

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3915
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH MARCH, 2025

MICRO IRRIGATION SUPPORT TO FARMERS

3915. SHRI GURMEET SINGH MEET HAYER:

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

- (a) the steps that has been taken by the Government to promote micro-irrigation in Punjab's Malwa region to address groundwater depletion as the region, including districts of Sangrur and Malerkotla, faces severe groundwater depletion and Micro-irrigation (drip & sprinkler systems) can help conserve water and improve efficiency, especially for vegetable and horticulture farming;
- (b) whether there are any subsidies or financial incentives for farmers to adopt drip and sprinkler irrigation, particularly for vegetables and horticulture;
- (c) the details of the current coverage of micro-irrigation in the region and the details of the future targets; and
- (d) whether there are any specific initiatives for Sangrur and Malerkotla, considering its significant vegetable and horticulture production and high water demand, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) Scheme is under implementation in the country including State of Punjab since 2015-16. PDMC focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation, namely, drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. The scheme is being implemented in all districts of Punjab including Malwa region.
- (b): Under PDMC Scheme, financial assistance is provided to farmers for installation of micro irrigation systems @ 55% and 45% of the unit cost to small & marginal farmers and other farmers respectively in various crops including vegetables and horticulture crops. Apart from this, the State Government of Punjab is providing additional top-up subsidy to encourage farmers to adopt micro irrigation.
- (c): As reported by State Government of Punjab, since 2015-16 till February, 2025, 26,104 hectares has been covered under Micro-irrigation through PDMC scheme in Malwa region.
- (d): As reported by State Government of Punjab, in order to meet high water demand for cultivation of various crops including vegetable and horticulture crops in Sangrur and Malerkotla districts, State Government of Punjab is providing financial & technical assistance for laying of underground pipeline from canal outlets for irrigation of tail-end and far-flung areas.