

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 389
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28TH MARCH, 2023

SCHEME FOR MICRO IRRIGATION

*389. SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any scheme for coverage of area under micro irrigation throughout the country to benefit the farmer community;
- (b) if so, the benefits being gained by the farmers from the said scheme and the achievements made thereunder so far; and
- (c) the details of the incentives given to the farmers to promote the use of micro irrigation by the Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 389 DUE FOR REPLY ON 28TH MARCH, 2023.**

(a): The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) from the year 2015-16 for coverage of area under micro irrigation in the Country to benefit the farmer community. During the year 2015-16 to 2021-22, the PDMC was implemented as a component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. From the year 2022-23, the PDMC is being implemented under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

(b) & (c): The PDMC scheme focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation namely Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation systems. Financial assistance of 55% to Small & Marginal farmers and 45% to Other farmers is provided under the scheme for installation of Micro Irrigation systems. In addition, some States provide additional incentives/top up subsidy for encouraging farmers to adopt Micro Irrigation. 25% higher unit cost of Micro Irrigation systems have been taken into calculation of subsidy for the North Eastern & Himalayan States/UTs and 15% higher for the States having low penetration of Micro Irrigation.

So far, an area of 76.06 lakh ha have been covered under Micro Irrigation in the Country through PDMC scheme with release of Central Assistance of Rs. 17973.07 crore to States.

Micro Irrigation helps in water saving as well as reducing fertilizer usage through fertigation, labour expenses, other input costs and in overall income enhancement of the farmers. The NITI Aayog conducted evaluation study on PDMC scheme in 2020. The major findings of the study are:

- The scheme is relevant in achieving national priorities such as substantially improving on-farm water use efficiency, enhancing crop productivity, generating employment opportunities etc.
- Micro irrigation adoption has helped to save water and water use efficiency improved around 30% to 70%.
- Created direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- Income of farmers has increased in the range of 10% to 69%.
