GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3279

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025

CONSUMPTION OF WATER

†3279. SHRI ANOOP PRADHAN VALMIKI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that agriculture is the largest consumer of water in India utilizing 72 percent of total water withdrawals followed by the municipalities (16 percent) and industries (12 percent);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the farmers to adopt modern technologies such as drip irrigation, precision agriculture and wastewater recycling to reduce water wastage in agriculture and industries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Yes, the Government is aware that agriculture is the largest consumer of water in India. The Government does not maintain the data on overall water utilization in India. However, the assessment done by National Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development (1999) had assessed the consumption of water for Agriculture (for the year 2025) as 72.4 % followed by Industry at 7.9 % and domestic use at 7.4 % , of India's total water demand.

(c) Government of India through Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, operate Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) component under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to promote the use of drip and sprinklers in the farms through DBT to farmers. The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has initiated Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management (M-CADWM) scheme to supply pressurized canal water to farms. This will also encourage farmers to adopt drip and sprinklers for irrigation at the farm. This scheme also proposes to promote conjunctive and integrated use of all sources of water in the command including canal water, water tanks, water bodies, ground water, treated and recycled waste water in an optimal manner through convergence with other schemes.

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