

Notes by-

Pravin S Kolhe,

BE(Civil), Gold Medal, MTech (IIT-K)

Assistant Executive Engineer,

Water Resources Department,

www.pravinkolhe.com

Lift Irrigation

Er. Pravin Kotha
(B.E Civil)

water-supply is at too low level to apply gravitation on to the land. In such circumstances water is lifted up by mechanical means.

The well irrigation is best example of lift irrigation system. In some cases the irrigation water may also be required to be lifted up from a canal or any other source of water when level of water is lower than that of land to be irrigated.

*1) Well/Tube well irrigation:

In well irrigation from well sub-soil water is lifted up to the surface & is then conveyed to the agricultural fields.

Comparison between tube well & Canal irrigation → :

Tube well irrigation

1. Lowers water table
2. Independent source of irrigation, supplies can be drawn whenever needed.
3. Entire system need not be constructed in one single stage. Wells can be sunk as irrigation develops.
4. Silt-free water devoid of manure value.
5. Supplies assured & fairly constant.
6. Volumetric assessment possible, resulting in optimum utilisation of water.
7. Low water losses since the channels are of shorter lengths & normally lined.
8. Difficulty in maintenance, repair & replacement of mechanical & electrical parts

Canal irrigation

- Raises water table
- Dependent on the supplies in the canals & that too in turn on rain water.
- Entire system of dam, headworks, canal system need to be constructed before yield can be expected.
- Silt in canal water has manure value.
- Supplies fluctuating & in rotation.
- Volumetric assessment not in vogue, as yet.
- High losses in transit.
- Canal department maintains supply & collective responsibility to maintain watercourse.

10. Limited supplies since discharge is restricted.
11. High initial cost & subsequent running expenses.
12. Life of tube well limited.
13. Reduction in yield by progressive deterioration.
14. Construction of bridges, cross-drainage works & head regulation etc. is not needed.
15. Possibilities of break downs are there.
16. Isolated land can be irrigated.
- Supplies commensurate with area.
 - Cheapest source of irrigation.
 - Canal system once constructed is a permanent source.
 - Improvement in supplies, as absorption losses go down with constant running of canal.
 - Construction of storage dam, head regulators & hydraulic structures on canal system is inevitable.
 - Breaches, cuts, weed & aquatic growth are one of the problem of canal system.
 - Isolated lands can not be irrigated.

* Suitability of area of tube well irrigation

Tube wells are necessary in areas with:

1. Low ground waters, where open wells are not feasible.
2. Deficient rainfall.
3. Inadequate flow in the rivers in the post monsoon period.
4. Necessity of irrigation to raise cash crops.

* Site location of a tube well

The following factors determine the site for location of a tube well:

1. Highest point in the chak to provide good command for the whole area of chak.
2. It should be centrally located.
3. It should be so located that no structure falls within its radius of influence.
4. Good aquifer, full of ground water storage should be available.
5. The site should not be near to a canal or another tube well.

Types of tube-wells

1. Strainer tube-wells.
2. Cavity tube wells.
3. Slotted tube wells
4. Artesian tube wells or flowing tube wells; &
5. Tube-wells in hard rock formation with fissures.

Components of tubewell irrigation

1. Motors → It imports energy to the pump for operation.
2. Pump → It is device installed to lift the water. When pump works, it creates a strong vacuum head under which water from various water bearing strata rushes with a great velocity through the strainer into the tube well pipe & moves up this pipe into delivery pipe.
3. Delivery pipe → Delivery pipe from the pump delivers the water in a water course which in turn carries water to the field.
4. Tube well pipe → It is the water conductor pipe conveying water from the underground reservoir to the pump for lifting. plain pipe is put in impermeable strata & strainer pipe throughout the depth of each permeable strata to allow sand-free water to enter into the well freely & to support the loose formation materials.
5. Strainer pipe → It is a perforated pipe with openings so designed that only water ~~air~~ is admitted with the least possible friction into the tube well.
6. Blind or blank pipe → It covers impervious layers of the formations.
7. Well casing → The casing pipe supports the hole during drilling or installed afterwards to complete the well assembly.
8. Housing pipe → This pipe is necessary for housing the pump or its suction pipe.
9. Depth Gauge → Instrument for indicating water level. It may be direct or indirect reading type.

*2) Lift Canal Irrigation :-

Lift Canal irrigation means lifting of water from its normal flow level to irrigate lands at higher elevation to which water can't be brought by gravity flow.

The lift or static head is determined only by cost consideration & not by mechanical or power consideration.

Design Consideration :-

Along with design criteria for lined & unlined canal following specific consideration are apply to lift canals.

1. In general lift canals are lined to economise in absorption losses also to permit adoption of flatter water surface slopes, because steeper the slope, higher shall be the lift & greater pumping cost.
2. Lacey's silt factor 'f' - The value of Lacey's 'f' is kept lower than that adopted in the existing channel from where the water is to be lifted because lift canal in general carries the silt in suspension in the pumped water. Because of lined section, it cannot pick up silt.

Component of lift canal irrigation :-

Pumps :- Types of pumps used for lifting water

- 1) Centrifugal
- 2) Reciprocating &
- 3) Vertical turbine

Selection of pumps :-

The various consideration governing the selection of type, size & number of pumping unit are as under.

1. Total head
2. Maximum authorised discharge to be lifted.
3. Pump speed.
4. Permissible total suction lift.
5. Monthly demand pattern or capacity factors of the canal.
6. Intake & discharge water surface elevation.
7. Power costs
8. Maximum temp^o, sediment content & chemical quality of water.

Electric motor → :

The pump is powered by electric motor. Double circuit is necessarily provided so that if circuit fails the other circuit is there to fall back upon. Depending on the standard of current of the electricity authority concerned & characteristic starting torques, slipping motors are adopted for large size instead of squirrel cage.

Pumping station → :

The layout of pumping station includes the approach channel or conduits pumps & valves, the discharge line & exit channel.

Operation of pumping station is dependent on suitable inlet conditions & layout of sump pits.

Water

Economics

Discharge measurement → :

A meter flame is provided in the canal suitably removed from the pump station to measure discharge corresponding to gauge depth. The measurement of pump output is obtained by the application of efficiency obtained from shop motor test results to pump input in field.

Intake well → :

It is a well constructed in the bed of the river at a suitable site to tap the water. It should have its upper portion constructed above the minimum water level; ~~expected~~ at any time. The bottom portion embedded well below the bed of the river.

Intake pipe line → :

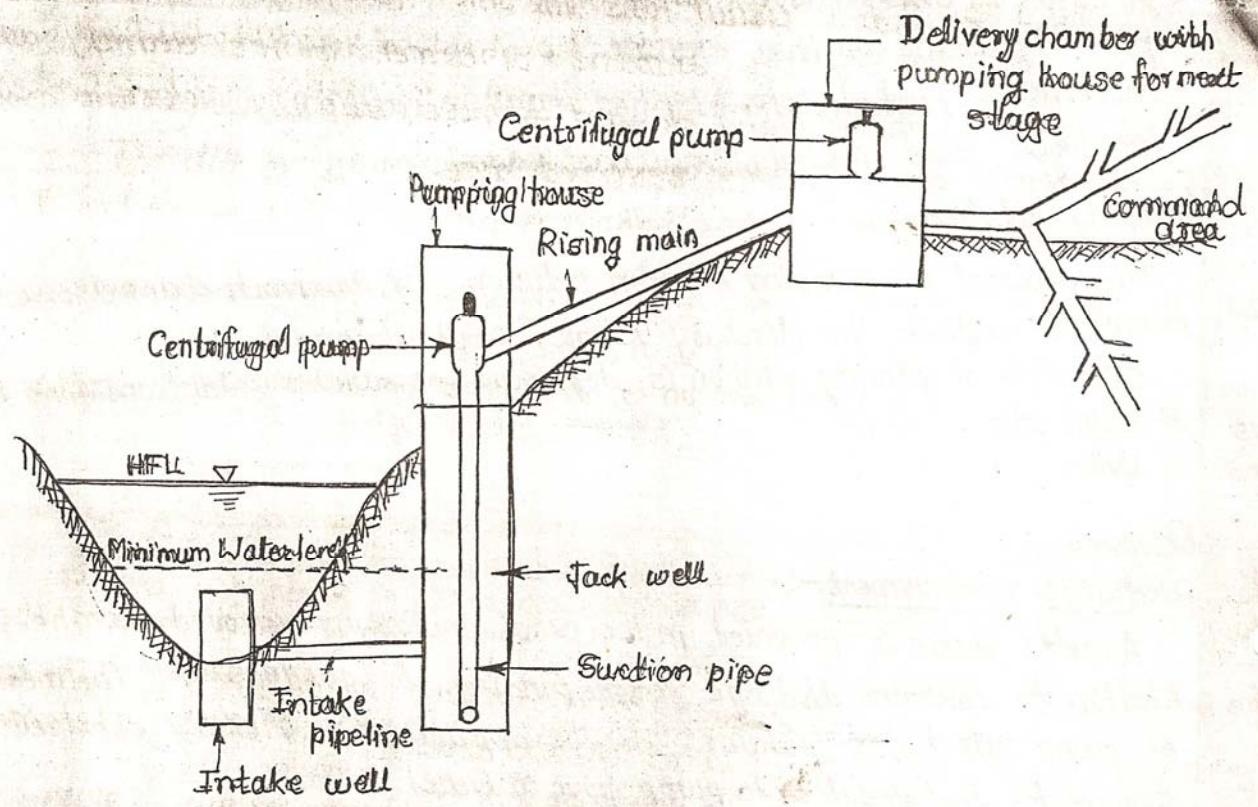
The purpose of intake pipe is to convey the water collected into the intake well to the jack well which is constructed to lift the water to the rising main.

Jack well → :

The water from the intake well is carried to the jack well.

Distribution system → :

The water may be conveyed to the command area either by irrigation canals or by suitable underground distribution system depending upon the site conditions etc.



SECTION OF A SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF LIFT IRRⁿ

WARABANDI ***

INTRODUCTION: In term Warabandi
Wara means 'turn' & bandi means
fixation. It is a type of distri-
bution system. It is the rotation of
water supply according to fix schedule.

DEFINITION: It is a distribution
system where main objective is
to attain high efficiency of water by
timely supply of water on specified
days between fixed time intervals.

PRINCIPLES INVOLVED: The specification of
the day & time involved when a
farmer will receive water and
duration of water supply deter-
mined on the basis of the size of
and holding in the outlet command.

SIGNIFICANCE: are as follows :-

Equity: everybody entitled to receive
water in the proportion.

Guarability: The farmer is informed in
advance about the time when he can
receive water.

Inadequacy: water is supplied accord-
ing to user duties & standards by
specialists.

Coverage: The total area to be irrigated is
specified & fulfilled.

Discipline: Once turns are fixed and
the water supply is adequate there is
no need to intrude on others rights.

Common destiny: Everybody
interest are same thus it is a common
interest in preserving the system.

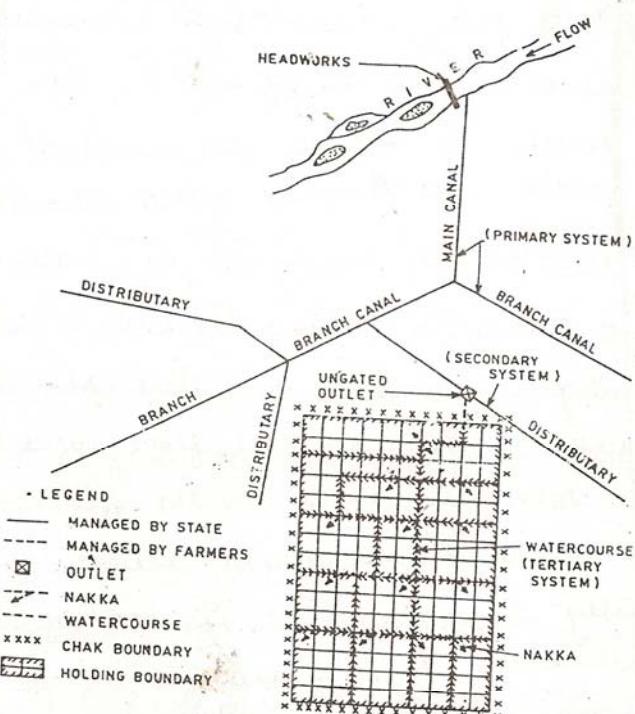


Fig. 5.10 Typical Warabandi Distribution system (4)

(iii) **Economy:** Since the time period when
water is available is fixed farmers
feel encourage to economise water by
irrigating as much area as they can.

***LIMITATIONS:** are as follows:-

i) **Technical:** The canal design or existing
canal capabilities and control structures upto
outlet are not suitable to supply water
in a adequate quantity at the required
time.

ii) **Administrative:** There is a penalty for
using water to irrigate an additional
area within the time allocated. Thus effort
and fair water is subjected to penalty.

iii) **Social:** The bigger farmers or those
located at the head branch who get more
water than others may control the system.