

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING
OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE KOSI AND GANDAK PROJECTS
(17-18 February 2011, Rajgir)**

The sixth meeting of the Joint Committee on Kosi and Gandak Projects (JCKGP) was held on 17-18 February, 2011 at Rajgir, India. The Indian Side was led by Mr. Afzal Amanullah, Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar, India, and the Nepalese Side was led by Mr. Anil Kumar Pokharel, Director General, Department of Irrigation (DoI), Ministry of Irrigation, Government of Nepal. The list of participants of the meeting is appended as Annexure-I.

Mr. Amanullah warmly welcomed the Nepalese delegation. He assured to continue sincere efforts on commitments made during the last meeting for undertaking various measures to increase the efficiency and usefulness of these projects for both the countries.

Mr. Pokharel thanked the Indian side for the warm hospitality accorded to the Nepalese delegation. On behalf of Government of Nepal, he thanked Government of India for the efforts made for maintenance of infrastructure of Kosi and Gandak Projects.

1.0 Review of Minutes of the Fifth Meeting held on 17-18 June 2010

It was explained by the Indian side that since the minutes of the meeting was signed by both the sides, only the implementation of the decisions of the previous meeting were required to be reviewed. This was noted for future.

2.0 Operation & Maintenance of Infrastructure

2.1.0 Kosi Project

2.1.1 Security and Protection of Kosi Project Area

Both the sides agreed that the mechanism established by the 4th JCKGP was functioning satisfactorily. The Indian side emphasized the importance of maintenance of proper law and order for operation and maintenance of the Kosi Project facilities and that there was a need to sensitize the concerned authorities to provide necessary security.

The Nepalese side assured that no security lapse would be allowed to take place on their part.

Afzal Amanullah
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Anil Kumar Pokharel

It was decided that the Joint Mechanism established by the 4th JCKGP meeting would continue to function.

2.1.2 Operation & Maintenance of Kosi Project Area

The Committee noted the fact that in spite of the decisions taken in earlier Committee meetings, the task of preparing the map of Project area, identifying the areas under vegetation and cultivation and making recommendations for remedial measures for improvement in the river flow, has not been completed.

It was decided that the requisite satellite imageries be procured at once in the "tiff" format and be made available to the Nepalese side through Mr. A K Sinha, Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu. The Committee directed that the Task Group complete its assigned tasks within three months, i.e., by 15th May 2011. It was also agreed that Mr. A K Sinha, Liaison Officer will be co-opted in the Task Group to co-ordinate its work.

The Liaison officer of the Kosi Project will coordinate with both sides on various O&M aspects related to the project.

2.1.3 Royalty/Local levies for supply of construction materials

The Committee noted that in the 5th meeting of the JCKGP it was decided to forward a note detailing the issue of multi point levying of taxes by local Nepalese authorities on the construction materials used for the operation and maintenance of the Kosi Project to the Embassy of India, Kathmandu for transmission to the Nepalese side. However, such a note is still awaited.

It was decided that the Chief Engineer, Birpur would prepare the detailed note on the issue and forward it to the Embassy of India, Kathmandu through the Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar.

The Nepalese side assured that they would look into the problem once they receive the note.

2.1.4 Erosion of Flood Embankments on Upstream as well as downstream sides of Kosi Barrage

On the request of the Nepalese side it was decided that the Satellite Imageries related to the Kosi Project in "tiff" format will be made available to the Nepalese side on a regular basis, through the Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu.

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2.1.5 Operation of gates in Western Main Canal for supplying water to Kosi Western Main Canal of Nepal and maintaining full supply level in the canal

The Indian side stated that the Executive Engineer, Western Kosi Canal Division, Kunauli and Senior Divisional Engineer, Kosi Pump Canal, Saptari (Nepal), had jointly inspected the ML-10 and ML-11. The Joint Inspection Report observed that water levels were sufficient in the Western Main Canal to maintain adequate water level to allow flow of water into ML-10 and ML-11 and that the problem was due to siltation in ML10 and ML11.

On the request of the Nepalese side, it was agreed to institutionalize the Joint Monitoring mechanism by the respective Contact Officers for maintaining full supply level with adequate discharge in parent canal so that sufficient water can be withdrawn in Nepalese canal and submit their report to the respective Team Leaders.

As regards the service road of Main Western Canal, the Indian side informed the Committee that the DPR of the Scheme had been prepared and that funding of the proposal was being examined.

The Nepalese side requested to maintain the proper voltage from Kataiya to operate the Kosi pump station.

The Indian side assured that this problem would be addressed as early as possible.

2.1.6 Supply of construction material from Nepal for the Kosi Project Facilities

The Indian side expressed their concerns regarding the difficulties in procuring construction material from Nepal. The Nepalese side took note of the concern and assured that the matter is expected to be resolved very soon by competent authority. They suggested that the concerned Project authorities should forward their estimated requirements of construction material for proposed projects at least one month in advance with all the details indicating the probable sites for the use of the same, so that necessary clearances could be obtained.

In case of the construction materials to be imported from India, the Nepalese side requested to register in Nepal's Custom Office for record purpose.

2.2.0 Gandak Project

2.2.1 Unauthorised occupation of acquired lands of the Project by local villagers

The Indian side conveyed that a map showing both temporary and permanent encroachments has been provided to the concerned Nepalese authorities. However, there has been no change in the ground situation. The Nepalese side took note of the Indian concern and assured that the temporary encroachments would be removed at the earliest and that concrete steps would be taken to remove the permanent encroachments in the shortest possible time.

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The Nepalese side further assured that till then, adequate security would be provided for unhindered movement of construction materials, equipment and personnel.

2.2.2 Drainage problem on the Main Western Canal (MWC) of Gandak Project in Nepalese territory and the problem of frequent cuttings of MWC banks by the local villagers

The Indian side conveyed that for the works under the Nepal Benefit Scheme – 2009, with an outlay of IRs. 171.84 crores, has been awarded on February 6, 2011 and the works are likely to commence soon. As per the implementation schedule, the works are expected to be completed by March, 2012.

The Nepalese side stated that the list of the works to be executed under this scheme and other relevant details be provided to them to extend necessary co-operation in its implementation.

The Nepalese side raised concern regarding inundation caused by insufficient drainage infrastructure. The Indian side conveyed that this would be addressed under the Nepal Benefit Scheme and suggestions, if any, of the Nepalese side will be considered.

It was decided that the requisite details of the scheme would be forwarded to the Nepalese side by the Chief Engineer, Valmikinagar through the Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu within a fortnight.

2.2.3 Water Supplied to Nepal Eastern Canal

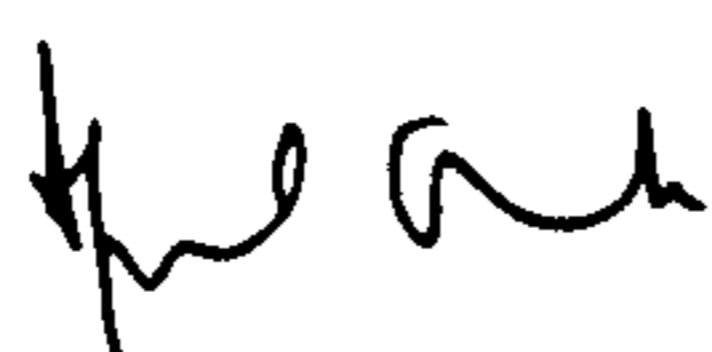
The Nepalese side recalled that the re-calibration of the gauge discharge curves was yet to be done, despite decisions taken in this regard in previous meetings.

The Committee decided that recalibration of the gauge would be done within one month of the Nepal Eastern Canal (NEC) becoming operational after completion of the restoration works.

In addition, the Nepalese side requested to release the water on NEC at the earliest. The Indian side assured that attempts will be made to release the water by the second week of June 2011.

2.2.4 Maintenance of Service Road and sections of MWC

The Indian side reiterated that the implementation of Gandak Canal restoration scheme would address the issue.



2.2.5 Maintenance of Design Pond level at 362 ft at Head Regulator of Nepal Western Canal

2.2.6 Maintenance of Full Supply Level and Full Supply Discharge of Main Western Canal

The Committee, after consideration of the agenda items 2.2.5 and 2.2.6 agreed that all these items required to be monitored on a regular basis for which the Committee decided to establish a Joint Monitoring Mechanism.

The composition of the Joint Monitoring Team is appended as Annexure – II.

2.2.7 Control over discharge laden with silt through the Nala adjoining the Power House by Nepal

The Indian side reiterated that the implementation of Gandak Canal restoration scheme would address the issue.

3.0 Establishment

3.1 Salary, Allowances and facilities for the employees

The Committee noted that as decided in the 5th meeting of the JCKGP, the Task Group held two meetings on 19-20 January, 2011 and 3-4 February, 2011 at Biratnagar and Pokhra respectively. The minutes of these meetings were considered by the Committee. It was decided that the same Task Group should study the matter in a holistic manner including the optimal number of employees required, their job descriptions, recruitment method, application of service rules, redeployment of surplus employees, etc. The Task Group would also deal with other issues related to this agenda to assist the Committee in taking decisions on these issues.

It was decided that the Task Group would furnish its report for the consideration of the Committee at its next meeting.

3.2 Reimbursement of Administrative Expenditure in Kosi Project

The Indian side recalled that it was agreed in the 5th meeting that the Nepalese side would forward the relevant details in this regard through diplomatic channel but the same have not been received.

The Nepalese side conveyed that since the original documents had been sent to Chief Engineer, Birpur long ago and as they had not retained duplicate copies, it was not possible to provide the same again.

The Committee discussed this issue and decided that two officers from Government of Bihar and two officers from the Government of Nepal would go through the available records and

Mr. K. K. Kharel

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corroborative evidence and recommend the admissible amount of reimbursement. This matter would be considered at the next meeting of the JCKGP.

4.0 Payments

4.1 Outstanding compensation of land (Kosi & Gandak Projects)

In the fifth meeting of the JCKGP, it was agreed that the issue would be considered after receiving the relevant information sought vide Embassy of India, Kathmandu Note Verbate No - Kat/Com/60/2009 dated 6 October 2009.

The Nepalese side conveyed that the relevant details are being compiled and would be forwarded through diplomatic channel for further consideration.

4.2 Payment of land tax (Kosi and Gandak Projects)

The matter was discussed in detail. It was noted that preparation of the account for Kosi Project is under process. The Nepalese side assured that they will provide the accounts to Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu for reconciliation.

5.0 Annual Action Plans for Kosi and Gandak Projects

The Nepalese side enquired about the status of implementation of the recommendations of Kosi and Gandak High Level Committees. The Indian side assured that the details will be provided through Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu.

6.0 Demands made by the Gandak Nadi Sangharsha Samiti

The Nepalese side raised this issue. The Indian side conveyed that the relevant issues have been addressed in the Nepal Gandak Scheme.

7.0 Problem due to Kosi Wild Life Tappu Area

The Indian side expressed concern regarding the problems being encountered in the maintenance works due to Kosi Wild Life Tappu Area which restricted timely and free movement of men, materials and machinery to the site. The Nepalese side assured that they will ensure unhindered movement of men, materials and machinery to the site. The Committee noted that O & M activities of the Project take precedence over any other activity in the Project area.

8.0 Channelization of the Kosi river d/s of Kosi Barrage

Since this is not relevant at this stage, it was decided to drop this item from the agenda.

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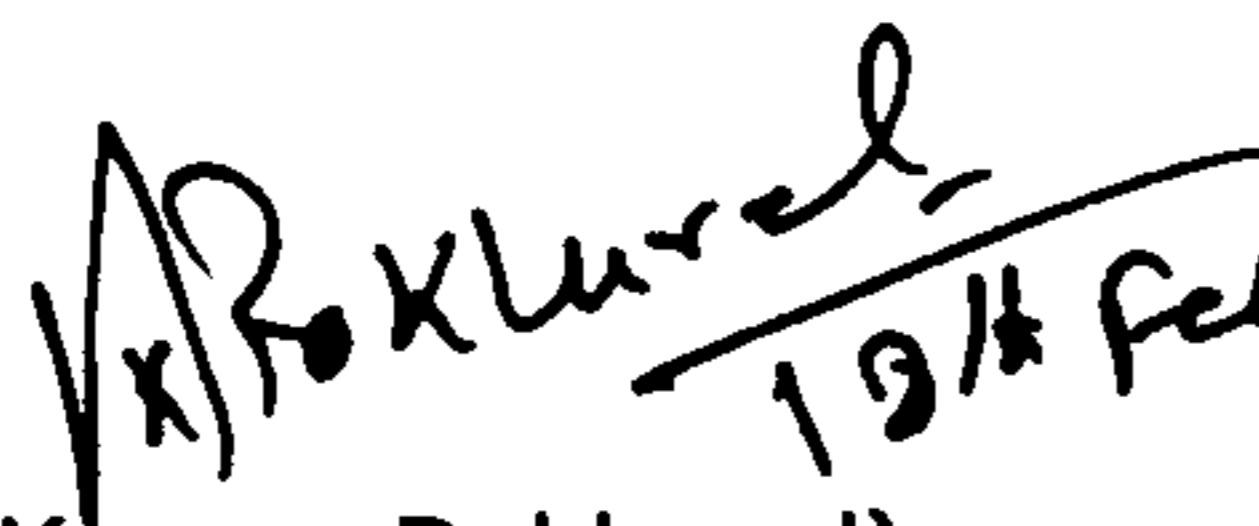
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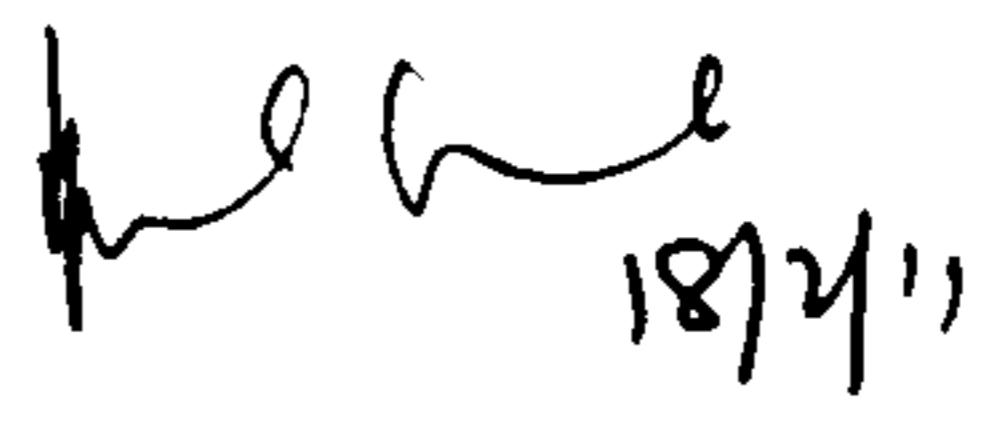
9.0 Regular and proper power supply by Surajpura Power House

The Indian side conveyed the difficulties in operation of Barrage Gates due to low voltage at Gandak Barrage site. They requested to shift the switch of the gate operation from Gate No.36 to Gate No.1. It was decided that Executive Engineer, Mechanical, Valmikinagar will discuss the matter with the concerned officer of Nepal Electricity Authority, which will be arranged by the Department of Irrigation, Nepal and coordinated by Liaison Officer, WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu. The Department of Irrigation, GoN will facilitate an early resolution of these problems.

It was decided that the next meeting would be held in the last week of November 2011 at Kathmandu.

The meeting was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.


19/11 Feb, 2011
(Anil Kumar Pokharel)
Director General,
Department of Irrigation
Government of Nepal


18/11/11
(Afzal Amanullah)
Principal Secretary,
Water Resources Department
Government of Bihar, India

**6TH MEETING
OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE KOSI AND GANDAK PROJECT
BETWEEN INDIA & NEPAL
(17-18February 2011, Rajgir)
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

NEPALESE SIDE

NEPALESE SIDE		
1	Mr. Anil Kumar Pokharel	Director General, DOI
2	Mr. Sudhir Man Baisyat	Dy. Director General, DOI
3	Mr. Hira Nand Jha	Dy. Director General, DWIDP
4	Mr. Krishna Raj Timilsina	Director, WRID, Phokhara
5	Mr. Purusottam Kumar Shahi	Director, ERID, Biratnagar
6	Mr. Sanjaya Dhungel	S.D.E., WECS
7	Mr. Rajendra Pandey	Under Sec., MOFA
8	Mr. Rameshwor Dangal	Under Sec., MOHA
9	Mr. Roshan Kumar Pradhan	S.D.E., Ministry of Irrigation
10	Mr. Yog Nath Poudel	Under Sec., Ministry of Finance
SPECIAL INVITEES/ INVITEES		
1	Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma	Dy. Director General, DOI
2	Mr. Ram Prasad Thapaliya	CDO, Sunsari
3	Mr. Kailash Nath Kharel	CDO, Saptari
4	Mr. Hari Raj Pant	CDO, Nawalparasi
5	Mr. Ashish Bhadra Khanal	SDE, DOI
6	Mr. Madan K.C.	Computer/IT Officer, DOI

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**TASK GROUP REGARDING JOINT MONITORING ON
MAINTENANCE OF FULL SUPPLY LEVEL & DISCHARGE OF MAIN WESTERN CANAL OF
GANDAK PROJECT**

Nepalese Side	Indian Side
1. Division Chief, Western Region Irrigation Division No-7, Nawalparasi	1. E E , Main Western Canal Division, Valmikinagar
2. Engineer, Western Region Irrigation Directorate, Pokhara	2. E E , Headworks Division, Valmikinagar

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ANNEXURE-I
6TH MEETING
OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE KOSI AND GANDAK PROJECT
BETWEEN INDIA & NEPAL
(17-18February 2011, Rajgir)
OFFICERS PRESENT

INDIAN SIDE

Sl.No	Name	Designation
MEMBERS		
1	Mr. Afzal Amanullah	Principal Secretary Water Resources Department Govt. of Bihar, Patna
2	Mr. Rajeshwar Dayal	Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar, Patna
3	Mr. S Masood Husain	Member, GFCC, Govt. of India, Patna
4	Mr. Sanjiv Ranjan	Director (N), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi
5	Mr. Harsh Kumar Jain	Counsellor, Indian Embassy, Kathmandu
6	Mr. Dinesh Kumar Chaudhary	Chief Engineer, WRD, Valmikinagar, Govt. of Bihar
7	Mr. Chandra Shekhar Paswan	Chief Engineer, WRD, Birpur, Govt. of Bihar
8	Mr. S N Dwivedi	Representative of GoUP
9	Md. Kalim Ahmad	T S to CE Darbhanga
Special Invitees		
1	Mr. Sridhar Chiruvolu	DM, Bettiah
2	ADM Supaul	Representative of DM, Supaul
3	Mr. Arun Kumar Sinha	Liaison Officer WRD, Govt. of Bihar, Kathmandu
Other Invitees		
1	Mr InduBhusan Kumar	S E Flood Monitoring, WRD, GoB
2	Mr Jitendra Kumar Singh	J S , WRD, GoB
3	Mr Prakash Chandra	S E Monitoring-1, WRD, GoB
4	Mr B K Sinha	S E Monitoring-2, WRD, GoB
5	Mr B K Verma	S E Monitoring-4, WRD, GoB
6	Mr S N Tiwari	Director GFCC, GoI
7	Mr R B Chaudhary	E E Monitoring, WRD, GoB
8	Mr Suresh Purbey	E E Monitoring, WRD, GoB
9	Mr A K Jha	E E Monitoring, WRD, GoB
10	Mr R K Shanker	E E Monitoring, WRD, GoB
11	Mr Bipin Kumar	A E Monitoring, WRD, GoB
12	Md Sohail	Under Secretary, WRD, GoB

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