Today on the 24th June 2020, the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage celebrates its 71st year of Foundation.
I feel proud and honoured to be part of an organisation that has successfully steered through the testing times of agricultural water management and has sustainably created value for all its stakeholders.

It is a matter of great pride for the ICID fraternity, spread across the globe to observe the ‘ICID Foundation Day’. The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, established on the 24 June 1950 is a leading scientific, technical, international not-for-profit, non-governmental organization.

ICID is a professional network of experts from across the world in the field of irrigation, drainage, and flood management.

The main mission is to promote ‘Sustainable agriculture water management’ to achieve a ‘Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development’.
ICID is a knowledge sharing platform dedicated to issues that covers the entire spectrum of agricultural water management practices ranging from rainfed agriculture to supplemental irrigation, land drainage, deficit irrigation to full irrigation. In addition, drainage of agricultural lands forms the core theme of the commission’s activities. Floods and drought, the two extremes of increasingly variable climate as a result of climate change, also form the focus of activities.

For the more than 75 countries that represent more than 90% of irrigation agriculture, it gives us the opportunity to dedicate ourselves to our mission.

**ICID Membership Network 2020**
We are extremely fortunate that we together witness an unique milestone and a great moment of pride in the Commission’s history. Our journey has been a long one, and this incredible journey of ours is a testimony of the vision, entrepreneurship spirit and commitment of our Founders and Leaders. Let’s take this moment to pay homage to our Founders and acknowledge those noteworthy accomplishments that created an institution which prides on its diversity.

I am optimistic about ICID’s future as the need for food and fiber are growing faster, we must stay prepared to proactively seize the opportunities. It is time for us to collaborate, to innovate and leverage our strengths to be amongst the leaders. Let’s move ahead with utmost zeal and excitement and pledge our commitment to not only our customers but all stakeholders who would be a part of our journey in the future years.

ICID succeeds not because it is big or because it has been long established but because there are people building it who live it, sleep it, dream it, believe in it and build great future plans for it.
During 71 years of its operation, ICID constantly moved forward from its focus on mainly engineering aspects in 1951 to include social, environmental, economic and sustainable agriculture development aspects. Keeping in view the impact of climate change and other development parameters on water security and with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals by UN in 2015, ICID adopted its new Vision 2030: Water secure world free of poverty and hunger through sustainable rural development.
Agricultural Water Management Strategies in Changing Situation