

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
GANGA FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
SINCHAI BHAWAN, 3RD FLOOR
PATNA 800015**

NO. GFCC/C/90/2108-43

Dt. 20.3.2001

Sub: Summary Record of discussions of the 31st meeting of Ganga Flood Control Commission.

A copy of the Summary Record of discussions of the 31st meeting of Ganga Flood Control Commission held at Kolkata (West Bengal) on 6.2.2001 is enclosed herewith for favour of information and necessary action.

Encl : As above.

(Signature)
(M.U.GHANI)
Director©

To,

1. P.S to Minister of State for Water Resources, Govt. of India, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
2. P.S to Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi 11---1.
3. P.S to Chairman, Central Water Commission, Sewa Bhawan, R.K.Puram, New Delhi - 110066
- ✓ 4. The Member (RM), Central Water Commission, Sewa Bhawan, R.K.Puram, New Delhi - 110066
5. The Chief Engineer (Lower Ganga Basin), Central Water Commission, 177-B, ShriKrishnapuri, Patna - 800001.
6. The Chief Engineer, Planning, Roads Wing, Deptt. Of Surface Transport, Ministry of Transport, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
7. The Executive Director, Civil Engineering, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001.
8. The Engineer-in-chief, Water Resources Department, Madhya Pradesh, Shivajee Nagar, Bhopal-462016
9. The Chief Engineer (Investigation & Planning), Irrigation Department, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow-226001.
10. The Chief Engineer (Central Design), Water Resources Deptt., Govt. of Bihar, Sinchai Bhawan, Anisabad, Patna.
11. The Chief Engineer (D&R), Irrigation & Waterways Dte., Govt. of West Bengal, Jalsampad Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar, Calcutta-91.

12. The Engineer-in-chief, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Haryana, Sector-17, 30 Bays Building, Chandigarh-160017.
13. The Engineer – in-chief, Irrigation Deptt., Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001.
14. The Chief Engineer, Irrigation Deptt., Govt. of Rajasthan, Sinchai Bhawan, Bhawani Singh Road, Jaipur-302005.
15. The Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, ISBT Building, 4th Floor, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006.
16. The Engineer-in-chief, Water Resources Deptt., Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
17. The Chief Engineer, Irrigation Deptt., Govt. of Uttaranchal, Dehradun.
18. The Engineer-in-chief, Water Resources Deptt., Govt. of Chhatishgarh, Raipur.
19. The Director, Central Water & Power Research Station, P.O Khadakwasla, Pune-411024.
20. The Director (B&S), Research, Design and Standards Organisation, Ministry of Railways, Alambagh, Lucknow-226011.
21. The Commissioner(ER), Ministry of Water Resources, Block-11, 8th floor, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
22. The Engineer-in-chief, Irrigation Department, Govt. of U.P, Sinchai Bhawan, Canal Colony, Lucknow-226001.
23. The Engineer-in-chief (North), Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar, Sinchai Bhawan, Patna-800015.
24. The Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Writers Buildings, Kolkata-700001.
25. The Chief Bridge Engineer, Northern Railway, Baroda House, New Delhi.
26. The Chief Bridge Engineer, Eastern Railway, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001.
27. The Chief Bridge Engineer, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur-273012.
28. The Additional Chief Engineer(B), Head Quarters Office, Western Railways, Church Gate, Bombay-20.
29. The Group Head, Water Resources Group, NRSA, Balanagar, Hyderabad-500037.

Ganga Flood Control Commission

P.S to Chairman, Member©, Member(P), Director©, Director(P), Director (MP-I), Director(MP-II), All Dy.Directors.

SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE 31ST MEETING OF GANGA FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION HELD ON 6.2.2001 AT KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL)

The 31st meeting of Ganga Flood Control Commission was held on 6.2.2001 at Kolkata (WB) under the chairmanship of Shri P.C. Mathur, Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission. Members/representatives of various Ganga basin states and concerned Central Government Departments attended the meeting. The list of the participants is at Annex-I.

The Chairman welcomed the participants. In his opening remarks he gave a brief account of the extent of overall availability of water resources in India and specially in Ganga basin and its utilisation as well as proposed utilization upto the year 2025. He hoped that after proper exploitation of the flood flows through existing, proposed/planned reservoirs to meet the growing demand of food and fodder, the flood problem would obviously be eased to a great extent. He also mentioned that efforts are on by Government of India to implement multipurpose projects like Pancheshwar, Sapta Kosi and on other rivers originating in Nepal. However, these works can be undertaken only after bilateral agreements are reached between the two countries to that effect. He stressed the need for flood management plan within the framework of overall water resources development. Taking this into account he requested for implementation of comprehensive plan prepared by GFCC for all the 23 river systems of the Ganga basin for integrated flood management, drainage improvement and erosion control with special emphasis on non-structural measures like flood forecasting and warning systems, flood proofing, flood risk mapping/zoning and enacting the legislation regarding flood plain zoning to prevent further unchecked encroachment into the flood plains. Thereafter he requested the members for their views on flood management aspects. Shri A.K. Basu, Secretary, Irrigation and Waterways Department, Government of West Bengal welcomed the Chairman, GFCC and all other Members/Invitees to Kolkata. He mentioned that 40 percent of the area of West Bengal is flood prone and ravaged flood every year. He highlighted the devastating flood of the year 2000 which caused immense damage and hoped that the deliberations in the meeting would be useful in long way in mitigating the flood problems. He stressed the need for better coordination among the various Ganga basin states for flood management in which GFCC has to play a vital role. Similar views were expressed by other members from UP, MP, Bihar, CWC, NRSA and CWPRS with greater emphasis on judicious mix of both structural and non-structural measures and application of remote sensing in the area of flood management. Thereafter discussions took place on the various items on the agenda, details of which are mentioned below seriatim :-

Item No.31.1

Confirmation of summary record of discussions of the 30th meeting of Ganga Flood Control Commission held at Bhopal(MP) on 29.3.2000.

As no comments were received from any Member on the circulated Summary record of discussions of 30th meeting as such the same was confirmed.

Item No.31.2

Flood management in Ganga basin.

Item No 31.2.1

Implementation of recommendations of Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA). 1980.

31.2.1.1

Constitution of High Level Committees for implementation of RBA recommendations.

The representative from West Bengal intimated that efforts were on to arrange a meeting of State Flood Control Board in which agenda for formation of High Level Committee for monitoring the implementation of RBA would be included and further necessary action taken.

Representative of U.P. made available a copy of the constitution and terms of reference of High Level Committee constituted in that state during the meeting states of Bihar, MP and Rajasthan have already supplied the copies and Chairman requested other members of Ganga basin states to expedite the submission of a copy of the constitution and terms of reference of High Level Committee to GFCC. Member-Secretary was requested to take up similar action in respect of the three newly created states in Ganga basin.

31.2.1.2

Meetings of High Level Committee for implementation of RBA recommendations.

As regards holding of the meeting of High Level Committee for implementation of RBA recommendations, Member from Uttar Pradesh informed that meeting of the Committee has met twice, first in the year 1986 under the chairmanship of Agriculture Production Commissioner of the State and second in the year 1989 under the chairmanship of Irrigation Minister of the State and thereafter no meeting of the Committee could take place. It was emphasised that meeting of High Level Committee is required to be held regularly to take stock of the progress made. Representative from Madhya Pradesh assured during the meeting that the minutes of the meeting held in November 1999 would be sent to GFCC soon. Representative from Bihar informed that needful action for holding the meeting would be taken. Chairman requested the Member States to ensure that at least one meeting was held at least once in a year and the outcome of the same was conveyed to GFCC.

31.1.2.1.3

Half yearly progress on implementation of recommendations of RBA

The position indicated in the agenda in respect of submission of half yearly progress report to GFCC on implementation of recommendations of RBA was noted. As the progress report for the period ending September 2000 was submitted only by Bihar, the Chairman requested the other Member States to send up-to-date progress report at the earliest and requested for timely submission of half yearly progress report to GFCC. Member©,

GFCC requested that while sending report , the Member States should ensure that relevant informations in the prescribed format were furnished.

Item No.31.2.2

Implementation of recommendations of the Task Force for eastern region and Expert group on flood management for U.P. and Bihar.

Chairman explained the recommendations made in the reports of Task Force and Expert Group. Members were requested to take action in the light of recommendations made in these reports and the outcome of the same may be reported to GFCC .

Item No.31.2.3

Supply of Statewise/basinwise data of annual flood damages and affected areas.

Position indicated in the agenda was noted, Chairman requested the member States to continue sending data/information regularly as desired by GFCC.

Item No.31.2.4

Preparation of flood zoning maps.

During the meeting, the Chairman explained the need of preparation of flood plain zoning maps and requested the member States to prepare such maps making therein different flood frequency zone to have better idea of flood management works required. He expressed deep concern over not attending the works of site verification of completed flood zoning maps for the reach Lucknow to Sultanpur (Gomati river system) and Buxar to Koelwar reach (Ganga river system) by U.P. and Bihar respectively. He requested these states to have the verification done at the earliest. Members from Bihar and U.P. agreed to do so.

Regarding reviving the activity of preparation of such maps and making them available to States for delineation of probable flooded area under 25 year, 50 year and 100 year frequency floods and thus preparation of flood risk maps as decided during the 14th meeting of GFCB, the latest position of action taken in this regard by CWC could not be ascertained as no representative of CWC was present during the meeting. The Chairman requested the Chief Engineer (LGB), CWC to convey the feelings of the Commission to CWC to get this activity activated by CWC.

Item No.31.2.5

Flood Plain Zoning Bill

The position regarding progress on enactment of flood plain zoning bill as given in the Agenda was noted. As no further progress was reported by any member States, the Chairman wanted to know from the Members regarding the problems in implementing such bill. Representative from U.P. stated that

Administrative/Executive orders had been issued to restrict developmental activity in flood plain.

After discussions, the Chairman requested the member states to expedite such bill while mentioning that State Government may modify any specific aspect in the Bill according to the suitability as per local condition.

Item No.31.2.6

Implementation of Sub-basinwise comprehensive plan of flood management prepared by GFCC.

The Chairman during the meeting explained the importance of the comprehensive plan prepared by GFCC for Ganga basin to all the Members present during the meeting and emphasized to implement it and come out with their suggestions so that GFCC may take these into account while updating the plan to suggest remedial measures effectively. As no progress on implementation of comprehensive plan as suggested during the last meeting was reported, the Chairman requested member States to do the needful immediately at least for the river system decided during the last meeting.

Item No.31.2.7

Monitoring and evaluation of flood management and anti-erosion schemes in Ganga basin.

Chairman explained during the meeting that the on-going schemes being monitored by GFCC were lingering for past several years. As such monitoring of these schemes by GFCC was not likely to be useful. He requested the member States to suggest names of the other schemes to be monitored by GFCC for which adequate fund for their completion was provided. As Members showed their inability to suggest the schemes during the meeting, the Member-Secretary of the Committee was directed to co-ordinate with the various Ganga basin states in finalising the names of ongoing schemes to be monitored by GFCC.

Item No.31.2.8

Performance evaluation of flood management schemes

During the meeting, the members were apprised of the performance evaluation study of completed Schemes already done / being done by GFCC. Member (C) GFCC explained during the meeting the necessity of doing performance evaluation study of completed schemes specially in view of its efficacy or otherwise appearing in various journals/magazines. Chairman expressed his view that at least observations on performance evaluation of schemes already done by GFCC should be sent so that they can be considered while conceiving future schemes.

Member States agreed to send the comments/views to GFCC immediately.

Item No 31.3 Design and Research

Item No.31.3.1

Application of Remote Sensing Techniques in the field of flood management.

During the meeting, the Chairman again emphasized about the importance of application of Remote Sensing Techniques in the field of flood management and informed the members that GFCC was also planning to set up a Remote sensing unit to effectively address flood management in Ganga basin. Representative from NRSA, Hyderabad also explained the importance of application of remote sensing techniques for the flood management and stressed the need for having the maps so procured in digitized form for better appreciation of the problem. After discussions Chairman requested member States to effectively use remote sensing techniques for the purpose and action taken in this direction may be reported to GFCC.

Item No.31.4

Examination of adequacy of waterways under the road and rail bridges.

GFCC has already circulated reports on adequacy of waterways under rail and road bridges for 20 river systems conducting actual site observation to firm up the assessment made by GFCC in respect of inadequate waterways under bridges so as to take remedial measures, the representative from N.E. Railway stated that they were already on job and the outcome would be reported to GFCC. Similar action was requested to the other members.

Item No.31.5

Preparation of annual catalogue of flood management scheme.

Necessity of preparation of catalogue for flood management by the State Governments which ultimately would be compiled and prepared by GFCC as a catalogue and updated annually was again highlighted. As no information was furnished by any Member, the Chairman requested the member States to send the information at least in respect of one sub-basin by each State as decided during the last meeting in the requisite proforma already supplied by GFCC. Members agreed to do so and report to GFCC at the earliest.

Item No.31.6

Preparation of weekly/annual flood monitoring report

Members were apprised of difficulties faced by GFCC in monitoring of flood and issue of weekly flood reports for the whole Ganga basin on account of non-receipt/or delayed/incomplete reports. Members were requested to send the flood reports/information timely and regularly. It was also agreed that information/data for preparation of Annual flood report of Ganga basin would be supplied by the end of December every year.

Item No.31.7

Variation of cost of sanctioned schemes and need for their re-sanction

Regarding formation of committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Planning), GFCC with its Members from States of U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Haryana, Members (other than West Bengal who has already nominated Member) were requested to nominate the members for this Committee immediately so that the Committee could start its work and come up with recommendations at the earliest possible. Member from Bihar intimated the nomination of SE (Flood Monitoring), Water Resources Department, Bihar. U.P. stated the nomination of Chief Engineer(I&P), Irrigation Department, U.P. Nomination from Haryana could not be ascertained as no member from Haryana was present during the meeting. As such it was decided to approach Haryana to nominate a member for this Committee.

Item No.31.8

Implementation of critical anti-erosion works in Ganga basin.

Chairman explained during the meeting that the Ministry of Water Resources had already cleared an EFC Memo costing Rs.159.33 crore (Rs. 128.5 crore central share and Rs.30.83 crore state share) for anti-erosion works in U.P, Bihar and West Bengal including Farakka Barage to be carried out during 9th Five Year Plan. For the year 2000-2001 Rs.20 crore is available for these three states. He requested the States of U.P., West Bengal and Bihar to get the schemes cleared for these works and utilise the amount meant for the purpose. Members of the concerned States agreed to start implementing the work immediately

Item No.31.9

Inter-State/Inter-Ministerial issues

- (i) Sharing of cost of Piprasi-Pipraghat embankment between U.P. and Bihar.
- (ii) Sharing of cost of Mahananda protection works in Bihar and West Bengal.

The position regarding the issues like sharing of cost of Piprasi-Pipraghat embankment between Bihar and U.P. and Mahananda Protection Works between Bihar and West Bengal was discussed in pursuance of the decision taken by Ganga Flood Control Board in its 14th meeting held at New Delhi on 16.6.2000. The views of the U.P. Government on the subject is at Annex 31.9.1. West Bengal and other Ganga basin states (who had not sent their views) were still to send their views. However during discussion members from U.P. indicated that the policy on the subject should be for the country as a whole and not for the Ganga basin states in isolation and as such the need of the hour was to evolve a National policy on the subject. Other members present

also agreed with the views of having a National policy on the subject. After discussions, it was unanimously decided to approach to the Ministry of Water Resources for formulating a National policy on the subject i.e. issue of sharing of cost of flood management schemes by beneficiaries.

Item No.31.10

Date and venue of the next meeting

In Chair

It was decided to hold the next meeting (32nd) of GFCC at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh as requested by Member from U.P and a convenient date may be fixed sometime in November,2001 after due consultations.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

File No: 31st meeting Summary Record

Shri Dayanand Singh
Chief Engineer (Design)
Govt. of Bihar
Water Resources Deptt.,
Patna.

Shri Anand Prakash
Chief Engineer & Special Secretary
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
Irrigation Department,
Lucknow.

Shri U.C. Saxena
Chief Engineer
Water Resources Department
Bihar (Madhya Pradesh)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE 31ST MEETING OF GANGA FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION HELD AT KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL) ON 06.02.2001.

- In Chair
1. Shri P.C.Mathur
Chairman
Ganga Flood Control Commission
Patna.
 2. Shri R.C.Jha
Member©
Ganga Flood Control Commission
Patna.
 3. Shri S.K.Sinha
Member(P)
Ganga Flood Control Commission,
Patna.
 4. Shri B.P.Singh
Chief Engineer
(Lower Gang Basin)
Central Water Commission, Patna.
 5. Shri R.N.Choudhary,
Chief Engineer (D&R)
Govt. of West Bengal,
Irrigation & Waterways Deptt.,
Kolkata.
 6. Shri Dayanand Singh
Chief Engineer (Design)
Govt. of Bihar
Water Resources Deptt.,
Patna.
 7. Shri Anand Prakash
Chief Engineer & Special Secretary
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
Irrigation Department,
Lucknow.
 8. Shri. U.C.Saxena
Chief Engineer
Water Resources Department
Rewa (Madhya Pradesh)

9. Sh. K.L.Ahuja
Executive Engineer
Irrigation Deptt.,
Govt. of Rajasthan,
Jaipur (Representing Chief Engineer)
10. Sh. M.V.Vijay
Director, B&S
RDSO, Ministry of Railway
Lucknow.
11. Shri M.S.Shitole
Joint Director,
CWPRS, Pune
(Representing Director, CWPRS, Pune)
12. Shri M.U.Ghani
Director©
GFCC, Patna.

OTHERS

WEST BENGAL

1. Shri P.K.Basu
Secretary
Govt. of West Bengal
Irrigation and Waterways Deptt.,
Kolkata.
2. Shri C.Ray
Chief Engineer-I
I&W Deptt.,
Govt. of West Bengal
Kolkata.
3. Shri A.K.Dey
Superintending Engineer,
Investigation & Planning
Irrigation & waterways Deptt.,
Govt. of West Bengal,
Kolkata.
4. Shri A Banerjee
Executive Engineer
Investigation & Planning
Irrigation & Waterways Deptt,
Govt. of W.B
Kolkata.

MADHYA PRADESH

1. Shri K. kar
SDO
Water Resources Department,
Teonthar,
REWA (MP)

RAILWAYS

1. Shri Radhey Shyam
Chief Bridge Engineer
Eastern Railway
2. Shri D Das Gupta
Sr. Engineer/Bridge line
Eastern Railway
Kolkata
3. Shri J.L.Jaiswar
XEN/Bridge/S&D
Northern Railway
Baroda House,
New Delhi
4. Shri P.P.Verma
XEN/Design
N.E.Railway
Gorakhpur

NRSA

1. Shri A Chakraborti
Head, Water Resources Group
National Remote Sensing Agency
Balanagar, Hyderabad.

GANGA FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION

1. Shri Awadhesh Sharma
Dy. Director
2. Shri Lalan Singh
Asstt. Director
3. Shri Bipin Kumar Sinha
Extra Asstt. Director