



# EFW LAUNCHES GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY & INNOVATION AWARDS 2026

## Recognizing India's Leading Water Sector Changemakers

Water is the lifeline for horticulture & agro-based industry where quality, yield, and products longevity are deeply influenced by efficient water management. From precision irrigation and fertigation to greenhouse cultivation and sustainable water reuse, modern floriculture increasingly depends on innovations that optimise every drop.

As climate variability and resource constraints intensify, the need for responsible water stewardship has become central to the future of flower production and the broader horticulture value chain.

In this context, platforms that recognise innovation, execution, and measurable impact in water management play a critical role in inspiring cross-sector learning and accelerating adoption of sustainable practices.

Awards and industry-led recognitions not only celebrate excellence but also create benchmarks for performance, encourage collaboration between public and private stakeholders, and spotlight scalable solutions that can be adapted across sec-

tors—including floriculture. The Global Sustainability & Innovation Awards 2026, launched by Earth Water Foundation and Everything About Water (EAWATER), stand as a timely initiative that aligns closely with the sustainability priorities industry encompassing food, agriculture and water & waste water treatment industries where water efficiency and environmental responsibility are becoming key differentiators.

### Earth Water Foundation launches Global Sustainability & Innovation Awards 2026 recognising India's Leading Water Sector Changemakers

The first edition of the Global Sustainability & Innovation Awards 2026, organised by Everything About Water (EAWATER), was successfully launched on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026, evening at SAMVET Auditorium (G), IGNC, Janpath, New Delhi, bringing together key stakeholders across government, industry, startups, and civil society to recognise measurable impact and execution in the water sector.

The event attended by Durga Shanker Mishra (IAS), Former Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh as Chief Guest, who emphasised the need to shift from policy intent to disciplined execution in water governance.

The Guest of Honor, Sulochana Das, Hon'ble Mayor, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, addressed the gathering and highlighted the role of urban local bodies in building resilient and sustainable water

systems.

The event was also attended by senior government leadership including:

- ❖ Manjulata Kanhar, Hon'ble Deputy Mayor, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
- ❖ Chanchal Rana, IAS, Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
- ❖ Senior municipal commissioners and public officials from across India

### Distinguished Jury:

The jury brought integrity and technical depth to this platform whose credibility defined the strength of these awards. The jury includes:

Durga Shanker Mishra (IAS), Former Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum Country Coordinator, GWP India, B.B. Singh, Founder & CEO, B. B. Singh Consulting Services, Mahip Singh, CEO, Innovation Hub UP, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University, Dr. Shiv Singh Rawat, Former Superintending Engineer, Haryana Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Pradnya Thakur,



Sustainability Advisor and R.P. Singh, General Manager (Jal, E&M), Noida Authority

### Leadership from EAWATER & Earth Water Foundation

The event opened with a welcome address by Shivani Gorawat, Founder Member, Everything About Water (EAWATER), who articulated the vision of building a platform rooted in credibility, performance, and measurable impact. The evening concluded with a vote of thanks by K. K. Rao, Managing Director, Earth Water Foundation, acknowledging the contribution of all stakeholders in making the inaugural edition a success.

### A Platform Focused on Execution, Not Optics

The EAWATER Awards have been designed as a credibility-driven platform recognising real, on-ground impact across the water ecosystem—covering drinking water, wastewater, infrastructure, industrial efficiency, and climate resilience.

All entries were evaluated through a structured jury process based on technical performance, scalability, measurable impact and sustainability outcomes

### A Strong Signal for the Sector

The event brought together policy-makers, municipal leaders, industry experts, startups, and NGOs—reinforcing a clear message:

India's water challenges require coordinated, execution-focused action across sectors.

The platform aims to identify scalable solutions, strengthen public-private collaboration, encourage investment in innovation and support implementation-led governance.

### Looking Ahead:

#### A Long-Term Commitment

The 2026 edition marked the maiden launch of the EAWATER Global Sustainability & Innovation Awards.

Building on the strong foundation of Everything About Water's 25-year legacy in the sector, the platform is envisioned as a long-term national benchmark for recognising real impact in water sustainability.

EAWATER has announced that the awards will now be organized annually on World Water Day, with a continued focus on credibility, measurable outcomes, and sector-wide collaboration.

## AWARDEES OF GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY & INNOVATION AWARDS 2026 UNDER VARIOUS CATEGORIES

### Government & Public Utility Excellence

- ❖ Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation  
Represented by Sulochana Das (Mayor), Manjulata Kanhar (Deputy Mayor), and Chanchal Rana, IAS (Commissioner)
- ❖ Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board
- ❖ Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation
- ❖ Satara Municipal Council – Digital water infrastructure & intelligent utility systems
- ❖ KSCSTE – Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM), Kozhikode, Government of Kerala – Rainwater harvesting excellence
- ❖ Municipal Corporation Ludhiana, Represented by Dr. Vineet Kumar, PCS (Joint Commissioner) and Dr Parul Goyal, Superintending Engineer

### Industry Leaders Driving Technology & Scale

- ❖ VA Tech WABAG – Sludge treatment & resource recovery
- ❖ Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd. – Energy-efficient pump engineering & ZLD
- ❖ Vishvaraj Environment Ltd. – Wastewater reuse projects

### Additional key awardees:

- ❖ Pure N Safe Private Limited
- ❖ InnoQor Technologies
- ❖ COOLDECK Industries Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ Aquality Intelligent Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ Transfilm Technology Inc

Along with Rostfrei Steels Pvt. Ltd., Nirtech Private Limited, Sahara Industry, V-Guard Industries Ltd., among others.

### Startups & Innovation: Emerging Leaders

- ❖ Sustainico Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ NICO Nanobubble India Co.
- ❖ Prasinos Tech Innovations Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ Aryav Ecofriendly Resources Pvt. Ltd., Baldota Envirocare Pvt. Ltd., ArCh Enviro Equipment Pvt. Ltd.

### NGOs Driving Grassroots Impact

- ❖ S M Sehgal Foundation
- ❖ Rural Integrated and Social Education Society (RISES)
- ❖ AltTech Foundation

### Special Recognition: Leadership that Shapes the Sector

- ❖ G. Asok Kumar, IAS, Former Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga – National Water Leadership & Governance
- ❖ Ajay Popat, Senior Advisor, Ion Exchange (India) Limited – Water Technology Leadership
- ❖ Swapnil Desai, Deputy Engineer, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation – Global Water-Wastewater-Energy Nexus Leadership (Public Sector)
- ❖ Nilesh Sheshrao Mankar, GSDA, Nagpur – Water Security Field Leadership
- ❖ Dr. Alohree Choudhury, Andhra University – Woman Researcher Award