

Sri Lanka Association for Advancement of Science Section C

Wewa-Ellangawa System

A Blueprint for Indigenous Technology in Sustainable Water Utilization



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The Wewa-Ellangawa system is an ancient Sri Lankan hydrological application designed to optimize water management strategies. This interconnected network of wewas (reservoirs) regulates water flow, prevents floods, and conserves soil. It enhances groundwater recharge, biodiversity, and climate resilience, sustaining water utilization and ecosystems. Despite its effectiveness, modernization has led to its decline. However, with rising concerns over water scarcity and food security, there is renewed interest in reviving and integrating system indigenous with techniques. This presentation highlights its historical significance and potential as a sustainable irrigation solution for the future.

