MoU Signing Ceremony between Central Water Commission (CWC), National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) and Central Water Power Research Station (CWPRS) 18 February 2026 | 5:00 PM | Central Water Commission, New Delhi

New Delhi, 18 February 2026: In a significant initiative towards strengthening India's river gauging network through advanced non-contact discharge measurement techniques, the Central Water Commission (CWC), National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee, and Central Water Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 18 February 2026 at 5:00 PM at the Central Water Commission Headquarters, New Delhi.

The MoU marks an important milestone in enhancing scientific collaboration and technological innovation in the field of river discharge monitoring and water resources management. The agreement aims to foster coordinated efforts in hydrological studies, river basin management, hydraulic modelling, and advanced research in water resources engineering. The collaboration will facilitate the sharing of technical expertise, research facilities, data, and knowledge among the three premier organizations.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Y.R.S. Rao, Director, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee; Sh. Devendra Pratap Mathuria, Chief Engineer, Planning & Development Organisation, Central Water Commission, New Delhi; and Dr. Prabhat Chandra, Director, Central Water Power Research Station, Pune. The ceremony was held in the presence of Sh. Anupam Prasad, Chairman, Central Water Commission and Ex-officio Secretary to the Government of India.

Dr. Ravindra Vitthal Kale, Scientist E, Surface Water Hydrology Division, who will oversee activities from NIH's side and Dr. Selva Balan, Additional Director, who will oversee activities from CWPRS's side were also present during the function. Additionally, senior officials including Sh. Yogesh Paithankar, Member (WP&P); Sh. Reading Simray, Member (D&R); Sh. Bhupinder Singh, Chief Engineer (HRM); Sh. V.D. Roy, Chief Engineer (FMO); Sh. Ajay Kumar, Director, RM Coordination; Sh. Sudipto Mondal, Director, D&R Coordination; Sh. Kiran Pramanik, Director, WP&P Coordination; Sh. RPS Verma, Director, Technical Coordination Dte.; Sh. Piyush Kumar, Director, M&CC Dte.; Sh. Pankaj Kumar Sharma; Director RDC-2 Dte; Sh. Ramavtar Verma, Director, RDC-I Dte.; Sh. K.V.Prasad, Director, CM Dte. and other officers from the Central Water Commission, New Delhi attended the ceremony.

At the core of this collaboration is a joint research project titled "Entropy-Based Non-Contact Discharge Monitoring Techniques: Testing and Implementation for Indian Rivers." The project seeks to modernize India's river gauging network by deploying innovative non-contact discharge monitoring techniques at selected key sites along the Krishna and Godavari rivers. These advanced approaches, including entropy-based methods and image processing techniques, are expected to significantly enhance the accuracy and efficiency of river discharge data collection, which is crucial for water resources management, flood forecasting, and sustainable development.

Under the partnership, the Central Water Commission will contribute its extensive experience in water resources planning and monitoring; the National Institute of Hydrology will provide specialized research support in hydrology and apply entropy-based non-contact monitoring techniques; and the Central Water Power Research Station will extend its expertise in monitoring of open channel flow using image-based techniques.

The initiative is expected to significantly strengthen the hydrological data network across Indian rivers, enabling improved monitoring, better planning, and efficient management of the country's critical water resources. The MoU reflects a unified commitment by the participating institutions to leverage institutional strengths and scientific expertise to ensure sustainable and resilient water resource systems in the country.