

Drought Management

- In General Sri Lanka has less natural disasters like draughts.
- However, we have experience in three major 'draught' in year 1983, 1987 & 1992, in which country has received less than 10% average rainfall.



- This drought specially severer in the Dry Zones, in which hampered to thousand of families depending on rainfall agriculture for their livelihood.
- Dry zones farmers adjust to drought in a number of ways,



- some depends on borrowings
- some take up non-agricultural employments
- some use up food reserve
- some depend on borrowings
- In addition to above some depend on relief assistance provided by the government

Water Allocation during the Drought

- Sri Lanka has a large number of small, medium and large tanks which have primarily served irrigation needs throughout the country.
- Customary rights and rules for allocation of water from these tanks and natural water ways have served well over centuries.



- However, first priority is given to domestic water supply during the draught.
- Other water users (Hydropower generation, irrigation) should share the balance water in proportion to their normal entitlements.

Organization for drought Managements

- Recently Government has formed new ministry for Disaster Relief Services
- New ministry's functions is to provide efficient & immediate emergency services and to coordinates activities in regard to natural desasters.
- In addition to above, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation & Mahaweli Development assist in Drought Management.



Also Water Resources Board, Water Supply & Drainage Board & Ceylon Electricity Board Provide their assistance to minimize the impact of the drought.

Participatory process for draught Management

 Conducting awareness programmes to making awareness of officials, general public, school children etc.



- Request irrigation water users to change their cropping pattern.
- Construction of surface concrete water tanks to collect water to be used during the draught.
- Supply of water bowers for drinking purposes by the varies water sector organizations
- Providing containers to store water day today consumptions

