

# CWRC an unbiased platform: Minister

**K. Lakshmi**

CHENNAI

The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) is an unbiased platform working towards best management of water resources, said Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Tuesday.

He was speaking at a press conference after the All India Secretaries Conference on Water Vision @2047-Way Ahead, which was organised by the National Water Mission of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, and coordinated by the Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department here.

## **Regular assessment**

On the Cauvery water share for Tamil Nadu, the Minister said the CWRC had met several times to assess water availability, and based on the storage, it decided the allocation for the States.

On the groundwater sit-

uation across the country, he said the Jal Shakti Ministry had improved the efficacy of aquifer mapping, which led to evidence-based management interventions, and helped drastically reduce the number of overexploited and critical groundwater areas. He said groundwater assessment units showed a nearly 10% improvement owing to better recharge.

The Ministry had prepared a draft recycle and reuse policy and shared with the States, he said.

At the conference, Mr. Shekhawat said all States should prioritise demand-side management by regulating water use, instead of supply management. Each State must develop a road map to sustain drinking water sources, he said.

A book *Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the rain - A journey* was released at the function. Debashree Mukherjee, secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti also spoke.