

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4528

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015

DRIP IRRIGATION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total sowing area covered with drip irrigation in the country at present, State-wise including Sikkim, Chhattisgarh;
- (b) whether the Government has put in place any action plan to bring more sowing area under the drip irrigation and micro irrigation in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has a scheme to provide minor irrigation equipments such as tubewells etc. to the farmers of non-irrigated areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of steps taken/under consideration of the Government to promote the use of water-efficient technologies in agriculture;
- (e) whether the Government has signed any MoU/Agreement for technology transfer with foreign country in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the amounts of funds allocated by the Union Government to various States including Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): As per available information, 3.32 Million ha area has been covered under drip irrigation in the country at present. The State-wise details of area covered under drip irrigation including Sikkim and Chhattisgarh is at Annexure-I.

(b): The Government of India has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation (MI) with the objective of bringing more area under Micro irrigation including drip irrigation since January, 2006, which was up-scaled as the National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June, 2010. From 1st April, 2014, NMMI was subsumed under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and was implemented as "On Farm Water Management" (OFWM). Announcement has been made in the Budget (2015-16) for providing funds for Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) under which funds have been earmarked for Micro Irrigation including drip irrigation.

(c): The activities such as construction of tubewells / borewells (shallow / medium) are being promoted under Rainfed Area Development (RAD) component of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) in areas which are not categorized under overexploited, critical and semi-critical zones by Central Ground Water Board. In addition, re-charge of defunct borewell, pipe / pre-cast distribution system and water lifting devices (electric, diesel, wind / solar) are also being supported under RAD in rainfed areas in projectised mode in selected clusters.

(d): Various steps taken in this regard by the Government of India are as under:-

Providing financial assistance for technologies having focus on water saving/ water conservation such as Micro Irrigation, mulching etc.

Creating awareness among stakeholders through training programmes, seminars, workshops and visits to witness technology in India and overseas.

(e): No specific MoU/Agreement has been signed / entered into with foreign countries for technology transfer. However, Umbrella MoUs/ Agreements with 52 foreign countries have been signed wherein areas identified for cooperation also includes joint activities and exchange programmes in agricultural and allied activity including irrigation, solar and water management, rainfed farming system development and integrated water shed development. Besides this, an Indo-Israeli work plan was signed in 2006 for cooperation in a number of areas such as energy efficient green houses, recycling of waste water for irrigation, post-harvest management for horticulture and dairy products, dairy development through genetic improvement, extension services, training and visiting facilities in respective countries. As part of this work plan, an Indo - Israeli Agriculture Action Plan was initiated during 2008 - 2010 which was subsequently extended for implementation till 2015 under which Centres of Excellence (CoE) for fruits, vegetables and flowers have been formed with the technical support of Israeli experts for increasing the production and productivity of horticulture crops in the country.

(f): The State-wise details including Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh regarding amounts of funds released to for Micro Irrigation during last three years is at Annexure-II. The proposed allocation during current financial year (2015-16) for Micro Irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is at Annexure-III.