

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3281
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21st MARCH, 2023

PER DROP MORE CROP

3281. DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
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 is implementing Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme and if so, the purpose of launching the scheme;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study on the impact of PDMC on farmers in the country including Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated by the Government during the last three years under the PDMC scheme;
- (d) whether micro irrigation system helps in increasing efficiency in water usage, production and productivity and agriculture income under PDMC scheme;
- (e) the major conclusion of the evaluation study of PDMC done by the NITI Aayog along with the details thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to promote micro irrigation schemes?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a), (c) & (d) : The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme from the year 2015-16 in the Country which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation namely Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation systems. Micro Irrigation helps in water saving as well as reduced fertilizer usage through fertigation, labour expenses, other input costs and overall income enhancement of farmers etc.

During the last three years, Central Assistance of Rs. 7058.33 crore has been released to the States under the scheme.

(b) & (e) : The NITI Aayog conducted evaluation study on PDMC scheme in 2020 in various States including Maharashtra. 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.
- Water use efficiency has improved around 30% to 70%.
- Created direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- Income of farmers has increased in the range of 10% to 69%.

(f) : To facilitate the States in mobilising resources for expanding coverage of micro irrigation, a Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) with corpus of Rs. 5000 crore was created with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during 2018-19. States can avail loan from MIF for taking up special and innovative projects for expanding coverage of Micro Irrigation and also for incentivising micro irrigation beyond the provisions available under PDMC scheme to encourage farmers. Government of India provides interest subvention on the loan availed by the States under MIF through PDMC scheme.

Farmers are encouraged to take advantage of micro irrigation technologies by creating awareness through press & print media, publication of leaflets/booklets, organization of workshops, exhibitions, farmer fairs, information on State/Government of India web portals etc. In addition, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting research through coordinated trials to develop irrigation schedules for different crops in different agro-climatic conditions under drip irrigation. ICAR also demonstrates the beneficial effect of drip irrigation through field demonstration, training and public campaigns.
