



Invitation from the President, Central Board of Irrigation & Power (CBIP)

Ghanshyam Prasad,
Patron, ICOLD 2024,
Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority and
Ex-officio Secretary to Govt. of India

Dear Colleagues and Friends of ICOLD,

It is with immense pleasure and pride that I extend a warm welcome to all participants of the ICOLD International Symposium on Dams for People, Water, Environment, and Development. This prestigious event, taking place at Bharat Mandapam' in September 2024, brings together experts and stakeholders from over 65 member countries to deliberate and exchange invaluable experiences on various critical themes.

The Indian Committee on Large Dams (INCOLD) and the Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) have worked tirelessly to make this symposium a significant platform for addressing key issues in dam engineering and construction, dam safety management, environmental and social aspects, and much more. Their dedication and contribution are commendable, and I extend my deepest appreciation to both organizations for their steady efforts.

The themes of this symposium ranging from dam rehabilitation and improvement to integrated reservoir management and the role of dams in renewable energy and climate change adaptation are of paramount importance to India. The outcomes of our discussions here will undoubtedly advance the sector, promoting sustainable development and technological innovation in dam construction and management.

India has made remarkable strides in the power sector, aiming to meet the growing energy demands through sustainable and renewable sources. Dams play a crucial role in this development by providing hydroelectric power, which is a clean and renewable energy source. They also contribute to grid stability and energy storage, essential for integrating other renewable energy sources like solar and wind power. Moreover, the strategic management of water resources through dams supports agricultural productivity and drinking water supply, further bolstering the socio-economic growth of our Nation. This will also accelerate the development of hydro pumped storage plants which in turn would help in large scale integration of solar and wind in the grid leading to faster energy transition.

This gathering is not just an opportunity to share knowledge but also to build lasting collaborations that will benefit us all. As we evolve with modern technology and adapt to new challenges, the insights gained from this symposium will be instrumental in shaping the future of dam engineering and water resource management.

I invite all concerned professionals, researchers, and policymakers to join this significant event global repute. Let us work together to forge a path towards a more sustainable and resilient future for our communities and the environment.

Looking forward to your active participation and fruitful deliberations.

Warm regards,

Ghanshyam Prasad
Patron, ICOLD 2024, President CBIP and
Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority and
Ex Officio Secretary to Govt. of India