

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (IBD)
POST-EVENT REPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL DAM SAFETY CONFERENCE
BHUBANESWAR, INDIA – FEBRUARY 13-14, 2019**

Report prepared by Clare Raska, Coordinator CDA IBD Working Group

The Canadian Dam Association (CDA) is carrying out international business development activities with partial funding support from Global Affairs Canada through the Global Opportunities for Associations (GOA) program. This report addresses CDA participation in an event in India in February 2019, carried out in conjunction with an earlier activity in Nepal, reported separately.

CDA was invited to participate in the 2019 International Dam Safety Conference, which was organized jointly by the Central Water Commission of India, the Government of Odisha State, and the World Bank.

The conference was held under the aegis of the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) being implemented by the Government of India with loan assistance from the World Bank. The original program beginning in 2012 has been extended to rehabilitate 233 dam projects at a cost of US\$533 million by 2020. The Government of India is now launching DRIP Phase 2 with a much higher outlay for rehabilitating over 700 dams in 19 states of India. At the Bhubaneswar conference, World Bank representatives announced that they will enter DRIP Phase 2 and are also committing to Phase 3 if the Government of India requests. This program should offer extensive opportunities for Canadian companies to work in India.

CDA had a booth in the exhibition, attended by two representatives of CDA – Don Butcher, Executive Director, and Clare Raska, Technical Coordinator. Arjun Kumar Dutta, from the Canadian Trade Commissioner office, identified key contacts for CDA and set up over 20 meetings. He attended the exhibition and assisted with the discussions. No Canadian companies had booths at the event.

Over 700 delegates attended the conference. The technical program was very strong and included participation of international experts on dam safety from Canada, Spain, France, Netherlands, USA, Switzerland, South Africa, Taiwan, Italy, Australia, Laos, Sri Lanka, Nepal, as well as India. Des Hartford of BC Hydro, Canada, was invited to present a keynote address on implementation of ICOLD Bulletin 154 on Dam Safety Management. The World Bank was represented by several speakers. The presentations were streamed on the internet, and the website www.damsafety.in provides impressive coverage of the conference proceedings, as well as other documentation of the DRIP program.

A social program and tours provided additional networking opportunities.

Among the outcomes from the conference were the following:

- Phase 2 of DRIP program was approved – much future work in dam safety
- Mr. Junaid Kamal Ahmad, Country Director, World Bank spoke on the need for robust dam safety management and governance, in addition to project design and construction.
- India Central Water Commission and INCOLD will collaborate to combine ICOLD 2020 and the International Dam Safety Conference as a large single event in New Delhi in 2020.
- India hopes to send a large delegation to ICOLD 2019 in Ottawa, including individuals to join CDA's inbound trade mission to meet Canadian companies at the exhibit and events in Ottawa.

- Canadian Trade Commission is interested in assisting a Canadian delegation to attend ICOLD 2020 and explore opportunities for work in India.
- The relationship between India and Canada, with respect to dam-related projects in India, has been advanced and there are key opportunities to enhance it further during 2019 and 2020.

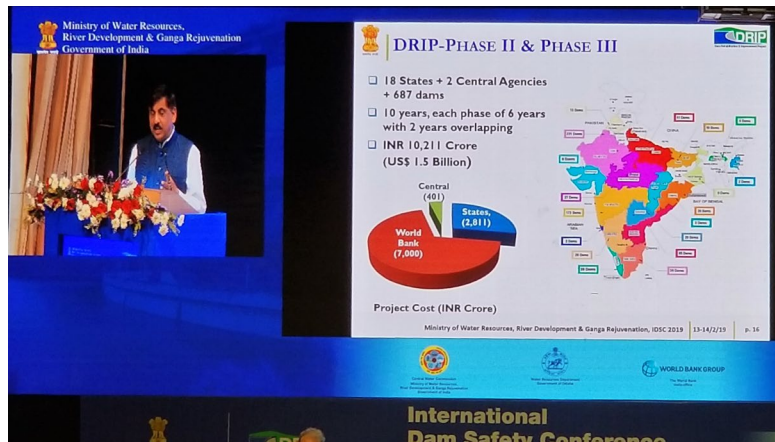
Future Actions for CDA:

1. Post report on the CDA website and inform the contacts in CDA's database of companies that are interested in international business related to dams.
2. Post link to the websites www.damsafety.in so that Canadian companies are encouraged to learn about opportunities in India.
3. Pending GOA approval, invite selected representatives from India to join in an inbound trade mission to attend the ICOLD 2019 Symposium and Exhibition in Ottawa, June 9-14, 2019.
4. Maintain contact with the government officials and INCOLD executive to collaborate fully on arrangements for ICOLD 2019 and ICOLD 2020. This is seen as an excellent way to expand upon the overall relations between the Canadian dam community and potential clients in India.
5. As a matter of logistics, the process for Canadians to obtain a visa to visit India can take more time than expected, which should be taken into account for future travel.

CDA has a list of delegates registered for the conference, and contacts made at the exhibition and during the conference. For further information please contact CDA's International Business Development Working Group at ibd@cda.ca.



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