

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the “Empowered Committee  
on Flood Management Programme” held on 14.3.2008  
in Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.**

A state sector scheme, namely “Flood Management Programme (FMP) for Flood Control and River Management Works in the country” amounting to Rs. 8000 crore was approved by the Cabinet on 2.11.2007. In order to identify projects/schemes/works to provide central assistance to the State Governments for undertaking flood control and river management works in critical reaches during XI Plan; an Empowered Committee headed by Secretary (Ministry of Finance) was constituted vide the Ministry of Water Resources OM No. 5/24/2008-Ganga / 665 - 679 dated 26.2.2008.

2. The first meeting of the Empowered Committee on Flood Management Programme was held on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2008 at 17.00 hrs in the Fresco Committee Room in North Block, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance. The list of the officers present in the Meeting is annexed as Annex-I..

3. At the outset, the Chairman of the Empowered Committee welcomed the officers present in the meeting and briefed them about the meeting. Thereafter, Secretary (WR) asked Commissioner (Ganga), Ministry of Water Resources and the Member-Secretary of the Empowered Committee, to make a detailed presentation on the proposals received from the State Governments.

4. The Commissioner (Ganga), MOWR, in his presentation stated:

(i) That a total of 315 proposals were received from the states, out of which 272 proposals were short-listed by the Screening Committee(s) headed by the Chairman, GFCC, Chairman, Brahmaputra Board and the Chief Engineer (FM), CWC, New Delhi for Ganga Basin States, Brahmaputra and Barak Valley States and for Other States respectively.

- (ii) That a total of 269 proposals were finally found eligible by the Ministry of Water Resources for central assistance.
- (iii) That the inter-se priority of works/ schemes had been decided by MoWR on the following basis:
  - a. Works/schemes recommended by Task Force – 2004 for North Eastern States, West Bengal, Bihar & Eastern Uttar Pradesh to be given 1st priority.
  - b. Proposals from the special category states be given 2nd priority.
  - c. Proposals from West Bengal, Bihar & Eastern Uttar Pradesh being flood prone States, to be given 3rd priority.
  - d. All other proposals to be considered next in the order of priority.

5. After the presentation, Chairman of the Empowered Committee invited views of other members of the Empowered Committee. The representative of Planning Commission stated that the works costing less than Rs. 7.50 Cr should not be considered for central assistance under the flood management scheme as these schemes have been appraised only by the State Technical Advisory Committee (State TAC) and have not been appraised by the Planning Commission. He was of the view that the works costing more than Rs. 7.50 Cr should only be considered by the Empowered Committee under the FMP scheme. Director (PF.I) Ministry of Finance endorsed the stand taken by Planning Commission and mentioned that the schemes costing less than Rs. 7.50 Cr have been appraised only by State level agencies and have consequently not been appraised by any other independent agency. Further since repair of water bodies is a 'State subject' it is only right that such schemes are funded by the State Governments from their own funds. However, in view of the fact that out of the total 269 proposals brought up before the Committee by Ministry of Water Resources, a large number i.e. 255 schemes are for works costing less than Rs. 7.5 crores and also the fact

that excluding these proposals from coverage within the FMP would entirely exclude the North Eastern States from obtaining the benefits of the Schemes (as all proposals from these States are only for works costing less than 7.5 crores) it may not be possible to exclude all such proposals from within the purview of this scheme.

6. Secretary (WR) informed the Committee that the flood control works/schemes costing less than Rs. 7.50 Cr are being appraised by the State TAC in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission. Further, such works are generally anti-erosion works and have to be completed on priority in one working season. The restoration works of damaged infra-structures (costing less than Rs 7.50 Cr) are also critical in nature and have to be completed immediately after monsoon before onset of the next flood season.

7. The Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MOWR further clarified to the Committee that the CCEA Note approved by the Cabinet does not mention any financial limit of the works/schemes which are to be included under the FMP for central assistance, and covers the entire gamut of works related to floods as entailed in para 11 of the CCEA Note.

8. Chairman, Central Water Commission offered that, if the Planning Commission is keen that the flood control works costing less than Rs. 7.50 Cr are examined by the central agencies, Central Water Commission may also check the technical estimates of such works before recommending the proposals for Central assistance.

9. Additional Secretary (Expenditure), MOF suggested that the schemes undertaken with central assistance under FMP should be evaluated by independent agencies concurrently and not after the schemes are completed. JS-PF.I, MoF mentioned that the Planning Commission while making Statewise allocations for this Scheme in the respective Scheme of Financing of the State Governments, should ensure that the same does not exceed the Budgetary provisions for the Scheme under Demand 35.

10. After detailed discussions, the Empowered Committee decided as follows:

- (a) That the criteria for inter-se priority of the works for selection under the Flood Management Programme, followed by MOWR at para 4 (iii) above is approved.
- (b) That all the schemes costing more than Rs. 7.50 Cr received from various states and included under Flood Management Programme for central assistance as per the details given in Annexure-II stand approved. The central assistance would, however, be released after examination by the Integrated Finance Division of the Administrative Ministry to ensure that investment clearance has been accorded by the Planning Commission and the budgetary provisions have been made by the State Governments in the respective State Plan & Annual Budget.
- (c) That in the context of the comments made by Planning Commission, Secretary, MOWR may like to decide on the floor/cut off in respect of the cost of the projects to be funded under the Flood Management Programme as also to make specific recommendations in respect of all proposals costing less than Rs.7.50 crores to the Empowered Committee. That Secretary (MOWR) may constitute a Committee internally for this purpose and thereafter make its recommendations to the Empowered Committee headed by Secretary (Expenditure) in this regard.
- (d) As against ex post facto evaluation, concurrent evaluation may be taken up through independent agencies for all projects above Rs. 7.5 crores

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

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**Annexure-I**

**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Empowered Committee  
on FLOOD MANGEMENT PROGRAMME held on 14.03. 2008 at 5.00 p.m.**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name/Designation</b>	
1.	Dr. Sanjiv Mishra, Secretary (Expenditure) -	<b>In Chair</b>
2.	Shri Umesh Narayan. Panjiar, Secretary (WR)	
3.	Shri B.S. Ahuja, Chairman, Central Water Commission	
4.	Ms. Rita Menon, Additional Secretary, Deptt. Of Expenditure, MOF	
5.	Shri A.K. Bajaj, Chairman, GFCC	
6.	Shri V.S. Senthil, Joint Secretary (PF-1), Deptt. Of Expenditure, MOF .	
7.	Mrs. Ananya Ray, JS & FA, Ministry of Water Resources	
8.	Shri S.P. Kakran, Commissioner (Ganga), Ministry of Water Resources	
9.	Shri Narender Kumar, Commissioner (B&B), MoWR	
10.	Shri O. Ravi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.	
11.	Shri Avinash Mishra, Dy. Adviser (WR), Planning Commission	
12.	Shri. Babni Lal, Director,(PF-I), Ministry of Finance	
13.	Shri R. Sinha, Additional Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests	
14.	Shri Suresh Chandra Sharma, Director, Ministry of DONEAR	
15.	Shri G.S. Purba, Chief Engineer (FM), CWC.	
16.	Shri D.J. Borgohain, Chief Engineer, Brahmaputra Board	
17.	Shri Deena Nath, Dy. Director, PF-I, Ministry of Finance.	

**Annexure-II****List of proposal (costing more than Rs.7.5 crore) included under Flood Management Programme during 2007-08**

Rs. In Lakh					
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ State	Estimated Cost	Central Share	State Share	Recommendation for 1 <sup>st</sup> installment
<b>Bihar</b>			<b>(75%)</b>	<b>(25%)</b>	
1	Raising and Strengthening of Kamla embankments	5209.26	3906.95	1302.32	2604.63
2	Bagmati Flood management	13516.00	10137.00	3379.00	6758.00
3	Raising and Strengthening of Simaria-Gorgama embankment	1236.10	927.08	309.03	618.05
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>19961.36</b>	<b>14971.02</b>	<b>4990.34</b>	<b>9980.68</b>
<b>J&amp;K</b>			<b>(90%)</b>	<b>(10%)</b>	
4	Flood Protection Works at vulnerable spots U/S & D/S National Highway along Ujh River from Jakhole to Pandorian	1463.00	1316.70	146.30	600.00
5	Critical Anti-Erosion works on river (Dera Baba Banda Tributaries Halian (Doda) and Tawi (Bridge) J&K	1493.00	1343.70	149.30	746.00
6	Master Plan for Flood Protection Works on River Tawi	2282.00	2053.80	228.20	250.00
7	Master Plan for Flood Protection Works on River Chenab D/S Akhnoor Bridge	1945.00	1750.50	194.50	800.00
8	Improvements to flood spill channel in Jhelum-Kashmir	1492.82	1343.54	149.28	300.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>8675.82</b>	<b>7808.24</b>	<b>867.58</b>	<b>2696.00</b>
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			<b>(90%)</b>	<b>(10%)</b>	
9	Construction of embankment on right side of Ami river from Kauriram to Khajni Gorakhpur Road, Distt-Gorkhpur	1307.27	980.45	326.82	300.00
10	Construction of embankment on left side of Ami river from Kauriram to Khajni Gorakhpur Road, Distt-Gorakhpur	1294.04	970.53	323.51	300.00
11	Construction of Bairampur Bhadaria bund, Distt. Balrampur	1251.00	938.25	312.75	300.00
12	Construction of Mahadeva Uska Bund, Distt. Siddharthnagar	1033.00	774.75	258.25	300.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>4885.31</b>	<b>3663.98</b>	<b>1221.33</b>	<b>1200.00</b>
<b>Uttrakhand</b>			<b>(75%)</b>	<b>(25%)</b>	
13	Construction of Right Marginal bund on river Ganga from Bhogpur to Balawali	1192.00	894.00	298.00	694.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>1192.00</b>	<b>894.00</b>	<b>298.00</b>	<b>694.00</b>
<b>West Bengal</b>			<b>(75%)</b>	<b>(25%)</b>	
14	Improvement of South Saraswat River (boith upper 7 lower portin) from offtake (chainage 0.00 ) a Nasibpur, Distt. Hooghly to outfall (chainage 1410.00) at Sankrail, Distt. Howrah under Western Circle-I, I&WD, Govt.of West Bengal	3210.00	2407.50	802.50	200.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>3210.00</b>	<b>2407.50</b>	<b>802.50</b>	<b>200.00</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>37924.49</b>	<b>29744.74</b>	<b>8179.75</b>	<b>14770.68</b>