



### Bilateral Cooperation for Mutual Benefits

The special session saw Secretary General ICID, Shri A.B. Pandya, Commissioner, MoJS, Shri J.C. Iyer, Commissioner, INDUS, Shri P.K. Saxena and Commissioner, MoJS, Shri T.S. Mehra heading the session. The session elaborated on the cordial relations of India with Nepal, Bangladesh and other neighbouring countries sharing a water body. It also shed light on several success stories such as the Gandak Barrage, Mahakali Treaty, 1996, Pacheshwaar Multipurpose Project etc. The solution that surfaced after the session for conflict ridden water areas was cooperation through agreements.

## New Delhi Witnesses First Award Ceremony Organised By National Water Mission



The National Water Missions Awards ceremony was held on 25th September, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan in the august

presence of Shri G Asok Kumar, Mission Director, NWM and Shri U.P. Singh, Hon'ble Secretary, DoWR Ministry of Jal Shakti. The awards aim to appreciate and acknowledge the efforts of various organisations and companies working towards water conservation management and sustainability. The occasion was graced by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat as the Chief Guest and Shri Rattanlal Kataria, Minister of State for Jal Shakti as the Guest of Honour.

The Jury Committee meetings were held under the chairmanship of Shri Shashi



Shekhar, Former Secretary, MoWR, RD & GR to shortlist the applicants.



### SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT, HON'BLE UNION MINISTER, MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI, INAUGURATED THE EXHIBITION AT THE 6<sup>TH</sup> INDIA WATER WEEK

L to R - Mr. M. K. Srinivas, Director General, NWDA, Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General NMCG, Ms. T. Rajeshwari (IAS) Additional Secretary, DoWR RD & GR, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Shri Rattanlal Kataria, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti

Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated the exhibition at the 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week, where almost 60 exhibitors showcased their technologies. Other

eminent guests present at the inauguration were Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri Rattanlal Kataria, Hon'ble Secretary, DoWR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri U.P. Singh, Hon'ble Additional

Secretary, (Wing Head) (RD & PP), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ms. T. Rajeshwari, Director General, NWDA, Shri M. K. Srinivas and Director General, NMCG, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra.

## Cooperation For Sustainable Water Management Emerges As Core Theme on 2<sup>nd</sup> Day of IWW

### Water Scarcity – Challenges Ahead

The second day of India Water Week 2019 was started off with a panel session with eminent members, His Excellency Dr. Ron Malka, Ambassador of Israel to India, Dr. H.K. Varma, Executive Director, ICID, Dr. Man Singh, Project Director, Water Technology Center and Shri R.K. Jain, Chairman, GRMB. The key speaker, Dr. Ron Malka stated that if a country like Israel, which is mostly desert and semi-arid, can attain water security, then India with its abundance of water, can definitely do the



same. He showcased how his country achieved this by increasing water sources,

optimising water efficiency, enacting regulations & laws and promoting awareness & education. Dr. H.K. Varma highlighted the pivotal role of ICID as a member of the Steering Committee of the The Global Framework of Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG). In his talk, Dr. Man Singh stated he was convinced that India is not facing water scarcity in the conventional sense of the term, rather that there is need for imaginative and innovative solutions in the area of water to mitigate the issues. Shri R.K. Jain spoke about the issues regarding the



interlinking of rivers and how a shared mission of cooperation was the way forward if India is to solve the challenges in water as a country.

### Drought Management – Future Challenges and Strategies

This session revolved around the theme of “Drought Management – Future Challenges and Strategies”. Drought is a hydro-metrological



phenomenon of prolonged period of water scarcity, affecting natural resources, and the environment, flora and fauna.

The speakers for the session were Shri R.K. Sinha, Member (R&M), CWC (Chair), Dr. J.S. Samra, Former DG, NRAA, Shri V.K. Chawla, Former CE, CWC (Co-chair), Dr. R.P. Pandey, NIH and Shri Manoj Khanna.

The session focused on the concept of droughts and how these affect the current scenario in the country. Chairing the session, Shri R.K. Sinha highlighted the concept of Drought Management in India and how different strategies for drought mitigation can efficiently help in facing future challenges.

The speaker panel shed light on the various drought indicators used for CDI development and how the aspect of drought mitigation also plays an important role. The key topics discussed in the session were schematic methodology, real time weather monitoring,

climate division-based litigation, data collection etc.

The session formulated the effective plans/roads for dealing with droughts.

### Challenges in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals for Urban Water Supply and Drainage

The speakers for this session were Mrs. Isher J Ahluwalia (Chair), Shri V S Thind (Co-chair), Retd. Engineer, DJB, Mr. Rajesh Jain, Mr. R.S. Tyagi, Former Member Water Supply, DJB.

The session focused on water management in the country and efficient water conservation practices to achieve the same. The speakers talked about the concept of suitable water management to avert the water crisis in the country and a proper management approach for the agricultural sector. Shri R.S. Tyagi stated that water is a natural resource and a precious commodity for the people, but humans are polluting these resources instead of prioritising them. He mentioned that urbanisation is not bad, it's just that people don't really plan well and hence the problem arises.

Co-chairing the session Mr. Thind stated that people should inculcate a positive approach towards the aspect of reusing and recycling water and the conservation of the same.

### Water Resources Sustainability for Industrial Growth

The session was chaired by the Mission Director, National Water Mission, Government of India, Shri G Asok Kumar with Mr. Anshuman, Associate Director, Water Resources Division, TERI. The inaugural address for the discussion was given by Chairman, TERI Governing Council, Shri Nitin Desai. The discussion encouraged the dissemination of information and cooperation in managing water resources. The emphasis of the panel discussion was



on cooperation, as well as creating more efficient systems of using water for industrial and agricultural purposes.

Shortly after the address, the policy brief of “Critical Policy Interventions to Fast Forward Micro Irrigation in India” was launched. The brief gives a roadmap towards management of water through micro irrigation. Mr. Anshuman talked about creating a circle economy where regenerative approaches by intention and well-planned design would lead to better management of water resources. The discussion saw enthusiastic participation and deliberation over the impact of industrial pollution and climate change on the hydrological cycle.

### Reorienting Water Education to Address Water Related Changes



The session was chaired by Secretary General, ICID Shri A.B. Pandya. The panel also included former member CWC, Shri M.E. Haque, Shri. Y. Paithankar, Shri. G.S. Jha, Dr. Yella Reddy and Dr. Ashish Pandey. The session had speakers discussing issues related to data misuse in the water industry. Certain examples of misuse of data were brought to the forefront. Measures for transferring the academic knowledge of water use and management into practical application were suggested. This discussion also highlighted the impediments in water education in the country. Dr. Yella Reddy pointed out that if the subjects and information taught in school would be implemented in the future, the stages for education about water get easier. He also suggested an idea to introduce 'water credit' like we have 'carbon credit', where farmers could be paid for small conservations in water while using water for agricultural uses. The inclusion of women along with young professionals in the agricultural water movement was also talked about.

### Water For Food security

The session was chaired by Shri. S.K. Haldar, Member (WP&P), CWC. The panel also included Dr. Man Singh, Director



WTC and Shri K. Vohra, Commissioner (SPR) DoWR.

The speakers talked about food security in the water sector as in the future the population is going to swell which will result to double food production in limited land resources.

Shri S.K. Vohra highlighted the problems in the irrigation sector. The panel stated that there is a dire need for the farmers to start reusing grey, black and desalinated water for irrigation purposes rather than exploring the groundwater.

### Technological innovation & Big Data for Water Security, Emerging Directions and Prospects.

The session was chaired by Shri N.K. Mathur, Retd. Member, CWC. The other speakers for the panel discussion were Dr. V.V. Rao, NSRC, Dr. R.N. Sankhua, CE, NWDA and Ms. Upasana Dutta, Joint Director ES and EG Group, C-DAC.

Dr. R.N. Sankhua highlighted the need of transparency around water data in almost every aspect and briefed that the rise of big data & new measurement technologies can transform the way water is managed in the future.

The session imparted information with regards to making the water data more friendly and accessible.

### Groundwater Management - Challenges Ahead

Shri U.P. Singh, Hon'ble Secretary, DoWR, Ministry of Jal Shakti delivered the opening



remarks stating the importance of groundwater and that is the solution for all water problems for the session themed “Groundwater Management – Challenges Ahead”.

The panel included Shri K.C. Naik, Chairman, CWC, Shri S. Marwah, Regional Director, CGWB, Shri G. C. Pati, Member, CGWB. The importance of “Water Meeting” to monitor the water supply in every household emerged as a common talking point in the session and that the extraction of groundwater should be done wisely.

Concluding the event, Shri K.C. Naik stated that conserving water is everyone's responsibility and they should try their best.



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