

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3694
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014
DRIP IRRIGATION
Patil Shri Sanjay(Kaka) Ramchandra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that by drip irrigation more hectare can be irrigated by less amount of water in proportion to per hectare flow irrigation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of per hectare ratio of water that is required for flow irrigation and drip irrigation;
- (d) whether drip irrigation is more costly than flow irrigation;
- (e) whether due to high cost, farmers do not opt for drip irrigation in the country; and
- (f) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government to promote drip irrigation in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. It is a fact that more area can be irrigated adopting Micro Irrigation including Drip Irrigation using less amount of water in comparison to area that can be irrigated adopting flow irrigation. Studies conducted on the aspect have revealed that (i) irrigated area has increased from same source of water by 8.41% on an average with the use of Micro Irrigation Systems and (ii) the water use efficiency in conventional irrigation ranges from 30% to 50% whereas it is 80% to 95% in the case of Micro Irrigation including Drip Irrigation.

(d) & (e): The initial investment in Micro Irrigation System including Drip Irrigation is more than flow irrigation. However, water saving, reduction in input costs (like labour, fertilizer, electricity etc), increase in productivity & qualities of produce, early maturity are the motivational factors which drive the farmers to opt for Micro Irrigation Systems.

(f): The Government is providing financial assistance under On Farm Water Management (OFWM) component of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) for promotion of Micro Irrigation. The rate of assistance ranges from 35% to 50% of cost of installation for small & marginal farmers and ranges from 25% to 35% of cost of installation for other farmers. In addition to the central assistance, 10% assistance is required to be provided by the State Governments to the farmers.