

Record of Discussion held in the chamber of Principal Secretary to PM on 25th February, 2019 at 3.00 PM regarding mining in the Ganga River bed and its tributaries and the under construction Hydro Electric projects on Ganga.

+++

A meeting regarding mining in the Ganga River bed and its tributaries and the under construction Hydro Projects on Ganga was held in the chamber of Principal Secretary to PM on 25.2.2019 at 3.00 PM. The list of participants is attached.

2. After detailed deliberations the following was decided:

I. Mining :

- a. There shall not be any sand mining and boulder crushing activity in the Ganga River bed wherever it is violative of orders and guidelines issued by MoEFCC, MoWR, M/o Mining, NMCG and State Government of Uttarakhand, on the subject from time to time.
- b. All decisions taken in respect of sand mining or boulder crushing in the Ganga River bed area are to be put into the public domain by the authorities concerned
- c. Any violation of these orders is to be dealt with very strictly. The enforcement and implementation shall rest with the District Administration and the District authorities concerned will be held responsible for any lapses therein.

II. Hydro-electric projects

- a. No new hydro-electric project shall be taken up on River Ganga or its tributaries in the State of Uttarakhand.
- b. All projects in which the work has not started on the ground shall be dropped.
- c. With respect to projects under construction, the seven projects as recommended by M/o WR, which are reported to be more than 50% complete (listed at Annexure I) may be taken up for further construction. . M/o WR, RD & GR has already constituted a 3 Member committee for 'on the spot' assessment of these seven projects. It was decided that a representative of Uttarakhand Government may also be included in the committee. The committee will visit the

project sites between 1st March and 4th March and will submit their report immediately after the visit.

- d. M/o Power has requested for resuming the construction work in case of 03 projects (listed at Annexure-II), in which substantial work has been done on ground. In this case, it was decided that a committee of two members with representative from M/o Power and M/oWR to visit the project sites and submit their report on the actual physical progress of the works. The decision on these projects would be taken on the same principle as enumerated in point (c) above.
- e. The Chief Secretary (CS), Government of Uttarakhand, has requested to allow the three projects of the State Government (as listed at Annexure-III). The CS further stated that in case these projects are dropped it will be a financial as well as opportunity lost for the State of Uttarakhand.
- f. Considering the revenue and opportunity lost to the State of Uttarakhand, it was decided that the State of Uttarakhand may be compensated for the projects which are being dropped and on which work has already started. The total project potential of these projects may be taken into account and arrangements will be made to compensate the State for the revenue lost due to not executing these projects.
- g. The exact modalities and quantum of compensation to be given to the State of Uttarakhand, as stated above, may be decided by the Finance Commission and a proposal will be moved to the Finance Commission in this regard.

List of Participants :

- (1) Shri U.P. Singh, Secretary, M/o Water Resources
- (2) Shri C.K. Mishra, Secretary, M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (3) Shri Ajay K Bhalla, Secretary, M/o Power
- (4) Shri U.K. Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand
- (5) Ms. Radhika Jha, Secretary (Energy) and Secretary to CS, Government of Uttarakhand.

From PMO:

- (1) JS(D)
- (2) Dir (RK)

Annexure – I

List of under construction Projects in which more than 50% work has been completed

1. Tehri Stage-II Capacity 1000 MW on Bhagirathi River
2. Tapovan-Vishnugad, Capacity 520 MW on Dhauliganga River
3. Vishnugad Pipalkoti, Capacity 444 MW on Alaknanda River
4. Singoli Bhatwari, Capacity 99 MW on Madakini River
5. Phata – Byoung, Capacity 76 MW on Madakini River
6. Madhymaheshwar, Capacity 15 MW on Madhmaheswar Ganga River
7. Kaliganga II, Capacity 6 MW on Kaliganga River.

Annexure-II

List of Projects of Ministry of Power for resuming work

1. Kotlibhel I-A Hydro Electric Project 195 MW (NHPC)
2. Kotlibhel I-B Hydro Electric Project 320 MW (NHPC)
3. Lata Tapovan 171 MW (NTPC)

List of State Government Projects

1. Bowla-Nand Prayag, 300 MW on Alaknanda River
2. Nandprayag, 100 MW on Alaknanda River
3. Tamak Lata, 190 MW on Dhauliganga River.