

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.362
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH FEBRUARY, 2019

WATER CONSUMPTION IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE

362. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the efficiency of water consumption in agriculture in India compared with that in other countries;
- (b) the reasons for the low efficiency of water consumption in agriculture in India; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the efficiency of water consumption in agriculture?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): As per Twelfth Five Year Plan document published in May 2013, water use efficiency in agriculture in India is around 38 per cent compared to 45-60 per cent in some of the countries.

The factors identified by the Central Water Commission (CWC) in the document for explaining the low water use efficiency levels are less maintenance of canals & distribution network resulting in growth of weeds and vegetation within them, siltation of canals, damage of lining in lined canals, distortion of canal sections due to siltation / collapse of slopes, leakages in gates and shutters etc.

(c): With the objective to enhance water use efficiency in the agriculture sector, Government of India launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in January 2006 to promote Micro Irrigation technologies viz. drip & sprinkler irrigation systems. This was up-scaled to National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June 2010, which continued till the financial year 2013-14. From 1st April, 2014, NMMI was subsumed under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and implemented as "On Farm Water Management" (OFWM) during the financial year 2014-15. From 2015-16, Micro Irrigation component of OFWM has been subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) as a component of "Per Drop More Crop". The PMKSY- Per Drop More Crop mainly focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through precision/micro irrigation.

Besides, under the Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) programme of PMKSY, lined field channels are being constructed and wherever possible underground pipeline network is being laid for providing last-mile connectivity to the irrigation system to enhance irrigation efficiency.
