWB	171.80	172.00
	8	NIH	19.00	19.00
	9	Farraka Barrage Project	63.40	63.13
	10	Emergent Flood Protection Works in Eastern & Western Sector	3.00	3.00
	11	Assistance to SYL Project	1.00	1.00
		Total	701.21	700.00
		GRAND TOTAL	6201.21	4755.50

Statewise details of ongoing schemes under the Surface and Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies

		Ongoing schemes in XII Plan		CA Requirement for ongoing schemes (in crores)		Potential to be created/revived (in lakh ha)	
Sr. No	State	RRR	SMI	RRR	SMI	RRR	SMI
1.	ARUNANCHAL PRADESH	0	130		20.52		0.027
2.	ASSAM	0	496		1847.56		2.276
3.	BIHAR	0	59		39.21		0.112
4.	CHHATISHGARH	0	110		143.636		0.472
5.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0	14		1.125		0.083
6.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0	297		569.901		0.686
7.	JHARKHAND	0	94		37.114		0.108
8.	MADHYA PRADESH	43	68	55.31	286.305	0.083	0.886
9.	MAHARASHTRA	0	43		48.450		0.440
10.	MANIPUR	4	102	48.53	70.840	0.011966	0.021
11.	MEGHALAYA	9	126	7.77	225.958	0.01096	0.227
12.	MIZORAM	0	14		10.352		0.006
13.	NAGALAND	0	16		36.991		0.005
14.	ODISHA	390	0	107.787		0.456	
15.	RAJASTHAN	27	0	3.992		0.073416	
16.	SIKKIM	0	156		46.893		0.044
17.	TAMILNADU	147	0	37.276		0.02459	
18.	TELANGANA	182	0	29.917		0.0622	
19.	TRIPURA	0	21		24.841		0.039
20.	UTTAR PRADESH	74	0	36.58		0.03447	
21.	UTTARAKHAND	5	635	11.24	175.673	0.0045	0.189
	Total	881	2381	338.402	3585.369	0.76110	5.621

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2016-2017) HELD ON TUESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY, 2017 ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2017-18)

The Committee sat from 1130 hours to 1415 hours in Committee Room G-074, Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukum Singh - **Chairperson**

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Devusinh Jesingbhai Chauhan
3. Shri Sudheer Gupta
4. Shri B. Vinod Kumar
5. Shri Murali Mohan Maganti
6. Dr. Abhijit Mukherjee
7. Smt. Aparupa Poddar

RAJYA SABHA

8. Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde
9. Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Kusal Sarkar - Additional Director

Ministry of Water Resource, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Dr. Amarjit Singh | Secretary (WR, RD & GR) |
| 2. | Shri Sanjay Kundu | JS (Parl.) (WR, RD & GR) |
| 3. | Shri Akhil Kumar | JS (Admn.) (WR, RD & GR) |
| 4. | Shri Jagmohan Gupta | JS &FA (WR, RD & GR) |
| 5. | Shri K. Vohra | Commissioner (WR) |
| 6. | Shri J. ChandraShekhar Iyer | Commissioner (WR) |
| 7. | Shri T.S. Mehra | Commissioner (WR) |
| 8. | Shri B.R.K. Pillai | Commissioner (WR) |
| 9. | Shri P.K. Sazena | Commissioner (WR) |
| 10. | Shri Joginder Singh | Advisor (NWM) |
| 11. | Shri Taranjit Takkar | Controller of Accounts |
| 12. | Shri Ashok Gupta | Director (WR, RD & GR) |
| 13. | Shri N.K. Manglik | Director (WR) |
| 14. | Shri Manish Tripathi | Director (Finance) |
| 15. | Shri Bhupender Singh | Sr. JC. (WR) |
| 16. | Shri Kiran Pramanik | Sr. JC(WR) |

Central Water Commission (CWC)

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Shri Narendra Kumar | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri A.K. Shrivastava | Secretary |
| 3. | Shri P.N. Singh | Director |
| 4. | Shri H. S. Sengar | Director |

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)

Shri K.B. Biswas Chairman (CGWB)

National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC)

Shri H.L. Choudhary CMD (NPCC)

National Water Development Agency

Shri S. M. Husain DG (NWDA)

Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd.

- | | | |
|----|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Shri R.K. Gupta | CMD (WAPCOS Ltd.) |
| 2. | Shri Aman Sharma | ED. (WAPCOS Ltd.) |

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Shri U.P. Singh | DG (NMCG) |
| 2. | Dr. Ariz Ahmad | MD (NMCG) |
| 3. | Shri Hitesh Kr. S. Makwana | ED (NMCG) |
| 4. | Shri Rozy Agarwal | ED (NMCG) |
| 5. | Shri D.P. Mathuria | ED (NMCG) |
| 6. | Shri Rajiv Kishore | ED (NMCG) |

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened to have evidence of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD and GR) – in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants (2017-18). Thereafter, the Chairperson welcomed the representatives of the Ministry. The representatives of the Ministry then made a power point presentation on various issues concerning the subject which are listed as follows:

- (i) **Budgetary allocation for the Ministry for the year 2017-18**
- (ii) **Expenditure trends**
- (iii) **Important initiatives of CWC**
- (iv) **Flood Forecasting**
- (v) **Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)**
- (vi) **National Hydrology Project (NHP)**
- (vii) **Brahmaputra Board**
- (viii) **Farakka Barrage Project**
- (ix) **Ground Water Management and Regulation**
- (x) **Namami Gange**
- (xi) **Major Initiatives**
- (xii) **National Water Framework Law**
- (xiii) **Proposed Amendments in the Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956**

(xiv) Water Use Efficiency and Participatory Irrigation Management

3. Thereafter, the Committee discussed various issues threadbare. The Secretary apprised the Committee that total budget allocation for the Ministry this year is Rs. 6,887/- crore, out of which Rs. 6,102.51 crore has been allocated under the Revenue Section and Rs. 789.49 crore under the Capital Section. In addition to it, Rs. 9020 crore has been proposed to be borrowed from NABARD. Therefore, the total allocation for the Ministry is Rs. 15,907 crore. While discussing the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), the Committee asked as to whether the State Governments are cooperating in execution of this Project, the representative of the Ministry replied in affirmative and stated that the funds are released once information about the expenditure incurred is received from the State Governments. With regard to Dam Safety Bill, he apprised that the Committee had earlier examined it and recommended to bring a new bill after incorporating their recommendations. Currently the consultation process with State Governments is being held and the same is likely to be completed by February, 2017. In reply to a further query by the Committee about the utilization of only Rs. 300 crore by the Ministry for implementation of DRIP, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR informed that during the last three years, consultants were being finalized and tender documents were being prepared. Now the works under the Programme will be implemented.

4. In reply to a query by the Committee as to whether the Ministry is in a position to start work under the National Hydrology Project, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR replied that this is third phase of the Project. In the initial two phases, work was done in the South and Western States. Now the project will be implemented all over the country. Further explaining the benefits gained as a result of implementation of this Project, he stated that man-made factors for occurrence of floods could be avoided as now the dam water is released in accordance with the amount of excess water. Also information on total available water in the dam during various seasons, the amount of water available for irrigation, etc. can now be obtained. The availability of comprehensive real time data will also enable adoption of timely measures to prevent flash-floods. A query was also raised by the Committee with regard to lack of synchronization in functions of Farakka Barrage Authority and State Barrage Authority in the release of water which results in breaching of embankments. Replying to this, the Secretary, MoWR, RD and GR informed that a study is being undertaken on the water of river Ganga as to the quantum of that water is coming from various rivers and its impact on floods. Accordingly, the CWC will prepare an integrated plan.

5. The Committee also asked about the water sharing ratio between India and Bangladesh, the representative of the Ministry informed that the water sharing is done as per the agreement between the two countries. When asked about the low level of water during May-June, 2016, which forced Farakka

NTPC to shut down, the representative of the Ministry stated that the water level in Ganga Basin was low this year on account of which there was problem not only in India but also on the Bangladesh side.

6. A query was raised with regard to functioning of the Brahmaputra Board as it is facing lot of problems in performing effectively. Replying to this, the representative of the Ministry informed that there is a prolonged demand for restructuring the Board. Recently Staffing of the Board has been restructured. He also informed that the Regional Offices will be opened in the North East States to ensure its presence in whole of North East. The Committee thereupon, raised the pertinent issue of current functioning of the Board from Delhi. In reply thereto the Secretary stated that the Senior officers from the Central Water Commission (CWC) will be posted in the North East States to facilitate effective functioning of the Board. Also the age limit has been increased for appointment of Chairperson - who will be from technical background. Then the Committee desired to know the details of works taken for protection of Majuli island, which is largest fresh water island in the world. The representative of the Ministry informed that construction of bank revetment has been done with the help of geo bags which are polypropylene bags, filled with earth and sand. These bags have been used to reclaim 24 sq. km. of area.

7. With regard to the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation, the Committee desired to know how the data generation will help in actual implementation of works for improving ground water situation. Responding to this, the Secretary stated that the data will be used in implementation of National Ground Water Improvement Scheme which has been allocated Rs. 6000 crore. Under this Scheme, measures will be taken to recharge those areas where there is possibility of recharging and alternative sources of water will be provided in areas - having contamination in ground water quality, in coordination with the Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation. Responding to a further query about the supply of fresh water in arsenic affected areas of West Bengal, he informed that CWC had prepared a plan to bring water from Sankos to Teesta and from Teesta to Farakka. However the West Bengal Government did not approve the project. When asked about measures being taken to provide alternative source of water in areas - where ground water has been contaminated, the Secretary stated that there is a plan for each of the overdrawn blocks which will be implemented from next year and will be completed in six years. The Plan is proposed to be sent to Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for approval and then it will be sent to the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation for supply of alternative sources of drinking water.

8. In response to a query on works being undertaken by NMCG, the representative of the Ministry informed that for the first time tender has been issued on hybrid annuity model for Haridwar and Varanasi under which only 40 percent of the amount will be given for installation of Sewage Treatment Plant and the rest will be given in the next 15 years.

9. On the issue of measures taken for ensuring efficient use of water in agriculture, which uses 80 per cent of water, the representative of the Ministry stated that the coverage of area under irrigation may be increased with the help of micro irrigation. Out of total 72 lakh hectares area targeted to be covered under Micro Irrigation, the Ministry has planned to bring approximately 7 lakh hectares under Micro irrigation by December, 2019. Additionally, an area of 55 lakh hectare has been proposed to be brought under Micro Irrigation through a new scheme wherein the irrigation system developed under Command Area Development will be handed over to the Water User Associations. Also the Ministry has proposed to increase the mandatory coverage of 10 per cent area under micro irrigation as provided in the existing Command Area Development and Management Scheme (CAD & WM) scheme to 30 per cent.

10. Thereafter a Member raised the issue of excessive use of Hindi language in various schemes of the Government. He also pointed out that in the proposed National Water Framework Law, there is no mention of erosion of river basin. The Committee also discussed various other issues such as proposed amendment to Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 to set up single tribunal for restoration of river water dispute, Polavaram project, non-allocation of funds for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) this year, Pranhita- Kaleshwaram project, status of Ghatal master plan, dredging in Damodar, Mundeshwari and Chakra rivers, setting up of electric crematoria in Jungipur and Uddharanpur town in Burdawan district, condition of Gandhi sagar dam on river Chambal and need for prevention of mining on the river banks, etc.

11. The Committee asked the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to furnish written replies to those queries raised by Members during the sitting which could not be replied by the representatives orally.

12. A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting was kept for record.

The Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2016-17) HELD ON 14 MARCH, 2017

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1515 hours in Committee Room 'C', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukum Singh – Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Radheshyam Biswas
3. Shri B. Vinod Kumar
4. Shri Abhijit Mukherjee
5. Shri Subhash Patel
6. Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram
7. Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah
8. Smt. V. Sathyabama
9. Shri Liladharbhai Vaghela

RAJYA SABHA

10. Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder
11. Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde
12. Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu
13. Shri A.V. Swamy
14. Shri Pradeep Tamta

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Rita Jailkhani | - | 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 (a) Thirteenth Report on the subject “Indigenous and Modern forms of Water Conservation – Techniques and Practices”; (ii) Fourteenth Report on the subject “Review of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)”; (iii) Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Tenth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on “Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies – Encroachment on water bodies and steps required to remove the encroachment and restore the water bodies”; and (iv) Sixteenth Report on “Demands for Grants (2017-18) of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the aforesaid four draft Reports without any modification.

3. x x x x x x x x x

4. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to present the above Four Reports to both the Houses of Parliament in the current Session.

The Committee then adjourned