**Abstract**

Irrigation is the man-made application of water to the soil usually for supporting in growing crops. It is an important input of agriculture production process and fundamental to agricultural, social, and economic growth of any nation. Civilizations have been dependent on development of irrigated agriculture to provide agrarian foundation of a society and to enhance the security of people. Civilizations have risen and fallen with the growth and decline of their irrigation systems. Empathizing the history of irrigation progress aids in extended knowledge about the traditional systems many of which are equally applicable in today’s context. History of irrigation development in India and its impact are discussed below