

Mi/24/2020-HR NMCG
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
National Mission for Clean Ganga

1st Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium
New Delhi-110001

Dated: 1st December 2025

Sub: Minutes of 67th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga

Please find enclosed minutes of 67th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held on 14th November 2025 through hybrid mode, for kind information and necessary action.


01/12/25
(Vinod Kumar Gupta)
Deputy Secretary (Admin.)

To

1. Joint Secretary (PFC-I/PF-States), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi-110001
2. JS & FA, DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
3. Adviser (WR&LR), NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001
4. Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Uttarakhand, 43/6, Mata Mandir Road, Dharmapur, Dehradun, Uttarkhand-248001.
5. Principal Secretary (UD), Urban Development Department (UDD), 834, Bapu Bhawan, Lucknow- 226001.
6. Principal Secretary (UD & Housing), Urban Development and Housing Department (UDHD), Vikas Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna, Bihar-800015.
7. Principal Secretary (UD), Urban Development Department (UDD), 4th Floor, Project Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi- 834004.
8. Principal Secretary (UD), Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA), Nagarayan, Sector-I, Block-DF-8, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata-700064.
9. All Executive Directors/DDG of NMCG

Copy to: -

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti
2. PPS to Secretary (WR, RD & GR)
3. Project Director, SPMG Group, 105 (New No.545/941), Rajpur Road, Opp. RTO office, Dehradun 248001
4. Project Director, SMCG, Plot No. 18, Sector-7, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow- 226010
5. Project Director, SPMG Group (Secretary Urban Development), Government of Bihar, Vikash Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna, Bihar – 800001
6. Project Director, SPMG Group Urban Development & Housing Department, Room no. 403, 4th Floor, Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand- 834004
7. Project Director, SPMG Group Unnayan Bhawan', 3rd Floor, DJ-11, Sector-II, Block-A, KMDA, Kolkata- 700091
8. PPS to DG, NMCG- for his kind information

**Minutes of the 67th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of
National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held on 14th November 2025 at
NMCG Office, New Delhi**

The 67th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was held on 14th November 2025 at 02:00 PM at NMCG office, Delhi through hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Director General (DG), NMCG.

Executive Director (Admin.), NMCG welcomed the Director General, NMCG, members of the Executive Committee and other officials present in the meeting. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda Item No. 67.1: Minutes of 66th meeting of the Executive Committee of NMCG held on 18th September 2025 for information.

The member-secretary informed the Executive Committee that the minutes of 66th meeting of the Executive Committee of NMCG held on 18th September 2025 were circulated among all the committee members on 19th September 2025.

Agenda Item No. 67.2: Action Taken Report on the decisions of the Executive Committee taken in the 66th meeting held on 18th September 2025

The member-secretary informed the Executive Committee that requisite action has been taken on the decisions taken in the 66th meeting of the EC held on 18th September 2025.

Agenda Item No. 67.3: Integrated Septage Treatment Plant for Ranaghat municipality, West Bengal under Namami Gange Program

- i. DPR Appraised by: Jamia Millia Islamia University - Delhi;
- ii. Project Cost: **₹4.85 crores**, including O&M for 5 years and GST (Land & power connections to be provided by the State);
- iii. Land: Land is in possession of Ranaghat municipality, which will be transferred to the Executing Agency post-sanctioning of the project;
- iv. Financial Effect: 100% Central Sector;
- v. Project components:
 - a. 15 KLD Faecal Sludge treatment plant;
 - b. Cess pool vehicle – 3 Nos. (3000L + 2000L + 1000 L);
 - c. Creating a system for regular de-sludging of the septic tanks and its conveyance to the Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant;



- d. Creating Enabling Environment –
 - I. Training of ULB & KMDA officials and public participation;
 - II. Sanitation surveys, geo-tagging of all properties along with web-based GIS & MIS;
 - III. Communication & Public Outreach
- e. 5 years Operation & Maintenance
- vi. Time: 12 Months (including trial run);
- vii. Bidding Process: DBOT Mode.

Discussions:

State representative highlighted that the DPR cost has been curtailed substantially by the TPA and the reduced costs are sanctioned by NMCG. However, during the bidding, the market discovered costs might be much higher than the sanctioned cost, thus leading to a delay in tendering and subsequently might require a revision in AA&ES. ED (Projects), NMCG informed that recently Bansberia FSTP of similar capacity has been awarded by the State, wherein the market discovered costs were lower than the sanctioned cost.

DG, NMCG opined that the State has been mentioning repeatedly that Project DPR costs are reduced significantly by the TPA and subsequently the market discovered costs are high leading to delay in awarding of tenders. He added that NMCG would have a separate meeting with SMCG on this to resolve the issue. Further, DG desired that certain norms may be developed by NMCG for consideration of a uniform O&M period for the FSTP projects.

Decisions:

After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee (EC) decided to defer the proposal and the same shall be considered after revisiting the issues/concerns raised by the State Government related to the reduction in cost by the TPA and uniform O&M period.

Agenda Item No. 67.4: “Interception and Diversion of Drains with Construction of STPs for Pollution Abatement of River Mahananda in Siliguri Municipal Town, West Bengal”

- i. DPR Appraised by: Jadavpur University – Kolkata;
- ii. Project Cost: **₹361.86 crores**, including 15-year O&M and GST;
- iii. Land: Land is in possession of the municipality;
- iv. Financial Effect: 100% Central Sector;
- v. Project components:
 - ✓ Total I&D structures – 25 nos.;
 - ✓ Lifting station – 4 nos.;
 - ✓ Construction of 2 STPs (27 MLD – right bank of river & 22 MLD (left bank of river);

- ✓ Rising Main – 5805 m;
- ✓ I&D network – 5770 m;
- ✓ 15-year Operation and Maintenance;
- ✓ ESAMP, Public outreach and GAAP;
- vi. Time: Bidding to be completed within 4 months from the date of issue of AA&ES. 21 Months for construction and 3 months for a trial run from the “Effective Date”;
- vii. Bidding Process: HAM Mode;
- viii. Effluent Characteristics: As per the latest NGT’s direction on effluent standards

Discussions:

During the discussions, DG, NMCG, requested the State to clarify whether a drone survey of the Mahananda River has been carried out to ensure that post-completion of the project, no drains discharge directly into the river. Further, the status of land possession was also sought from the State.

It was clarified by the officials of the State Government Siliguri falls under the high alert red zone; hence, the permission for drone survey was not granted by the authorities. DG, NMCG directed the State to confirm the same via letter, indicating that drone survey permission was denied and post-completion of the project, no further drains will discharge in the river from the town. The State confirmed that the land is available for the Project & is free from any encumbrance and will be transferred to the ULB once the project is sanctioned.

The State highlighted that the power connection charges proposed in the DPR have to be borne by the State as per the EC memo and requested NMCG to consider the same. DG, NMCG informed that NMCG does not provide power connection charges as per policy and clarified that the same has to be borne by the State from its own funds. NMCG would share the communication on this with the State.

Decisions:

After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee decided to approve the proposal for according to Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project on “Interception and Diversion of Drains with Construction of STPs for Pollution Abatement of River Mahananda in Siliguri Municipal Town, West Bengal” at an estimated cost of ₹361.86 crores, including GST (including 15-year O&M cost) on Hybrid Annuity-based PPP mode subject to following conditions:

- i. *State to confirm in writing that (a) after implementing this project, no untreated drains will fall in the river Ganga from the town and (b) no drone survey could be carried out due to the denial of permission from authorities due to high alert category location of Siliguri.*

- ii. *The bidding would be completed within four months from the date of issue of AA&ES and the total time for completion of the project from the 'Effective Date' will be 24 months (21 months for the construction period and 3 months for trial run).*
- iii. *The bids would be invited on a technology-neutral basis.*
- iv. *Land NoC needs to be provided by the State prior to bidding.*
- v. *Any cost escalation due to a change of the land, change in location, additional scope post-EC approval and any other factors attributable to the State Government shall be the sole responsibility of the State Government.*
- vi. *The observations of NMCG and TPA would be complied with by the State Government/ Executing Agency prior to the finalization of the bid document/ at the time of execution and also during the O&M period.*
- vii. *O&M beyond project scope i.e., after 15 years, shall be the responsibility of the State Government/ ULB at its own cost.*
- viii. *State government will pari-pasu implement the project for the utilization of treated wastewater from the project for irrigation, industrial purpose as per State policy.*
- ix. *Installation of trash arresting rack and its regular O&M at the mouth of all drains shall be made. Provision (60 KLD) for handling co-treatment of septage/ Faecal sludge shall be made in the STP facility and shall also be made part of the bid document/ project proposal for implementation.*
- x. *Provision for sludge digester and power generation from biogas would be included in the bid document (scope of work).*
- xi. *The State Government should endeavor to install solar power to reduce the load on O&M costs related to power charges by making suitable incorporations in the bid document.*
- xii. *The State Government would ensure the compliance of treated water quality as well as other environmental norms (such as compliance with prescribed noise level etc.) in STP area shall be assessed upfront and suitably addressed during the design stage.*
- xiii. *The project has been considered to be funded under the National Ganga Plan - Non-EAP component.*

Agenda Item No. 67.5: Project Proposal: "Youth for Ganga, Youth for Yamuna" by Eco Roots Foundation (ERF)

Project Overview: The proposed initiative "Youth for Ganga, Youth for Yamuna" seeks to harness the enthusiasm and creativity of young people to promote river conservation. Using arts-based experiential learning, the program intends to instill a strong conservation ethic among school students across the Delhi–NCR region, covering both government and private schools. The project proposes to sensitize over 2,50,000 students in 200+ schools on the ecological significance of the Ganga and Yamuna rivers, while facilitating the formation of River Youth Clubs to promote long-term environmental stewardship. The initiative will also

enhance awareness and visibility of the Namami Gange Programme by integrating river-conservation themes into school-level educational and cultural activities.

2. Executing Agency- Eco Roots Foundation

3. Total Project Cost- INR 39,37,500/- under World Bank funding.

4. Duration- 6 months

5. Third-Party Appraisal- Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

Decision:

1. The project will include children (above 5th grade) and youth. Eco Roots Foundation (ERF) will increase the number of schools (200+ government and private schools) to ensure coverage of 2,50,000 students under the project.
2. ERF will also develop a database and dashboard to report the number of schools and students covered through the various activities.
3. The Executive Committee (EC) members enquired about similar past initiatives by ERF involving performing arts in the environmental sector. ERF confirmed that they have undertaken three major projects in the domain of performing arts for environmental awareness.
 - Eco Roots Foundation has pioneered large-scale environmental education and conservation initiatives across India, blending performing arts with science and community engagement. Its landmark theatre program Prithvi Vandana reached over 1.12 lakh participants across 17 states and earned a place in the Limca Book of Records. Another campaign, Neer Naari aur Vigyan, supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), engaged 94,000 girls in 12 states on water conservation.
 - Through CSR initiatives like Green Saviours of India (70,000 students and 3,000 teachers) and HARIT with HCL Foundation, Eco Roots Foundation has expanded environmental learning and nest-making practices nationwide. Its Science Fiction & Media Talent Challenge, spanning 174 cities, received the National Innovation Award in 2021.
 - DST-funded projects such as the Mobile Imaginarium brought interactive science learning to rural schools, while the Save the House Sparrow campaign created over 9.18 lakh jute nests and 35,000 wooden birdhouses across 7,100 schools, earning multiple international awards.
 - Featured in textbooks and over 350 media productions, the Foundation has also implemented the Jal Sparsh project with SIDBI, empowering 2,700 rural women and restoring 10 ponds through waste-to-wealth methods. Over 14 years, it has reached more than 7,000 schools, cultivating ecological awareness and responsibility among students nationwide.

Decision: After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee (EC) decided to approve the proposal for "Youth for Ganga, Youth for Yamuna" with a cost of INR 39,37,500/-using the World Bank funding.

Agenda Item No. 67.6: Proposal for setting up of two monitoring stations in immediate downstream of Hathnikund and Okhla barrage on river Yamuna

Name of the sponsoring agency: National Mission on Clean Ganga (NMCG), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi.

Major Components & Duration: Setting up of two monitoring stations in immediate downstream of Hathnikund and Okhla barrage on river Yamuna. From the date of approval/issue of AA & ES to September, 2026.

Total cost of the proposal over the proposed duration: Rs. 1,56,44,000/- (Rupees One Crore fifty-six lakhs forty-four thousand only) incl. GST

Implementing & Executing Agency: Central Water Commission

Decision: After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee approved the proposal at a total cost of Rs. 1,56,44,000/-, up to 31st September 2026. The unspent amount on 1st October 2026 will lapse. The two monitoring sites will continue to remain operational beyond September 2026 and will be maintained under the DWRIS Scheme 2026–31 of Central Water Commission.

Agenda Item No. 67.7: Revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction towards additional cost for Saidpur sewerage Network scheme, Bihar

The proposal was not taken up for discussions as per request of SPMG, Bihar and was deferred to the next EC.

Agenda Item No. 67.8: Conveyance of Treated Sewage from Coronation Pillar STP to the river Yamuna

- i. DPR Appraised by: IIT – Delhi;
- ii. DPR Cost: ₹518.88 crores, including O&M for 15 years and GST;
- iii. Land: The land for the Sewage Pumping Station & the Treated Effluent Pumping Station is within the existing STP boundary/ premises of DJB and thus, in possession of DJB;
- iv. Financial Effect: 100% Capex to be funded under the Central Sector (NGP Non-EAP) and 100% Opex to be funded under the State Sector;
- v. Project components:
 - A. Tapping of untreated sewage from the Jahangirpuri drain to the 10/20 MGD existing STPs at Coronation Pillar:

- i. Providing & laying of pipe from Point 1 to Point 2;
 - ii. Civil and E&M works for 64 MLD pumping station;
 - iii. Providing & laying of MS pipe from PS to 10 MGD STP & 20 MGD STP.
- B. Conveyance of treated sewage from Coronation Pillar STP to river Yamuna:
 - i. RCC elevated channel for crossing of the Jahangirpuri drain;
 - ii. RCC pipe with 1 manhole for crossing of Jahangirpuri drain;
 - iii. Civil and E&M works for 318 MLD treated effluent PS;
 - iv. Providing & laying of MS Rising Main from PS 1 to RCC shaft at Point C;
 - v. Civil and E&M works for 136 MLD treated effluent PS;
 - vi. Construction of RCC Open channel from the discharging point of 10 & 20 MGD to Point C;
 - vii. Providing & laying of MS Rising Main from PS 2 to RCC shaft at Point C;
 - viii. Construction of RCC Shaft;
 - ix. Providing & laying of MS pipe from the RCC shaft to the river Yamuna;
 - x. Truss Bridge to cross the Jahangirpuri drain;
 - xi. Truss Bridge to cross the Supplementary drain.
- C. 15 years of Operation and Maintenance;
- D. ESAMP, Public outreach, and GAAP.
- E. Environment plan during the construction and operation phase
- vi. Time: 14 Months (including 12 months for construction and 2 months for trial run), excluding bidding period of 4 months
- vii. Bidding Process: DBOT Mode
- viii. Effluent Characteristics: As per the latest NGT's direction on effluent standards

Decisions:

After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee decided to approve the proposal for according Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project on "Conveyance of treated effluent from Coronation Pillar STP to the river Yamuna in Delhi" at an estimated cost of ₹518.88 crores, including GST (including 15 years O&M cost) on DBOT basis, subject to the following conditions:

- i. *The tender would be awarded within 4 (four) months from the date of issue of AA&ES and the total time for completion of the project, including trial run will be 14 months (12 months for the construction period and 2 months for trial run).*
- ii. *The bids to be invited on a technology-neutral basis.*
- iii. *The cost towards Capex amounting to ₹179.75 crores shall be borne by the NMCG, under NGP Non-EAP and the O&M cost amounting to ₹339.13 crores shall be borne by the State Government. The costs of power connection would be borne by the State Government.*

- iv. *Any cost escalation due to change of land, change in location, additional scope post EC approval and any other factors attributable to the State Government shall be the sole responsibility of the State Government.*
- v. *The observations of NMCG and TPA would be complied with by the State Government/ Executing Agency prior to finalization of bid document/ at the time of execution and also during O&M period.*
- vi. *State government will pari-pasu implement the project for the utilization of treated wastewater from the project for irrigation, industrial purposes as per State policy.*
- vii. *State Government would ensure the compliance of treated water quality as well as other environmental norms (such as compliance with prescribed noise level etc.) in the STP area shall be assessed upfront and suitably addressed during the design stage.*
- viii. *The project has been considered to be funded under the National Ganga Plan - Non-EAP component.*

Agenda Item No. 67.9: Proposal for Towards Intelligent River Basin Management: A Digital Twin and Water Cycle Atlas for the Ganga Basin using Hydrological Modeling, AI, and Satellite Remote Sensing

The project aims to build a highly advanced Digital Twin of the Ganga River Basin, and a Water Cycle Atlas that brings together hydrological models, artificial intelligence, and satellite-based observations for real-time, data-driven water management. It seeks to simulate and monitor the basin's water resources, improving the quality of streamflow estimations through AI, and data assimilation, assess groundwater stress, and evaluate climate-driven changes in the basin's water cycle. The proposal will be helpful by providing scientific insights, future scenario analysis, and hotspot identification for more efficient planning and rapid response to extreme events. NMCG, state agencies, policymakers, farmers, industries, and local communities will all benefit from improved decision support systems, and better outcomes on river health, water security, and livelihoods. NMCG can use these tools to continuously track changing basin conditions, evaluate interventions, optimize resource allocation, and strengthen Ganga rejuvenation strategies with actionable intelligence.

1. IIT Delhi presented the technical concept, modelling architecture, and data integration framework for the Digital Twin, and Water Cycle Atlas. The proposed work plan, computing requirements, expected outcomes.
2. It was mentioned that the GPU requirement is specific to the Digital Twin component, with no similar infrastructure proposed by other CoE partners. Further, IIT Delhi clarified that:

- A. The GPU server is required for high-end computing related to running AI models as well as processing large amounts of LiDAR data, and will also be available for other NMCG-approved projects.

Equipment details

- One GPU Server with 4xH100 or 8xB6000 GPU cards, and accessories
 - One Network Attached Storage (NAS) of 120 TB
 - One workstation, and accessories
- B. The GPU server will be a long-term asset beyond the duration of the project (3 years) for the Center of Excellence in IITD that is valid for 6+4 (10) years. This equipment will serve the needs of this project, as well as future projects where such a facility would be required. The equipment will be available for usage by other CoEs as well.
- C. The ownership of the physical assets created or acquired under this project shall vest with NMCG. If necessary, the equipment will be transferred to NMCG at the end of the project as per norms.
3. EC suggested revisiting the overhead provision, and sought to rationalize it, indicating that the proposal may be examined without overheads, in line with the guidance provided during the EC discussions. IIT Delhi team stated they will abide by decision of EC, and convey the decision to the IITD administration.
4. It was deliberated by EC that PSC deliberations, Dutch expert inputs, and NMCG's specific interests as conveyed by TPA will be strictly integrated into project execution, ensuring strong scope discipline, justification of technical requirements, transparent data governance, and avoidance of any circumstances that lead to scope deviation and duplication.

Decisions:

The executive committee (EC) approved the proposal submitted by IIT Delhi for "Towards Intelligent River Basin Management: A digital Twin, and water Cycle Atlas for the Ganga Basin using Hydrological Modelling, AI, and Satellite Remote Sensing" at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,00,61,033 (Rupees Three Crore Sixty-One Thousand Thirty-Three Only) with a project duration of 3 years.

It was also decided that no institutional overhead charges would be admissible as the Centre of Excellence at IITD is also funded by NMCG. The RBM wing and technical wing will firm up the probable user groups.



Agenda Item No. 67.10: Digitization and Creation of a Geospatial Database of Historical Maps of the Ganga Basin and Development of a River Geo-portal

The project aims to digitize and geo-reference historical maps (pre-1900 to post-1950), create a standardized GIS database, and develop a web-based geo-portal for accessing multi-temporal river data. Deliverables include a digital archive, GIS database, analytical reports on river changes, and a functional portal. The project supports evidence-based river management and aligns with the Namami Gange Programme. The proposed project will be useful for a wide range of stakeholders, including NMCG as the primary user for river management and planning, central and state water-related departments, research and academic institutions, district administrations, and disaster management agencies. It will also support urban planners, environmental and heritage bodies, technical consultants, and NGOs. Through the geo-portal, students, researchers, and the general public will also benefit from access to historical and geospatial information on the Ganga River system. The urban and technical wings of NMCG will identify the probable user groups.

Decision: The Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal submitted by SAIARD for “*Digitization and Creation of a Geospatial Database of Historical Maps of the Ganga Basin and Development of a River Geo-portal*” at an estimated cost of **₹2,62,11,163 (Rupees Two Crore Sixty-Two Lakh Eleven Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Three Only)** with a project duration of 12 months.

SAIARD will submit the **Inception Report** detailing the **potential user groups of the Bhu-Nadi Portal** along with the **specific user actions** envisaged for each category.

Agenda Item No. 67.11: Foundational SONAR Mapping of the Ganga Riverbed in Uttar Pradesh – Phase I

Bathymetry surveys are vital for Namami Gange as they map river depth, morphology, and sedimentation, enabling accurate e-flow assessment, habitat conservation, and evidence-based river restoration. The project focuses on SONAR-based bathymetric data acquisition, processing, and delivery to produce a high-resolution underwater topographic baseline for sediment management, hydrodynamic modelling, and e-flow estimation. The foundational SONAR mapping of the 1,100 km Ganga stretch in Uttar Pradesh will be primarily used by NMCG, UP Irrigation & Water Resources Department, and allied technical agencies for river management, modelling, and planning. It will also support CWC, RSAC-UP, Inland Waterways Authority of India, disaster management authorities, and research institutions by providing reliable bathymetric data for hydrology, ecology, and sediment studies. Overall, the baseline dataset will enable evidence-based decisions for restoration, navigation, and sustainable river management. The project will predominantly be used by RBM cell and technical wing of NMCG.

Decision: The Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal submitted by the Remote Sensing Applications Centre–Uttar Pradesh (RSAC–UP), Lucknow for “*Foundational SONAR Mapping of the Ganga Riverbed in Uttar Pradesh – Phase I*” at an estimated cost of **₹3,87,00,970 (Rupees Three Crore Eighty-Seven Lakh Nine Hundred Seventy Only)**. The approved **project duration is 36 months**. The Sonar mapping area extends from Bijnor to Ballia, covering approximately 1,100 km, and represents the complete mainstream stretch of the River Ganga within Uttar Pradesh.

The EC noted that the rate of **₹35,182.70 per sq. km and/or per length** as mentioned in the proposal shall remain applicable. Since RSAC–UP did not submit any revised rate proposal before the EC, the Committee **did not consider any rate revision** and clarified that the project shall be completed strictly at the existing approved rate and no cost escalation would be permitted.

Agenda Item No. 67.12: Glaciers and Glacier Melt Runoff Changes and Their Linkage to the Hydro-climatic and Topographic Context in the Upper Ganga Basin

Himalayan glaciers and snowfields are vital for sustaining “Aviral and Nirmal Dhara,” but ongoing climate-driven glacier retreat—especially in smaller glaciers—threatens freshwater availability, runoff seasonality, and downstream river health. Rising temperatures and extreme events increase risks such as flash floods and GLOFs, while limited field data makes monitoring challenging.

Earlier, the project was considered in 64th meeting of EC and deferred for revision of the scope as part of a comprehensive and integrated plan for glaciers. The Committee further recommended that a complete analysis of work presently being done by NIH be done and the project may be modified to address the gaps or additional requirements from the existing scope of work by NIH.

The project aims to establish a real-time monitoring network across the Bhagirathi and Alaknanda basins (up to Devprayag), covering six headstreams and key glacier regions such as Gangotri, Satopanth, Khatling, Doodhganga, Pindar, Chorabari, Nanda Ghunti, Raikana, and Uttari Nanda Devi. It will assess glacier mass balance, melt-runoff contributions, and climate-change impacts using satellite data, field observations, and SPHY modelling, and develop a Web-GIS dashboard integrated with PRAYAG to visualize real-time glacier–hydrology linkages and support evidence-based decision-making. The project’s outputs will be valuable to NMCG for basin-level planning, to water resource and disaster management agencies for assessing glacier-melt impacts and related risks, and to hydropower and infrastructure bodies for flow forecasting and operational decisions. Research institutions will benefit from new datasets and modelling tools, while state agencies, local administrations, and environmental

departments can use the findings for water security, climate adaptation, and ecosystem management. The PRAYAG-integrated Web-GIS platform will support planners and decision-makers needing real-time cryosphere and hydrology information. The project will predominantly be used by RBM cell and technical wing of NMCG.

Decision: The Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal submitted by the **National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee, Uttarakhand** for “*Glaciers and Glacier Melt Runoff Changes and Their Linkage to the Hydro-climatic and Topographic Context in the Upper Ganga Basin*” with focus on glaciers of six headstreams of Ganga under the Namami Gange Programme-II at an estimated project cost of **₹3,98,58,280 (Rupees Three Crore Ninety-Eight Lakh Fifty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Only)**.

The EC further noted that no **institutional overhead charges** shall be admissible as NMCG is supplementing the funds for implementing the core objectives of NIH.

Agenda Item No. 67.13: Managed aquifer recharge (MAR) over discovered paleochannels in parts of Ganga Yamuna doab in Prayagraj-Kanpur stretch- a demonstrative study

The CSIR-NGRI, in collaboration with CGWB, mapped a ~200 km long buried paleo-river between the Ganga and Yamuna from Prayagraj to Kanpur and identified **159 recharge-potential sites** linked through a unified aquifer system. The study was launched on 25.09.2023 and later reviewed by the Empowered Task Force chaired by the Hon’ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti. It was decided that NGRI will demonstrate the model at **six sites**, while the Uttar Pradesh Ground Water Department (GWDUP) will lead its wider implementation.

The project, a first of its kind, converts a scientifically mapped 200 km paleochannel into a functional groundwater recharge corridor for the stressed Ganga-Yamuna Doab by integrating site-specific designs, geophysical data, and continuous monitoring. It validates MAR feasibility at six government-owned sites, demonstrates measurable groundwater improvement, and provides a scalable, data-driven protocol that the State Ground Water Department can adopt for wider aquifer rejuvenation and regional water security.

Decision: After discussions, the Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal submitted by the State Ground Water Department (SGWD), Uttar Pradesh, and CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad (NGRI), for “Managed aquifer recharge (MAR) over discovered paleo-channels in parts of Ganga Yamuna doab in Prayagraj-Kanpur stretch- a demonstrative study” under Namami Gange Programme II at an estimated cost of the project ₹236.16 Lakh (₹165.76/- Lakhs GWDUP + ₹70.40 Lakhs CSIR-NGRI).

Agenda Item No. 67.14: Scope and Award Cost variation in the Project ‘Saharanpur Sewerage Scheme (Interception & Diversion and Sewage 135 MLD Treatment Plant works) along with 15 years O&M at Saharanpur district in Uttar-Pradesh State, under ‘Namami Gange’ Programme

The project concerning Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) works at Saharanpur was approved during the 42nd meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) held on 19th May 2022. The project, valued at Rs. 577.23 crore, was sanctioned with 100% central funding under the Namami Gange Programme. The Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) was issued on 16th June 2022. Subsequently, the project was awarded to the joint venture comprising M/s Enviro Infra Engineers Pvt. Ltd, Bhugan Infracon Pvt. Ltd, and Micro Transmission System, for a contract value of Rs. 343.87 crore (excluding centage and statutory charges). The Letter of Award (LOA) was issued on 26th July 2024, and the Concession Agreement (CA) was signed on 27th September 2024.

Following the commencement of the project, a detailed topographic survey conducted by the Concessionaire revealed a substantial discrepancy in the Natural Ground Level (NGL). Specifically, a negative variation of approximately 2.78 meters was identified between the NGL indicated in the tender documents and the actual NGL observed on site. This discrepancy has been attributed to the use of faulty data by the State Executing Agency i.e. Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam – Rural (UPJN-Rural), which relied on an inaccurate record during DPR preparation. As a result of this anomaly, significant scope variation is required to safeguard the infrastructure against flooding and hydrostatic uplift pressure during monsoon events.

In order to address this unprecedented issue, UPJN-Rural presented eight technically feasible options, which were discussed in the 65th and 66th EC meeting. In the 66th meeting, the Executive Committee accorded in-principle approval to proceed with Option 4 that involves placing the STP at the actual NGL, constructing an RCC retaining wall up to the High Flood Level (HFL), Treated Effluent Pump House (TEPH) for the monsoon season, incorporation of, pressure release valves in water-retaining structures to mitigate uplift pressure risks, and inclusion of Interception & Diversion of 42 additional drains, which were identified during the site survey. The in-principle approval, at an estimated cost of ₹33.63 crore, among other conditions, was subject to submission of a detailed variation proposal by the State and its 3rd party appraisal before final approval of EC.

Discussions:

In compliance, UPJN-R submitted a detailed variation proposal including I&D of 37 additional drains (instead of 42 indicated in 66th EC) at the revised cost of ₹32.272 crore. The proposal has been appraised and recommended by the IIT Roorkee in the 3rd party appraisal. During the discussions, the State indicated that after the detailed survey, the additional untapped drains

are 37 and not 42 as reported in 66th EC meeting. It was also observed that the financial implications of variation have been worked out on the recent schedule of rates and proposed to be paid in DBOT mode instead of HAM mode. The variation payments in HAM mode may not be desirable as they may affect the financial closure and milestone payments, etc., and can delay the project further.

Decisions:

After detailed discussions, the Executive Committee accorded approval to the variation proposal at the cost of ₹32.272 crore (Capex - ₹27.866 Cr; 15-year TEPH Opex (Power) - ₹4.406 Cr), subject to the following conditions:

- a) The State shall submit an undertaking that after inclusion of the additional 37 untapped drains in the scheme, there is no untapped drain left in Saharanpur and that the 5 drains deleted for duplication do not exist on ground*
- b) The Capex variation of ₹27.866 crore would be reimbursed and released to the Concessionaire as DBOT/EPC payments based on RA bills submission with no price indexation benefit.*
- c) The Opex (Power) payment for operation of TEPH may be reimbursed and released during the O&M period for the TEPH operation duration, subject to the lower of (a) actual electricity consumption cost and (b) electricity cost @120 units per hour operation of the pump (120 KW).*
- d) UPJN(R) needs to ensure that the concessionaire puts up a separate sub-meter for power consumption measurements in TEPH and that pumping hours are recorded.*
- e) Compliance of Executive Committee's directions in its 65th and 66th meeting on the Saharanpur variation proposal shall be ensured by the State Government.*

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

