



(By Email Only)

क्रमांक:-के.वे.लि.परि.प्राधि./खण्ड/झांसी/टी-30(TAG)/

No:-KBLPA/Div./JHANSI/T-30(TAG)/ 726-746

दिनांक:

Date: 01.08.2025

Sub:- Minutes of 12th Meeting of Technical Advisory Group of Ken Betwa Link Project Authority on 28.07.2025 in online mode.

The 12th Meeting of Technical Advisory Group of Ken Betwa Link Project Authority was held on 28.07.2025 in online mode under the chairmanship of Shri D.P. Bhargava, Former Director (Technical), NHPC, Faridabad.

Minutes of the meeting, duly approved by the Chairman (TAG-KBLPA) is enclosed for kind information and further necessary action by all concerned.

(T. M. Tripathi)
ACEO (Canal)&
Member-Secretary

To: All the Members of TAG of KBLPA

1. Shri D.P. Bhargava, Former Director (Technical), NHPC, Faridabad.
2. Shri Vijai Saran, Former Chief Engineer, CWC.
3. Shri P.K. Saxena, Former Commissioner (Indus), DoWR, RD&GR.
4. Shri V.K. Niranjana, Former HOD & E-in-C, I&WRD, UP.
5. Shri G.P. Soni, Former Chief Engineer, WRD, MP.
6. Chief Engineer, Designs (NW&S), CWC, New Delhi.
7. Director(CSMRS) or nominee.
8. Director (Hydrology), CWC, New Delhi.
9. Additional CEO (Head Works), KBLPA, Bhopal.
10. Additional CEO (HQ/P), KBLPA, Lucknow.
11. Additional CEO (E&M), KBLPA, Bhopal.
12. Chief Engineer (Designs)/BODHI, WRD, MP.
13. Chief Engineer (Designs), I&WRD, UP.

Copy for kind information to:-

1. The Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Govt. of MP, Bhopal.
2. The Principal Secretary, I&WRD, Govt. of UP, Lucknow.
3. The Member, D&R, CWC, New Delhi.

Special Invitee :-

1. Director General, NWDA, New Delhi.
2. Chief Executive Officer, KBLPA, Bhopal.
3. Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Govt. of MP, Bhopal.
4. Engineer-in-Chief (Projects), I&WRD, Govt. of UP, Lucknow.
5. ACEO (Construction), KBLP, I&WRD, Jhansi.

**Minutes of 12th Meeting of Technical Advisory Group of Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority
held on 28.07.2025 in online mode**

The 12th meeting of the Technical Advisory Group of Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (TAG-KBLPA) was held on 28.07.2025 in online mode under the Chairmanship of Shri D. P. Bhargava, Former Director (Technical), NHPC, Faridabad for discussion on the Ken-Betwa Link Canal alignment. The list of participants is attached as Annexure-I.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all participants and appreciated their presence at short notice. The discussions held and decisions taken on the agenda item are summarized below:

12.1 Discussion on the alternate alignment (Tunnel + Canal Combination) of Ken-Betwa Link Canal from R.D. 116150 m to R.D. 125622 m in village Ramnagar

1. The Member Secretary informed that TAG-KBLPA, in its 11th meeting, had reviewed the proposed alternate alignment in the stretch from R.D. 116150 m to R.D. 125622 m near Village Ramnagar. The TAG had observed that the proposed alignment included multiple sharp bends and an additional length of 603 meters. Accordingly, TAG had suggested exploring a straighter route involving a Canal + Tunnel combination.
2. In this context, the Member Secretary apprised that a site visit was conducted on 07.06.2025 by the CEO, KBLPA, accompanied by officials from the Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Madhya Pradesh, and KBLPA, to assess the feasibility of tunnel construction near Ramnagar/Charee village, District Tikamgarh.
3. The Member Secretary presented key observations from the site visit, stating that tunnel construction involves significant technical and financial challenges. It requires engagement of specialized EPC contractors and deployment of high-cost tunneling equipment. Preliminary geological observations suggest poor rock stability due to the presence of loose or disintegrated sandstone and quartzite. No geological or geotechnical investigations have been undertaken to date. These investigations, which are essential for assessing the tunnel's feasibility, are time-intensive and may take at least six months to complete. Additionally, compared to open canals, tunnels are more expensive, complex to construct and maintain, and offer limited flexibility for future modifications such as tapping points or distribution structures. Open canals, in contrast, are easier to inspect, maintain, and upgrade.
4. The CEO, KBLPA added that open canals facilitate water distribution to nearby wells, ponds, and other water bodies using simple regulators. In contrast, such arrangements are more complex in tunnel systems, requiring separate infrastructure.

5. Shri Vijai Saran, Former Chief Engineer, CWC suggested undertaking a desktop study carrying out techno-economic comparison of both alternatives, L-section etc., may be completed by KBLPA and circulated to all members of the TAG well before the next TAG meeting. Further, in order to study the technical feasibility of the tunnel alternative, Chairman, TAG may invite geologists from WRD, MP or from GSI to assist the group, if required.
6. Chief Engineer (NW&S), CWC opined that the recommendation of TAG (11th TAG meeting) for considering the proposal of Tunnel of length 1.5 km + Canal of length 2.75km vis-à-vis Canal of length 5.89 km, needs techno-economic comparison of both alternatives with respect to the cost & time of construction, cost of land acquisition, etc. To technically examine both the alternatives, the KBPLA should prepare the geological L-section and work out preliminary designs of the tunnel. These details should be presented to TAG in its next meeting for deliberation and selecting the suitable alternative amongst the two.
7. The Chairman, TAG-KBLPA highlighted that full geological investigations may lead to delays in the tendering and subsequent work for implementation of the project. He noted that construction work on Daudhan Dam has already commenced, and any further delay in finalizing the canal alignment would impact the overall project timeline.
8. It was clarified that TAG in its 11th Meeting has suggested exploring the possibility of the straight route, keeping in view the need of a tunnel. As such, TAG has not made a definitive recommendation.
9. In the end it was decided by TAG that KBLPA will carry out desk study with the available data for cost comparison and will prepare L-section of the tunnel alignment .It will submit the study report along with the L-section of the tunnel alignment at the earliest.
10. Chairman TAG advised to plan for a joint site visit before the next TAG meeting for preliminary site feasibility assessment. The visit can be combined along with TAG meeting, wherein visit will be done before the meeting.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to Chair.

Annexure-I

List of participants in 12th Meeting of Technical Advisory Group of Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority on 28.07.2025 in online mode

TAG Members

1. Shri D.P. Bhargava, Former Director (Technical) NHPC, Faridabad - Chairman
2. Shri Vijai Saran, Former Chief Engineer, CWC. - Member
3. Shri GyanPrakashSoni, Former Chief Engineer, WRD, MP - Member
4. Shri Pradeep Kumar Saxena, Former Commissioner (Indus), DoWR, RD&GR - Member
5. Shri Sarbjit Singh Bakshi, Chief Engineer, Design (NW&S), CWC - Member
7. Dr. R. Chitra, Director, CSMRS, New Delhi - Member
8. Shri Shiva Prakash, ACEO(HQ/P), KBLPA, Lucknow - Member
9. Shri Prabhat Kumar Dubey, Chief Engineer (Design), I & WRD, UP, Lucknow - Member
10. Shri T.M. Tripathi, ACEO(Canal), KBLPA, Jhansi - Member Secretary

Special Invitees

1. Shri Baleshwar Thakur, Director General, NWDA, New Delhi
2. Shri P.K. Dixit, CEO, KBLPA, Bhopal
3. Shri DeveshShukla, ACEO(Cons.), KBLP, I&WRD, UP

Other Participants

1. Shri YuvrajWarke, Chief Engineer, WRD, Sagar, MP
2. Dr. Manish Gupta, Scientist-E, CSMRS, New Delhi
3. Shri Naveen Gaur, SE, KBLC, WRD, UP
4. Shri Ashish Singh Kushwah, Executive Engineer, KBLPA, Jhansi
5. Shri MohsinHasan, Executive Engineer, KBLC, WRD, Baldeogarh, MP
6. Smt. Uma Gupta, Executive Engineer, KBLP, WRD, Chhatarpur, MP
7. Shri Ashish Swami, Assistant Engineer, KBLPA, Jhansi.
8. Shri Amit Tiwari, Junior Engineer, KBLPA, Jhansi