

## **GEOGRAPHICAL PERSPECTIVES OF IRRIGATION IN DROUGHT PRONE ANANTAPURAM DISTRICT , ANDHRA PRADESH**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Irrigation is a basic determinant of agriculture because its inadequacies are the most powerful constraints on the increase of agricultural production, particularly in the dry land farming regions. In the dry lands, farming is possible only if the annual rainfall is 500-750 mm. Agriculture is precarious and production is meagre where rainfall ranges between 300-500 mm. Farming without irrigation is very limited and if the rainfall decreases to less than 30 cm, agriculture becomes impossible without irrigation. In this context, an attempt is made here to study the spatial patterns of different types of irrigation such as, Tube wells, Canals, Tanks, Dug wells and other sources in the drought prone Anantapuram district of Andhra Pradesh, where the annual average rainfall is only 550 mm. It is considered as 2<sup>nd</sup> driest place in India after Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. In addition to the spatial patterns of different types of Irrigation, Irrigation Intensity and Degree of Irrigation Intensity have also been attempted for the year 2010-2011. This kind of studies will furnish the ground truth for better planning of problem areas and backward areas.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Irrigation types, Intensity of irrigation, Degree of Intensity of irrigation.*