



well as the people. He pointed out that the 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week contributes crucially towards the planning and implementations made by researches and policy planners.

Drinking water is a pressing problem in not only India but all around the globe resulting in deaths in several places. He extended his



gratitude and congratulated the entire team of Department of Water Resources & RD & GR for organising the 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week and completing it successfully.

An extremely important issue addressed by Shri Shekhawat was the gap between technology and dissemination of information to the fields and labs. The technology for maximising the outputs have been discovered but the information and technology needs to be transferred to the people who are responsible for their practical applications. He brought to the forefront the traditional ways of conserving water which was time and again

mentioned through the discussions in India Water Week. Furthermore, he asked each person to take responsibility and requested cooperation and coordination in the global endeavour of saving water. According to Shri Shekhawat people's participation is crucial and children

from a young age should be taught to imbibe the habit of conserving water.

Shri Rattanlal Kataria in his address highlighted the importance of water and that it is required in every field of life be it domestic, agricultural, animal husbandry, industries etc. He touched upon the subject of treatment, recycle and reuse of wastewater so that people draw water within a limit and do not overuse the precious resources. He briefed the audience that under the vision of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the union government is making continuous efforts with regards to the subject of water and trying their best to resolve the issues. He ended his address by urging the audience to switch to efficient ways of water management in life.

Shri U P Singh addressed the gathering by going over the important discussions and deliberations performed over the one week of 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week. He highlighted the sessions which also included participations from famers and school children. He rightly pointed out that the water governance in India needs modifications and the integrated water resources planning has to be improved. He suggested that the outcomes of the water week will help further in improving the policy making and create consensus

building between various states.

According to Shri U P Singh the focus of the crisis should be shifted from conflict to cooperation. He placed emphasis on putting in place certain policies such as the formation of functional water regulatory authority in various states while citing the example of Maharashtra. He also mentioned the need for authorities for reuse and recycling of water as well as improving water use efficiency and further shed light on the aspect of water sharing and cooperation



He pointed out the presence of updated technology in India which should be used in the process of data management. He concluded his address by reiterating the Prime Minister's remarks for making the Jal Andolan into a Jan Andolan.

The recommendations made during the various sessions of the 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week were presented by Shri S. M. Husain.

At the end, Shri M K Srinivas delivered a note of thanks to all the organisations and individuals who played a part in making the 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week a huge success.



## Water Saving Technologies have the potential to bridge the gap from Lab to Land



### Special session for school children

A special session was organised where many school children participated. The session was an interesting highlight of the India Water Week as the school children performed skits on various water related issues in India which saw children from several schools in Delhi who attended the session. The skit was followed by an interactive question and answer session. The session aimed at increasing awareness among children of different age groups as well as learning from the point of views presented by them.

### Bridging the Gap-Lab to Field

Considerable research has been conducted in the area of water resources management and development across the world,

particularly in developed countries. Such research is primarily directed towards better planning and improved efficiency. The research and academics industries in India have also made considerable progress; however, the application of findings of such research outcomes is relatively very slow.

The session "Bridging the Gap-Lab to Field" focused on the urgent need of adopting these findings for these findings in planning & operation of the water resources projects to ensure optimum and efficient utilisation for the benefit of the Society.

The session was chaired by Dr. Man Singh, Project Director, WTC and co-chaired by Shri M K Sinha, Executive Member, NCA. The other speakers for this session were Dr. K Sreenivas Reddy, Principal Scientist,

ICAR-CRIDA, Shri D K Singh, Principal Scientist, WTC, ICAR-IARI, Dr. TBS Rajput, Emeritus Scientist, WTC, IARI and Shri Anuj Kanwal, Director (WS&RS), CWC.

The panel discussed the aspect of transfer of water saving technologies to farmer's field for bridging the gap from lab to land. They highlighted the topic of Enhancing Irrigation





Efficiency via various technologies like laser leveling, bio-gas technology, raised bed technology & micro-irrigation linked with solar energy.

The aspect of bridging the gap between created and utilised irrigation potential was also emphasised upon. Various reasons for the gaps were highlighted.

The panel briefed the delegates about the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and how this policy is contributing in bringing a necessary change in the irrigation sector.

### Water Quality Concerns, Preventive Measures and Treatment Options

India has made considerable improvements over the past decades in both the availability and quality of municipal drinking water systems; however, its large population and increased demand has put severe stress on water resources both in urban and rural areas. In addition to drinking water, many other water resources are also found to be contaminated with both bio and chemical pollutants. It has been estimated that over 21% of the country's diseases are water related.

The session "Water Quality Concerns, Preventive Measures and Treatment Options" focused on the water sustainability solutions to the growing scarcity of fresh water in India.

The panel for this session included Dr. Pawan Labhasetwar, CSIR-NEERI, Dr. Noor Afshan Kahn, CSIR-NEERI, Dr. G. K. Khasde, CSIR-NEERI, Dr. Dipankar Saha, Member, CGWB and Dr. Raman Sharma, CSIR-NEERI.

The speakers highlighted the aspects of drinking water, need of required water quality and further management of wastewater. They talked about the deteriorating quality of water in India and several reasons for the same.

The session laid out water quality Issues,



treatment options and experiments to provide a platform to scientists, researchers and professionals for sharing their experiences, discussing issues and identifying measures for addressing the same in an appropriate manner.

### River Basin Management- Modelling Tools

The seminar for River Basin Management – Modelling Tools was chaired by Dr. R. K. Jain, Chairman, GRMB and co-chaired by Sharad Kumar Jain, Director, NIH. The lead paper presenter was Dr. R. N. Sankhua, CE, NWDA.

River basins have been identified as most appropriate planning, development and management of water resources in a sustainable manner and for ensuring optimal benefit to the society. The planning of the basins have it's own complexities as several restraints are taken into considerations. The important aspects of river basin planning and management were highlighted during the sessions such as understanding the hydrological processes, identification and projection of diverse needs, analysis of different economic, social and political context, selection of most appropriate alternative.



The chair addressed the delegates by mentioning that river basin management encompasses all aspects of society, politics and economical. The field of river basin management faces more problems due to political disputes than technological sessions. For river basin management presence of appropriate data and tools are important. Most of the manpower in the management is usually exhausted while organising data. Since data attainment is a problem, in order to overcome the scarcity of data, modelling for river basin is essential but the modelling in India is still functioning at sub-optimal power. Different methods and software's ranging from advanced to beginner, for river basin modelling were discussed in-depth such as the Geo-RAS, HSPF, ANUGA, SOBEK, etc. Various technical papers were shared on suitable models for river basin management and modelling for different regions of India. Another important highlight of the session was the discussion about the appropriation

and economic benefits being received by the stakeholders which has been problematic in this sector. The seminar was concluded with various technological interventions provided by the speaker and the chair.

## Valedictory Session marking the dignified conclusion of India Water Week 2019



L to R- Shri M K Srinivas, Director General, NWDA, Shri A K Sinha, Chairman, CWC, Shri Rattanlal Kataria, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri U P Singh, Hon'ble Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Shri S. M. Husain, Former Chairman, CWC

The flagship event of the Ministry of Jal Shakti - 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week 2019, came to a dignified end with the valedictory session. This session saw the august presence of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri Rattanlal Kataria, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri U P Singh, Hon'ble Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri M K Srinivas, Director General, NWDA and Shri S. M. Husain, Former Chairman, CWC and Shri A K Sinha, Chairman, CWC.

The conference was a grand success with some national and international luminaries discussing ways to sustainably manage water resources and plans to create a better future and sustainable solutions to various problems of the water sector all around the globe.

Delivering the welcome address, Shri A K Sinha mentioned that 6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week has established itself as a key platform for having discussions on various subjects related to water.

He further mentioned the theme for the

6<sup>th</sup> India Water Week 2019 "Water Cooperation – Coping with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges". He briefed that this year's India Water Week comprised of a plenary session, 15 seminars, 12 panel discussions, 4 brain storming sessions and 6 special sessions (including sessions by EU, Japan and a session for school children) and an Exhibition.

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat eloquently addressed the challenge of the water crisis facing the world and how it should be of paramount importance for the Ministries as

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