

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1308**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2024

**FINANCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT TO FARMERS**

1308. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to provide adequate financial and technological support to farmers to learn the latest scientific developments and advancements in farming methods to get good yield of crops using optimum water and fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the financial support provided to farmers in the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) the effective measures taken by Government to provide lower riparian States like Tamil Nadu adequate supply of river water for irrigation during crop seasons?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): With the objective to improve water use efficiency at farm level, the Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) in the Country from 2015-16. Under the Scheme, Micro Irrigation Systems, namely, Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation are promoted. Adoption of Micro Irrigation results in improved water use efficiency, reduced fertilizer usage through fertigation, increase in crop yield and enhancement of income of the farmers. Financial Assistance @ 55% for Small & Marginal farmers and @ 45% for Other farmers is provided by the Government for installation of Micro Irrigation under the Scheme. The operational guidelines of PDMC Scheme provide for organizing training programs, skill development and exposure visits etc. for farmers to encourage them to adopt micro irrigation. An amount of Rs. 11063.20 Crore as Central Assistance has been provided to States/UTs for implementation of PDMC during the last five years. Year wise details of the same are as under :

Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Central Assistance (Rs. in crore)	2700.02	2562.19	1796.12	1901.37	2103.50	11063.20

The Government is also encouraging use of new innovative fertilizer, namely, Nano Urea, Nano DAP, Nano Phosphorus, Nano Zinc and Nano Copper. The use of Nano fertilizers results in economic saving to the farmers, increase in productivity and reduce import dependence. To enhance crop yield and effective use of water as well as to minimize vulnerability against climate change, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under

National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) demonstrates climate resilient technologies, namely, drought tolerant short duration varieties, crop diversification, integrated farming systems, soil & water conservation measures etc. at farmers' fields. The Program covered 151 most vulnerable districts in the country. ICAR also conducts training on improved agricultural practices including crop diversification programme, scientific crop and water management technologies such as mulching, piped irrigation and micro-irrigation, application of critical inputs to improve water use efficiency etc. Exposure visits are also undertaken by ICAR on water and crop management.

(c) The Government launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) during the year 2015-16 to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is one of the major components of PMKSY. The AIBP focuses on completion of on-going Major and Medium Irrigation projects. The irrigation projects under the Programme ensure availability of irrigation water to riparian states during crop seasons and also ensure allocation of water to riparian States where the projects are undertaken. The projects also provide additional benefits like hydropower generation, drinking and industrial water supply, development of fisheries, tourism etc. A Project for Formation of Flood Carrier Canal from Kannadian Channel to drought prone area of Sathankulam, Thisaiyanvilai by interlinking Tamirabarani, Karumeniyar and Nambiyar rivers in Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts of Tamilnadu is being implemented under AIBP with targeted Irrigation Potential of 23.04 thousand hectare. So far 20.66 thousand hectare Irrigation Potential has been created through this project.

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