

SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS OF 16th MEETING OF THE GANGA FLOOD CONTROL BOARD (GFCB) HELD AT NEW DELHI ON 16.01.2013

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Shri Harish Rawat chaired the 16th meeting of Ganga Flood Control Board (GFCB) held at New Delhi on 16.1.2013. The Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand representing the Members of Ganga basin States and representatives from other Union Ministries/Ganga basin States attended the meeting. The list of Members of GFCB and other Senior Officers who attended the meeting is at Annex-I.

While welcoming the Members of the Board and other distinguished representatives present during the meeting, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources in his opening remarks recalled that GFCB was created in 1972 for laying down broad policies and directing concerted efforts towards the management of floods in the Ganga basin through preparation of integrated plans for tackling the problems of flood, erosion and drainage. Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) was also created in the same year as the executive limb and secretariat of the GFCB with its headquarter at Patna. He drew the attention of the members/representatives present during the meeting towards the National Water Policy of 2002 which states that there should be a master plan for flood control and management for each flood prone basin.

He expressed his happiness that GFCC since its inception has prepared comprehensive plans for flood management for all the 23 river systems of Ganga basin. These plans have been updated as and when required and circulated to all concerned for follow up action. GFCC has also under taken assessment study of adequacy of waterways under road and rail bridges , techno-economic appraisal and monitoring of centrally assisted flood management schemes besides monitoring of flood events and preparation of flood reports. He drew the attention of the Members of the Board to the decision of the last GFCB meeting wherein all States were requested to send follow up action taken report on the recommendations made in the comprehensive plans to GFCC. Only Bihar and Himachal Pradesh have responded in this regard. He urged the remaining Ganga basin States to expedite the submission of the required details. As the majority of river basins in India including Ganga basin are interstate in nature, he impressed upon the need for mutual cooperation and sharing of experiences among all concerned agencies particularly the Ganga basin States .

The Chairman mentioned that in order to assist the State Governments in better and effective flood management the Union Government had taken a number of initiatives through various National and State Level Committees/Task Force constituted in the past from time to time, the latest being the Task Force on Flood Management/Erosion Control set up by the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) in the year 2004 to look into the problem of recurrent floods in Bihar, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh besides Assam and neighbouring States. He mentioned that based on the recommendation of the Task Force, 2004 the Union Government had provided central assistance to the State Govts. for flood control and river management works under the Flood Management Programme (FMP) of MoWR during the XI Plan. He pointed out that inspite of adequate funding provided to the State Govts. by the Govt. of India the desired progress of work had not been achieved. He urged all the State Govts. to take

necessary remedial measures so that schemes were completed at the earliest and benefits reached the affected people. He informed that considering the demand of the State Govts. the state sector scheme for FMP was proposed to be continued during XII Plan with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore.

Regarding the floods in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh which are generally caused by the rivers coming from Nepal, the Chairman mentioned that Govt. of India was in continuous dialogue with Govt. of Nepal and the highest priority was being given to reaching the understanding with Nepal for implementation of long term measures by creation of storage with suitable flood cushion in Nepal territory. He informed that the meeting of India Nepal Joint Ministerial Commission on Water Resources (JMCWR) was held on 15th February, 2012 at New Delhi wherein various bilateral issues were discussed. Subsequently a meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation, Govt. of Nepal was held at New Delhi on 27th December, 2012 where matters of mutual interest came up for discussion. He mentioned that response from the Govt. of Nepal was positive on all issues.

He observed that while flood protection works like embankments and dykes would be necessary, increased emphasis should be laid on non structural measures such as flood forecasting and warning, flood plain zoning and flood proofing for minimising of losses. He mentioned that a draft model bill for flood plain zoning had already been circulated to the States in the year 1975. But so far only the Govt. of Rajasthan had enacted suitable legislation in this regard. He urged the remaining States to initiate similar action. Further he requested the Member States to send the suggestions within a month for modifying the present draft model bill which was quite old. In case suggestions were not received in time, the draft model bill would be modified by the Ministry of Water Resources based on its experience and Revised Model Flood Plain Zoning Bill recirculated for enactment and further action. He emphasised that meanwhile executive and administrative actions could be taken to prevent encroachment within the flood plains.

Chairman expressed great satisfaction over the agreement with Bangladesh regarding flood protection works on common/border rivers in West Bengal. He informed that a number of bank protection works had been taken up on common/border rivers with Bangladesh. The desilting of Ichhamati river in West Bengal carried out as a part of the agreement was another example of bilateral cooperation.

The Chairman mentioned that Govt. of India was also exploring alternatives of inter-basin water transfer for finding techno-economic solution to the flood and drought problems. However, inter-basin transfer of water should be considered on the basis of merits of each case after evaluating environmental, economic and social impact of such transfer. He further mentioned that to meet challenges due to climatic changes, planning and management of water resources structures like dams, flood embankment, tidal embankment etc. should incorporate coping strategies for possible climate changes.

Thereafter a presentation on the functions and achievements of GFCC – executive limb and secretariat of GFCB was made by Member-Secretary. The Chairman then requested the Hon'ble Ministers from Ganga basin States to present their views, a summary of which is given below :

Bihar

Shri Vijay Kumar Chaudhary, the Hon'ble Water Resources Minister, Govt. of Bihar expressed his thanks for convening the meeting of Board within such a short interval. He briefly explained the flood problems being faced by the State and mentioned that silt deposition in river basins was taking place continuously especially in the rivers coming from Nepal and flowing through North Bihar. He requested the Board to have an effective silt management programme for the important rivers of North Bihar and stressed the need for its commencement at the earliest.

As regards controlling of floods in Bihar due to rivers coming from Nepal he mentioned that much progress had not been achieved in the direction of long term measures like construction of dams/reservoirs in upper catchment of the rivers although this issues had already been taken up with the Govt. of Nepal by the Govt. of India. He pointed out that a Joint Project Office (JPO) was constituted in the year 2004 for preparation of DPR for the proposed Sapta Kosi High Dam but no substantial progress could be achieved. He mentioned about the siltation problem in Ganga and related issues due to which the continuity of flow in Ganga was being affected and stressed the need to adopt measures so that continuity of flow in the river could be maintained.

Shri Chaudhary called for the simplification of the present procedure for approval of the schemes and release of Central assistance under the FMP so that all the required formalities at the different levels of Govt. of India are completed within one month. He also called for revision of present Guidelines for the release of Central assistance to State Govt. for the schemes under FMP. He pointed out that as the works are generally to be commenced by January and completed by the end of May falling in two financial years, the denial of reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by the State Govt. in the previous financial year impeded the avowed objectives of Flood Management Programme. As such once a scheme was approved by the Govt. of India total expenditure incurred must be fully reimbursed irrespective of the consideration of the financial year. He also requested that Guidelines for Flood Management Programme for the XII Five Year Plan should be finalised at the earliest.

He mentioned that the "Working Group for Flood Management and Region Specific Issues" for the XII Five Year Plan constituted by the Planning Commission had recommended release of Central Assistance only for such schemes that entailed an investment of more than Rs.100 crore with a benefit cost ratio greater than 2 and requested the Board that all the schemes considered necessary should get Central assistance under the Flood Management Programme irrespective of their cost.

He suggested that the Committee constituted by Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India for identification of flood prone area in the country include members from various flood affected States. The Chairman assured that the representation of flood affected States in the said Committee would be duly taken care of.

Rajasthan

Shri Hema Ram Choudhary, the Hon'ble Irrigation Minister, Govt. of Rajasthan at the outset thanked the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources

for organising the important GFCB meeting and desired that it should be held at regular intervals so that the problems of Ganga basin States regarding flood and utilisation of water could be addressed timely. He mentioned that the State of Rajasthan had suffered every year from drought and famine whereas the Eastern States of the country were affected by floods and excess rainfall. He stressed the need for a time bound programme for controlling the floods in the Eastern States as well as meeting the water requirement of Rajasthan. He mentioned that Kota, Bara, Alwar and some areas of Bharatpur district in Rajasthan are affected by floods. For protection of Kota district the State Govt. had prepared a scheme costing Rs.19.75 crore. The first phase of the works had been completed by the State Govt. with its own resources. The implementation of the project had provided great relief to the people of Kota city with respect to flood problems. The flood protection schemes for Bharatpur and Alwar are being prepared which will be sent shortly to GFCC.

He emphasised that Rajasthan was the first and the only State of Ganga basin where Flood Plain Zoning Bill had been passed by the Legislative Assembly. He requested the Board that due to increasing demand for water, surplus water/flood water of interstate rivers should be diverted to Rajasthan to meet its water demand. Regarding diversion of surplus water of Ganga he drew the attention of Board that the issue had been raised during the first meeting of the Board held in 1972 but still the issue remained unresolved. He requested the Board that diversion of surplus water of Ganga should be decided after detailed scientific/technical studies based on the latest data/information, as during the past 10 years there were significant changes in the quantum of rainfall. He suggested that water should be declared as a national asset and Central Govt. should take over its control so that distribution of water to various regions of country could be done equitably. He further suggested that the Central Govt. should also take control of inter-state rivers in its own hand. He requested for enhancement of financial limit for clearance of the flood management schemes by the State Govt. to Rs.20.0 crore.

The Chairman of the Board clarified that it would require comprehensive discussions with all concerned and only thereafter could the decision regarding the declaration of water as national asset be taken.

Uttarakhand

Shri Yashpal Arya, the Hon'ble Irrigation Minister, Govt. of Uttarakhand at the outset thanked the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources for organising the important GFCB meeting. He briefly explained the flood problems of the State and mentioned that Uttarakhand faced various types of natural calamities including floods every year causing huge loss of life and property. He mentioned that due to lack of storage facility a large quantity of run off water caused devastation in the form of floods. He stated that the glaciers in the Himalayan region were receding every year because of global warming and climatic changes which in turn was affecting the discharges in all the rivers of the States, specially during the summer. He therefore emphasised that there was an urgent need to construct large number of reservoirs in the foothills of Himalayas to enhance the water availability in the lean season and also to moderate flood intensity. He stressed the need for special financial package to the State for flood protection works so as to help the affected people. He informed the Board that the State of Uttarakhand had also passed the Flood Plain Zoning Bill in 2012.

The Hon'ble Minister urged that the restoration of flood protection schemes of hilly region should be included in National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). He suggested that schemes costing above Rs.7.5 crores in his State be considered for funding under the Flood Management Programme and that 90% of the Central assistance be released as the first installment.

Uttar Pradesh

Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav, the Hon'ble Irrigation Minister , Govt. of Uttar Pradesh thanked the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources for convening the meeting of GFCB and gave a brief account of flood problems in his State. He stated that out of the protectable area of 58.72 lakh ha., an area of 22.14 lakh ha. had been protected. In order to protect the remaining area 5000 km long embankment would be required with an expenditure of Rs.15,000 crores. While stating that such huge investment was not possible from the resources of the State alone, he requested for a special package of Rs.1000 crore from the Govt. of India . He observed that the present system of sanctioning the projects was cumbersome and should be simplified so that the benefits of flood projects could be achieved in time. He requested for the release of 90% of Central assistance as first installment for the schemes under Flood Management Programme of the Govt. of India . He suggested raising of financial limit of sanctioning of the flood management schemes by the State Govt. to Rs. 25 crore. He stated that 26 flood management schemes amounting to Rs.638.08 crore had been sanctioned during XI Plan for which Rs.332.07 crore instead of Rs.478.56 crore had been released by the Central Government. The balance amount of Rs.146.49 crore was yet to be released. He mentioned that an amount of Rs.63.20 crore had been released in excess by the State Govt. from its own share and requested that this be immediately reimbursed by the Government of India. He informed that there was a budget allocation of Rs.350 crore for flood related projects in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year where as only an amount of Rs.41.38 crore had been released in this regard by the Government of India. He observed that this situation was not encouraging.

Shri Yadav mentioned that although six flood management projects amounting to Rs.343.98 crores had been sanctioned, no fund had been released by the Government of India for these schemes. He requested for immediate release of funds for these projects. He observed that rivers - Ghaghra Sharda, Rapti and Gandak entering Uttar Pradesh through Nepal caused severe damage due to floods. He emphasised that to save Uttar Pradesh from flood disaster it was essential to construct Pancheshwar dam on Sharda river, Karnali dam on Ghaghra river, Naumure dam on Rapti river after discussions with Nepal.

West Bengal

Shri Rajib Banerjee, Minister incharge Department of Irrigation and Waterways, Govt. of West Bengal while thanking the Union Minister of Water Resources for convening the GFCB meeting mentioned that the roles of GFCB and GFCC were pivotal in processing and monitoring of flood management schemes and releasing of Central assistance. He apprised the Board of the status of various flood management schemes taken up by the Govt. of West Bengal under the Flood Management Programme of Govt. of India during the XI Plan period. He drew the attention of the Board Members to the fact that the decision on continuation of FMP during the XII Plan was yet to be officially communicated to the States, although nine months of the 1st year of the XII Plan

period had already elapsed. He urged for the intervention of the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources for early action on the matter.

Shri Banerjee suggested that Government of India provide special Central assistance directly to the State Governments in the form of block grant, to be included under the State Plan during the XII Plan period. In the first year, the grant may be 75% of the budgetary provisions made by the State Government in the previous year under major head of Capital Outlay on Flood Control. The State Governments may make budgetary provisions for 25% balance funding. He mentioned that inheriting the legacy of a debt stressed State, the Government of West Bengal finds it extremely difficult to arrange fund for flood management works either out of Core State Plan or by borrowing from institutions like NABARD. He further suggested that State Govt. be permitted to undertake necessary maintenance work out of these funds for upkeep of assets already created by incurring capital expenditure. He also suggested that power already delegated by the Planning Commission to the State Governments and the GFCC in respect of according sanction to the schemes be enhanced by 100%.

Shri Banerjee agreed that the critical flood management works costing more than Rs.100 crore may be included under FMP as State Sector schemes in Central Plan, as recommended by the Working Group for XII Plan. He observed that procedures for appraising and monitoring of schemes by GFCC and other offices need to be simplified and made time bound. He stated that Irrigation and Waterways Department of the State Government had prepared a scheme for upgradation of existing Flood Warning System (FWS) by integrating with mobile and satellite telemetry based technology. He mentioned that the project had been submitted to Central Water Commission for funding with a request to become a partner for implementing the project jointly with the State Government. He requested the Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources) and Chairman, GFCB to kindly look into the matter so that necessary funds to the tune of Rs.20.0 crore may be arranged by the Union Government in this regard.

Thereafter, the Chairman asked the representatives from other States to briefly apprise the Board of the issues pertaining to their States.

Representatives from the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand respectively requested for release of balance amount of Central assistance in respect of FMP schemes under Flood Management Programme in their States. Representative from Govt. of Haryana stated that 2 flood control schemes with an estimated cost of Rs.154.75 crore had been submitted to GFCC for appraisal. He requested for approval of the same at the earliest. However, Member-Secretary, GFCB clarified that no such schemes of Haryana had been received in GFCC. Representative from Haryana assured that these schemes would be submitted again to GFCC.

Chairman at this juncture observed that the GFCB meeting was not the forum for discussing the individual schemes of the States. Broad issues including policy matters relating to floods management should be deliberated at the meeting.

Representative from Madhya Pradesh stated that the Rs.100 crore limit prescribed by Working Group of XII Plan for consideration of schemes under FMP of Govt. of India was very high. If this was accepted 80% of the flood

affected area of the State will not be benefited. He requested that the said limit may be kept as Rs.7.5 crore. He further requested for the simplification of procedure for approval of flood management schemes.

While responding to some of the points mentioned above, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India stated that inspite of adequate funding under Flood Management Programme satisfactory progress in implementation of the schemes had not been made. Regarding Rs. 100 crore cost limit for consideration under FMP, he mentioned that holistic integrated scheme is required to be framed taking into account all issues pertaining to a particular portion of a river basin. He informed that MoWR had proposed an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) headed by Secretary (Water Resources) which would consider the schemes for inclusion under FMP during the XII Plan . IMC would also take care of the issue of delays in the sanction of the schemes.Regarding the FMP he informed that the Plan Schemes for Flood Management Programme was yet to be sanctioned by the competent authority. However, necessary action was being taken in this regard.

In response to the issues raised by various Members as mentioned above, the Chairman observed that the simplification of procedure for clearance/funding of the flood management schemes was necessary and internal procedures in this regard need to be streamlined. He further observed that strengthening of GFCC was essential for dealing with the flood problems of all the 11 Ganga basin States. Chairman urged the Member States that for better implementation and maintenance of flood management works there should be separate Flood Control Divisions in field formations of Irrigation/Water Resources Departments in each State which should be fully strengthened.

The Chairman, GFCB, after the above discussions asked all the Members of the Board whether they agree to the Agenda of the Board meeting as circulated in the Agenda Notes. The Members unanimously agreed with the Agenda of the meeting. Some of the issues involved in the Agenda had already been discussed as recorded in the forgoing paras. The itemwise agenda points in brief and the decision/compliance agreed by the Members are summarised below.

Item No. 16.01(a) Confirmation of the Summary Record of Discussions of the 15th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board (GFCB).

As no comments were received from any of the members on the summary record of discussions of the 15th meeting of GFCB circulated vide GFCC's letter no.C/3/73/4069-4140 dated 29.7.2011, the same was confirmed.

Item No. 16.01(b) Follow up action taken on the decision of the last i.e 15th meeting.

The position as given in the agenda notes was noted by the Board.

Item No.16.02 Review of Flood situation in the Ganga basin states during the period of 2011 and 2012.

The position as given in the agenda notes regarding the flood situation in the Ganga basin States during the years 2011 and 2012 was noted by the Board.

Item No. 16.03 Details of progress of works of Ganga Flood Control Commission.

A presentation was made to the members.

Item No. 16.03.1 Preparation and updating of Comprehensive Plans for flood management of the various river systems in the Ganga Basin.

It was mentioned that the detailed Comprehensive Plans for all the 23 individual river systems of Ganga basin had been prepared by Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC). All these plans had been made available to the Ganga basin States for taking follow up action on the recommendations made therein . As no follow up action was being reported by the various basin States on the recommendations made in these plans , Chairman emphasized that States should send the desired information to GFCC regularly in a time bound manner.

Item No. 16.03.2 Drawing out a phased and coordinated programme of implementation of works included in the basin wise Comprehensive Plans.

During the last meeting of the Board all basin States were requested to send the action plan in respect of the schemes recommended in the Comprehensive Plans as well as new schemes taken up/ proposed and their sequence of implementation so that a coordinated programme of implementation of various schemes could be prepared. It was decided during the last meeting of the Board that all these informations should be sent to GFCC within a month time. Members/representatives of the Ganga basin States had agreed to send the desired information within the stipulated time. However, the above information had still not been received in GFCC from any of the Ganga basin States.

The members/representatives of the Ganga basin States agreed to send the desired information at the earliest.

Item No.16.03.3 Preparation of Annual Programme of works

During the last meeting it was observed that annual plan proposals were not being received in GFCC from various Ganga basin States. As a result it becomes difficult to ascertain as to what works were being planned by the various States. Member States were requested in the last meeting to ensure that required details were furnished to GFCC in time.

Only the Govt. of Bihar had submitted the draft Annual Plan (2012-13) and draft XII Five Year Plan. Member from West Bengal stated that they had also sent the required details to GFCC recently. Member-Secretary informed that the same had not been received in GFCC and requested to send a copy of the documents again to GFCC.

Members/representatives of the remaining Ganga basin States agreed to furnish the desired details/documents to GFCC at the earliest.

Item No.16.03.4 Performance Evaluation of completed schemes under Flood Management Programme (FMP)

A number of schemes under Flood Management Programme (FMP) of the Government of India had been completed during the XI Plan period. As per the Guidelines pertaining to FMP schemes performance evaluation of completed schemes was required to be conducted by independent specialized/professional agencies having expertise in related field in consultation with GFCC. Member States had already been requested that the action for conducting performance evaluation of the completed FMP schemes may be initiated immediately. Further the matter had also been discussed during the 43th meeting of Ganga Flood Control Commission held on 21st March, 2012 at Lucknow wherein it was decided that name of FMP schemes and agency identified for conducting the performance evaluation would be furnished to GFCC by 30th April, 2012. So far only Government of Bihar had provided the required information. The response from other concerned Ganga Basin States was still awaited.

Member States agreed to send the desired information to GFCC at the earliest.

Item No.16.03.5 Assessment of existing ventways under the road and rail bridges and to determine additional ventways to be provided for reducing the drainage congestion to a reasonable limit.

It was stated that reports on adequacy of waterways under the road and rail bridges in respect of 21 river systems had been completed and similar studies for main Ganga stem are under progress. The above position was noted by the Board.

Item No.16.03.6 Monitoring of the execution of flood management schemes receiving Central assistance or being executed under Central sector.

The flood management schemes funded by the Govt. of India were being monitored by GFCC. During the XI Five Year Plan 97 flood management schemes of critical nature from six States, out of the 11 Ganga basin States were included under Flood Management Programme of the Govt. of India. Out of 97 schemes only 47 schemes had been completed during the XI Five Year Plan period. The remaining schemes had spilled over to XII Five Year Plan.

The above position was noted by the Board. Chairman requested the Member States to implement the schemes at the earliest so that the desired benefits could be achieved in time.

Item No.16.03.7 Techno-economic examination of Flood Management schemes

The position as given in the agenda notes was noted by the Board. The Member States agreed that during the formulation of scheme the use of modern materials for flood protection works like geo-bags, geo-tubes, geo-synthetics, porcupine etc. would be appropriately considered. Member States also

agreed to strictly follow the relevant guidelines for the formulation of flood management schemes for expeditious approval/clearance of schemes.

Item No.16.03.8 Other important works.

The position as given in the agenda notes was noted by the Board.

Item No.16.04 Meetings of Ganga Flood Control Commission

The position as given in the agenda notes was noted by the Board.

Item No.16.05 Enactment of legislation for flood plain zoning.

During the last meeting of the Board, Chairman had stated that the present draft bill for flood plain zoning was quite old and would need revision before it was sent to State Governments for enactment. He had requested the Members to send suggestions in this regard so that the same could be considered while revising the Draft Bill. No suggestions from any of the Ganga Basin States could be received so far in this regard. The Member from Uttarakhand, however informed that Flood Plain Zoning Bill had been passed by the State Assembly during 2012.

Chairman requested the Member States to furnish their views within a month or so, otherwise the Ministry of Water Resources would revise the draft bill on the basis of past experience and circulate the revised draft to all Member States for enactment.

Item No.16.06 Accommodation for Ganga Flood Control Commission.

During the last meeting of the Board Member-Secretary had informed that the work of construction of the building of GFCC/CWC in Patna had been held up for the reason that the plot allotted for the office building was considered to be for residential purposes by the Government of Bihar. The concerned department of the State Govt. had been requested to change the land use and allow the construction of the office building. The Hon'ble Minister (WRD), Govt. of Bihar had assured during the last meeting that the issue of land use would be sorted out at the earliest. However despite persistent efforts by GFCC in this regard, the required change of land use of the plot had not been done. As a result the construction of the office building of GFCC/CWC at Patna could not be started.

The above position was noted by the Board. The Hon'ble Minister (WRD), Govt. of Bihar assured to resolve the issue at the earliest.

Item No.16.07 Involvement of GFCC under bilateral cooperation with Nepal in the areas of flood management.

The position as given in the agenda notes was noted by the Board.

Item NO.16.08 Watershed management in the catchment/basins of flood prone rivers.

The achievements up to XI Plan regarding the two watershed programmes being implemented by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture in the country as given in the agenda notes were noted by the Board. The watershed development programmes of DAC, Ministry of Agriculture will be closed after March, 2013. Subsequently all watershed programmes will be implemented under Integrated Watershed Development Programme of Ministry of Rural Development. In view of the above position, it was decided that Ministry of Rural Development would be requested to take up watershed management works in the catchments lying in Nepal for the rivers entering India from Nepal during the XII Plan.

Item No. 16.09 Enhancement of financial powers for techno-economic clearance of the flood management schemes by State Government and GFCC.
(New item)

The Planning Commission vide letter dated 29.6.2012 has enhanced the above mentioned financial powers. The flood management schemes costing up to Rs. 12.5 crore can now be cleared techno-economically by the State Govt. The schemes up to the estimated cost of Rs.25.0 crore can be cleared by GFCC, whereas the schemes costing above Rs.25.0 crore would be considered by the Advisory Committee of MoWR.

The position as indicated above in the agenda notes was noted by the Board.

Item No. 16.10 Release of instalment of central assistance under FMP for flood management works
(New Item)

The position indicated in the agenda notes was noted by the Board. However, the Member States requested the Chairman, GFCC that for schemes under the Flood Management Programme of MoWR an amount of 90% of the Central assistance be released as the first installment. The Chairman mentioned that this would be duly considered while finalising the guidelines of FMP for XII Plan.

Item No. 16.11 Recommendations of Working Group on Flood Management and Region Specific Issues for XII Plan
(New Item)

The position indicated in the agenda notes was noted by the members. However, the Members/representatives of the Ganga basin States were of the view that the lower limit of Rs. 100 crores for funding of schemes under the Flood Management Programme with a BC ratio of 2:1 was not reasonable and justified. The Members/representatives urged that this limit be reduced to Rs.7.5 crore along with modification in criteria of BC ratio to more than 1.0. The Secretary (Water Resources) in this regard informed the Members that the schemes with estimated cost of Rs.25.0 crore and above having a B.C ratio of more than 1.0 was proposed to be considered for funding under the FMP during the XII Plan.

**Item No.16.12 Preparation of Inventory of flood management schemes
(New Item)**

As per the decisions taken during the 41st meeting of GFCC in December, 2009 and subsequently as per the recommendations of the Planning Commission Working Group on Flood Management and Region Specific Issues for the XII Plan in its Report of December, 2011, the inventory of flood management schemes executed by the State Govt., which would facilitate formulation of appropriate action plan for the proposed flood management works, was required to be prepared by the concerned basin States and submitted to the GFCC at the earliest.

Members agreed to send the desired information to GFCC with in a period of three months.

Item No.16.13 Proposal for the constitution of a Standing Committee for each Ganga basin State regarding the collection/coordination of data/information required for various purposes like updating of Comprehensive plans, inventory of flood management schemes etc.

Proposal for the constitution of a Standing Committee for each Ganga basin State regarding the collection/coordination of data/information required for various purposes like updating of Comprehensive Plans, inventory of flood management schemes etc. as mentioned in the agenda notes was agreed to by the Members. The composition of the Standing Committee as approved by the Board is as under

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|----|--|---|------------------|
| 1. | Member, GFCC | - | Chairperson |
| 2. | Engineer-in-Chief / Chief Engineer (incharge of flood management) of the Irrigation/WR Department of the State. | - | Member |
| 3. | Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer responsible for the coordination of flood management at the State Head Quarter. | - | Member |
| 4. | Representative of Disaster Management Department of the State Govt. | - | Member |
| 5. | Representative of the Remote Sensing Department of the State Govt. | - | Member |
| 6. | Director, GFCC | - | Member-Secretary |

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

List of Members and other officers who attended the 16th meeting of Ganga Flood Control Board

Members present

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| 1. | Shri Harish Rawat
Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri Rajib Banerjee
Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation & Waterways Deptt.
Govt. of West Bengal
(Representing Chief Minister, West Bengal) | Member |
| 3. | Shri Vijay Kumar Choudhary
Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources,
Govt. of Bihar
(Representing Chief Minister, Bihar) | Member |
| 4. | Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav
Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
(Representing Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh) | Member |
| 5. | Shri Hema Ram Chaudhary
Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources,
Govt. of Rajasthan
(Representing Chief Minister , Rajasthan) | Member |
| 6. | Shri Yashpal Arya
Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation,
Govt. of Uttarakhand
(Representing Chief Minister, Uttarakhand) | Member |
| 7. | Shri Bibhas Kumar
Chairman
Ganga Flood Control Commission, Patna | Member-Secretary |

1. **Ministry of Water Resources**
 - i) Shri Dhruv Vijai Singh Secretary
 - ii) Shri G.Mohan Kumar Additional Secretary
(now Special Secretary)
 - iii) Shri N.S.Samant Joint Secretary
(Administration &PP)
 - iv) Shri Sunil Kohli Jt.Secretary & Financial
Adviser,
 - v) Shri N.K.Mathur Commissioner (Ganga)
 - vi) Shri Pradeep Kumar Commissioner (SPR)

2. **Central Water Commission**

Shri Rajesh Kumar Chairman

3. **Ganga Flood Control Commission**
 - i) Shri S. Masood Husain Member(Coordination)
 - ii) Shri Awadhesh Sharma Director (C)
 - iii) Shri Ravi Bhushan Kumar Director (MP-II)
 - iv) Shri Arun Kumar Singh Director (MP-I)

4. **National Water Development Agency**

Shri H.N.Dixit Director (Technical)

5. **Central Soil & Material Rsearch Station**

Shri Murari Ratnam Director

6. **National Institute of Hydrology**

Shri R.D. Singh Director

7. **Ministry of Finance**

Smt. Meena Agarwal OSD (PPD),
Deptt. of Expenditure
(Representing Ministry of
Finance)

8. **Ministry of Railways**

Shri V.K.Jain Director
Civil Engineering (B&S)
Railway Board
(Representing Ministry of
Railways)

9. **Ministry of Road Transport & Highways**

Shri A.P.Pathak Chief Engineer (Bridge)
(Representing Ministry of
Road Transport & Highways)

10. **Ministry of Agriculture**
- Shri C.M. Pandey Addl.Commissioner (NRM)
(Representing Ministry of
Agriculture)
11. **Planning Commission**
- Shri Avinash Mishra Joint Adviser
(Representing
Planning Commission)
12. **C.W.P.R.S**
- Shri M.N.Singh Joint Director
13. **Govt. of Bihar**
- i) Shri S.K.Negi Principal Secretary
Water Resources Department
- ii) Shri Rajni Kant Chaudhary P.S. to Minister (WRD)
- iii) Shri Jawahar Lal Superintending Engineer
Flood Control Planning &
Monitoring Circle,WRD, Bihar
- iv) Shri Indu Bhushan Kumar Superintending Engineer
Planning & Monitoring Circle-1,
WRD, Bihar
- v) Shri Uday Kumar Liasion Officer-cum- Resident
Engineer
14. **Government of West Bengal**
- Shri Tushar Kanti Ghosh Secretary, I&W Department
15. **Govt. of Rajaasthan**
- i) Shri O.P.Saini Principal Secretary
Water Resources Department
- ii) Shri P.L.Solanki Additional Secretary-cum-
Chief Engineer, WRD
- iii) Shri Pradeep Mathur Additional Chief Engineer,
WRD
- iv) Shri Saroj Sharma AEN-cum-Liaison Officer
WRD
- v) Shri M.P Samria Executive Engineer &
L&P.O

16. **Govt. of Uttar Pradesh**

- i) Shri Deepak Singhal
Principal Secretary,
Irrigation Dept.
- ii) Shri A.K.Ojha
Engineer-in-Chief & H.O.D
Irrigation Dept.
- iii) Shri A.K.Gupta
Chief Engineer
Irrigation Dept.
- iv) Shri N.K.Tiwari
Director
U.P State Information Center

17. **Govt. of Delhi**

- i) Shri Ved Prakash
Secretary
Irrigation & Flood Control Dept.
(Representing Govt. of Delhi)
- ii) Shri Ish Kumar
Chief Engineer-II
Irrigation & Flood Control Dept.

18. **Govt. of Madhya Pradesh**

Shri R.S.Julaniya
Principal Secretary, WRD
(Representing Govt. of Madhya Pradesh)

19. **Govt. of Himachal Pradesh**

Shri R.K.Sharma
Engineer-in-Chief
Irrigation & Public Health Dept.
(Representing Govt. of Himachal Pradesh)

20. **Govt. of Haryana**

- i) Shri K.K. Jalan
Additional Chief Secretary
Irrigation Department
(Representing Govt. of Haryana)
- ii) Shri Harmail Singh
Engineer-in-Chief
Irrigation Department
- iii) Shri Rajeev Verma
Superintending Engineer
Irrigation Department

21. **Govt. of Uttarakhand**

- i) Shri Subhardhan
Secretary
Irrigation Department

- ii) Shri V.K.Tamta
Chief Engineer & HoD
Irrigation Department
- iii) Shri R Chalisgaonkar
Superintending Engineer
(Planning), Irrigation Department
- iv) Shri D.K.Pachauri
Superintending Engineer
(Budget), Irrigation Department

22. **Govt. of Jharkhand**

- i) Shri Birendra Mohan Prasad
Chief Engineer
Water Resources Department
(Representing Govt. of
Jharkhand)
- ii) Shri A.K.Sinha
Resident Engineer-cum-
Officer on Special Duty, WRD

23. **Govt. of Chhatisgarh**

- Shri C.Xaxa
Chief Engineer,
Hasdeo Basin, WRD
(Representing Govt. of
Chhattisgarh)