## CSIR-NEERI Diamond Jubilee Celebration, 8th April 2018

CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) celebrated its Diamond Jubilee to commemorate the journey of last 60 years. Dr. Girish Sahni, Director General, CSIR & Secretary to Govt. of India, DSIR was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Dr. R.N. Singh, Visiting Professor, IIT Gandhinagar & Former Director, CSIR-NEERI was the Guest of Honour and Shri M.C. Mehta, Supreme Court Lawyer & Environmentalist was the Distinguished Guest.

While addressing the audience, Dr. Sahni said that though NEERI has already become a brand but it needs to address current and future challenges of the environment. He informed that CSIR has planned to solve at least 100 problems of the society, including poorest of the poor, through its technologies. He advised that CSIR-NEERI should more support to the judiciary for environment protection through its scientific and technological interventions. The scientists should introspect, think critically, and be more compassionate at work, he added.

Dr. Singh said that the scientists should develop a robust knowledge which is relevant and acceptable by others. CSIR-NEERI should deal with the future uncertainties of the environment, as day by day the environment issues are becoming more and more complex. Shri Mehta narrated a story on how CSIR-NEERI started working for the judiciary 20 years before. He said that climate change is a big concern and CSIR-NEERI should work on it. He emphasized on the fundamental rights of a citizen to ensure environment protection.

In his welcome address, Dr. Rakesh Kumar stated that CSIR-NEERI has always taken inputs from the industry to propel the Institute and it will continue to do so. He informed that CSIR-NEERI has done well in translating its patents to application on field. Rejuvenation of rivers and water bodies, and waste management are still a major challenge for the country, he added.

CSIR-NEERI Diamond Jubilee Awards were given away by Dr. Girish Sahni, DG-CSIR on this occasion. Shri M.C. Mehta was honoured with Environment Protection Leadership Awardø Dr. P.R. Pujari and Dr. Ritesh Vijay were awarded as Best Sr. Scientistø and Dr. Lal Singh as Best Jr. Scientistø Shri Prakash Kelapure earned the award for Best Office Personnelø and Shri D Nayak for Best Support Personnelø Ms. Shaswati Saha and Ms. Satinder Kaur were awarded as Best Young Researcherø and Best Project Personnelø respectively. Water Technology and Management Division (WTMD) and Hyderabad Zonal Centre were given away the Best Division Awardø Directorø Research Cell and Environmental Impact and Sustainability Division (EISD) were given the award for exceeding the performance target. Shri A H Dhawale and Shri Pramod Deshmukh were rewarded for their contribution in promoting Diamond Jubilee material. The students of Kendriya Vidyalayas were awarded for their innovative ideas given the Jigyasa programme recently organised at CSIR-NEERI.

Earlier Dr. Girish Sahni, DG-CSIR inaugurated the -Technology Parkø and -Nalla Treatment Demonstration Unitø The Technology Park has the facilities to convert lab scale processes into demonstrable units and potential to attract stakeholders and entrepreneurs. Dr. J.S. Pandey, Chief Scientist proposed the vote of thanks.