

Press Release of 36th Annual General Meeting of NWDA Society and 20th Meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) held on 13th December, 2022.

The 36th Annual General Meeting of NWDA Society and 20th Meeting of Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) were held under the chairmanship of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, on 13th December, 2022 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Shri Bishweswar Tuduji, Shri Govind M Karjol, Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources), Govt. of Karnataka and Shri Duraimuragan, Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources), Govt. of Tamil Nadu were also present in the meeting and Shri Tulsi Ram Silawat, Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources), Govt. of MP also attended the meeting virtually. Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, in his opening remarks informed that the Water Resources is one of the most important sectors for Government of India and Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) Programme is very important for enhancing water and food security of the country and would be helpful in providing water to drought prone and rainfed farming areas. He highlighted the remarkable achievement of initiation of implementation of Ken Betwa Link Project (Ist ILR Project under NPP) after obtaining approval of Government of India in December, 2021. The project would be a boon for Bundelkhand region and it is planned to be completed in period of 8 years.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation on the agenda items was made by Director General, NWDA. The status of various works and the pending issues/bottle necks/etc. for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects, Annual Report & Audited Accounts for the year 2021-22 of NWDA and constitution of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) were discussed at length.

Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR) approved the proposal of considering the modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) link project duly integrated with Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) as a part of National Perspective Plan of ILR and declare the Phase-I of the Project as a Priority interlinking project.

SCILR was also apprised of status of Cabinet Note for constitution of NIRA recently submitted to Union Cabinet for approval. The Note has been prepared on the basis of deliberations held during last meeting of SCILR, Task force and also suitably incorporating views of other Departments / Ministries.

The meeting concluded with the closing remarks by Chair and Vote of Thanks by Special Secretary (DoWR, RD & GR) to Hon'ble Ministers and participating members and representatives.



