

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2416
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/03/2026

**CONSIDERATION TO INCREASE CENTRAL SUBSIDY SUPPORT FOR
MICRO-IRRIGATION**

2416. SHRI MEDA RAGHUNADHA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government has received and considered Andhra Pradesh's request to increase Central subsidy support for micro-irrigation from 55 per cent to 90 per cent for small and marginal farmers in Andhra Pradesh, especially in drought prone districts of Rayalaseema region;
- (b) if so, the status of approval, amount of Central funds committed and timeline for rollout;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the criteria under the Central Micro-Irrigation Fund/subsidy scheme for subsidy rate increases and the manner in which it aligns with Andhra Pradesh's request; and
- (e) the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Under Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme, financial assistance for installation of Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems is provided at the rate of 55% to Small and Marginal Farmers, 45% to other farmers and 90% to the beneficiaries of Forest Rights Act (FRA) Patta holders. The subsidy pattern is applicable to all the States/UTs uniformly without any difference with respect to area or district. Many States including the State of Andhra Pradesh provide top-up subsidy taking up assistance to farmers up to 90 % of the micro irrigation cost.

During the year 2025–26, ₹241.91 crore was initially allocated to the State under PDMC. Based on the request received from the State Government, the allocation was enhanced to ₹291.91 crore.

(d) & (e): Government of India has created Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to facilitate the States to avail loan for mobilizing resources for expanding coverage of micro irrigation and for providing top-up subsidy for micro irrigation beyond the provisions available under PDMC Scheme. Govt. of India bears interest subvention liability @ 2%.

During 2019-2021, loan amount of Rs. 616.13 crore was sanctioned to the State of Andhra Pradesh under MIF for providing top-up subsidy under PDMC and the entire sanctioned amount was availed by the State.
