



FALLING TRADITIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM IN TELANGANA AND EMPHSIS ON TANK IRRIGATION

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ABSTRACT

Telangana is rainfall deficient state in country and mostly its geological structure is rocky. Mostly rain fall come from north-west monsoon season i. e. very short span of time i.e. 2-3 months. In this paper addressing the advantages with natural water harvesting methods in telangana, what are the conditions led to the failure in traditional water harvesting systems and the steps to be taken for revival of that system. Tank irrigation is one of the major harvesting technic traditionally. The traditional way of rain water harvesting should be protected. At present 4.47 % of complete gross irrigated area is under tank irrigation. In this paper discussing about tanks importance, their declining causes, their reviving process and future prospects in point of telangana.

KEYWORDS :

INTRODUCTION:

Tanks are important traditional rain water harvesting system since ancient times of telangana. Tanks are suitable to build on areas where geological structure is mostly rocky, as it does not support deep digger bore wells and wells. Tanks are simply in construction ,requires less money and mostly constructed in groups formed by the farmers cooperatives .even a larger farmer can easily construct a tank in his own land. Since ancient time's tanks are encouraged by dynasties as some tanks are still working built in ancient times. The water collected and be stored on those rocky surface during off season. Water used in lack season .tanks have multiple advantages besides as water supplier such as helps in maintains sustainability of environment and discourages soil erosion improves ground water quality and quantity.

Since ancient times tanks are important source of irrigation in telangana region. In trend continued till the modern times i.e. 1950.they are major source for water irrigation in telangana. They are very prominent here because of the rivers flowing in this region are depends on rain fall and flowing rocky structure; it is very hard to stop those rivers and construct dams. It also very cost intensive and requires huge cost , requires very land areas for construction of dams and canals .due irregular rocky it is very hard supply water to every farm field through assured connectivity as the project located at larger distance this involves huge cost and energy for those , so traditional tanks are encouraged.

After 1960's traditional water harvesting started declining and facing hard times. Their importance Started declining due to many reasons. The traditional way of protecting tanks way "NEERADI" gets abolished, regular de-silting is not continued, The shifting of agriculture from food crops to commercial crops also caused for depleting tanks as they requires huge amount of water compare to land traditional cropping system. Many tanks lost their importance due to land encroachments by people surrounding tanks. The boundaries of tanks are changed the small water flows which takes water from surroundings areas to tanks under influence of gravity are also get encroached due to this water coming channels are diverted and tanks are left with the sufficient water.

Tanks in urban are getting neglected due to pollution of water through industrial discharge and silting. Many tanks in urban areas are lost their prominence due to encroachment. The stagnation of in lakes, discharge of harmful chemicals into tanks through Industries, domestic recharge caused the water unfit for domestic and commercial use. Thus many of lakes lost their importance in urban areas. Later times much new water harvesting techniques deployed into villages under many government schemes such as check dams etc. Those check dams are controlled independently by units in the channel through which water flows to tanks. Those check dams have many advantages such as reduces soil erosion but their constriction at wrong places such as channels ceased water to diversify so thus thanks are remained with very small quantity of water that comes from small region surrounding the tank.

Heavy concentration on large multipurpose projects and negligence of small irrigation process also diluted importance of the tanks. Due to many reasons, by focusing on many big projects less amount of money is remained for revival of small irrigation techniques such as tanks.

Concentration of well and tube wells are also one of the reason. As they are easy in construction and using and also required compared to tanks, can built buy an individual farmer. The bore wells are digging too depth to avail the ground water. As this trend continued the ground water depleted and its impact felt on nearby tanks thus the tube wells have their direct and indirect influence on negligence of tanks. The farmers cooperatives in protecting tanks also get lost their prominence as the grants released for tanks in villages according to division of goods and they came for the tank located in villages selectively and remaining are getting neglected.

In recent time both Union and State governments started tanks revival programs. Union government did through MGNREGS. Under MGNREGS many tanks in villages are get distilled and their walls are revived. This improved the condition of tanks. Telangana state government prestigiously started tank revival program known as "Mission Kakatiya". The tanks are getting improved through this scheme. All most all tanks are getting brought into this scheme and work is going process. The importance of tanks getting also improved with encouraging commercial aquaculture with eco-friendly measures. This need to be continued till all the ponds gets revived. The works allotted to the tanks should be done comparatively in tank-by-tank basis not by order of work-by-work. The priority of selection of tanks should also be given to village panchayats through gramsabhas not by the official meetings.

CONCLUSION:

As tanks are very important in rocky geological structure as water harvesting, ecological balance support and soil erosion controlling fishing purpose and also have effect on ground water recharge. The tanks need to be protected. The ancient type of protection measured such as "Neeradi" to get in a modern way. Geo-mapping should be done for each tank and pond to prevent from future encroachment. Local people should be given importance in protecting and revival of them.

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