

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5397
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH APRIL, 2022

MINOR AND WATERSHED IRRIGATION

5397. SHRI SADASHIV KISAN LOKHANDE:

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

- (a) whether minor and watershed irrigation is not being properly used in agriculture in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government for the maximum utilization of minor and watershed irrigation in agriculture; and
- (d) the extent to which success has been achieved by the Government through the said efforts?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Works related to Surface Minor Irrigation and Watershed Development are planned, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to States to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of these activities through various schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) implementing from 2015-16. The details are as under:

The Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies schemes are being implemented by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD&GR) under the Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) component of PMKSY. Watershed Development is being implemented by the Department of Land Resource (DoLR) as a component of PMKSY.

The DoWR, RD&GR provides Central Assistance (CA) to States for creation and restoration of Irrigation Potential through the SMI and RRR of Water Bodies schemes. Under SMI scheme, 6213 schemes are ongoing from 12th plan onwards and CA of Rs. 8017 crores have been released to states upto March, 2021. Out of which, 3891 schemes have been reported to be completed by March, 2021. Further, 6.92 lakh ha irrigation potential is reported to be created till March, 2021. During the same period, 2228 schemes are ongoing under the RRR of Water Bodies scheme and Central Assistance (CA) of Rs. 469.69 crore has been released to states upto March, 2021. Out of which, 1549 water bodies have been reported to be completed by March, 2021. Further, 1.31 lakh ha irrigation potential is reported to be restored till March, 2021.

The Watershed Development Component of PMKSY (WDC-PMKSY) is principally for development of rainfed / degraded lands. The activities being undertaken through the watershed development projects *inter alia* include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for assetless persons etc. During 2009-10 to 2014-15, total 8214 watershed development projects have been sanctioned in 28 States (now 27 States and UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) under the erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). Out of these sanctioned projects, 1832 projects were later transferred to States for implementation from their own resources and balance 6382 projects were being funded by DoLR. Out of the 6382 projects, 5265 projects have reported completed as on 28.02.2022. The project period of WDC-PMKSY got over on 31.03.2021. As per the information received from the States /UTs, about 6.52 lakh water harvesting structures have been created / rejuvenated, an additional area of about 14.40 lakh ha has been brought under protective irrigation and about 31.22 lakh farmers have been benefitted from 2015-16 to 2021-22 (up to Quarter 3) . Further, during 2018-19 to 2021-22 (up to Quarter 3), about 1.51 lakh ha area has been brought under plantation (Horticulture / Afforestation), about 3.29 lakh ha area of culturable wasteland has been treated in completed projects.

The continuation of WDC-PMKSY has been approved by Government of India on 15.12.2021 as 'WDC-PMKSY 2.0' for the project period of 2021-2026 with a physical target of 49.50 lakh ha and indicative Central financial outlay of Rs. 8,134 crore. As on 31.03.2022, DoLR has sanctioned 1099 projects to States/UTs covering an area of 49.21 lakh hectare under the scheme and an amount of Rs. 1165.17 crore as CA has been released to States/UTs. End-line evaluation reports of completed projects revealed considerable improvements due to watershed interventions, on the water table, crop productivity, milk production and per capita income.
