Research and Information Management

Informing policy makers of the choice of appropriate technology to meet policy goals and make them aware of their significance and impact is an essential requirement of a dynamic water management policy. It is important to reach a common understanding between specialists, planners, politicians and the general public about the changing environment and the optimal ways and means of achieving the national water management goals. As management decisions become increasingly complex and information-sensitive, the demand for supporting research and information management increases.

It is the policy of the Government in this regard to:

a. Develop a central database and management information system (MIS) consolidating information from various data collection and research agencies on the existing hydrological systems, supply and use of national water resources, water quality, and the eco-system.

b. Restructure and strengthen, where appropriate, water resource and agriculture research institutions to undertake systematic research and analysis of water and land management issues and problems arising both nationally and internationally.

c. Investigate thoroughly important flood control and management issues, such as the efficacy of coastal polders, for guiding future policy on structural interventions.

d. Investigate important sociological issues, such as the phenomenon of interference with water structures (e.g. public cuts), and the motives and conflicting interests behind them, to assist the process of building public support and acceptance of government water management programmes.

e. Strengthen and promote the involvement of public and private research organizations and universities to:

   i. Develop and disseminate appropriate technologies for conjunctive use of rainwater, ground water and surface water.

   ii. Develop and promote water management techniques to prevent wastage and generate efficiency of water and energy use.

   iii Produce skilled professionals for water management.