

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1901
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2026
SOLAR-POWER IRRIGATION SYSTEMS IN TAMIL NADU

1901. SHRI CONSTANDINE RAVINDRAN

WILL THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY BE PLEASED TO
STATE:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the potential for expanding solar-powered irrigation systems in Tamil Nadu to reduce dependence on conventional agricultural electricity connections and improve irrigation reliability;
- (b) the details of financial assistance, subsidies and incentives extended by Government under various schemes for installation of standalone and grid-connected solar pumps in the State;
- (c) the progress achieved in implementation of renewable energy-based irrigation solutions in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to encourage farmers, cooperatives and farmer producer organisations to adopt solar-powered irrigation infrastructure?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) PM-KUSUM is the flagship scheme of the Ministry for deployment of solar-powered irrigation systems and is a demand-driven scheme. The capacities are allocated based on proposals received from States/UTs and their implementation progress. Based on the demand projected by the Government of Tamil Nadu, 5,187 solar pumps have been allocated to the State under the Scheme. The deployment of these systems is expected to reduce dependence on conventional agricultural electricity supply while improving the availability of reliable daytime power for irrigation.

(b) Under PM-KUSUM, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) is available for installation of standalone solar pumps under Component-B and solarisation of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps under Component-C. The CFA and financial assistance pattern are provided in **Annexure-I**.

As reported by the State Implementing Agency, the Government of Tamil Nadu is additionally providing 30–50% State financial support for SC, ST and Small & Marginal Farmers.

(c) As reported by the State Implementing Agency, total of 5,186 solar pumps have been installed in the state of Tamil Nadu till 30.06.2026

(d) To encourage adoption of solar-powered irrigation systems by farmers, cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), the Ministry undertakes regular awareness, capacity-building and stakeholder engagement activities under PM-KUSUM. These include regional workshops, review meetings with States, capacity-building programmes, print, television and radio outreach campaigns, and continuous monitoring of scheme implementation with States and DISCOMs to facilitate timely implementation and greater beneficiary participation.

Annexure-I referred to in reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1901 to be answered on 04.08.2026

Financial Assistance for installation of standalone and grid connected pumps under PM-KUSUM Scheme

Components, Targets & Criteria	Financial Assistance available
Component B	• CFA of 30% of the benchmark cost issued by MNRE or the prices of the systems discovered in the tender, whichever is lower is provided. • However, in North Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, Lakshadweep and A&N Islands, CFA of 50% of the benchmark cost issued by MNRE or the prices of the systems discovered in the tender, whichever is lower, is provided.
Component C (Individual Pump Solarisation)	• In addition, the respective state/UT has to provide at least 30% financial support. Balance cost is to be contributed by beneficiary. • Component B and Component C (IPS) of PM KUSUM scheme can also be implemented without State share of 30%. The Central Financial Assistance will continue to remain 30% and rest 70% will be borne by the farmer.