

**4<sup>th</sup> National Conference on  
Pulp and Paper**

*Moving from Trade-offs to Win-Wins in Water Management*

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019: Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

“Moving from Trade-offs to Win-Wins in Water Management” was the underlying theme involving various innovative solutions and practices at the 4<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Pulp and Paper. The Conference witnessed a detailed presentation on some of the pilots which were proposed that focused on sustainable development and adoption of appropriate technologies for enhancing productivity in the pulp and paper sector. (Focusing on Role of Emerging tools, techniques & technologies, Evaluating the Trade-offs where there is a focus on Regulations and Reforms) **CII-Triveni Water Institute**, at New Delhi

**Mr. Jigmet Takpa**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, spoke about the grim state of water resources in the country where merely 1% of the global precipitation is available to meet the demands of 17% of the global population. He informed the audience about the highly uneven distribution of rainfall in the country both spatially and temporally which leads to floods as well as droughts in different parts of the country. Mr. Takpa discussed about the importance for increasing land productivity in our country, where 51% of the area is under agriculture, to achieve doubling of farmer income as envisioned by our Honorable Prime Minister. He briefed the audiences about the activities planned under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, an initiative under which all departments of Government of India working towards the subject of water are integrated under one single department. Jal Shakti would formulate solutions to address water crises in stressed areas of the country. Mr. Takpa concluded by highlighting the importance of sustainable solutions to address water issues over the long term and that the industry has to change with time and become more efficient if it has to sustain.

**Dr. Rakesh Kumar Jain**, Technical Expert, International Centre for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (IC-ISID) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in his address emphasized on the critical role of technology in water conservation for Indian paper industry. He highlighted the need for adoption of clean production technologies to address the issue of wastewater generation with focus on advancements in end of the pipe treatment solutions to tackle the challenges in paper industries. Dr Jain emphasized that the diversified raw materials in Indian paper industry result in highly polluted Dr. Jain briefed the audience about the pilot demonstration undertaken by UNIDO in collaboration with CPPRI and Indian paper industries in studying the potential feasibility of membrane technology for wastewater in Indian paper industries. He assured the audience that successful demonstration of this pilot project will help enable industry to adopt wastewater recycling without compromising on product quality and also ensure compliance with the various government regulations.

**Dr. Bipin Prakash Thapliyal**, Director, Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute, quoting the Composite Water Management Index cited that 600 million people are facing extreme water stress and groundwater levels are declining at a very fast pace. With the demand projected to increase two-fold by 2030, Mr. Thapliyal explained that the water crisis can cause a loss of ~6% to GDP of the country. He asked the industries to identify mutually beneficial opportunities to achieve a win-win situation through water conservation during critical water scenarios to achieve sustainability of business. Mr. Thapliyal concluded by calling upon the technology developers to work on indigenous, cost effective and tailor-made solutions for the Indian paper industry.

**Mr. Sanjay Singh**, Conference Chairman, Divisional Chief Executive, ITC Limited - Paperboards & Specialty Papers Division, welcoming the delegates shared some critical statistics highlighting the vulnerability of water resources in India. He congratulated the Indian paper industries which have reduced water consumption from 120 – 130 cu.m/ton of paper to 25 – 30 cu.m/ton of paper. Mr. Singh highlighted the need to focus on water conservation both within and beyond the plant premises through water conservation within the catchment area of the plant, through improvement in water use efficiency in agriculture and ground water recharge to ensure sustainability of business by ensuring increased water availability. He emphasized on the need to develop long-term plans for water conservation, highlighting the water conservation activities undertaken by the ITC in the Godavari basin.

**Dr. Ravi Singh**, CEO & Secretary General, WWF - India, in his address highlighted that India does not face shortage of water but has poor water management and that the industries need to look at River Basin Management. Dr. Singh stressed upon the need for partnerships between different stakeholders to address these issues. Dr. Singh spoke about the small interventions that could be undertaken at plant level which could potentially result in 40-50% reduction in water consumption. He also spoke about the need for interventions to ensure appropriate water quality to sustain biodiversity downstream of the watershed. Mr. Singh spoke about the activities undertaken by WWF with respect to water conservation through studies undertaken for different stream order through which it was determined that more than 85% of the surface water bodies are either polluted or dry.

**Dr Kapil Narula**, ED and CEO, CII – Triveni Water Institute, in his address spoke about the high variability of rainfall in the country which could increase the frequency of droughts. He spoke about the clustered pattern of pulp and paper industries across India with 70 - 80% of the plants located in extremely water stressed areas and 50 – 60% in ground water stressed areas. He also mentioned that the regulations have become more stringent over the years. Based on the audits undertaken by CII-Triveni water Institute, Dr. Narula highlighted that potential savings of upto 50% were possible in the Indian paper Industry through economically viable solutions. He concluded by emphasizing the need to ensure a healthy watershed or micro-watershed for sustainable business operations.

Dr Sushil Gupta, Former Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Dr. B Sengupta, Environmental Scientist, Member of Environment Appraisal Committee, Former-Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Dr. Durjoy Chakraborty, Scientist, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Executive Director, Padumjee Paper Products, Mr. Atanu Basu, Industry Technical Consultant, Nalco Water, Ms. Shilpa Nischal, Counselor & Head – Projects, CII -Triveni Water Institute, Mr. N. Alagiri, Senior Manager, Engineering, ITC Limited, Mr. Pawan Agarwal, Managing Director, Naini Group of Industries, Dr. S Subramanian, DGM (R&D/Q C), Tamil Nadu Newsprints Limited, Mr Manoj Pundir, DGM (R&D/Q C), Bindals Papers Mills Limited, Mr. Prafulla Kumar Samanthesinghar, Chief Manager, Special Projects, ITC Limited, PSPD, Tribeni Unit, Mr. M Phani Kumar, Manager – ENCON Cell, ITC Limited, PSPD, Bhadrachalam Unit, Mr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Associate Vice President, International Paper APPM Limited and Dr. Rakesh Kumar Jain, Technical Expert, International Centre for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (IC-ISID) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) were the other eminent speakers at the conference.

New Delhi

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