

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
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Explainer

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India initiated the All-India State Water Ministers' Conference in Bhopal in 2023 to advance the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. The Bhopal Conference laid the foundation for this initiative by formulating Water Vision @ 2047. A follow-up review of its objectives and the actions taken by various states was conducted at the Secretaries' Conference in Mahabalipuram in January 2024.

The All-India State Water Ministers' Conference is being held in Udaipur during 18-19 February 2024 to further strengthen efforts toward achieving water security and Viksit Bharat by 2047. The conference was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti and the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, with the esteemed presence of the Chief Ministers of Odisha and Tripura, and the Deputy Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Karnataka on 18th February, 2025 in Ananta Resort, Udaipur.

The conference is structured around six thematic sessions:

1. Strengthening Water Governance
2. Water Storage Infrastructure & Augmenting Supply
3. Water Delivery Services with a Focus on Drinking Water
4. Water Delivery Services with a Focus on Irrigation & Other Uses
5. Demand Management & Water Use Efficiency

6. Integrated River & Coastal Management

The following major recommendations have emerged from three thematic sessions on Day One (18th February 2025):

- Adapting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) to state-specific contexts and requirements;
- Strengthening participatory water governance, particularly at the grassroots level;
- Adopting water budgeting to balance demand with available resources;
- Leveraging data, technology, and innovation as key enablers;
- Scaling up initiatives like 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' nationwide;
- Development and maintenance of optimum water storage infrastructure for sustainable water supply and climate resilience;
- Undertaking new projects, but also increased focus on Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of existing projects;
- Expediting the inter-linking of rivers projects through consensus building;
- Enhancing smaller storages along with Repair, Renovation, and Restoration (RRR) of existing water bodies ensuring people's participation in the process;
- Automating reservoir operations for integrated storage management;
- Adopting all possible interventions of water conservation at every level;
- Sustaining the momentum of the successful implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission with focus on operation & maintenance through community participation in Village Water & Sanitation Committees (VWSC);
- Special emphasis on Water Quality testing in Jal Jeevan Mission;
- Achieving water security in the cities through AMRUT Scheme;
- Adopting greywater management as part of Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0;

- Enhanced focus of Jal Jeevan Mission on vulnerable regions and groups to ensure potable water in all households.

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