Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources
River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
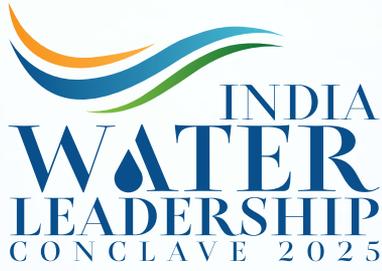
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National Water Mission
Ministry of Jal Shakti

EMBASSY OF JAPAN

INDIA WATER LEADERSHIP

CONCLAVE 2025

Water Sustainability Through Partnership, Innovation & Action

📅 8th - 9th December 2025   📍 New Delhi

KNOWLEDGE PATHWAYS

> "ASSOCHAM is heartily congratulated for successfully organizing the India Water Leadership Conclave 2025 and for the significant commitments made by the industry to water conservation. The industry's commitments to improving water use efficiency, rainwater harvesting, reusing treated water, and reducing its water footprint are highly commendable. I am confident that this role of the industry will prove decisive in making the country water-secure in realizing the resolve of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi Sir for a developed India 2047."

Sh. C.R. Patil

Hon'ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation and the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Govt. of India

"Building a water-secure India by 2047 - one that ensures safe drinking water for every citizen, reliable irrigation for agriculture, healthier ecosystems, and clean, sustainably managed water flows for generations to come."

Dr Raj Bhushan Chaudhary

*Hon'ble Minister of
State for Water, Ministry of Jal Shakti
Govt. of India*

> *Water is the foundation of livelihoods, growth, and opportunity. As India advances toward Viksit Bharat 2047, water-positive behaviour, efficient use, and collective responsibility must define our development pathway. Through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, we can ensure that water emerges not as a constraint, but as a powerful enabler of India's sustainable and inclusive growth.*

Ms. Archana Varma (IAS)

Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India

INDIA WATER LEADERSHIP CONCLAVE 2025

Water Sustainability Through Partnership, Innovation & Action

8th - 9th December 2025 — New Delhi

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

DAY -1, Monday, 8th December 2025

Inaugural Session
Shaping India's Water Future

Session Overview

The session brought together distinguished thought leaders whose contributions have provided invaluable perspectives on addressing water security within the Indian context. Across the discussions, the emphasis on aligning government initiatives, industry efforts, and community partnerships underscored the importance of collaborative synergies.

Key Learnings

1. Partnerships and Collaboration

- Strong partnerships across government, industry, and communities are essential for achieving real, on-ground impact.

2. Water Security and Efficiency

- Improving water-use efficiency and promoting circularity are immediate priorities for India's water sector across agriculture, industry, and households, with measurable targets and outcomes.

3. Technology, Innovation, and Digitalisation

- AI-enabled smart water solutions and decentralised treatment systems can transform water monitoring and management.

- Digitisation, data availability, and tech-enabled systems are crucial to ensure reliability, transparency, and accountability.

4. Community Engagement and Capacity Building

- Structured training programs and capacity-building initiatives for professionals are vital for long-term sustainability.

5. Policy and Governance

- Effective water management requires strong policy frameworks coupled with ground-level implementation.

6. Sustainability and Make in India

- Promoting Make in India to develop world-class water technologies and solutions is a key strategic priority.

The session reinforced the view that India's water security agenda will be driven by the convergence of partnerships, innovation, digitalisation, capacity building, and policy alignment. The collective insights provided a strong foundation for future action, reinforcing the need for integrated, scalable, and sustainable solutions to build a resilient water-secure India.

Mr. Manish Singhal
Former Secretary General
ASSOCHAM

Water security is not merely a resource challenge; it is a matter of ownership and partnership. Guided by ASSOCHAM's five pillars-Make in India, Ease of Doing Business, MSME Growth, Digital Economy, and Sustainability-we are focused on strengthening community participation, ensuring national alignment, and scaling innovation. Through collective action and improved water-use efficiency, sustainability can be made scalable for India's future.

Mr. Mohd. Shaffi
Chairman – ASSOCHAM National Water Council &
COO – Va Tech WABAG Limited (India Cluster)

India's water challenge is not one of scarcity alone, but of management. Advancing circularity, improving water efficiency, and scaling best practices are critical. Policy frameworks must be complemented by strong ground-level implementation, industry partnerships, and accountability of local bodies. With greater digitisation, data-driven decision-making, and investment in innovation, India can build sustainable, climate-resilient water systems and create replicable models for the future.

Mr. Pratik Pota
Managing Director & CEO
Eureka Forbes Ltd.

India's growth story must be matched by universal access to clean and safe drinking water. While initiatives like Jal Jeevan Mission have expanded access, the next imperative is to move from Har Ghar Jal to Har Ghar Swachh Jal. Addressing water quality through affordable technologies, community empowerment, awareness, and industry-government collaboration is essential to ensure that every household has access to safe drinking water.

DAY -1
Monday, 8th December 2025

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Mr. Ajay Popat
Senior Advisor
Ion Exchange (India) Ltd.

Strengthening India's water sector requires a multi-pillar approach-advancing Make in India through world-class water technologies, improving ease of doing business, leveraging the digital economy with AI-enabled solutions, and embedding sustainability through decentralized treatment systems. Equally important is strong partnership between government, industry, and associations like ASSOCHAM, with active community participation to drive water efficiency at scale.

Mr. Siddharth K. Desai
Co-Chair, ASSOCHAM National Council on Water &
Joint Managing Director, Kishor Pumps Limited

Concepts such as water neutrality and water footprints will define India's sustainability journey. Building structured training programs in water technologies, governance, and hydrology—through collaboration with government and academic institutions—is essential. With skilled professionals, strong industry support, and community participation, water-use efficiency can become a national priority across agriculture, industry, and households.

ASSOCHAM Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Pledge: Driving Industrial Efficiency for a Water-Secure India

In a defining moment for India's industrial water landscape, Mr. Mohd Shaffi, Chairman of the ASSOCHAM National Council on Water and COO of VA Tech WABAG Limited, formally announced the adoption of Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Targets during the India Water Leadership Conclave 2025.

Calling for a paradigm shifts from consumption to conservation, Mr. Shaffi urged member industries to move beyond compliance and embrace voluntary adoption Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Targets as part of sustainable water practices.

This declaration serves as a strategic bridge to the National Water Mission, aligning India's corporate sector with the vision of a water-resilient Viksit Bharat 2047.

ASSOCHAM will work collaboratively with our member industries and across Councils to achieve the following:

- Regular comprehensive Water Audits, including metering and sensor-based monitoring, by 2027
- Adoption of SCADA-based real-time water monitoring systems by 2030
- Minimum 30% reuse of treated wastewater by 2030
- Increased use of treated wastewater for cooling, washing, landscaping, and utility applications by 2030
- Installation of rainwater harvesting structures with upgraded treatment systems by 2030
- 50% reduction in overall water footprint by 2030
- Adoption of emerging water-efficient and low-water-use technologies by 2030
- Progressive improvement in WUE aligned with star-labelling benchmarks
- Skill development of youth in Water & Wastewater Management, supporting industry demand for WUE-focused professionals through ASSOCHAM-led programmes and partnerships

WUE Undertaking Form

SCAN QR CODE FOR WUE UNDERTAKING FORM

Mr. Mohd. Shaffi
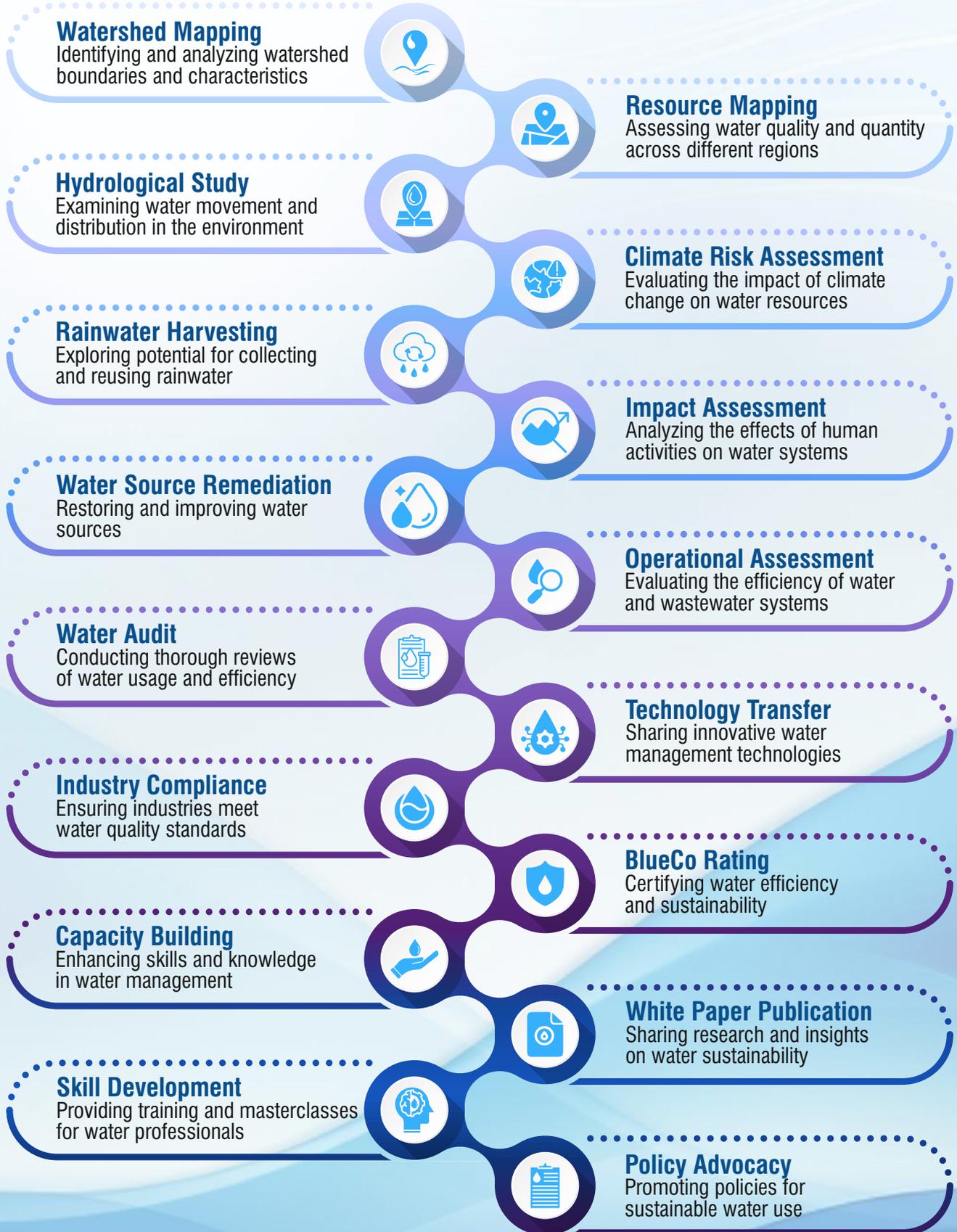*Chairman – ASSOCHAM National Water Council & COO – Va Tech WABAG Limited (India Cluster)*

"This collective commitment is not just a policy alignment; it is a significant step towards accelerating India's industrial water resilience. We invite every member to voluntarily commit to these targets, ensuring that industry remains a partner in India's water security, not just a consumer."

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Technical & Advisory Services

Watershed Mapping
Identifying and analyzing watershed boundaries and characteristics

Resource Mapping
Assessing water quality and quantity across different regions

Hydrological Study
Examining water movement and distribution in the environment

Climate Risk Assessment
Evaluating the impact of climate change on water resources

Rainwater Harvesting
Exploring potential for collecting and reusing rainwater

Impact Assessment
Analyzing the effects of human activities on water systems

Water Source Remediation
Restoring and improving water sources

Operational Assessment
Evaluating the efficiency of water and wastewater systems

Water Audit
Conducting thorough reviews of water usage and efficiency

Technology Transfer
Sharing innovative water management technologies

Industry Compliance
Ensuring industries meet water quality standards

BlueCo Rating
Certifying water efficiency and sustainability

Capacity Building
Enhancing skills and knowledge in water management

White Paper Publication
Sharing research and insights on water sustainability

Skill Development
Providing training and masterclasses for water professionals

Policy Advocacy
Promoting policies for sustainable water use

Session 1
Global Water Leaders' Plenary
"Global Lessons for a Water-Secure India"

Session Overview

The session offered powerful insights into the evolving role of policy, technology, capacity building, and ecosystem stewardship in shaping India's water sustainability agenda. Panellists shared rich perspectives on community-led water revival initiatives, nature-based solutions, and equitable water management approaches, drawing from on-ground experiences and best practices. The discussions highlighted the tangible impact of water initiatives on livelihoods, local economies, and ecological resilience, reinforcing the need for integrated and inclusive water governance.

Key Takeaways:

1. **Water as a Foundation for Life, Livelihoods & Development**

- Water management improvements directly enhance human development indicators: better health outcomes, improved agricultural productivity, and stronger local economies.

- Shared responsibility is critical: inter-state water conflicts highlight the need for coordinated governance and equitable resource allocation.

- Integrating nature-based solutions with community engagement strengthens long-term water security.

- Proper water pricing, balanced with compensatory mechanisms for vulnerable populations, ensures sustainability and equity.

2. **Technology-Driven Water Efficiency & Management**

- Advanced digital tools like AI, IoT, sensors, and real-time monitoring can optimize water distribution, detect leaks, and reduce non-revenue water losses.

- Predictive analytics and pattern recognition enable utilities to proactively address water scarcity and operational inefficiencies.

- Singapore's model illustrates how strategic water planning, recycling, and digital monitoring can secure water for high-density populations.

3. **Capacity Building, Governance & Partnerships**

- Strengthening municipal, institutional, and community capacities is essential for operationalizing water initiatives.

- Investment in skilled personnel (engineers, operators, technicians, and community volunteers) ensures that water infrastructure functions efficiently.

4. **Sustainability & Biodiversity Conservation**

- Water security and biodiversity are interdependent; protecting wetlands, mangroves, and rivers safeguards ecological services and local livelihoods.

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Monday, 8th December 2025

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- Initiatives such as Ramsar site designations, Amrit Dharohar, and tiger conservation programs provide frameworks for ecosystem protection.

- Species-based tools like IPaC can guide targeted restoration, while private sector participation can enhance outcomes.

5. Innovation, Reuse & Future Opportunities

- Promoting reuse, recycling, and water-efficient technologies reduces stress on freshwater resources.

- Encouraging domestic manufacturing of advanced water technologies builds self-reliance and global competitiveness.

- Innovative solutions, coupled with policy incentives, funding mechanisms, and industry partnerships, can accelerate adoption.

The plenary strongly reinforced that India's water security agenda will be driven by the convergence of policy, technology, capacity building, ecosystem stewardship, and partnerships. Integrating these elements provides actionable pathways for achieving sustainable, resilient, and equitable water management.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar Sinha
Former Chairman, Central Water Commission
Government of India

"*Water is fundamental to life, livelihoods, and ecological balance. Experience across regions consistently shows that improvements in water security lead directly to better health outcomes, enhanced agricultural productivity, and stronger local economies. Sustainable water management requires shared responsibility, nature-based approaches, and equitable pricing mechanisms.*"

Mr. Rasmi Ranjan Ray
CEO, SUEZ India Pvt. Ltd.

"*With nearly 18% of the world's population and only 4% of global water resources, India must treat water as a strategic asset. Digital tools—AI, IoT, sensors, and real-time monitoring—offer proven solutions, as demonstrated by global best practices such as Singapore. Scaling these technologies through strong collaboration between government, utilities, and industry is essential to improve efficiency, reduce losses, and secure water for future generations.*"

Mr. Mohd. Shaffi
Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Water Council
& COO – Va Tech WABAG Limited (India Cluster)

"*Technology and digital tools are critical, but they are only effective when supported by strong implementation, skilled people, and sound governance. India's water security goals will be achieved by investing in capacity building, promoting reuse and recycling, strengthening domestic water technologies, and advancing public–private partnerships—where government vision and private-sector innovation together deliver sustainable and scalable solutions.*"

Mr. Shubham Shrivastava
Senior Development Specialist
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

JICA's long-standing commitment to India's water sector is driven by projects led through government channels, especially municipalities. Strengthening local capacities to design, develop, operate and maintain water infrastructure is essential for sustainable service delivery. As climate risks and urban pressures increase, building water resilience must remain a priority, with partnerships and innovation playing a central role.

Dr. Yash Veer Bhatnagar
Country Representative – India, IUCN

Water security and biodiversity are inherently linked. Healthy water systems support biodiversity, and biodiversity is essential for sustaining water quality and ecological resilience. Protecting wetlands, mangroves, and rivers is not only an environmental priority, but fundamental to India's long-term development and resilience

Session 2

National Water Leaders' Forum: "India's Water Priorities - Policies, Partnerships & Pathways"

Session Overview

The session provided invaluable guidance on shaping India's water sustainability agenda through the convergence of policy frameworks, technology innovation, collaborative partnerships, and industrial water stewardship. Discussions focused on Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), efficient water-use practices, and policy-driven approaches to strengthen resilience across industrial, urban, and rural water systems.

Key Takeaways

1. **Industrial Water Efficiency & Policy Frameworks**

   ◆ Only 8-10% of India's freshwater resources (approximately 60-80 BCM) are available for industries and power plants, underscoring the urgent need for recycling and reuse. Improving irrigation efficiency from ~30% to 60% can potentially save nearly 102 BCM, helping meet growing industrial and domestic water demands.

   ◆ Mandating ZLD in water-stressed states, tertiary treatment at CETPs/STPs, and development of shared industrial infrastructure were identified as critical measures for sustainability.

2. **Technology-Driven Water Solutions**

   ◆ Advanced multi-stage membrane systems and AI-enabled monitoring enhance water quality, reduce downtime, and improve energy efficiency.

   ◆ Policy enablers such as GST incentives, fiscal support, and dedicated water-technology funds can accelerate industry-wide adoption of innovative solutions.

3. **Education, Awareness & Academic Collaboration**

   ◆ Academia-industry-government collaboration ensures that innovations are scalable, implementable, and socially relevant. The National Education Policy (NEP) offers a strong framework for academic institutions to actively contribute to water sustainability initiatives.

   ◆ Early identification of social and environmental challenges enables targeted, research-driven interventions.

4. **Data-Driven State Governance & Community Participation**

   ◆ Haryana's water budgeting approach, including district-wise and aquifer-wise accounting and crop diversification strategies, demonstrates the effectiveness of data-driven governance.

   ◆ Transparent quantification of water availability supports informed policymaking and responsible resource allocation.

The forum reaffirmed that India's water sustainability priorities will be driven by the convergence of policy, technology, education, and community engagement. By integrating data-driven governance, industrial stewardship, academic collaboration, and grassroots participation, the session outlined clear and actionable pathways toward achieving sustainable, resilient, and inclusive water management across the country.

Dr. B. Sengupta
Former Member Secretary
Central Pollution Control Board

Only 8–10% of India's freshwater-around 60–80 BCM- is available for industries and power plants, making recycling and reuse imperative. Improving irrigation efficiency from ~30% to 60% alone can save nearly 102 BCM of water. Strengthening standards based on modern clean technologies, mandating Zero Liquid Discharge in water-stressed regions, expanding tertiary treatment at CETPs and STPs, and enforcing real-time monitoring with clear recycle–reuse targets are essential to advance industrial water stewardship and sustainability.

Mr. Vivek Sharma
Chief Quality & Regulatory Officer
Eureka Forbes Ltd.

Technology is a critical enabler of water efficiency, safety, and equitable access. With drinking water increasingly contaminated by heavy metals and chemicals, advanced multi-stage membrane purification and AI-enabled monitoring are essential. These technologies must be affordable and scalable to reach rural and low-resource communities, while strict adherence to IS 10500 standards ensures public health protection.

Dr. Ambika Sharma
Assistant Secretary General
ASSOCHAM

Strengthening India's water sustainability agenda requires robust standard-setting, policy support, and innovation financing. We propose a Water Steward Badge for members based on audits and best practices, GST credits and fast-track clearances to accelerate technology adoption, and a dedicated water technology fund to support scalable solutions. With over 120 emerging industry clusters, enhanced collaboration is critical-and there is significant scope to strengthen women's participation and leadership in the sector

Sh. Kunwar Shekhar Vijendra

Chairman, Education Council, ASSOCHAM & Chancellor, Shobhit Deemed University

India does not need more rules—we need more facilitators. With over 12,000 universities, we have the mindset, ecosystem, researchers, and resources to drive innovation. Universities must work closely with policymakers, industry, and innovators to develop scalable water solutions, grounded in robust data and supported by the National Education Policy. Education can transform awareness and accelerate water reuse, recycling, and efficiency.

Sh. Sanjay Marwaha

Member, Haryana Water Regulatory Authority (HWRA) Government of Haryana

Haryana's water governance is grounded in scientific accounting—quantifying water availability district-wise and aquifer-wise. With nearly 90% of water use in agriculture and horticulture, the state has introduced water budgeting linked to crop planning, encouraging diversification and responsible use. Quantifying the problem, not just acknowledging it, is the first step toward real change, supported by administrative collaboration and community engagement.

Session 3
Governance for Resilience: Bureaucracy & State Innovation

Session Overview

The session underscored the pivotal role of governments, industries, and communities in advancing water-positive practices and building resilient water governance models. Discussions emphasized that integrated policy frameworks, digital innovation, and community participation are essential to ensuring water security and positioning water as a catalyst-rather than a constraint-for India's sustainable growth.

Key Takeaways

1. **Policy & Governance**

◆ Effective water governance depends on coordinated whole-of-government and whole-of-society action to improve sustainability and efficiency.

◆ The establishment of BWUE marks a strategic shift toward demand-side management, targeting a 20% improvement in water-use efficiency.

2. **Smart Cities & Digital Water Monitoring**

◆ Real-time monitoring through Water SCADA systems enables early detection of losses, irregularities, and theft across water transmission networks. Collaboration between municipal bodies and industries can significantly reduce non-revenue water and improve service reliability.

◆ Satna's experience offers a scalable and replicable model for smart cities seeking to digitize water infrastructure.

3. **Community Engagement & Water-Economic Linkages**

◆ Agriculture's heavy reliance on groundwater highlights the need for economically informed and locally relevant water management strategies.

◆ Active engagement of rural women is critical to improving efficiency, strengthening resilience, and fostering community ownership.

◆ Learnings from project failures reinforce that social systems, economic considerations, and water strategies must evolve together.

Overall, the session reaffirmed that resilient water governance requires an integrated approach-combining policy coherence, digital monitoring, scalable technologies, and community participation-to support India's long-term development and water security.

Ms. Archana Varma (IAS)

Additional Secretary & Mission Director
National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti
Government of India

Three out of four jobs globally depend on water, making it a critical enabler of India's growth. With rising demand and increasing stress on water resources, adopting water-positive behaviour through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach is imperative. By strengthening demand-side management and water-use efficiency, we must ensure that water becomes a facilitator—not an inhibitor—of India's development.

Mr. Satyam Mishra

Deputy Commissioner (Finance), Municipal Corporation of Satna

Satna's Smart City journey showed us that water losses during transmission can no longer be addressed through conventional methods. Collaboration between the municipal corporation and industry played a critical role in addressing leakages and theft, demonstrating how digitizing water assets can deliver measurable impact. Satna's experience offers a practical, scalable model for other cities seeking to strengthen urban water management.

Mr. Prashant Sood

Vice President, Luthra Group

India's water sector is undergoing a fundamental transformation, where technology, policy, and on-ground execution must move in step. GIS- and IoT-enabled systems, combined with automation, are redefining water treatment and distribution, while IoT-driven optimizations can deliver 25–30% gains in energy efficiency. However, technology alone is not enough—real water savings emerge only when system upgrades are matched by disciplined operations and behavioural change. The focus must shift from discussion to implementation to deliver lasting impact.

Ms. Niyati Sareen

Project Director – Water and Education, Hinduja Group

Nearly 90% of India's groundwater is consumed by agriculture, yet water is rarely discussed in terms of economic value, efficiency, or accountability. Experiences from the field show that when water use is tracked, efficiency is incentivized, and communities are actively engaged, outcomes improve significantly. The involvement of rural women is especially transformative—they are not only managers of household water, but powerful agents of resilience.

Mr. Deepak Sharma

Associate Vice President- Sales & Marketing Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited

The best water technology is not necessarily the most advanced-it is the one that can be adopted widely and implemented without complexity. India must build homegrown solutions that are accessible to both industry and communities, aligned with the Make in India vision.

Session 4
Water Resilience Models & Start-Ups Innovations

Session Overview

The session provided powerful insights into how start-ups, digital platforms, and data-driven models are transforming India's water and wastewater ecosystem. It featured engaging discussions on water resilience models, start-up-led innovations, and industry-driven interventions, fostering meaningful knowledge exchange among technology providers, utilities, and policymakers.

Key Takeaways

1. **Data-Driven Utilities & Non-Revenue Water Reduction**

   - Accurate metering, billing, and high-quality data analytics are foundational to reducing non-revenue water (NRW). Continuous pumping without data-driven controls only spreads leakage and worsens losses over time.

   - District Metered Areas (DMAs) enable utilities to isolate zones, pilot interventions, and scale leakage reduction strategies. Pattern recognition and advanced analytics are emerging as core tools for reliable supply, loss control, and informed decision-making.

2. **Digitalisation of Sewerage & Sanitation Networks**

   - Robotics, sensors, and digital platforms are transforming inspection and management of underground sewer networks. Digitisation enables accurate mapping, blockage detection, contamination identification, and predictive maintenance.

   - Cities are increasingly shifting toward service-based models-paying for outcomes rather than equipment-to ensure accountability and long-term performance. Digital-first sanitation ecosystems are essential for scaling urban water and sanitation infrastructure across India.

3. **Decentralised Wastewater Treatment & O&M Innovation**

   - Operational expenditure (OPEX), not CAPEX, is the primary challenge for decentralised STPs in residential and commercial buildings. Most STP failures occur due to poor operations, lack of skilled manpower, and weak maintenance incentives.

   - Digital monitoring, sensors, and predictive analytics can empower operators, improve compliance, and reduce human error. The future of decentralised wastewater management lies in integrating skilled operators, robust O&M frameworks, and digital tools.

4. **Integrated Platforms, Automation & Circular Water Economy**

   - There is a growing need for ERP-based, geography-agnostic platforms integrating data collection, water economics, and accounting for utilities. Output-based models with built-in incentives and penalties drive accountability and performance improvement.

   - Automation, robust database architecture, and digital auditing are becoming critical for regulators and utilities alike. With agriculture as India's largest water consumer, strengthening wastewater reuse and circular water economy models is essential for long-term resilience.

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Mr. Manmohan Prajapat
Consultant Hydraulics, ITRON Inc

"*Traditional practices like running pumps 24/7 simply extend leakage over the same duration, leading to higher non-revenue water. Accurate metering and billing allow utilities to measure consumption, control losses, and still ensure reliable supply. Our work is built on high-quality data and pattern recognition, which enables actionable insights. District Metered Areas (DMAs) help utilities isolate zones, pilot interventions, and scale leakage reduction strategies.*"

Mr. Divanshu Kumar
CEO, Solinas Integrity Private Limited

"*Water management will follow the trajectory of electricity—reaching every home through national mission thinking—but this time it will be digital-first. The shift toward service-based procurement—paying for outcomes rather than equipment—ensures accountability and long-term performance. Digital tools remain central across all models because without data, we are simply guessing.*"

Mr. Rajesh Jain
Managing Director
Digital Paani

"*India's decentralised wastewater sector is growing fast, but OPEX remains the biggest barrier. Most STP failures are due to poor operations and lack of skilled manpower, not design. Digital tools do not replace people—they empower them. When technology, skilled operators, and strong O&M frameworks come together, decentralised wastewater systems stop being a liability and become an asset.*"

Mr. Shashwat Dubey
CEO, Globacom Technologies Limited

"*A unified, output-based platform can transform utility management by integrating data collection, water economics, and accounting across diverse systems. Automation, robust database architecture, and performance-linked incentives are key to improving service delivery. For India, strengthening wastewater systems and building a circular water economy will be essential for long-term resilience.*"

Mr. Turbaashu Bhattacharya
Business Unit Head
ROSERVE Enviro Private Limited

"*India's water resilience will not be built by infrastructure alone. It will be shaped by digital-first platforms, data-driven utilities, skilled operations, and service models that reward outcomes—not assets. By integrating technology, accountability, and circular water economy thinking, wastewater systems can shift from being a liability to becoming engines of long-term resilience.*"

DAY -2
Tuesday, 9th December 2025

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DAY -2, Tuesday, 9th December 2025

Session 1

Welcome Back : Recap of Day 1

Key Highlights - Executive Snapshot

- **Strategic Shift:** Transition from water scarcity management to a **circular water economy**, moving from Har Ghar Jal to Har Ghar Swachh Jal with a focus on quality and sustainability.

- **Technology Integration:** Emphasis on Make in India solutions, AI-enabled digitalization, and decentralized water & wastewater treatment systems to drive efficiency and resilience.

- **Industry-Policy Convergence:** Leaders from ASSOCHAM, VA Tech WABAG, and Eureka Forbes highlighted the need for collaborative implementation frameworks.

- **Institutional Framework:** ASSOCHAM reaffirmed its five strategic pillars-Make in India, Ease of Doing Business, MSME Growth, Digital Economy, and Sustainability-as enablers of water governance reform.

- **Landmark Announcement:** Launch of the **ASSOCHAM Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Pledge**, aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047.

- **Capacity & Advisory Support:** Introduction of watershed mapping, BlueCo Ratings, advisory services, and workforce skilling to operationalize sustainable water management.

- **Outcome:** A unified roadmap aligning governance, innovation, and industry action to achieve long-term climate resilience and responsible industrial growth.

Dr. Ambika Sharma
Assistant Secretary General
ASSOCHAM

"*ASSOCHAM's strength lies in translating policy vision into actionable industry frameworks. Through our technical advisory services—from watershed mapping to BlueCo Ratings—we are building the institutional capacity required for sustainable water governance.*"

Session 2

ASSOCHAM National Water Awards 2025

Overview

The ASSOCHAM National Water Awards 2025 recognised excellence in sustainable water management across industrial, community, and urban sectors. The awards highlighted best practices, encourage benchmarking, and promote scalable models supporting India's water security.

Participation Snapshot

- 167 registrations, 116 eligible applications, 54 shortlisted.
- Highest regional participation: West (38) and North (37).

Evaluation Insights

- Strong performance in regulatory compliance and water accounting, though few projects achieved full scores on key industrial indicators.
- Focus needed on ecosystem health, long-term stewardship, and proactive risk management.
- 50% of CSR initiatives conducted baseline studies; 77% demonstrated structured governance; 55% targeted vulnerable communities.
- Rainwater harvesting projects: 5/6 aimed to reduce operational freshwater demand; impact monitoring and long-term tracking need improvement.
- Overall, progress is evident, but stronger data documentation, ecosystem integration, and measurable impact frameworks are needed.

Key Takeaways

- Strengthen data, indicators, and scientific baselines.
- Maintain progress in community engagement and institutional structuring.
- Promote innovation and digital tools with wider adoption for sustainable water management.

Abhay Kumar Yadav
Additional Director & Head (Environment, Sustainability & Water)
ASSOCHAM

"The ASSOCHAM National Water Awards 2025 highlight growing commitment to water sustainability. The next phase requires stronger ecosystem integration, robust data, and scalable, science-based interventions."

Session 3

Showcasing Best Practices:
Water Management within the Plant Premises

Session Overview

The session offered practical, industry-led insights into how corporations are strengthening water stewardship within their operational boundaries. It underscored the need for industries to move beyond regulatory compliance and embrace responsible water governance through transparent data systems, robust recycling and reuse frameworks, and strategic interventions such as Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD).

Participants discussed how innovation, operational excellence, and collaborative partnerships can enable circular water economy practices, improve water efficiency, and strengthen local water resilience. The session reinforced that industry-led solutions are critical to India's broader water sustainability agenda.

Key Takeaways

1. Moving Beyond Compliance to Responsible Water Stewardship

- Regulatory frameworks set the baseline, but industries must go beyond compliance through accountable water governance and transparent data systems. Water recycling and reuse through STPs and ETPs are increasingly critical as industrial water demand rises.

- Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) is emerging as a key solution, especially for landlocked and water-stressed industrial clusters.

2. Circular Water Economy through Treatment, Reuse & ZLD

- Integrated ETP-STP systems enable high-quality treatment and internal reuse, significantly reducing freshwater intake. ZLD frameworks, combined with rainwater harvesting, support long-term water security at the plant level.

- Adoption of air-cooled condensers and process optimisation lowers water use in captive power generation. Measurable improvements in water intensity and recycling rates reinforce the business case for circular water practices.

3. Technology, Innovation & Resource Recovery

- Advanced membrane systems, distillation technologies, and hybrid treatment trains enable higher-quality water reuse. Resource recovery from effluents-such as salts and metals-supports waste minimisation and creates new value streams.

- Technology selection must consider lifecycle cost, energy efficiency, operational stability, and long-term reliability.

4. Operational Excellence, Monitoring & Plant-level Sustainability

- Robust Environmental Management Systems ensure continuous monitoring of water consumption and effluent generation.

- High recycling and reuse rates, supported by ZLD and circular practices, reduce dependence on freshwater sources.

Dr. B. Sengupta
Former Member Secretary
Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

"Environmental protection cannot rely on legislation alone. Corporate responsibility and transparent data systems are essential. Water recycling and reuse through STPs and effluent treatment systems is the need of the hour. In landlocked regions, Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) is a critical solution to reduce freshwater intake and build a circular water economy."

Mr. Pankaj Kudesai
VP–Operations
Balakrishna Industries Ltd

"Our integrated water-management system ensures that water from operations is treated, recycled, and reused. With advanced ETP and STP units, we reuse nearly 30–35% of water within manufacturing, achieve 98% recycling of total waste, and have reduced water consumption by 25% at Waluj over two years. Sustainable water stewardship is central to our operational excellence."

Mr Mohd Abid
Assistant Manager
Hindalco Industries Ltd

"Hindalco's water and waste management strategy is built on significant investments and a strong sustainability commitment. Beyond compliance, we have strengthened effluent treatment and adopted circular economy practices with a target of zero waste to landfill by 2030. About 150 MT of ETP sludge per day is co-processed in cement industries, and we are advancing resource recovery from effluents while exploring membrane technologies and distillation-based systems. These initiatives turn effluent into value, reduce freshwater use, and enhance sustainability."

DAY -2
Tuesday, 9th December 2025

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INDIA
WATER
LEADERSHIP
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Dr. Vivek Kumar Singh
Advisor
Aqua Aerobic Systems Inc.

"*True water sustainability goes beyond basic recycling. Industries must evaluate treated water quality, optimize life-cycle costs, and address operational challenges that hinder reuse. By adopting stable, long-span technologies and advanced treatment trains, industries can reduce freshwater dependence and convert wastewater into a reliable, high-quality resource.*"

Mr. Ram Prasad
General Manager (Technical)
Bank Note Paper Mill India (BNPM)

"*BNPM's environmental commitment is rooted in robust monitoring, effective effluent treatment, and sustainable water management. Our integrated systems ensure compliance, reduce environmental impact, and support groundwater recharge through a recognized rainwater harvesting framework.*"

Session 4
Water for Community: Industry as a Catalyst for Jal Sanchay & Jan Bhagidari

Session Overview

The session brought together diverse perspectives from industry, government, multilateral agencies, and CSR leadership, providing a comprehensive policy-level context to India's water challenges. Panelists highlighted the urgency of integrated planning, the need for stronger institutional frameworks, and the importance of public–private collaboration.

A central theme was the strategic imperative to build water-neutral and water-positive communities through scalable and replicable models. The discussions underscored that industry-led initiatives, technology adoption, partnerships, and community participation must work together to strengthen water security and resilience across India.

Key Learnings

1. **Industry-led Water Stewardship & Operational Excellence**

   ♦ Structured water stewardship frameworks, continuous innovation, and operational efficiency can significantly reduce freshwater consumption and wastewater generation.

   ♦ Process optimisation, adoption of best practices, and technology enable industries to progress toward water-neutral and water-positive operations.

2. **Community-Centric Water Conservation & Jan Bhagidari**

   ♦ Community engagement is central to the sustainability of water initiatives, especially in restoring water bodies, rainwater harvesting, and irrigation systems.

   ♦ Active participation of farmers, local institutions, and women ensures long-term ownership, improved livelihoods, and socio-economic resilience.

3. **Technology, Data & Impact Measurement for Scalable Solutions**

   ♦ GIS mapping, water footprint assessments, audits, and socio-economic impact studies are critical for designing targeted, evidence-based interventions.

   ♦ Digital tools enable better lifecycle management of water bodies and help maintain a balanced demand–supply ecosystem.

4. **Partnerships, Nature-based Solutions & Integrated Planning**

   ♦ Public–private partnerships, collaboration with NGOs, and alignment with government institutions are essential for scalable and replicable models.

   ♦ Nature-based solutions, supported by strong measurement and monitoring frameworks, deliver sustainable outcomes when combined with rejuvenation and implementation activities.

Shri D.P. Mathuria
Chief Engineer (P&D)
Central Water Commission

India's water resources are substantial, but their distribution is uneven, and our national requirement is estimated at 1.30 million cubic meters. To meet this demand, integrated planning and stronger institutional partnerships are essential. Public–private partnerships have a pivotal role to play, and industries must proactively enable community-based participation. Starting with small, manageable initiatives, we can build water-neutral and water-positive communities that can be replicated at scale.

Mr. Vikas Goel
Water Resources Specialist
Asian Development Bank

Community organisations are central to the success and sustainability of water and irrigation projects, as demonstrated in Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Karnataka. Even regions with high rainfall, such as Meghalaya, can lose up to 50% of their source water without effective systems. Storing water is only the first step—efficient utilisation, guided by community involvement, is the true challenge. Water conservation can support diversified agriculture, horticulture, and eco-tourism.

Dr. Nidhi Pundhir
SVP – Global CSR
HCLTech & Director MO, HCL Foundation

Water management remains a gendered burden in India, with women carrying disproportionate responsibility. To create meaningful impact, we must adopt nature-based solutions, prioritize rejuvenation, and engage communities—supported by robust measurement and accountability systems. Partnerships must also be clear about what should not be done, to avoid repeating past mistakes.

Mr. Saurabh Sharma
Vice President–EHS and Sustainability
Varun Beverages

Over the past five years, Varun Beverages has reduced water consumption by 30% and wastewater generation by 48% through disciplined optimisation, innovation, and best practices. With around 300 water bodies under management, community partnerships—especially in Rajasthan—have transformed restored water sources into livelihood opportunities. Technology-driven mapping and impact studies help us plan targeted interventions for long-term water security.

Ms. Anantika Singh
General Manager – CSR
Pernod Ricard

Water is the backbone of the beverage industry. Through our 4R framework—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Recharge—we drive responsible water management across operations and communities. Our CSR programmes, implemented with credible NGO partners, focus on locally relevant, scalable solutions in WASH and water security. By measuring outcomes through both quantitative and qualitative impact, we aim to strengthen community resilience and support India's long-term water sustainability goals.

Session 5
Advancing Water Management: Innovation, Digital Solutions and Utility Performance

Session Overview

The session provided a comprehensive view of India's water and wastewater landscape—highlighting infrastructure gaps, digital transformation, wastewater reuse, and the operational realities faced by cities and industries alike.

Key Learnings

1. Water Supply Challenges & Infrastructure Augmentation

- Delhi's growing water deficit underscores the urgency of upstream storage projects such as Renukaji, Lakhwar, and Kishau, alongside new Water Treatment Plants to secure future supply.

- Jamshedpur's experience demonstrates how sustained investment in water and wastewater infrastructure builds resilient and reliable urban systems.

2. Digital Transformation for Efficient Water Management

- Satna's SCADA implementation illustrates how real-time monitoring can improve reliability, reduce losses, and enhance service delivery—even in Tier-3 cities.

- Delhi's adoption of SCADA-linked flow meters, District Metered Areas (DMAs), and digital auditing highlights technology's growing role in Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction.

3. Wastewater Treatment, Reuse & Environmental Sustainability

- With nearly 900 MLD of untreated sewage still entering the Yamuna, Delhi's experience highlights the need for expanded STP capacity, decentralized treatment, and in-situ drain management.

- Tata Steel Utilities' Water Plus initiative showcases how treated wastewater reuse can significantly reduce freshwater dependency.

- Continuous upgrading of treatment systems and network expansion is critical to managing rising sewage loads and improving river health.

4. Operational Efficiency, Skilled Workforce & System Resilience

- Cities and industries face common challenges of skilled manpower shortages and high O&M costs, impacting long-term performance.

- Automation, IoT-based monitoring, and centralized dashboards reduce human dependency while improving operational stability.

- Long-term resilience requires sustained investment, capacity building, and continuous system improvement to balance supply and demand.

The session reinforced a shared vision for digitally enabled, resilient, and sustainable water systems, driven by innovation, skilled human capital, and collaborative governance. The insights exchanged have strengthened collective resolve to deliver measurable impact across India's water sector, and we look forward to continued engagement and collaboration in the journey ahead.

Mr. Anirudh Dubey

Executive Engineer, Delhi Jal Board
Govt. Of NCT of Delhi

Delhi faces a growing water deficit that is projected to reach 500 MGD by 2041. Addressing this requires multi-pronged action—securing additional water allocations, strengthening transmission infrastructure, reducing Non-Revenue Water through DMA and SCADA integration, and expanding sewage treatment capacity to prevent pollution of the Yamuna. Integrated planning and coordination with neighboring states are essential to ensure long-term water sustainability.

Mr. Arjun R

Managing Director
ParyAI Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Water is a critical raw material for industry, and reliable outcomes demand efficient operations. Digital monitoring, real-time analytics, and intelligent systems like IoTreat enable anomaly detection, optimized consumption, and consistent regulatory compliance—reducing human dependency and ensuring performance sustainability.

Mr. Deepender Singh Rajput

Manager – E-Governance
Satna Smart City

Satna's experience shows that even Tier-3 cities can achieve reliable water supply through digital transformation. SCADA-based monitoring enables real-time visibility, helps identify losses, and improves operational efficiency while reducing costs. Wider adoption of IoT-enabled water management will strengthen service delivery and create high-quality datasets, offering a replicable model for other cities.

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INDIA WATER LEADERSHIP CONCLAVE 2025

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Jha
General Manager – Water & Wastewater,
Tata Steel Utilities and Infrastructure Services Limited

Jamshedpur's water journey demonstrates how strategic planning, sustained investment, and modern wastewater technology can transform urban water systems. Through the Water Plus initiative, treated wastewater is reused productively, reducing freshwater dependence while balancing industrial and domestic needs. Water management is a dynamic field—continuous upgrades and digital monitoring are essential to meet evolving challenges.

ASSOCHAM National Water Awards Ceremony

Padma Sh. Umashankar Pandey (Guardian of Water)
Water Warrior of Bundelkhand

> *Jal is not merely a resource—it is the foundation of India's civilisation. It sustains jeevan (life), swasthya (health), krishi (agriculture), urja (energy), and our spiritual traditions. To protect water is to protect life itself.*

WINNERS 2025

Innovative Water Technology & Product

S.No.	Name of Organization	Product Name
1	Solinas Integrity	Endobot and Swasth AI
2	FluxGen Sustainable Technologies	AquaGen
3	ELICO Limited	Portable Multi-parameter Water Quality Analyzer (E-Jal)
4	Esri India Technologies Private Limited	GIS-based Sewerage Management System

Excellence in Rainwater Harvesting

S.No.	Name of Organization	Project Name	Project Location
1	CleanMax Enviro Energy Solutions Limited	Wind Solar Hybrid Project	Jagaluru, Karnataka
2	Varun Beverages Limited - HO Gurugram	Khambhati Kuwa	Dudu, Rajasthan
3	Infosys Limited	Mahindra World City	Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu

Excellence in Urban Water & Wastewater Management

S.No.	Name of Organization	Project Name	Project Location
1	Satna Smart City Development Limited	Intelligent Water Supply Management with SCADA (Water Loss Analysis by ITRON Application)	ULB Satna, Madhya Pradesh
2	Tata Steel Utilities and Infrastructure Services Limited	Water & Wastewater Services	Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

Water Management: Within Plant Premises

S.No.	Name of Organization	Plant Location
1	Tata Steel Meramandali Captive Power Plant	Meramandali, Odisha
2	Gharda Chemicals Limited	Lote, Maharashtra
3	Gharda Chemicals Limited	Dombivli, Maharashtra
4	Avaada Energy Private Limited	Bikaner, Rajasthan
5	Hindustan CocaCola Beverages Private Limited	Atmakuru Unit, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
6	Bank Note Paper Mill India Pvt Limited	Mysore, Karnataka
7	Balkrishna Industries Limited - Bhuj Unit	Kutch, Gujarat
8	ITC Limited	ITD, Bengaluru, Karnataka
9	Varun Beverages Limited	Sandila, Uttar Pradesh
10	Varun Beverages Limited	Begusarai, Bihar
11	JSW Steel Limited, Vijayanagar Works	Ballari, Karnataka
12	Hindalco Industries Limited - Aditya Aluminium	Sambalpur, Odisha
13	Hindalco Industries Limited - Birla Copper	Dahej, Gujarat

S.No.	Name of Organization	Project Name	Project Location
	Water For Community : CSR Initiatives by Industry		
1	Drinkwell & Kishalaya Tarun Tirtha	Community based Arsenic removal HIX-RO™ Water ATM	Gazna, Gobardanga, West Bengal
2	JM Financial Institutional Securities Limited	Integrated Village Development Project	Mokhada, Palghar, Maharashtra
3	Dana Anand India Private Limited and SNS Foundation	Integrated Community Rainwater Harvesting Projects	Satara, Maharashtra
4	Lalitpur Power Generation Company Limited (LPGCL)	Sustainable and Community-Led Integrated Water Resources Development Interventions	Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh
5	Yara Fertilisers India Private Limited	Soil and Water Conservation	Babrala, Uttar Pradesh
6	Larsen & Toubro Public Charitable Trust	Comprehensive Community Development Programme	Subir Block, Dangs, Gujarat
7	UltraTech Cement Limited	Andhra Pradesh Cement Works	Tadipatri, Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh
8	Hindustan Unilever Limited – Prabhat	Prabhat Water Stewardship Programme	Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh
9	Hindustan Unilever Foundation	Evergreen in East	Ranibandh & Hirbandh Blocks, Bankura, West Bengal
10	Bosch Limited	Water Stewardship and Conservation for Community Resilience – A Bosch Initiative at Nashik	Nashik, Maharashtra
11	Pernod Ricard India Private Limited	Water, Agriculture, Livelihood (WAL) Nashik	Nashik, Maharashtra

Innovative Water Technology/Product

S.No.	Name of Organization	Product Name
1	iNODE Software Co.	iNODE Water Treatment Plant Design Software
2	InnoQor Technologies	Smart Water Purifier
3	Kre38 Labs Private Limited	Waltr
4	CLUIX Private Limited	IoT-based Multi-Parameter Water Quality Analyser
5	QUA Water Technologies Private Limited	FEDI-GIGA
6	Pump Academy Private Limited	iPUMPNET – AI/ML-Driven Smart Pumping Station Monitoring Solution

Excellence in Rainwater Harvesting

S.No.	Name of Organization	Plant/ Project Location
1	Bank Note Paper Mill India Private Limited	Mysore, Karnataka

Excellence in Urban Water & Wastewater Management

S.No.	Name of Organization	Plant/ Project Location
1	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited	Trombay Unit, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Water Management : Within the Plant Premises

S.No.	Name of Organization	Plant Location
1	Delhi International Airport Limited	New Delhi
2	Yara Fertilisers India Private Limited	Babrala, Uttar Pradesh
3	Dhariwal Infrastructure Limited	Chandrapur, Maharashtra
4	JK Tyre & Industries Limited	Kankroli, Rajasthan
5	Apollo Tyres Limited	Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu
6	ITC Limited	Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh
7	Hindalco Industries Limited - Captive Power Plant	Hirakud, Odisha

Water for Community : CSR Initiatives by Industry

S.No.	Name of Organization	Project Name	Project Location
1	Pal Fashions Private Limited	Shri Krishna Sarovar & Pal Forests Projects	Tarapur, Maharashtra
2	Bisleri International Private Limited	Nayi Umeed	Villages of Kaprada & Dharampur, Valsad, Gujarat
3	Utkal Alumina International Limited	Project Neer - Integrated Watershed Development	Kashipur, Rayagada, Odisha
4	Siemens Limited	Water Interventions – Project Asha	Jawhar & Mokhada, Palghar, Maharashtra
5	Hindalco Industries Limited	Jal Sanchay	Renukoot, Uttar Pradesh

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