



# 7<sup>th</sup> INDIA WATER WEEK 2022

1 - 5 NOVEMBER 2022

**Theme:** Water Security for Sustainable Development with Equity

**Venue:** India Expo Centre, Greater Noida



## The areas of focus were:

- Sustainable agriculture
- Water management for economic development
- Challenges for sustainability of ground water resources
- Impact of Climate Change
- Adaptation Strategies
- Quality Challenges in water sector
- Dovetailing the macro and micro intervention in water management
- Water Quality Challenges

## A SERIES OF INSIGHTFUL SESSIONS ATTENDED BY LARGE NUMBER OF DELEGATES

The 7th India Water Week commenced on 1st November with great zeal. The start of the second day of this five daylong event displayed similar fervor with large number of participants reaching the venue. Multiple stakeholder participation was its remarkable feature. A series of insightful sessions were attended by large number of delegates to share their viewpoints and come up with shared ideas and solutions.

A high-level policy dialogue on "Accelerating SDG-6 achievements through Multi Stakeholder Partnership" was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. The special address for the event was delivered by Shri. Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture, Government of India.

The main objective is to identify and find solutions on several bottlenecks impeding greater progress on SDG-6 acceleration. Policy and institutional fragmentation between levels, actors and sectors means that decisions taken in one sector (e.g., agriculture, energy, health, and environment) often do not consider the impacts on water availability and water quality in other sectors.

Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat gave an enriching perspective on multi stake holders approach and reiterated the quote of Vasudev Kutumbakam (the world is one) to corroborate the fact that the countries have unified and come together to deal with the Sustainable Development Goals rather than focusing on geographical difference which is the need of the hour.

Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti in presence with Kailash Choudhary MoS Agriculture, Sh. Arvind Kumar, Sh. Rajesh Sudesh Ratna, and Sh. Atul Bagai presented their valuable insights on finding solutions on SDG 6 acceleration. Shri. Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture talked through the innovative measures of rural agriculture and climate resilient Crops that requires less irrigation and yields more productivity. The enlightening policy dialogue focused on the water issues in south and south east Asia, challenges faced in SDGs, and the need for holistic approach towards sustainable goals at global level. Sustainable Development goal is the partnership of various governments, NGOs, Civil Society and Think Tanks. Exchange of knowledge is important for our Country and it is commendable to see that India is moving ahead in the path breaking journey of SDGs. The inspirational talk delivered by Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat gave an enriching perspective on multi stake holders approach and reiterated the quote of Vasudev Kutumbakam, (the world is one) to corroborate the fact that the countries have unified and come together to deal with the Sustainable Development Goals rather than focusing on geographical difference which is the need of the hour. He emphasized that 'Har Ghar Nal se Jal' is a



mission of providing clean drinking water to each household through tap connections and India is marching ahead with this initiative with huge success. Over the years, with the vision of Hon'ble PM Sh. Narendra Modi, the

Nation has achieved incredible milestones in the field of Sanitation, ODF plus initiative and achieving clean tap water connections. Besides, Ms. Gayatri Sharma, a water warrior in the field of water conservation narrated her success stories from Jal Siksha to Jal Suraksha. At the end, Loic Fauchon, President WWC, through a video gave his insights on global factors on Sustainable Goals, and the importance of focusing on aspect of food, energy and education to achieve this goal in a robust manner. The key aspect is Unity and multi stakeholders' approach to bring paradigm shift in the field. The session summarized with the message that the gaps in institutional and human capacity, especially at the level of local governments and water and sanitation providers, slows implementation of SDG 6 along

with outdated infrastructure and governance models. Hence there is an urgent need to accelerate effective partnerships across all stakeholders to deliver on the SDG-6 which in turn would contribute to a range of other SDGs including on climate action.



Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti further addressed the conclave on Rural WASH Partnerships- Way forward with his valuable and inspirational insights. In the session, he launched the Swachh Survekshan Grameen tool kit, SSG-2023 Dashboard and retrofit twin pits module. The Minister through his key note address emphasized that the sustainable Development goals focuses on two key areas of Drinking water and Sanitation and the difference between the countries around the world must not stop us from achieving this goal. It is call of action for the entire world to come under one roof and be a part through integrated strategies and policies.

Furthermore, he reiterated that the Government is following the 5P (political will, public spending, partnership, people's participation, persuasion) model in the pathbreaking journey of Sustainable Development and water conservation.

**(SE-3) SPECIAL EVENT BY PARTNER COUNTRY (DENMARK)**

The session organized by Denmark in the presence of Secretary Sh. Pankaj Kumar kicked off with discussions on India-Demarc Strategic Partnership. Further the session highlighted the points on strategic sector corporation b/w India & Denmark in Tamil Nadu & Sustainable Management.H.E Freddy Svane, Ambassador of Denmark to India administered the welcome remark and talked about the India and Denmark Relationship- Green Strategic Partnership ahead of which Secretary of Ministry of Jal Shakti Sh. Pankaj Kumar addressed the Keynote address.



**Seminar - Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management – Key to Economic Development**

Shri Narendra Tyagi, former member of ASRB, ICAR delivered a talk on 7th India Water Week on the insightful session of Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management- Key to economic growth. The topic covered in this session was Water Energy good Nexus harmonization. The key point of discussion was on " A way towards a climate and income smart sustainable agriculture.

**Event by ICID and INCID on Water Security Forum**

A distinguished session was organized by INCID and ICID on Water Security Forum, which focused on the aspects of 'The Way Forward'. The area of discussion was around the topic of Equitable Interstate and Intrastate River Water Sharing Agreement, checking of Saline Water and Rain Water Harvesting.



**Seminar - Challenges for Sustainability of Ground Water Resources**

Panel Discussion was held on role of water in achieving sustainable development goals, in which Sh. Sriram Vedire, Chairman Taskforce for ILR states that the entire ecosystem, biodiversity, Flora Fauna conclusively are greatly influenced and governed by "Water and Sanitation". The panelists shared their thoughts on the role of water in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring efficient water management.

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

On the enlightening Day 2 of 7th India Water Week, an illuminating session took place under the chairmanship of Sh. Avinash Mishra Advisor, NITI Aayog & Co chaired by Sh. B P Yadav, Head Hydrology, IMD on the Impact of Climate Change and Adaptation Strategies, moderated by GIZ.



## WATER WARRIOR GAYATRI SHARMA

Ms. Gayatri Sharma, a water warrior in the field of water conservation narrated her success stories from Jal Siksha to Jal Suraksha. She talked about the challenges she faced and overcame during her path breaking journey.



**Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat addressed the conclave on Rural WASH Partnerships- Way Forward with his valuable and inspirational insights. He launched the Swachh Survekshan Grameen Tool Kit, SSG-2023 Dashboard and Retrofit Twin Pits Module.**