

**THESIS**

**EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENTS IN SCARP-I  
TRANSITION PROGRAMME**

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## ABSTRACT

### EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENTS IN SCARP-I TRANSITION PROGRAMME

In 1960s SCARPs were initiated to control twin menaces of waterlogging and salinity. With the passage of time, the performance of SCARP Tubewells (STWs) deteriorated and their operation and maintenance cost exceeded the revenues generated. Consequently, the Government decided to transfer responsibility of pumping groundwater in fresh groundwater areas to farmers as private tubewells (PTWs) and the process was named as SCARP Transition Programme. 213 STWs were replaced with 2100 low capacity PTWs in the SCARP Transition Pilot Project (STPP) in Khanqah Dogran, a sub-unit of SCARP-I with prohibitively high cost.

Encouraged by the response, a Second SCARP Transition Project (SSTP) was launched in 1992 to privatize the remaining sub-units of SCARP-I except saline groundwater STWs. To improve delivery efficiency, watercourses are being improved. Transition was restricted to one option i.e. replacement of STWs by PTWs; whereas other options were also available. Due to sagging economy, it was decided to install Community Tubewells instead of PTWs. There are management problems in the on-going transition programmes. This study was undertaken to critically analyse the management

of these Programmes with the objectives to evaluate the STPP and recommend remedial measures to suggest alternate modes of transitions.

To achieve these objectives various agencies involved in transition were contacted to obtain data and informations in addition to visits in the project area and interviews of the farmers. It was established that the transition programmes are in the national and farmers interest. It is recommended that transition projects to be continued to save the nation from ever increasing fiscal burdens.

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