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ISH - NEWSLETTER

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A DETAILED REPORT ON PRECISENSE - 2026

The landmark National Workshop PreciSense-2026 on Reliable Hydrometric Data through Precise Sensing was successfully held on 22nd and 23rd January, 2026, at the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune. This workshop was organized by CWPRS in association with the Indian Society of Hydraulics (ISH), Pune under the guidance and support of Shri V L Kantha Rao, IAS, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DOWR, RD & GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) and Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, CWPRS. The event marked a significant step towards technology-driven water governance in India and was attended by a wide range of professionals, officials, experts from 17 state implementing agencies, 10 central organisations and 16 manufacturers, including start-ups, from across the country.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, IAS, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti. His keynote speech highlighted the increasing importance of accurate data for policy-making and infrastructure safety in India's water sector, emphasizing that real-time data is central to modern governance.

The event was graced by several distinguished dignitaries: Shri Naval Kishore Ram, Commissioner, Pune Municipal Corporation, Shri Gajendra Bawane, Commissioner, Groundwater Survey and Development Agency (GSDA) and Dr. Sanjay Belsare, Secretary, Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Maharashtra.

The ceremony was formally inaugurated with the "Jal Kalash" by the Chief Guest and the dignitaries present on the dais.

Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, CWPRS, delivered the welcome address and emphasized that India's water sector is navigating a complex landscape of increasing climate variability. He noted that accurate, real-time data is no longer a peripheral input but is fundamental and central to policy formulation and infrastructure safety, marking a pivotal shift in how water resources are managed.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Naval Kishore Ram, Commissioner, Pune Municipal Corporation, highlighted the vital role of institutions like CWPRS play in validating urban infrastructure projects, specifically citing the River Front Development Project in Pune. He emphasized the importance of scientific validation in gaining public trust.

Following this address, Dr Sanjay Belsare, Secretary, Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Maharashtra, reinforced the necessity of precise measurement in water resources management. He highlighted that real-time data acquisition is the backbone of modern governance and noted that technology has become robust and cost-effective, enabling better decision-making in flood management and project implementation.

In his address, Shri V. L. Kantha Rao stressed that hydrology and hydrometric data are fundamental to resolving inter-state water disputes and long-term water resource planning. He called for an integrated system between Central and State agencies to ensure that data is quickly accessible to researchers and the industry. Shri Rao also emphasized the need for absolute data reliability for future generations, underscoring its critical role in addressing India's water challenges.

The event witnessed a historic exchange of three Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs):

1. CWPRS and the Water Resources Department of Maharashtra – To strengthen collaboration on dam safety and the implementation of the Dam Safety Act.
2. CWPRS and the National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Bengaluru – For collaboration on foundation and structural studies.
3. CWPRS and the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Pune – To advance collaboration in atmospheric sciences and hydrology.

These agreements were signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Secretary, Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, and represent a new era of inter-institutional synergy that will improve the accuracy, reliability, and standardization of hydrometric measurements in India.

During the inaugural ceremony, a technical memorandum titled “Flow Measurement, Calibration, and Testing in Closed Conduits” was unveiled. Brochures on the “National Facility for Precision Hydrometric Testing, Calibration, and Certification” and “CWPRS & Dam Safety Evaluation” were also presented, highlighting CWPRS's state-of-the-art capabilities in advancing water resources management.

The inaugural ceremony concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Reshmi K. V., Joint Director, CWPRS. Dr. Reshmi expressed her gratitude to the dignitaries, participants, and exhibitors, acknowledging the event as marking a “new era of inter-institutional synergy.” She emphasized that this collaboration will significantly enhance the accuracy, reliability, and standardization of hydrometric measurements nationwide.

The technical sessions of the workshop were enriched by a panel of esteemed experts who shared their specialized knowledge in various domains of water science. The keynote speakers with topics are as follows:

- Dr. Anju Guar, Senior Water Resources Specialist from the National Hydrology Project (NHP) with topic Innovative opportunities in water resources management
- Shri Puneet Kumar Mittal, Senior Joint Commissioner (NHP, MoWR) & Shri Rajkumar Mishra, Director, NWIC with topic on Achievement of National Hydrology Project & NWIC

- Dr. S. K. Jaiswal, Chief Scientist at CSIR-NPL with topic Role of fluid flow, metrology section of CSIR, NPL in economic and industrial growth of India
- Shri D. S. Chaskar, Chief Engineer from the National Water Academy (NWA) with topic Leveraging technology for strengthening Hydrological services
- Dr. B. Padma Kumari, Scientist-F from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) with topic An integrated observational facility for understanding of hydrometeorological processes
- Shri Baban Kumar, Chief Scientist at CSIR with topic Jal Jeevan Mission Insights: IoT and sensor innovations for India's water safety security and sustainability.

PreciSense-2026 witnessed participation of representatives from 17 National Hydrology Project State Implementing Agencies, Pune Municipal Corporation, and several key Central agencies such as CWC, CGWB, NWIC, IMD, NDSA, DRDO, NWA, CSIR Lab. The event also attracted participation from 16 exhibitors who showcased contemporary advancements in sensing, monitoring, and telemetry, which are crucial to the water sector.

During the workshop, the in-house testing and calibration facilities at CWPRS were demonstrated to the participants. Dedicated sessions were conducted for each testing and calibration laboratory, with detailed presentations delivered by the respective lab heads. Exhibitors also made presentations, showcasing their products and technologies relevant to the sector.

The workshop was a resounding success and is expected to lay the foundation for future collaborations that will drive advancements in hydrometric data systems and water resource management across India. We express our sincere gratitude to all the participants, dignitaries, sponsors, and organizing members, the entire CWPRS team for their tireless efforts in making this event a memorable and impactful occasion.

The successful exchange of knowledge, best practices, and innovations at PreciSense-2026 is a significant step towards India's water resilience, paving the way for accurate data acquisition and sustainable water resource management in the future.

The valedictory ceremony held on January 23, 2026, was graced by Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director CWPRS, Dr. Selva Balan, Additional director, CWPRS alongside Dr. Baban Kumar, Chief Scientist, CSIR and Ravindra Kale, Scientist E, NIH.

Dr. Reshmi K. V., Joint Director and Chairperson of PreciSense-2026, presented the report on the workshop, highlighting the key activities and outcomes. Dr. Baban Kumar commended the testing and calibration facilities and congratulated CWPRS and ISH for organizing such a successful event and for providing excellent hospitality to the participants and dignitaries. Shri Ravindra Kale, Scientist-E at NIH, emphasized that such workshops should be organized regularly to bring together stakeholders and implementing agencies. Dr. Reshmi K. V. then

invited feedback from the participants, who expressed that the workshop was very well organized and informative. Dr. Prabhat Chandra expressed that the objectives of the workshop had been successfully achieved and stated that CWPRS looks forward to adopting and integrating new technologies to meet the testing and calibration needs for India's hydrometric data.

Dr. Mandira Majumder, Scientist -D & organizing Secretary delivered the Vote of Thanks, acknowledging the collective efforts that made PreciSense-2026 a grand success. The workshop concluded with the National Anthem, serving as a stirring and unifying tribute to the motherland.



Photo.1: Welcoming the Chief Guest Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti by Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, CWPRS at Preci-Sense 2026.



Photo.3: Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, CWPRS, delivering the welcome address



Photo.2: The ceremony was formally inaugurated with the "Jal Kalash" by the Chief Guest and the dignitaries present on the dais.



Photo.4: The CWPRS Dam Safety Evaluation brochure was unveiled by Chief Guest Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti along with distinguished





Report On World Water Day 2026

World Water Day is observed globally on March 22 to raise awareness about the importance of water and advocate for its sustainable management. The Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune, organized a distinguished gathering on 26th March 2026 for a pivotal event commemorating World Water Day 2026. The theme for World Water Day 2026 was "Water and Gender: Where water flows, equality grows". The event was a vibrant tapestry of insightful addresses, keynotes, and a special creative performance, all focused on paving the way for a water-secure and equitable future.

The event commenced with a warm traditional welcome, followed by deep insights from our distinguished speakers. Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, CWPRS, delivered an inspiring welcome address, setting the stage for a day of thought-provoking discussions. Prof. Basudev Biswal from IIT Bombay was the Guest of Honor, whose address illuminated key facets of water management. The occasion was further graced by the Chief Guest, Dr. Hanumant T. Dhumal, Executive Director, Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, whose expertise enriched the proceedings. Senior officers from C-DAC, faculty and students from IIT Bombay, officers from CWPRS, various professionals from water sector and media fraternity participated in the event.

Dr. Prabhat Chandra delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the importance of freshwater and the need for sustainable management to address water challenges and renew collective commitment to securing water for present and future generations. He

highlighted the proportional disparity between India's population and available freshwater, which adds to the complexity of water management. He showcased CWPRS's pivotal role in providing scientific and technical support for river and reservoir development and described Vision 2047, which seeks to establish CWPRS as a globally recognized Centre of Excellence in Hydraulic and Water Resources aligned with national developmental priorities.

The address underscored CWPRS's continued commitment to scientific excellence and national service, guided by the principle *Jai Shakti is Rashtra Shakti*, and encouraged greater participation of women in water science and engineering, as well as active engagement of industry to meet the water challenges of 21st-century.

Prof. Basudev Biswal in his address, stressed the importance of improved planning and effective policy-making in engineering and water resource management. He encouraged engineers to actively engage in policy-making processes and contribute beyond technical domains. He expressed confidence in the country's talent and underscored the need to develop technologies suited to local conditions to achieve self-reliance. He also pointed out the lack of adequate platforms in India for collaboration and knowledge exchange, urging efforts to bridge this gap.

The event featured the unveiling of the brochure titled River Engineering by the Chief Guest. Dr. Hanumant T Dhumal, Executive Director, Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Pune, holds a Ph.D. in Hydrology and has had a distinguished career in the Water Resources Department. Dr. Dhumal described

the prevailing water scarcity in rural areas, highlighting the hardships faced by women in water-stressed communities. He noted changing water use patterns, with increasing urban demand and reduced availability for irrigation, alongside the growing occurrence of both floods and droughts. He pointed out that even within short distances from riverbanks, access to drinking water remains limited, with lift irrigation schemes only partially meeting demands. He emphasized the need to effectively utilize brief periods of rainfall to meet year-round requirements, while also observing declining availability of clean water and reduced flows in rivers.

Sh. Kunjeer, Scientist-E and Vice chairman of organising committee had delivered the Vote of Thanks and reiterated the need for sustainable water management. On behalf of CWPRS, He expressed sincere gratitude to all the dignitaries, speakers, and the entire CWPRS team for making the event a remarkable success.

After the inaugural function, Prof. Basudev Biswal delivered a presentation on "Parsimony in Hydrological Modelling in the Age of AI," cautioning against blind use of AI. He discussed the development of LSHMS (Large Scale Hydrological Modelling System), stand-alone software and stressed on the importance of indigenous technology development. He encouraged to impart wisdom from historical knowledge to guide modern water management in the AI era.

Dr. (Smt.) Prajakta P. Gadge, Scientist-C, CWPRS, delivered a presentation on the topic "CWPRS: Transforming Water Challenges into Sustainable Solutions". Dr. Gadge outlined CWPRS's role in the design and development of dam infrastructure throughout India, especially in the Himalayan region. Smt. J. S. Edlabadkar, Scientist-D, CWPRS delivered key note lecture on topic "Role of CWPRS in Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation (CDSE)". The lecture highlighted the pivotal role of CWPRS in Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation (CDSE), supporting the proactive framework outlined in Dam Safety Act 2021 and NDSA guidelines. She stressed upon the fact that with the facilities of physical, numerical modelling, investigatory techniques, field and laboratory testing under one roof, CWPRS offers promising avenues for the dam authorities in conducting CDSE.

The event also featured a memorable creative performance with a SKIT presented by the talented staff of CWPRS. The skit showcased the vital role of water in social issues and emphasized community's responsibility in preserving natural water bodies, maintaining forest cover, and enhancing rainwater harvesting.



Photo.1: Group photo captured in front of CWPRS Auditorium in commemoration of World Water Day 2026



Photo.2: Photograph showing a glimpse of the welcome address during the event.



Photo.3: Prof. Basudev Biswal sharing insights during his lecture on "Parsimony in Hydrological Modelling in the Age of AI".



Photo.4: Photograph showing the creative performance by the staff of CWPRS.

Announcement For International Conference ISH - HYDRO 2026



Indian Institute of Technology, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India in association with The Indian Society for Hydraulics (ISH), is organizing the 31st International Conference on Hydraulics, Water Resources, River, and Coastal Engineering -- "HYDRO 2026 International" during December 17-19, 2026, at IIT Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. The conference aims at providing a forum for dissemination of recent contributions from academicians, scientists, researchers, practitioners and consultants in the fields of hydraulics, hydrology, water resources, river and coastal Engineering. A Best Paper Award will be presented in each technical session under each theme. This award is designated for Early-Career Researchers.

The Conference aims to bring together engineers, scientists, and professionals involved in the design, planning, construction, maintenance, and research aspects of Hydraulics, Water Resources, River, and Coastal Engineering to interact and exchange their experiences through invited lectures, paper presentations, and panel discussions. The conference is poised to be a premier gathering of innovation and expertise. The event is likely to witness about 400+ papers and 600+ participants, making this a unique opportunity for experts, scholars, and industry leaders to share their latest research and developments. Engaging with experts and

stakeholders provides invaluable insights into emerging trends and challenges, positioning your organization as a key player in the industry.

An exhibition is also planned for exhibitors to showcase their products and capabilities, offering glimpses into the future of technology in these fields. By participating through sponsorship or exhibition, stakeholders can enhance their industry presence, leverage networking opportunities, and gain exposure to cutting-edge research and technological advancements.



Following web page provide
more details of the conference.
Visit the webpage <https://hydro@iiti.ac.in/>
for brochure and other details

Announcements For Annual ISH Awards 2026

Nomination For S.N. Gupta Memorial Lecture

Prof. Vijaykumar Gupta of Colorado University, Boulder (USA) has donated a sum of Rs. 2.5 lakhs towards hosting a memorial lecture in the field of Hydraulics and Hydrological Engineering in the name of his father, late Shri S.N. Gupta, former Secretary, CBIP and Director of U.P. Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee. The lecture series was started from the year 2003. Nominations are invited for delivering the lecture in this series. This award is given alternatively to a young scientist/ academician/ researcher below 45 years and a senior scientist/ academician/ researcher. This year it is the turn of a young scientist/ academician/ researcher.

The nomination letter should contain information about his expertise of the topic on which he will speak. Self-nominations are generally discouraged. The lecture would be held during 31st International Conference HYDRO 2026 INTERNATIONAL at IIT, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. The last date for receiving nominations is 30th Sept, 2026.

Nomination for Prof. R J Garde Young Researcher Award

ISH constituted this Award in memory of Late Prof. R.J. Garde with the deposit offered by his family and his students to promote young researchers in the field of Hydraulics and Hydrology. It shall be awarded in the form of a cash prize of Rs. 10000/-, a memento and a certificate. This year the award shall be presented during the HYDRO 2026 International Conference of the ISH to be held at **IIT, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India**. The nominations should be submitted to the ISH Secretariat for further processing. The award shall be given to young engineers, scientists and researchers who have not completed 45 years of age. The award will be open to Indian Nationals only. The award shall be given mainly for the work done in India in the area of Water Resources Engineering in general and Hydraulic Engineering in particular. One complete nomination package (**Single .pdf file**) should be submitted to the ISH in the form of soft copy by 30th Sept, 2026. The following information must be included in the nomination.

1. Name of the Candidate with complete postal address and mobile number, E-mail, date of birth, age, on last date of nomination
2. Letter of nomination including a statement of not more than 500 words of the Significant Contributions and/or national/international impact and future potential.
3. Two letters of recommendation
4. Chronology of education
5. Chronology of jobs held
6. Complete list of referred publications in journals and conferences (Scanned copies of the first page of five most recent Journal publications is to be attached)
7. Certificate of age should also be attached
8. Any other relevant information

Nomination for ISH R J Garde Life Time Achievement Award

The Indian Society for Hydraulics has instituted Life-Time Achievement Award for Hydraulic Engineer/ Scientist from India who has contributed significantly in the field of hydraulic engineering and water resources. The award consists of Rs. 10,000/- and a citation. Nominations/ proposals are invited from the ISH Life members. Self-nominations are generally discouraged. The nominations should be submitted to the ISH Secretariat for further processing. The last date for receiving nominations is 30th Sept, 2026.

Nomination for Best M Tech Thesis award

in three categories, viz Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering & Best Ph D Thesis Award

The Indian Society for Hydraulics (ISH) has instituted Best M Tech Thesis awards in three categories viz. Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering, to encourage the young Indian students from recognized technical institutions. The Dissertation/Thesis must have been successfully defended during October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026. The award will be in the form of a cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- for the M Tech dissertation on each of the above themes & a certificate. Also, apart from above, one PhD Thesis would be awarded, overall, in the areas of Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering having a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- & a certificate. This year the award shall be presented during the upcoming HYDRO 2026 International Conference of ISH to be held at IIT, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. The recommendations should be submitted to this email ish.academicaward@gmail.com only through their respective supervisors for further processing. The award will be open for Indian nationals only. The last date for receiving nomination is September 30, 2026.

The nomination should contain the following:

- (i) A Nomination letter shall include brief (one para) CV of the candidate,
- (ii) A Pdf file of the dissertation/thesis not exceeding 20 MB in size,
- (iii) Any other recognition received for the dissertation/thesis like Papers published in journals based on the Thesis work included in SCOPUS (cite score), SCI/SCI(E) (Clarivate analytics); reputed International/ National conference proceedings, book chapters, transfer of technology, if happened,
- (iv) Names and affiliations of the referees, who acted as examiners,
- (v) The nominees are requested to submit the duly filled proforma enclosed at **Annexure-I** along with justification note as mentioned.

ISH assures full confidentiality/copyright of the dissertation/thesis, which will be used for the purpose of deciding the awards only.

Nomination for Prof. Vallam Sundar award

**(Best Paper in Maritime Hydraulics)
presented in Annual Hydro Conference**

Directly taken from the host Institute and seems to be final.

Nomination for Jal Vigyan Puraskar

Best Paper in ISH Journal

Nomination for ISH Journal Reviewer Award 2025

Directly nominated by Editorial Board

Nomination for G.M. Nawathe Puraskar

(Best Paper presented in Hydro 2025)

**In the Experimental Category and in the Analytical Category.
Directly taken from the host Institute and seems to be final.**

Format for evaluation of the ISH Best M Tech Thesis award in three categories, viz Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering & PhD Thesis Award (2025-26)

Instituted by the Indian Society of Hydraulics (ISH)

I. General Information

Name of the Student:

Name of the course:

Name and address of the Department/University/ Institute:

Place where the Project work was undertaken:

Duration of dissertation:Year &months

Starting date: Completion date:.....

II. Name of the research guide(s) and affiliation(s):

III. Title of the dissertation:.....

IV. Thematic area of the dissertation:

V. Evaluation Sheet:

No	# Criteria
1	Originality/Novelty
2	Structure and Quality of writing
3	Background, Literature review, Problem Definition and Objectives
4	New numerical and experimental Techniques developed
5	Presentation of results, discussion and overall conclusions
6	Significant outcome and scope of future work
7	Societal Importance
8	Publications/Patents/Copyrights (based on supporting documents)

Please justify point-wise the evaluation criteria given above in a separate one-page note for assessment by evaluation committee.

VI. Additional Comments (if any):

VII. Name and Address, email/ Contact No. of the – self & Nominator:

❖ ISH EC members and Office bearers Elections for 2026 -2028

Secretary informed that the ISH EC Election 2026-28 process started as per schedule. Shri , M. M. Vaidya, Scientist - E, CWPRS, Pune was appointed as the Election Officer (EO) to conduct the election process. Secretary Readout the report submitted by the Election Officer. The EO has declared the following members elected to the Executive Council of The Indian Society for Hydraulics for the period 2026 - 2028:

Table "A" : List of Members elected for ISH EC for the period 2026-28			
Sr. No.	ISH Mem No.	Nominees of ISH Executive Council 2024-2026	Remarks
1.	477	Dr. A.K. Singh	Elected
2.	678	Dr. H.L. Tiwari	Elected
3.	727	Dr. J. Sinha	Elected
4.	325	Dr. J.D. Agrawal	Elected
5.	614	Prof. K.K. Khatua	Elected
6.	300	Dr. L.R. Ranganath	Elected
7.	811	Prof. Manasa Behera	Elected
8.	139	Dr. M.C. Deo	Elected
9.	558	Shri M.K. Verma	Elected
10.	752	Dr. P.V. Timbadiya	Elected
11.	692	Prof. D.G. Regulwar	Elected
12.	216	Shri R.M. Khatsuria	Elected
13.	572	Dr. S.A. Sannasiraj	Elected
14.	495	Dr. T.I. Eldho	Elected
15.	443	Prof. V. Jyothiprakash	Elected
16.	568	Dr. V. Sundar	Elected
17.	488	Shri V.K. Shukla	Elected

The following members are Ex-Officio members as per the ISH Constitution.

I. Dr. P.L. Patel, Director, VNIT, Nagpur (Past President)

II. Shri Amit Kulhare, CWPRS, Pune (Past Secretary)

The following Office Bearers (2026 - 2028) were elected unanimously during the EC meeting.

President	:	Dr. M. Selva balan		
Vice President	:	Prof. D.G. Regulwar		
Vice President (Pune)	:	Dr. J. Sinha		
Secretary (CWPRS)	:	Dr. A.K. Singh		
Joint-Secretary (CWPRS)	:	Shri Amit Kulhare		
Treasurer (CWPRS)	:	Shri V.K. Shukla		
Chairman Editorial Board	:	Prof. M. C. Deo		
Co- Chairman Editorial Board	:	Prof. V. Jothiprakash	Prof. T.I. Eldho	Prof. S. A. Sannasiraj

As per the suggestion of EC members following members have been co-opted unanimously:

Dr. H. L. Tiwari Dr. M. C. Deo Dr. L.R. Ranganath

MEMBER IN NEWS



Dr. M. Selva Balan took over as Director, Central Water & Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune on July 1, 2026. Dr. M. Selva Balan is a distinguished scientist with nearly three decades of professional experience in water resources engineering, hydraulic instrumentation, hydroinformatics, reservoir sedimentation, dam safety and advanced measurement technologies. He has made significant contributions towards integrating Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning (ML), remote sensing, smart instrumentation and digital technologies into water resources planning, monitoring and management, thereby strengthening India's capabilities in sustainable water infrastructure. Dr. Balan holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Electronics & Communication Engineering and a Ph.D. in Computer Science & Engineering. His doctoral research on AI-based under water acoustic techniques for reservoir sedimentation assessment led to the development of an Image Processing-based Optical Flow Measurement System, for which he was granted an Indian Patent, establishing an indigenous technology for non-contact water surface velocity measurement. Dr. Balan's areas of expertise include hydraulic instrumentation, hydrographic and bathymetric surveys, reservoir sedimentation studies,

dam instrumentation, canal automation, SCADA systems, structural health monitoring, flood forecasting, environmental flow assessment, disaster risk reduction and hydroinformatics. He has pioneered the application of AI, ML, computer vision, IoT, MEMS, fibre optic sensing and remote sensing technologies to address complex challenges in water resources engineering. Dr. Balan has played a pivotal role in several flagship national programmes, including the National Hydrology Project (NHP), Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) and Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation (CDSE). His contributions span reservoir sedimentation assessment, hydrographic investigations, intelligent dam instrumentation, early warning systems, reservoir and canal automation, digital monitoring systems and advanced field measurement technologies. He has also served as a technical expert for several nationally significant river valley and reservoir projects across India, including Polavaram, Mullaperiyar, Cauvery, Bharathapuzha, Palar, Sardar Sarovar, Tawa, Barna and Indira Sagar. A strong advocate of indigenous technology development, Dr. Balan has led pioneering research in Satellite-Derived Bathymetry, AI-enabled flood forecasting, image-based discharge measurement, Remote Operated

Vehicles (ROVs) for underwater inspection, GNSS-guided autonomous survey boats, fibre optic-based dam health monitoring, smart sensing systems, hydro-acoustic sediment profiling and other advanced non-contact measurement technologies. He has also fostered collaborative research and technology development with premier national institutions, driving multidisciplinary initiatives in digital water resources management, intelligent hydrological assessment and decision-support systems. An accomplished researcher, Dr. Balan has published 17 papers in peer-reviewed journals, presented 31 papers at national and international conferences, delivered over 85 invited lectures and holds one Indian Patent, with additional patents under process. He has guided over 50 undergraduate and postgraduate research projects and is actively associated with doctoral research, contributing

significantly to academic excellence and capacity building in advanced water resources technologies. Dr. Balan has represented India at the India-Canada Conclave on Dam Safety and Resilient Infrastructure (ICONDAM 2026) under DRIP Phase II & III, promoting international collaboration and knowledge exchange in dam safety and resilient water infrastructure. His multidisciplinary contributions to hydraulic instrumentation, dam safety, hydrographic surveying, reservoir sedimentation, digital water technologies and intelligent engineering solutions have significantly advanced hydraulic research and strengthened India's capabilities in sustainable water resources development and management.

List of New ISH Life Members Joined from January 2026 to June 2026

ISH MEMBERSHIP NO.	NAME	Institute
1714	Dr. Basudev Biswal	IIT Bombay, Department of Civil Engineering 400076
1715	Vinayak Thakur	IIT Delhi, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering 110016
1716	Rekha Rani Kollu	Krishna and Coordination Circle, Central Water Commission, Hyderabad 500004
1717	Dr. Nitin Muttil	School of Advanced Engineering, UPES, Dehradun 248007
1718	Nitin Govindbhai Boricha	Civil Department, SVNIT, Ichchhanath, Surat 395007
1719	Dr. Brijesh Kumar Yadav	Department of Hydrology, IIT Roorkee, Uttarakhand 247667
1720	Thokalapudi Suresh	Department of Civil Engineering, S.V. University, Tirupati 517502
1721	Shri Malluraj Channappa Hitni	Civil Department, SVNIT, Ichchhanath, Surat 395007
1722	Prasad Pradip Sadan	Civil Engineering Department, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur 440010
1723	Alok Kumar	Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune 411024
1724	Sachin Bhadouria	Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune 411024
1725	Nripendra Pratap Singh	NIT, Calicut 673601
1726	Vijay Deodas Kokane	Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune 411024
1727	Hansraj Chudaman Patil	Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune 411024
1728	Dr. Janaki Ballav Swain	School of Civil Engineering, Lovely Professional University, Punjab 144411
1729	Dr. R. Karthik	Department of Civil Engineering, CVR College of Engineering, Telangana 501510
1730	Dr. Subhojit Kadia	Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Hyderabad, Telangana 502284

Details of Upcoming Conferences

Sr. No	Name Of the Conference	Date	Venue and Contact Details
1	PIANC-COPEDEC XI Eleventh International Conference on Coastal and Port Engineering in Developing Countries	February 21-26, 2027	Department of Ocean Engineering Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu https://pianc-copedec2027.in/about-pianc
2	HYDRO 2026-International Conference (Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering)	December, 17-19, 2026	IIT Indore https://hydro.iiti.ac.in/
3	2nd International Water Association Conference on Sustainable Coastal and Estuarine Development (IWA SCED 2026)	November 26-28, 2026	National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, India https://www.niot.res.in/IWA2026
4	The Bharat Dams Conference	October 27-28, 2026	ITC Grand Chola, Luxury Collection Hotel, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India https://indiadams.com/
5	Hydro 2026 Hydrographic Conference	October 27-29, 2026	Waagnatie Expo & Events, Antwerp, Belgium https://www.hydro-international.com/content/event/hydro-2026
6	7th annual conference on Hydro Power in Asia	August 20-21, 2026	Crowne Plaza by IHG, Vientiane, Laos
7	International Conference on Next-Generation Data Engineering and Analytics (INDEA 2026)	August 21-22, 2026	School of Computer Science UPES, Bidholi Via-Prem Nagar Dehradun-248007, India https://www.indea-conf.uk/

The Indian Society for Hydraulics

as a body accepts no responsibility for the statements made by individuals.

Dr. A.K. Singh,, Secretary,

on behalf of the Indian Society for Hydraulics,

Phone No. 020-24103483

C/o. CERC Bldg. Room No.104,

Central Water & Power Research Station (CW&PRS), PO. Khadakwasla, Research Station,

Pune - 411 024 (Maharashtra), India Email : secretary@ish.net.in