

NATIONAL CONFERENCE / DIALOGUE ON

“Ganga Water Treaty: Water Security of Bihar”

“गंगा जल संधि : बिहार की जल सुरक्षा”



Government of Bihar

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

30 October 2026

Patna, Bihar (India)



PRELUDE

The Ganga is a transboundary and morphodynamically active alluvial river system in which water, sediment, channel morphology, floodplain connectivity and ecological processes are closely interlinked. Bihar occupies a critical downstream position in the Ganga basin, where major tributaries including the Ghaghra, Gandak, Kosi, Burhi Gandak, Sone, Punpun and Mahananda contribute substantial flows and sediment.

For Bihar, water security is therefore not only a question of water availability. It is also linked with river morphology, sediment transport and deposition, flood frequency, floodplain behavior, ecological functions and the impacts of interventions along the river system. A scientific understanding of these processes is essential for long-term resilience.

CHALLENGES

The Ganga and its tributaries are undergoing continuing morphological changes. Sediment generated in the upstream catchments is transported through the river network and deposited in downstream reaches depending on discharge, channel geometry, sediment characteristics and hydraulic controls. Excessive or altered sediment deposition can reduce channel conveyance, modify flood levels and create new hydraulic and morphological conditions.

The Farakka system is an important element in the downstream Ganga system and therefore requires objective scientific assessment of its hydraulic, sediment and morphological effects. At the same time, upstream interventions, transboundary processes and changing climate and rainfall patterns can influence the timing, quantity and sediment characteristics of flows reaching Bihar.

These interconnected challenges require basin-scale scientific assessment rather than fragmented interventions. Sediment must be treated as an integral component of river management, while harmful aggradation, excessive erosion and disruption of sediment continuity need to be addressed through evidence-based and adaptive measures.

SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE

The proposed conference will provide a platform for government departments, Central and State agencies, engineers, scientists, academic and research institutions, students, practitioners, technology organizations and other stakeholders to deliberate on water security of Bihar in the context of the Ganga and its major tributaries.

The dialogue will particularly focus on scientific sediment management, Post Farakka hydraulic and morphological questions, upstream and transboundary cooperation, Central Government support, national sediment-management policy, technology, ecology and public participation. The objective is to move from fragmented water management towards integrated water–sediment–morphology management.

A key focus of the dialogue will be forthcoming renewal/revision of the India-Bangladesh ganga water sharing arrangement and the need to ensure that Bihar's future water requirements are appropriately recognized within the evolving framework.

OBJECTIVE

The broad objective of the conference is to develop a scientifically defensible and cooperative framework for strengthening Bihar's water security in light of Ganga Water Sharing arrangement.

The conference will seek to identify practical and scalable approaches for sediment management; strengthen upstream, inter-State and transboundary data cooperation; define the technical and financial support required from the Central Government; and contribute towards a national framework for scientific sediment management in the Ganga and other Indian rivers.

SUB-THEME

1. Water Security, Hydrology and Flood Resilience

Water security of Bihar: water availability, allocation, irrigation, drinking water and ecological requirements.

Hydrology, changing rainfall patterns, extreme events, flood forecasting and climate-resilient water management.

Integrated management of the Ganga and its major tributaries, including floodplain, drainage and community resilience.

2. Sediment, River Morphology and Practical Sediment Management

Sediment budget, source-to-sink processes, sediment transport, aggradation/degradation and changes in channel capacity.

Practical sediment-management measures including catchment erosion control, sediment routing, sluicing, sediment passage and targeted removal/dredging.

3. Upstream, Transboundary and Basin Cooperation

Role of Nepal and upstream areas in sediment-source control, hydrological regulation and reduction of downstream sediment impacts.

India–Nepal and inter-State sharing of rainfall, discharge, sediment, flood and extreme-event information.

Cooperative basin-management mechanisms integrating upstream interventions, downstream impacts and legitimate water-security requirements.

4. National Policy, Institutional and Financial Support

National Ganga sediment-management policy/framework with common standards for monitoring, sediment budgeting, modelling and impact assessment.

Role of Central Government, riparian States and specialized institutions in scientific assessment, monitoring and adaptive river management.

Central technical and financial support for Bihar, including long-term monitoring, bathymetry, modelling, pilot sediment-management works and research.

5. Technology, Ecology, Livelihoods and Public Participation

GIS, remote sensing, AI, digital twins, real-time sensors and decision-support systems for Ganga and sediment management.

River ecology, wetlands, floodplains, nature-based solutions and environmental safeguards in sediment and flood management.

Agriculture, livelihoods, community participation, youth, students, researchers, innovators and citizen-led river resilience initiatives.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PARTICIPATION

Technical papers, research contributions, case studies, policy perspectives, technology solutions, posters and expert participation are invited under the five broad categories and sub-categories listed above. Contributors may address any of the identified sub-categories or propose an allied topic relevant to the overall theme.

Authors are requested to submit an abstract of their research work of not more than 500 words for review. The authors will be informed for the acceptance of the paper after review of the conference committee. The final manuscript in standard format must be submitted on A4 size paper with single line spacing not exceeding 10 pages including tables and figures. All submission must be in soft and hard copy. The information regarding conference are also available on our web site wrd.bih.nic.in The proceedings of the Conference will be published in a standard format.

E-mail address: eicheadquarter@gmail.com ; sepmc4@gmail.com

Suggested forms of participation

Technical/research paper or research abstract.

Case study from a river, basin, barrage, floodplain or sediment-management programme.

Policy note or institutional perspective.

Poster or student/research presentation.

Technology demonstration, GIS/remote sensing/AI solution or decision-support tool.

Expert presentation or participation in a thematic panel.

CONTACT PERSON

Name & Designation	Contact Details
Prashant Kumar, Superintending Engineer, Planning and Monitoring Circle-2	7070990710
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Vijay Ranjan, Assistant Engineer, Planning and Monitoring Circle-3	9035171481

IMPORTANT DATES

Particular	Date
Submission of abstract	12 October 2026
Intimation of acceptance	13 October 2026
Submission of paper	16 October 2026
Conference Date	30 October 2026

REGISTRATION FEE

Registration fee: Nil

LOCAL HOSPITALITY

The registered participants will be provided all hospitality during their participation for the conference days at Patna. Accommodation for the outstation participants will be arranged in the departmental Guest house/ Hotels on request and availability. Participant should arrange for their travel from their own resources and intimate at least 15 days in advance. The Justifiable to and fro travel expenses shall be reimbursed to the participants whose paper shall be selected by us for presentation in the conference. The payment shall be made in Indian Rupees.

CONFERENCE LOCATION- PATNA

Patna, the capital of Bihar, is situated on the southern bank of the River Ganga and lies in a region closely connected with the Ganga and its major tributary systems. The city provides a suitable location for a dialogue involving government institutions, academic and research organizations, technical experts and stakeholders from across the Ganga basin.

Patna was founded in 490 BC by the king of Magadha. Ancient Patna, known as Pataliputra, was the capital of the Magadha Empire under the Nanda, Mauryan, Shunga, Gupta and Pala empires. Pataliputra was a seat of learning and fine arts. The modern city of Patna is situated on the southern bank of river Ganges. The city also straddles the rivers Sone, Gandak and Punpun. The Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain pilgrimage centres of Vaishali, Nalanda,, Bodh Gaya and Pawapuri are nearby and Patna city is also a sacred city for Sikhs as the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Govind Singh, was born here. The latitude of Patna, Bihar, In 25° 36' 45.6372" N and the longitude is i.e and 85° 9' 31.9500" E.

ABOUT HOST ORGANIZATION

The Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar, is responsible for planning, development, management and regulation of the State's water resources, including irrigation, flood management, drainage and associated river and water infrastructure. The Department undertakes major programmes relating to irrigation development, flood protection, river management, inter-State and transboundary water matters, and coordination with Central agencies.

The Department also works with technical institutions, research organisations and other stakeholders for improving scientific understanding, planning and implementation of water-resource and river-management programmes.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Conference Theme: Ganga Water Treaty: Water Security of Bihar

Date: 30 October 2026

Venue: Chanakya Hotel Patna, Bihar

Organised by: Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE

Activity	Time
Registration	09:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Inaugural Session	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Tea Break	11:30 AM – 11:45 AM
Technical Session – I	11:45 AM – 01:15 PM
Lunch Break	01:15 PM – 02:00 PM
Technical Session – II	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM
Tea Break	03:30 PM – 03:45 PM
Technical Session – III	03:45 PM – 05:15 PM
Tea Break	05:15 PM – 05:30 PM
Valedictory Session	05:30 PM – 06:00 PM

LANGUAGE

The official language of the conference will be English / Hindi. Presentations may be made in English or Hindi.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Role	Details
CHIEF PATRON	Sri Vijay Kumar Chaudhary Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister (Minister, Water Resources Department), Government of Bihar
PATRON	Dr. Chandrashekhar Singh, IAS Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar Contact No.:- 0612-2217377
CONVENOR	Er. Brajesh Mohan, Engineer-in-Chief, Headquarters, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar Contact No.:- 0612-2215022
MEMBERS	Er. Warun Kumar Engineer-in-Chief, Flood Control & Drainage, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar Contact No.:- 0612-2217040
MEMBERS	Er. Nikhil Kumar, Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation Creation, Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar Contact No.:- 0612-2217183

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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Er. Seema Kumari Director, WALMI	9661887903
Er. Deepak Pradhan Reader, Flood Management, WALMI	9470841615
Er. Chandrashekhar Kumar Resident Engineer (Executive Engineer), New Delhi	9471575725
Er. Nandan Kumar Estate Officer, WALMI	8877770282
Er. Prashant Shekhar Assistant Engineer, Secretary, WRD Cell	7004966282

Er. Priyanka Gautam Assistant Professor, A.R.P., WALMI	8960612194
Er. Dileep Kumar Dinkar Assistant Engineer, WALMI	9953151264

LOGISTIC COMMITTEE

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