

Information on various Committees/Groups in Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR constituted as per direction of Hon'ble Minister (WR, RD & GR) after May, 2014.

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1.	NWDA	Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers	Notification dated 23.09.2014.	Constituted as per the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court to plan, construct and implement the inter linking of rivers program.	It is like a Standing Committee	So far 6 meetings held by the Committee	The suggestions/ views emerged during various meetings are properly recorded in the minutes of the meetings.	The suggestions/ views of the Committee are considered in discussions with the State for implementation of ILR programme.
2.	NWDA	Sub-Committee for comprehensive evaluation of various Studies/ Reports (Sub-Committee-I)	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/11/2012-BM(Part-IV)/262-283 dated 13.02.2015	For specific nature of analysis required for evaluating the various reports/studies presented to the Hon'ble Supreme Court and also reported elsewhere.	Yes Upto 12 th Feb. 2016	So far 6 meetings are held by the Sub-Committee. The work of the Sub-Committee is in progress.	The suggestions/ views emerged during various meetings are properly recorded in the minutes of the meetings.	The various suggestions of the Sub-Committee are considered while evaluating the various reports/studies on ILR.

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
3.	NWDA	Sub-Committee for system studies for identification of most appropriate alternative plan (Sub-Committee-II)	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/11/2012-BM(Part-IV)/262-283 dated 13.02.2015	For specific nature of analysis required for evaluating the various reports/studies presented to the Hon'ble Supreme Court and also reported elsewhere.	Yes Upto 12 th Feb. 2016	So far 7 meetings are held by the Sub-Committee. The work of the Sub-Committee is in progress.	The suggestions/ views emerged during various meetings are properly recorded in the minutes of the meetings.	The various suggestions of the Sub-Committee are considered for system studies for identification of most appropriate alternative plan.
4.	NWDA	Sub-Committee for consensus building through negotiations and arriving at agreements between the concerned States (Sub-Committee-III) (Already functioning as Consensus Group)	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/3/2001/ June, 2002.	To expedite the process of arriving at consensus amongst the States regarding Interlinking of Rivers Proposals.	It is like a Standing Committee	Earlier Consensus Group has held 11 meetings while present Sub-Committee has held two meetings.	The suggestions/ views emerged during various meetings are properly recorded in the minutes of the meetings.	The suggestions/ views of the Sub-Committee are considered in negotiation with the basin States for consensus building for implementation of ILR programme.

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
5.	NWDA	Sub-Committee for restructuring of NWDA (Sub-Committee-IV)	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/11/2012-BM(Part-IV)/262-283 dated 13.02.2015	To take up the restructuring of NWDA, considering the time bound implementation of ILR Programme and enhanced mandate of NWDA.	Committee Completed its assigned work and submitted its Report to MoWR, RD & GR	Yes Final Report submitted on 21 st September, 2015	Recommendations of the Committee are enclosed at Annex-I	Under process of Implementation.
6.	NWDA	Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/5/2015-BM630-645 dated 13.04.2015	To assist the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers and the Union Ministry of WR, RD & GR on the various matters related to interlinking of rivers programme.	Two years	So far Task Force has held two meetings	The suggestions/ views emerged during various meetings are properly recorded in the minutes of the meetings.	The suggestions of Task Force will be considered for discussions with the concerned States for implementation of ILR programme.
7.	NWDA	The Group on Intra-State River Links	MoWR, RD & GR OM NO. 2/11/2012-BM(Part-IV)/392-402 dated 12.03.2015	To review issues related to Intra-State river links and suggest about their funding and other aspects of Intra-State river link projects.	No	Yes (28.05.2015) Final Report submitted on 28.05.2015	Attached at Annex-II	-

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
8.	PP	Committee on Restructuring of CWC & CGWB for Optimal Development of Water Resources in the country in the backdrop of Integrated Water Resources Management.	T-28015/1/2015-GW Desk Dated: 11.09.2015	Constituted for restructuring of CWC & CGWB.	No	No	Yet to be concluded	Yet to be implemented
9.		'Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG)' for 'Arsenic Mitigation'	Order No. H.11014/1/2014-GW Desk (Pt. V) dated 22.12.2014	To counter Arsenic menace in the country	As such no term has been suggested	Report sent to stake holders on 30.09.2015	Action plan by various Ministries/ Departments and affected states included in the Report	Report sent to all stakeholders for implementation of Action plan.
10.	GW Desk	Committee for the Exploration of Alternate sources of Water in Arid areas of the country including Paleo-channels	Order No. T-40015/1/2015-GW dated 16.06.2015	-	One year w.e.f 16.06.2015	No (within one year)	NA	NA

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
11.	CGWB	Ground Water Estimation Committee	Constituted on 7 th January, 2015. Vide letter, No. T-13014/4/2014-GW-41	To review and revise the Ground Water Estimation methodology, 1997 (GEC-97).	Continue	The committee has constituted three sub groups for reviewing the GEC-97 & and suggesting the necessary revisions. A draft report on Revised Ground water Estimation Methodology has been prepared and the final report is under finalization.	Sub group I: Refinement in the Ground Water Assessment Methodology. Sub group II: Data base used for Ground Water Resources Estimation Sub group III: Alternative approach for assessment Involving Advance Technology	The Report on "Ground Water Resources Estimation Methodology 2015 (GEC-2015) is under preparation.

S. No	Wings / Division/ organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
12.	CGWB	Central Level Expert Group	Committees Constituted vide Letter No. T-13014/3/2014-GW, dated 28.08.2014. The time frame of the committee was One Year i.e. 28.08.2015	Overall re-assessment of ground water resources (As on 31 st March 2013).	Continue	No.	-	Letter for extension of time frame of the Central Level Expert Group up to 31 st December 2015 has been sent to ministry on 03.09.2015 vide letter no No.40/CGWB/M(TT &WQ)/Res./ 2013-7908
13.	E.A wing	Committee under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary(WR, RD &GR) 24.02.2015	Admn. Office Order 158/2015 dated 24.02.2015	To review the functioning of various Boards, Authorities, Committees, Institutes etc under MoWR, RD &GR	Report of the Committee was to be submitted within one month from the date of issue of Order	NO	NA	NA

S. No	Wings/ Division / organizations	Name of the Committee	Order No & Date of constitution of committee	Purpose for which Constituted	Date of term of the Committee Whether extended (Yes/No)	Whether Final Report submitted by the Committee (Yes/No) Date of submission of Final Report	Important suggestions/ Recommendations of the Committee	Remarks (Implemented/ process of implementation)
16.	Peninsular Rivers Wing	Sub-Committee of Supervisory Committee on Cauvery	R. 12011/2/2015-Pen. Riv Dated 21.10.2015	<p>(i) Analyze situation of rainfall, inflow and storages as well as monthly distribution of 80 TMC in a water year in the Cauvery basins.</p> <p>(ii) Suggest procedure for determining distress in an ongoing year in accordance with provisions of CWDT order.</p> <p>(iii) Committee shall prepare a report on the above and submit to the Ministry expeditiously.</p>	--	No	--	--

Summary & Conclusions

The Sub Committee for Restructuring NWDA

- Having examined thoroughly
 - The expected rolls that a Central organisation seized with the National Programme on Interlinking of Rivers so as to meet with the anticipation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Directive for quick follow up actions,
 - And the Government of India's development focus and thrust to implement the ILR programme soonest,
 - The existing organisational structure of NWDA and its performance capabilities based on a study and analysis of its recent accomplishments,
 - The changing roles in NWDA's mandate as well as related functions in more recent times,
 - The accelerated phase to be adopted for the speedy implementation of ILR involving co basin States and with a fair agreement of the parties concerned,
 - The enhanced activities required to be taken on board to progress on Himalayan Links – these involve the neighbouring States like Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh whose agreement would be vital for the main objectives of transfer of water from east to west and north to south
 - The complexities in dealing with water issues respecting the available framework as per Constitution, Tribunal awards for water sharing in quite few cases and
 - all other peripheral connected issues linked with water resources development and management holistically with basin management approach
- Looking into the past and available reports concerning the water sector governance, National Water Policy as updated from time to time, other institutional reforming recommendations available from studies undertaken in the recent past in respect of
 - NWDA,
 - CWC and
 - other MoWR Institutions like NIH, CSMRS and CWPRS
- Perusing such documents generated in Ministry of Water Resources in recent times on RBA act revision (in draft form), National Water Framework laws etc.

Concludes that:

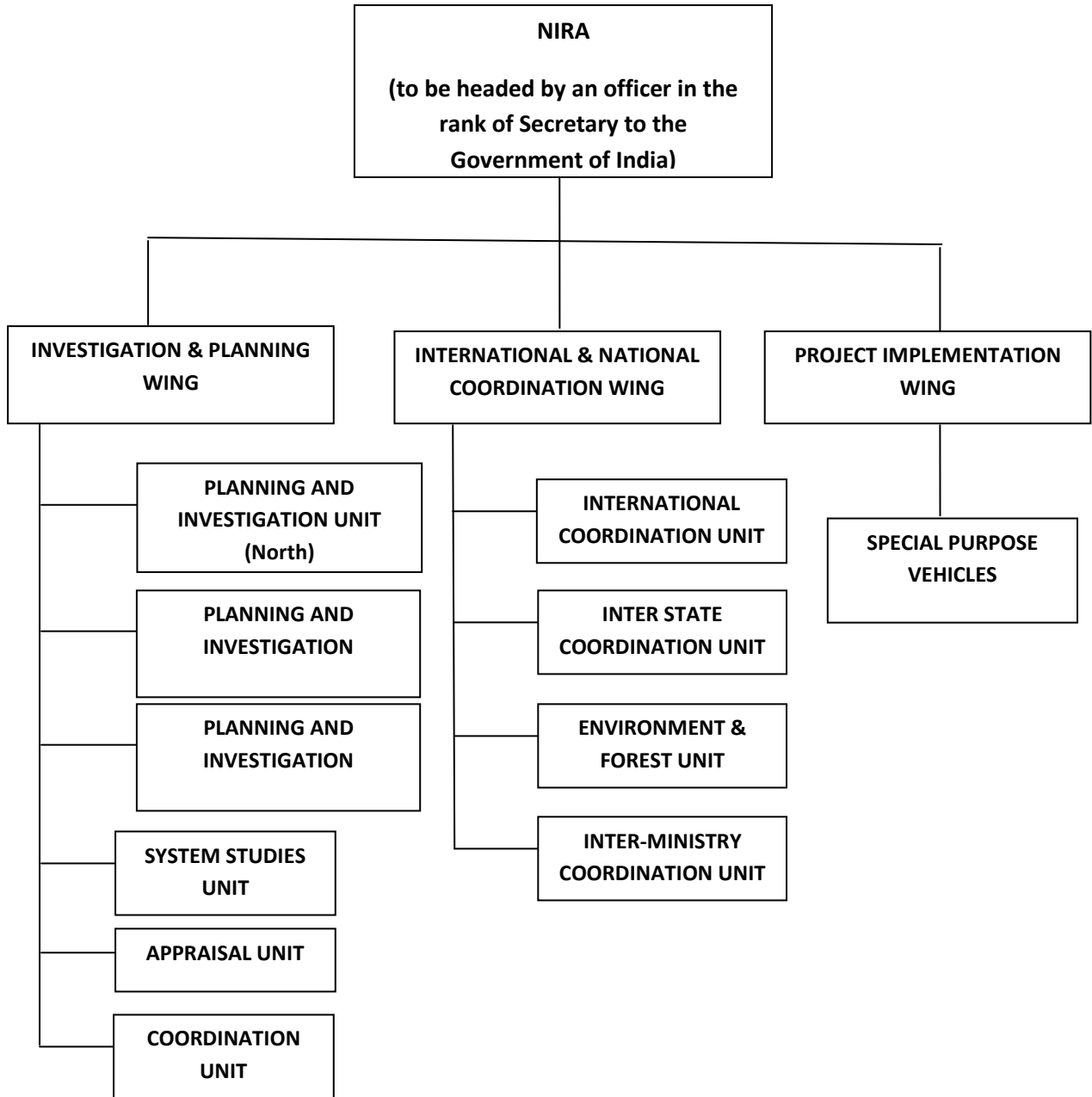
- NWDA had been able to accomplish its assigned basic tasks on the works on Interlinking of Rivers in the best possible manner; and respecting the uniqueness of the tasks and constraints within which the studies were to be carried through by NWDA, the performance is commendable.

- the implementation of ILR under the present scheme of things with NWDA as a Society had resulted not necessarily in an effective and aggressive promotion of the project to the extent desired.
- A lot of time has dragged by; when ‘speeding up the implementation’ had been repeatedly urged from different quarters, particularly the Judiciary.
- While NWDA as a society was and is relevant till the scheme, commenced as a desk study and moved to Pre-feasibility stages on links which required a persuasive and conciliatory approach with States to facilitate such studies (like water balance studies, pre-feasibility studies and feasibility studies with a limited survey and investigations), things are not the same as we move further on to advanced stages leading to implementation : the tasks have moved on and the commencement of Detailed Project Reports (fundable development project report, in donor agencies’ parlour) and take off of the project on ground, require quick steps for creating appropriate machinery for implementation with necessary funding.

Propose the following recommendations:

- A new institution called National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) be created, suitably empowered to effectively function with enhanced mandate for achieving the overall objectives of ILR. The Authority should be enabled with the wherewithal to implement ILR. The Sub-Committee feels that creation of the proposed Authority through an Act of Parliament would be necessary.
- The Authority be assigned three distinct broad functions namely
 - (a) Investigation & Planning of ILR links
 - b) Coordination with neighbouring countries and with the concerned States in India and
 - (c) Implementation of the ‘duly agreed project for a particular link.

The broader structure of NIRA is illustrated beneath.



- The Head of the Authority be empowered to call meetings inviting State Government officials at highest level and help the Special Committee on ILR as appropriate – the core objective being support in achieving needed consensus on the Link Project and its contents in varied fronts.
- Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) be created (like KBRLA) for implementation of links duly agreed to by the concerned States, sequentially.
- The specific internal and staffing pattern of the International and National Co-ordination Wing of NIRA could be firmed up after consultations with Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Ministry of Law. The Sub Committee is, for the present, not getting into the amplification the full-fledged structure for the NIRA at present. The Sub-Committee, however, opines that the function related to International and National co-ordination is very crucial and necessary mechanism is required to be put in place without any further delay.
- NIRA will absorb all existing NWDA officers and personnel protecting their rights and privileges and enhancing them comparable to that of an Organised Services. All the Government rules and regulations shall apply. These extend to pension benefits for the employees following similar provisions as in the Government.
- Any other provisions that are necessary and appropriate for such a change, promulgated by an appropriate Order of the Central Government.
- And pending the above, as some time lapse is but unavoidable, make further certain immediate Restructuring measures so as to equip the organisation deliver the expected outputs and assist SCILR effectively in the near future.
- The Sub Committee propose as a part of strengthening the existing set up with a new field unit headed by a Chief Engineer in the East/ North Eastern region and suggest specific new functional units for Systems Studies, Comprehensive Evaluation /Project Monitoring and a GIS &RS Unit (also to be headed by an officer of the rank of a Chief Engineer in each case) with supporting staff. Sufficient strengthening of allied support (Administration, Finance etc.) is also envisaged compatible to the augmented structure of NWDA.

The full details of Sub Committee's recommendations are seen in the earlier section. In summary, this would result in an organisation with officers of Grades A, B & C (as per Gol norms) having the following break-up:

	Total Gr. B (Tech)	3						48	51	
Group B (Administration & Accounts)										
		26	6	6	6			1	12	57
Group C (Technical)										
	Total Gr. C (Tech)	14	3	3	3		36		132	191
Group C (Administration & Accounts)										
	Total Gr. C (Adm. & Acc.)	33	11	11	11		78		144	288
Grand Total		140	26	26	26		144		348	710

Further, the Sub Committee had reviewed the present situation and had felt it necessary for enhanced efforts for capacity building of the in-house staff as per recommendations in the previous chapter. To help achieve the best results, NWDA should work in close liaison with other Central Organisations like CWC, CGWB, NIH, CSMRS, CWPRS etc. and the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The posts of ex cadre nature have also been spelt out with the suggested modus operandi for filling in some of these positions rapidly.

Till such time when the new National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) come into being, NWDA would thus be better enabled to handle the immediate and pressing tasks ahead for action, and position itself for the final morph over as an empowered Authority soon after its proclamation by the Government in due course of time.

Recommendations of the report of the Group on Intra-State River Links

The report recommends that the ILR programme may include, apart from the NPP links, such of the intra State river links which meet the specified conditions and fulfill certain attributes. An intra State link, included in the ILR should not be a normal WRD project. The inter- State issues should have been or should be resolved. The intra-State water transfer should be fitting in the NPP and should not negate/impede any NPP link. The links should decisively transfer water from a comparatively water rich basin/area to a comparatively water poor basin / area, thus meeting the criteria of equity in water utilization. The link should transfer water over a long distance to meet the criteria of promoting integration through water. The costs or benefits of the link should be large enough to justify its inclusion in the national ILR programme. The report details the methods by which these aspects can be checked to decide on the inclusion of any intra State link in ILR programme. In regard to the integrative role of water, only inter- State links will fully satisfy this by providing water to non co-basin States; the intra State links will not do this. However, the report recommends that if, within the State, the water is transferring from the point of withdrawal to a point of use of more than 200 km, water may act as an integrating element within the State. The equity and integration aspects are discussed in the report.

As per the current guidelines for National projects, the irrigation potential needs to exceed 200,000 ha. The report recommends that for intra-State links, the guidelines for national projects may be modified and an intra State link project having an irrigation potential of more than 50,000 ha, in a single State, may be considered as a National project. It further recommends that such link projects having large municipal water supply components may also be included by modifying the National project guidelines and a supply of 1 MCM per year may be considered on par with irrigation potential of 500 ha.

The report also recommends that intra- State river link projects fulfilling the above mentioned criteria of irrigation potential and water supply use and which meet the criteria in regard to equity and integration through water may also be included in the national river linking programme. After such inclusion, the advantages of fast track clearances and of larger central funding would become available to these links.

Intra State links which are otherwise good, but do not meet the size and the equity-integration criteria can be implemented by the States as per the normal WRD projects programme. Encouragement and some other incentives may be given to the State for enabling this.

The report also gives recommendations about financing of both the investigation and report preparation activities in regard to the intra State links and implementation of these links. It recommends that NWDA involvement in investigation should be limited only to such intra State links for which the State is willing that NWDA accepts the conceptual ownership of the link and plans it in consultation with the State towards its inclusion in the ILR programme. Such schemes would be investigated by NWDA through its central funds. Where the State wants to plan the project according to their own concept for implementation as a State project, NWDA need not investigate the link at its cost. The States would be free to investigate and prepare the reports at their cost, and in the current financial environment of the States, this should not be difficult. However, even if in these improved financial environments of the State, the Central Government desires to finance the investigations of the intra State links by the States themselves, this may require direct transfer of funds from the Centre to the States through a grant in aid programme or a loan assistance programme, without passing these funds through the NWDA. NWDA can act only as a technical body to recommend an intra State link for such funding. If this is to be done, a proper PFR of the link will have to be given by the State, to the NWDA/GOI, along with the concurrence of the concerned co-basin States or an agreement/MoU will have to be produced.

The report gives some notes about the possible administrative arrangements for implementation of the intra State links which can be included in the National ILR Programme. It recommends that since most of the physical works would be in a single State, the State can be given the responsibility for implementation. Where the MoU with the concerned States so requires, an overseeing inter- State body may be created to ensure that the implementation and operation is as per the arrangement. Where large central aid is made available, central monitoring of the physical progress and for ensuring that the central aid reaches the project promptly, through the State funds, would be necessary.