

EDITORIAL

The capabilities of remote sensing techniques alongwith advances in electronic instrumentation and computers have led to significant progress in all earth sciences including hydrology. Synoptic viewing and repetitive imaging are being utilised not only for planning and design, but also for real time operation of water resources projects. Various attempts have been made to (i) replace conventional methods with satellite based approaches, (ii) combine conventional and satellite data and (iii) identify problems which could be solved only by use of remotely sensed data. With simultaneous developments in satellite technology and methodologies for processing, analysis and interpretation of remote sensing data, a corresponding development has taken place in establishment of geographic information systems for physical data base. A new generation of hydrological models have been developed that use atmospheric, surface and sub-surface information for almost every phase of hydrology.

This issue of Jalvigyan Sameeksha focusses on specific theme of remote sensing applications. It includes papers dealing with drought monitoring, flood inundation mapping, soil classification, data base management and hydro-morphogeological investigations. It is hoped that these would be found useful by all concerned and would lead to further advancements in remote sensing applications in hydrology and water resources development in the country.