

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1388
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH JULY, 2025

CULTIVABLE AREAS COVERED UNDER MICRO-IRRIGATION

1388. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

- (a) the percentage of cultivable area covered under micro-irrigation (drip and sprinkler) through the Per Drop More Crop component of PMKSY, specifically for the Eastern and North Eastern States;
- (b) whether remote sensing and sensor-based systems have been integrated to track water-use efficiency at the plot level; and
- (c) the main challenges reported by States with below-average coverage and the actions taken by the Government?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Government is implementing Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme from 2015-16 to promote micro irrigation in the country. From 2015-16 till 30.6.2025, 102.56 lakh ha area has been covered under Micro Irrigation in the country through PDMC which includes 1.57 lakh ha in the North- Eastern States. Accordingly, the percentage of cultivable area covered under micro-irrigation in the country is 5.71% and in the North Eastern States is 2.46%.

(b): Operational guidelines of PDMC has provision for providing financial assistance to the farmers to adopt Automation in the Micro Irrigation Systems for ease of operation with minimal or no manual intervention thereby achieving greater efficiency.

(c): To increase uptake of the scheme in some states, including Eastern and North Eastern States, a provision has been made in Operational Guidelines of the PDMC for 25% higher unit cost for calculation of subsidy for the North Eastern & Himalayan states and 15% higher for the other low penetration States for coverage of more area under the scheme.

Further, Government of India has created Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to facilitate the States in mobilising resources for expanding coverage of micro irrigation. 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 which is met from PDMC Scheme.
