

WORLD WATER DAY

Indian Water Resources Society, Meerut Chapter

March 22, 2018

World Water Day was celebrated jointly by The Institution of Engineers (India), Meerut Local Centre and Indian Water Resources Society, Meerut Chapter by organizing a Seminar on “Nature for Water” on March 22, 2018 in the auditorium of ABSS Institute of Technology, Mawana Road Meerut. Er S.C.Govil Chairman Institution of Engineers Meerut Local Centre presided. Keynote address was delivered by Er. S.K.Kumar Chairman Indian Water Resources Society, Meerut Chapter. Other speakers were Er. A.K.Gupta Former Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department UP and Prof Swati Chowdhry of Department of Civil Engineering, ABSS Institute of Technology. About 25 ladies and gentlemen from different walks of life and about 60 boys and girls students of the host Institute attended the seminar.

Er. S.K.Kumar underlined the continuous and unabated ravage of our natural water resources, as the main cause of today’s water scarcity, and cited the water famine currently raging in Cape town, South Africa as a crystal ball into which one can gaze at our own fast approaching doom – if we still fail to reverse this trend. Agriculture consumes 73% freshwater which can be brought down to at least 50% by replacing flood irrigation by sprinklers and drip, which should be subsidized by Government. Crop selection as per water availability – and not the reverse, as at present – as well as use of recycled wastewater for irrigation, should be mandatory. He also suggested that extraction from groundwater should be regulated and its recharge ensured from compulsory rainwater harvesting and by reclaiming ponds. Industries should be disciplined to maintain effective treatment plants and use their own treated effluents for cooling etc with surplus stored and passed on for agriculture; there should be minimum outfall of even their treated effluents into rivers. Ecological flow in rivers must be maintained by forestation along banks in 1 km width, encouraging agro-forestry on private lands, removing encroachments from their flood plain and controlling unauthorized sand mining.

Er. A.K. Gupta drew upon his vast experience of Ganga Canal system and forcefully pleaded the case of water economy in agricultural application. This substantial saving will improve overall water availability to a large extent, and improve productivity as well.

Prof. Swati Chowdhry showed the slides of strict water rationing being enforced in Cape Town to emphasize the urgency of saving water both in quantity and quality. She warned that if we do not conserve our water resources today, we would face similar crisis tomorrow.

Er. S.C. Govil Chairman Institution of Engineers Meerut summed up discussions and proposed vote of thanks.

Er. Rajneesh Kumar Honorary Secretary Institution of Engineers ably compared the session and after national anthem, invited all the participants for high tea.

IWRS BEST PAPER AWARD-2015

Indian Water Resources Society derives pleasure in conferring upon the “Best Paper Award-2015” jointly for two papers which were published in different issues of IWRS Journal during the year 2015, details as given below:

(i) Performance Evaluation of Reference Evapotranspiration Estimation Methods, their Interrelationships and Recalibrated Equations, Vol. 35, No.3, July 2015.

Authors: P. Mallikarjuna, K. Chandra Sekhar Reddy, S. Aruna Jyothy, D. Srinivasa Murthy.

(ii) Measurement of Dissolved Oxygen and Biochemical Oxygen Demand for the Hindon River, India, Vol. 35, No.1, Jan. 2015.

Authors: Omkar Singh and M.K. Sharma.