CHAPTER – 9

CONCLUSIONS AND SCOPE

FOR

FURTHER RESEARCH
9.1 Conclusions

Based on the studies carried out, the observations made in the present research and the synthesis of the available scientific information, the following important conclusions are drawn.

- The improved Quality of Life was observed in externally aided project villages due to implementation of rural water supply and sanitation schemes effectively.
- Community Demand Driven and Participatory Approach have resulted in better equitability of distribution of water in the externally aided project villages.
- Considerable amount of time has been saved and that time is utilized by the women folk in extra earning activities.
- No major diseases like Diarrhea, Cholera etc., were reported after implementation of the new water supply schemes in externally aided project villages. In non aided villages, cases of Cholera and skin diseases were reported continuously.
- All the externally aided project villages were getting average of 50 LPCD of water, it is almost nearer to minimum prescribed level of water supply. On the other hand in non-aided project villages people were getting an average of 24 LPCD.
- Ground water recharge measures taken in Bellekeri and Asnoti villages have helped to maintain the constant yield of water even during summer period.
- Significant percentage increase in private meter connections has been recorded in externally aided villages which in turn has noticeably improved the Quality of Life.
- Water Tariff collection has shown an improved trend in project villages compared to non-project villages.
- The constituted VWSC are functioning well in externally aided villages. In Bellekeri village VWSC committee is very active, hence the water supply systems are working satisfactorily.
- Trained VWSC members and gram panchayat secretaries under the externally aided project have followed efficiently good O & M practices for water supply systems.
- Gender bias has been eliminated in project villages. The villages have witnessed improved participation by women in VWSCs.
- Cleanliness of drainages and dust bins were not done regularly in all the study villages. This is mainly due to financial constraints of the VWSC.
- Number of individual household latrines has shown considerable increase. This is mainly due to subsidy and awareness provided under the project.
- Misuse of habitat components like cattle troughs and washing platforms has been observed.
- The reluctance to pay water tariff by PSP users has been observed. This might be due to their perception.
- The household surveys have revealed that there is a lot of scope for further improvement of water supply and sanitation in the externally aided project villages also.
- Before implementation of externally aided water supply and sanitation project the Quality of Life Index of all the study villages was between 0.239 and 0.279 and index rating was poor. After the implementation of externally aided project the QoLI was improved to 0.548 and index rating was good.
• The main influencing factors responsible for the improvement of QoL are working of physical systems, quality of design, easy access to water, time saved to fetch water.
• The developed index can be used as a ready tool to identify the major influencing factors which are affecting the design and implementation of new rural water supply and sanitation projects.
• The Indicators can be used as an assessment tool for the completed or ongoing projects to know the impact and sustainability of the project.

9.2 Suggestions for Further Research

Recommendations for future research work have been made based on the knowledge and experience gained in this research. It is recommended to carry out further research on the following lines:

• Health status profile of the villages can be studied during various seasons.
• Surface water scheme for multi villages and user economic affordability towards O & M Cost and its impact on Quality of life can be studied.
• Long term sustainability aspects of Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme have to be worked out and studied.