

COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSIONS ON
DROUGHT IN MAHARASHTRA 2015-16

'DON'T WASTE THE CRISIS'

Date: June 17-18, 2016

Venue: University of Mumbai, Vidyanagari, Santacruz (E), Mumbai-98

Jointly Organised by

Institute of Distance and Open Learning and Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies

It is needless to say that drought is a very complex phenomenon. We all know that natural as well as manmade factors are responsible for it but we may not know the details of ground realities of Maharashtra's water sector and their severe implications. The failure in Water Management, Governance and Regulations (WMGR) is responsible for the crisis.

The Comprehensive discussions will especially concentrate on WMGR issues in an interdisciplinary manner based on the Techno-Socio-Economic-Legal (TSEL) approach. The central theme would be to highlight the spaces in WMGR that could be carved out for pro-people interventions. The message would be loud and clear – Don't waste the crisis!

Following topics will be covered through presentation and discussions:

Session-I:

Values and Constraints of Water Resources Development and Management in Maharashtra: A brief review of a) Well Irrigation, b) Watershed Development, c) Minor Irrigation (Local Sector), d) State Level Irrigation Projects (both flow and lift), e) Water Supply for Drinking, Domestic and Industrial purposes.

Water Governance and Regulation in Maharashtra: A brief review of provisions in - and implementation of - following Irrigation Acts and Rules a) Maharashtra Irrigation Act, 1976, b) Irrigation Development Corporation Acts, 1996-98, c) Maharashtra Management of Irrigation Systems by Farmers Act, 2005 and Rules, 2006, d) Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, e) Maharashtra Ground Water (Development & Management) Act, 2009.

Session-II:

Second session would exclusively be for the selected grass root level workers and activists belonging to people's organizations, political parties and NGOs. They would narrate their field experiences, present their analysis of the present situation and give their suggestions.

Session-III:

In third session, selected academics and journalists from both print and electronic media who have visited the drought hit areas extensively, talked with people and have reported the situation in analytically manner would be requested to present their views.

Session-IV:

In the fourth session, senior academic would bring the pieces together, present the complete picture in broader perspective, analyse and give long term as well as short term suggestions regarding the way ahead.

Session-V:

In fifth and last session, senior activists / leaders belonging to people's organizations, political parties and NGOs who have attended all sessions, would present their analysis individually referring to earlier discussions and suggest a common minimum peoples program for mitigation of drought and restructuring the water sector.

Language of discussion should not be a constraint. Marathi is good as most of us are comfortable with it. Hindi and English are good enough to keep the non-Marathi participants with us ☺

Registration fee per participant will be **Rs. 300/** (to be paid on the spot. It includes expenditure breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner and, copies of reference material, if provided any). No TA will be provided to the participants. Accommodation arrangement would be made by the organisers on payment basis, if required.

We would like to publish keynote speeches and discussions of this event in the form of (post-event) proceedings. There is hardly any comprehensive literature available on this subject. This publication should serve as a ready reference for our society and for the further researchers. Resource persons and participants are requested to submit a written (preferably typed) draft of their talks / views that should help us in quick compilation and publication of the material.

Certificate of Participation will be provided. Please confirm your participation by sending a mail to us.

FOR DETAILS CONTACT THE PROGRAM COORODINATORS

Dr. Ambuja Salgaonkar Director (I/C) Institute of Distance and Open Learning University of Mumbai Vidyanagari, Santacruz (E), Mumbai-98 E-mail: idol.ambujas@gmail.com	Dr. Chandrakant Puri Chair Professor Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies University of Mumbai Vidyanagari, Santacruz (E), Mumbai-98 E-mail: chandrakant.puri@gmail.com
--	---

Thanks and look forward to meeting you, learning from you...

-Ambuja, Chandrakant and Pradeep

For and behalf of the Organizers