

PREFACE

Water resources of our country play dominant role in agriculture, hydropower generation, livestock production, industry, forestry, fisheries, navigation and recreational activities etc. Drought is one among the natural disasters that affect the maximum number of people and their livelihood in the world. India is one among the countries that have long-past history of facing drought and famine like situation from time to time. The occurrence of droughts in India is normally linked with the amount, distribution, and time of onset and withdrawal of monsoon rainfall. Since, the monsoon rainfall is highly erratic and unevenly distributed, drought conditions prevail in almost every year in one or the other part of India. Though, India has made remarkable progress in the area of water resources development since independence, it is nevertheless experiencing a range of issues in the water sector primarily due to meteorological reasons such as severe climatic variations as well as factors like rapid growth of population, urbanization and industrialization.

In view of the above, the Indian National Committee on Hydrology (INCOH) is sponsoring this 14th National Symposium on Hydrology on one of the themes of the International Hydrological Program (IHP) of UNESCO viz. "Management of Water Resources under Drought Situation". The objective of this symposium is to discuss and improve knowledge of water resources management in drought and other related areas through collaborative information sharing and capability building. Various tools, technologies have been developed to address a wide spectrum of water resource problems. More powerful and modern computing systems and tools, a greater number of economical remote sensing tools, radar and satellite imaging, isotopic techniques, hydrological models enable water resources managers to move beyond the conventional techniques and develop effective approaches for sustainable planning, development and management of water resources.

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