

## REPORT

### World Water Day 2019

March 27, 2019

Delhi State Centre of the Institution of Engineers (India) organized **World Water Day 2019** on the theme “**Leaving No One Behind**” on **March 27, 2019** at **Engineers Bhawan, New Delhi 110002**. **Shri Prabhakar Singh**, DG, CPWD has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest, **Shri Puneet Kumar Vats**, E-in-C, PWD, Delhi was Guest of Honour of the function. **Shri R S Negi**, Engineer Member, Delhi Jal Board delivered the Keynote Address and **Shri O P Shrivastava**, Chief Engineer (Flood), Irrigation Flood Control Dept., Govt of NCT of Delhi delivered the Special Address.

Welcoming the Chief Guest **Shri Dinesh Kumar**, Chairman, Delhi State Centre, IEI informed the audience that the theme of this year’s “**Leaving No One Behind**”. He mentioned that realizing the theme for the **2019 “Leaving no one behind”** adapts the central promise of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that as sustainable development progresses, everyone must benefit.

Sustainable Development is to ensure availability and sustainable management of water for all by 2030. By definition, this means leaving no one behind. But today, billions of people are still living without safe water – their households, schools, workplaces, farms and factories struggling to survive and thrive. Further he stated that Marginalized groups – women, children, refugees, indigenous peoples, disabled people and many others – are often overlooked, and sometimes face discrimination, as they try to access and manage the safe water they need.

**Dr S M Goel**, Member, Delhi State Centre Committee, IEI speaks about the Present status of availability of water. He mentioned that the water resource potential or annual water availability of the country in terms of natural runoff (flow) in rivers is about 1,869 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM)/year. However, the usable water resources of the country have been estimated as 1,123 BCM/year. This is due to the constraints of topography and uneven distribution of the resource in various river basins, which makes it difficult to extract the entire available 1,869 BCM/year. Due to the increasing population in the country, the national per capita annual availability of water has reduced from 1,816 cubic metre in 2001 to 1,544 cubic metre in 2011. This is a reduction of 15% over a period of 10 years. There are other significant pockets across the country where the depth of the water level is more than 10 metres. This implies that one has to dig deeper to reach the water table in these regions.

**Shri T K Prijith Rekh**, SE (VC-II), irrigation and flood control department in his address apprised about the various initiatives taken by I&FC Department for Rejuvenation of Drains and Water Bodies.

**Shri R S Negi**, Engineer Member, Delhi Jal Board, Govt of NCT of Delhi various key issues relating to water passage in India. He informed that various initiatives of Indian Government like Clean Ganga have not been able to achieve their expected results. Lamenting on the current water situation in the Country and in metro cities

Guest of Honour **Shri Puneet Kumar Vats**, E-in-C, PWD, Delhi in his address highlights the importance of sustainable management of the water resources. He mentioned that every year the World Water Day is celebrated around the globe with a theme in order to focus attention of public about the value of freshwater in human life. World Water Day 2019 theme aims at providing water to all by year 2030.

**Chief Guest Shri Prabhakar Singh, Director General, Central Public Works Department, Govt** in his very elaborative address focus on various challenges and faced by the country in order to ensure water availability. Hon’ble Chief Guest stated on various contrary actions that have actually led to an effective utilisation of these resources and due to which the core issue of water shortage has not been addressed.

**Shri Jitendra Kumar Sharma**, Honorary Secretary, The Institution of Engineers (India), Delhi State Centre coordinated the event and proposed the vote of thanks.

Nearly 120 members, guests and invitees attended the function.