

## **India Water Partnership (IWP) Monthly Report for February, 2013**

### **1. Board of Governors Meeting of India Water Partnership**

The Board of Governors meeting of India Water Partnership for the Delhi based members was held on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 at WAPCOS Ltd. Office, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. R K Gupta, President, IWP. In the meeting, the Board members were informed that WAPCOS Ltd. cannot receive the GWP funds as it is a semi-Government commercial organization. It was decided that Aroh Foundation will receive the funds as HI and IWP Secretariat will function from WAPCOS Ltd. Gurgaon office. In the meeting, discussion was also held on preparation of Country Status Paper on Climate Resilient Development for the DFID-GWP South Asia Regional project.

### **2. India Water Week-2013 – Curtain Raiser Function organized on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**

Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India organized a **curtain raiser function** for India Water Week-2013 on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 at Central Soil Research Institute, New Delhi which was chaired by Mr. Harish Rawat, Honorable Minister of Water Resources, Govt. of India. The function was attended by Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP. In the function, the Minister released the second bulletin of India Water Week-2013. The name of Global Water Partnership is appearing as one of the “Knowledge Partner” along with the other Ministries/Institutions of India. There is a mention on first page of the bulletin that for organizing “**Regional Day by Global Water Partnership – South Asia**” on “**Improved Efficiency for Increased Resilience to Climate Change : an Integrated Water Resources Management Perspective**” During the function, Mr. A B Pandya, Organizing Secretary, India Water Week-2013 acknowledged the support of GWP as a Knowledge Partner.

### **3. Conference on “Sustainable Safe Drinking Water in India” organized on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a conference on “**Sustainable Safe Drinking Water in India**” 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 at PHD House, New Delhi. Mr. Harish Rawat, Honorable Minister of Water Resources, Govt. of India inaugurated the conference. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary and Ms. Kalpakam Yechury, Board member, IWP and Alternate R C Member attended this conference. Dr. Khanduri while sharing her views and

experience with the participants, said that agro-climatic regions such as semi-arid (Bundelkhand, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra) are particularly vulnerable to water stress due to their total dependence on natural resources for livelihood survival. In such regions, holistic approach needed to be built around community based water management in terms of source creation and resource management both in terms of quality and quantity.

#### **4. Fourth Meeting of Technical Committee of India Water Week-2013 organized on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2013 at Central Water Commission, New Delhi**

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical Committee of India Water Week-2013 was held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2013 at Central Water Commission, New Delhi. Executive Secretary, IWP attended the meeting. In the meeting, the members were informed that Chair/Co-Chair Persons for Seminars Sessions, Chair/Panelists/Experts for Panel Discussions and Team of Experts for Brainstorming Sessions have been identified. Brief notes in respect of all Seminars/Panel Discussions/ Brainstorming Sessions have been finalized and Review Team of Experts for screening synopses/ papers has been formed.

In the meeting, Second Information Bulletin on India Water Week-2013 was circulated amongst the members. It was proposed to organize a gender session which will be coordinated IWP and GWP South Asia. The members were informed that proposals have been received from GWP, which have been discussed earlier and the structure of the regional day as proposed by them is included in the programme.

#### **5. National Round Table on Water Use Efficiency organized by Indian Environment Law Offices (IELO) at New Delhi on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**

A National Round Table on Water Use Efficiency was organized by IELO at New Delhi on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2013. Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary, IWP and Dr. K Vijaya Lakshmi, R C Member, GWP-India participated. The National Round Table mainly focused on "**Model National Framework on Water Use Efficiency**" for the National Bureau with regard to industry, commercial, domestic urban sectors. IELO presented the project background and proposed framework. IELO suggested that the legal options available to the Government of India is to set up the proposed institutional structure in the form of National Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (NCWUE) i.e, enacting National Water Conservation and Water Use Efficiency Framework Legislation ; and creation of NBWUE as an authority under Environment Protection Act, 1986.

Shri N S Samant, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India said that IELO has come up with a framework based on around 15 consultations held across various parts of India. Shri Samant emphasized that we need to sensitize and educate people about water use efficiency. Shri S Shekhar, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India citing the example of urban conflict said that water utilities which supply water to urban areas are reporting loss of water due to leakages and distribution losses. Hence a regulatory framework for efficient utilization of water resources is required. The round table was attended by around 50 institutions.

XXXXXX