अशोक कुमार सिंह, भा.प्र.से. कार्यकारी निदेशक (परियोजना) ASHOK KUMAR SINGH, IAS Executive Director (Projects)



भारत सरकार
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन,
नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

## Message

I am pleased to note that the 1st International River Congress is being organised jointly by South Asian Institute for Advance Research and Development for national and international experts, stakeholders and investors to deliberate upon allocation of river resources for planned management of our rivers. Rivers are vital in many spheres of our lives and activities. They are also central to our cultural and spiritual lives. Since ancient times, Indians have adapted their domestic, agricultural, industrial, and social activities to the gifts of rivers and have revered rivers as their divine mother. Thus, our ancestors lived in true humility to benefit optimally from the Ganga and other rivers in the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam which means the world is one family. We need to revive our ancient wisdom and re-align our focus on rivers to benefit from them for the rich and poor. Just as India led the Global Solar Alliance to combat climate change at the global level, we perhaps need a National River Alliance for a concerted national effort to ensure the health of our many rivers along with optimal and equitable benefits from rivers for all the whole country. So, as our country is closely associated with river resource management, I welcome the focus of International River Congress 2021 on river resources allocation at international levels. South Asian Institute for Advance Research & Development (SAIARD) has taken this initiative of "International River Congress!" Where scientists & stakeholders who actually research for the wellbeing of rivers from all over India will come together and share their ideas with each other. We want to congratulate SAIARD for organising such a sensible event and wish them a successful congress and hopefully all of their motives behind this congress will be fulfilled.

(Ashok Kumar Singh)
Executive Director (Projects)
National Mission for Clean Ganga