

**Press Release**

**CII Water Institute- Electrosteel Webinar Series on Smart Water Management:  
Unlocking the Potential of 24X7 Water Supply and NRW Management**

Tuesday, 04 July 2023: CII HIVE Platform

**Dr Kapil K Narula**, CEO & Executive Director, CII Water Institute opined for the necessity of smart water management systems which can provide a more resilient and efficient water supply system, and improving sustainability. For this to happen he stressed for a change in mindset & behaviour and participation of all stakeholder.

**Mr. Pankaj Poddar**, Chief Marketing Officer, Electrosteel Castings Limited stressed for undertaking holistic water management with the involvement of stakeholders. Saving water, leak detection, ensuring quality of PWS and adaption of requisite technology should be focused upon echoed the speaker. According to him the webinar will provide a platform for exchange of information and sharing knowledge for improving water scenario.

Moderating the session on “Smart Water Technologies“ **Mr Sudipto Lahiri**, Senior General Manager, Electrosteel Castings Limited, was critical of the decrease in the per capita water availability due to population explosion and increase in anthropogenic activity. Given the stress on water resources he gave a clarion call for smart water management.

**Dr M Dhinadhyalan**, Advisor, CPHEEO, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, provided an overview of the urban water supply in the country and highlighted the challenges with respect to intermittent water supply, contamination and NRW impacting the citizenry. To address the anomalies in the urban water supply system, he briefed on Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) which has introduced Urban Reforms and Capacity Building measures for water conservation. According to him a wide range of measure in various domains – organization, policy, technical, commercial and budgetary assisted in strategizing urban water management. He also elaborated on the salient features of the upcoming new water manual, two stage approach for water supply project and decentralized planning of water supply schemes.

**Ms Shilpa Nischal**, Principal Counsellor, CII Water Institute highlighted the centrality of water in achieving SDGs. She briefed on WATSCAN a innovative Water Planning & Assessment Tool which is an integrated IT driven, GIS and Remote Sensing based information system that enables comprehensive watershed evaluation, aimed at devising community-centric water management intervention.

**Mr Agam Mathur**, Retired Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Rajasthan, emphasized for an urgent need for fixing leakages across the networks in order to improve efficacy of utilities and also conserve wastage of water. He further added developing and implementing a web based IMIS system, network digitalization, conducting regular water audits and capacity development of utility personnel would be important in addressing NRW. Mr Mathur made a strong plea for commitment from political establishment and citizens in implementing reforms for improving urban water governance.

**Mr G Sasidharan (Rtd.)**, Joint Chief Engineer, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD Board), Govt of Tamil Nadu observed to monitor water supply & distribution system on a real-time basis shall enable quick identification, prediction and prevention of potential problems such as a burst water main, a slow leak, a clogged drain or a hazardous sewage overflow/contamination. For ensuring smart water management he stressed the application of SCADA and PLC/RTU in facilitating decision making to improve water management. SCADA systems can play a critical role in smart water management by providing real-time monitoring and control of water systems concluded the speaker.