Chapter-11

Conclusions and Policy Implications
CHAPTER XI:

CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Introduction

A well-developed information system is of prime requisite for planning of any natural resources. This is extremely important aspect for planning of water resources. It is imperative and very important to have information on rainfall, runoff, changes in groundwater tables, temperature, humidity, evaporation and changes in water quality in coastal areas due to intrusion of seawater into ground water resources and other areas. Concerns of the community need to be taken into account for water resources development and management. The success of the State water policy is to be backed with an operational action plan, which shall be formulated in a time bound manner. Looking at the overall Water Management scenario in the State of Gujarat and the use of available water resources in the state for the irrigation purposes to avail the maximum yield in reference to the agricultural productivities of the study areas of Banaskantha, Mehsana and Patan districts following findings are enumerated:

1. As the study reveals that MIS is certainly beneficial to farmers in terms of water saving, monetary gains, increase in assets etc.

2. Thus for example considering water saving it has been found that its quantity in irrigation is considerably reduced which varies crop wise and district wise as given in Table no. 8.1.

3. The study further brings out that the yield is also higher under MIS compared to furrow or surface irrigation. This
is more relevant considering the study area (i.e. North Agro-Climatic Zone), which is drought prone, land and water are saline, evapo-transpiration (ET) is also high due to arid and semi-arid conditions.

4. The positive result of the MIS (Drip) in the present study is manifested in Patan district, as an entrepreneur farmer who adopted MIS could successfully cultivated Papaya in an area of 1.27 ha. which was not grown earlier in the district. This is in fact, the best example of the MIS (Drip) and more and more farmers' community in the areas with arid and semi-arid climate should adopt MIS and can grow new varieties, which were not being cultivated earlier.

5. The field study further reveals that because of the adoption of MIS there is a considerable savings in Fertilizers as can be seen in table no. 8.3.

6. As can be seen from the results of the study that the Savings in Pesticides is in the range of Rs. 50.00 per ha to Rs. 300.00 per ha, in Banaskantha district, this is due to the adoption of MIS.

7. As the study further brings out that there is a considerable savings in Chemicals because of MIS.

8. Also, the study brings out that there is a considerable savings in Labour in MIS as compared to furrow or surface irrigation methods. This will also lead to outsourcing or migration of the labourers. These can be reduce by bringing more areas under cultivation, resulting in more productive output and creating more job options for the labourers, thus, will reduce the total percentage or number of migrants.

9. The Positive impact of the adoption of MIS by the sample farmer shows that his way of living conditions have improved and, that they are also happy and have enthusiasm to do something better in life.

10. The study also brings out that there is a considerable increase in their assets and household items after adoption of MIS.
11. The overall status of the farmer and the way of living has improved, this is because of the adoption of MIS as it gives higher yields in terms of money and thus they can have more monetary gains.