
Irrigation Development Experience of Rural Based NGOs from Pithuwa

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Brief Introduction of Pithuwa Irrigation Management System

His Majesty's Government under small irrigation project in 2025 canal barrage was constructed at Mutayaha in Kayar stream. Some branches were constructed in 2029 under the request of the peoples representatives of Pithuwa to His Majesty's Government. In 2031 construction of 17 branches were completed by Department of Irrigation.

In the same year Branch Management Committee of canal no. 8 was formed. Then after, Branch Committee were formed in all branches.

To coordinate branch committees, management of main canal, and to get government cooperation for repair and maintenance, a Central Management Committee was formed with 23 member where Chairman of the Village Development Committee as the ex-officio President. Vice President and Secretary are selected from the general farmers. Seventeen chairmen of all branch committees will be the members of the Central Committee. There is a possibility to nominate three members from the elite. Working period of the committee will be of two years.

Duties and responsibilities of the branch committee are: a) to ensure equal distribution of water, b) repair and maintenance, c) to collect and register the statistics of the land, d) to settle the misunderstandings between farmers, e) to report water requests, f) to report problems to the Central Committee. g) to fine and penalize the workers who are not following instructions from Central Committee. and h) to ensure that work has been carried out according to Central Committee's directives.

Government, non-governmental organisations and farmers related to irrigations come to visit the irrigation system of Pithuwa. The main objectives of the visit is to get information on irrigation management aspect. Representatives of Bhutanese and Sri Lankans under the leadership of Dr. Prachanda Pradhan, representative, International Irrigation Management Institute, Nepali and Foreign Students came for research for their thesis from the University of Netherlands, and representatives from other irrigation systems of Nepal made visits to Pithuwa. The group had discussions on management aspect and observation of the system.

The chairman of the Central Committee participated the "Irrigation Mangement in Nepal" workshop held at Bharatpur, Chitwan in 2043 organised by joint programme of International Irrigation Management Institute and Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science. He also participated in "Involvent of Government Organisation in Irrigation Management and Management" national workshop jointly organised by Department of Irrigation and Institute of International Irrigation Mangement held in Kathmandu on Baisakh 17-18, 2049.

¹ *Chairman and members of the committee respectively.*

This organisation has been running the canal for the last 18 years from 2031 to 2049 at the same time participating in various training, workshop on irrigation management. Because of its practice and experience, this committee has enough tools to contribute to development of NGOs.

Before establishing NGO, officers of this committee should be properly trained in management extension and marketing by IIMI.

IIMI can do this by establishing a study center so that the institutional development of this organisation can be made possible.

Following are the important things to be observed while making act, rules and regulation for the non-governmental organisation:

- The constitution should be as per the peoples wish for the development of institution with the cooperation among each other organisations.
- There should be provision for the fair competition among the organisations.
- The policy should reflect the practical experiences of the presently active organisations.
- Technical sector should try to cooperate as far as possible to the management must be indicated in the policy and rule.