

First BRICS Water Ministers' Meet held on 18th November, 2021 in Virtual Mode from Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi.

The First BRICS Water Ministers' Meet was held on 18th November, 2021 in Virtual Mode from Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi under the India's BRICS Chairship 2021.

The Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India moderated the meet and welcomed all Ministers, Dignitaries, delegates and participants of BRICS member countries and delivered the welcome speech. Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat delivered his address where in the importance of this BRICS Water Ministers' meeting has been highlighted which can be traced to India's Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi vision and announcement in 2019 and also in New Delhi Declaration during 13th BRICS Summit in 2021. He also affirmed that India looks forward to working with the member countries under the BRICS Water Forum and international community by sharing knowledge and information about a multitude of successful case studies and best practices in the water sector. He also felt that everyone can profit from this noble initiative which champions mutual learning.

His Excellency Mr. Li Ge, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology, Ministry of Water Resources, People's Republic of China; His Excellency Mr. David Mahlobo, Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Republic of South Africa; His Excellency Mr. Oscar Cordeiro Netto, Director, National Water and Sanitation Agency (ANA), Federative Republic of Brazil and Her Excellency, Ms. Bokova Tatyana, Deputy Head of the Federal Agency for Water Resources, Russian Federation also addressed the meet and conveyed their country's view point and commended India's initiative in organizing two day BRICS Water Forum and finalizing joint declaration preceding the First Water Ministers' Meet. They all stressed that corporation amongst the BRICS countries is the need of the hour for solving the common problem being faced in the water sector.

All BRICS member countries adopted the joint declaration in this meet showing utmost mutual trust and future cooperation intent.

Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Additional Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India delivered Vote of thanks to all Ministers, Dignitaries, delegates and participants of BRICS member countries. She also thanked Ministry of External Affairs; Ministry of Jal Shakti; Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change; Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation; Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Power for their support and contribution.