



IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023 EDITION VOLUME IAI/23/03

NATIONAL NEWS



UNION BUDGET 2023-2024, PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAYEE YOJNA (PMKSY)

In the Union Budget 2023-2024, PMKSY has been allocated ₹ 6,022 crores. This includes Har Khet Ko Paani (₹ 300 crores), Command Area and Water Development (₹ 400 crores), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (₹ 3122 crores) and Watershed Development Component (₹ 2200 crores). According to Outcomes Framework of the Budget, PMKSY will mainly focus on creating irrigation potential, increasing the utilization of existing irrigation and strengthening participatory irrigation management.

(Source: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>)

WATER FOR DROUGHT PRONE REGION IN THE UPPER BHADRA PROJECT

During the Union Budget announcements, Honorable Minister of Finance Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman announced central assistance of ₹ 5,300 crores to the Upper Bhadra Project. The project will help provide sustainable micro irrigation and filling up of surface tanks for drinking water in the drought prone Central region of Karnataka. According to the State Government, the project is a major lift irrigation scheme planned to irrigate 2.25 Lakh Hectares spread across the drought-prone central districts.



(Source: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2022-23/index.php>)

UNION BUDGET 2023-2024 (PER DROP MORE CROP SCHEME)

The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) has been allocated ₹ 7,150 crores in the Union Budget 2023-2024. Since 2022-2023, Per Drop More Crop (PDMC), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, National Project on Soil and Health Fertility, Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (including Management of Crop Residue), have been merged with RKVY. According to the Outputs Framework of the Budget, 10 Lakh ha will be covered under Micro Irrigation under PDMC in 2023-2024. The MoA&FW can utilize allocated funds under the RKVY scheme to achieve the target of 10 Lakh Ha.

INDIA'S FIRST FPO CALL CENTER INAUGURATED IN NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare launched India's first FPO Call Centre at New Delhi. The call centre has been launched by Krishi Jagaran and AFC India Limited. The Call center will be helpful in the development and functioning of FPO's.

(Source: <https://krishijagaran.com/news/in-a-historic-move-indias-first-fpo-call-center-inaugurated-in-new-delhi/>)

COVERAGE OF MICRO IRRIGATION IN INDIA

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) recently released coverage of Micro Irrigation in India for the period 2016-2022. Between 2017 and 2022, 49.83 Lakh Ha were brought under micro irrigation. Currently 141.88 Lakh Ha coverage is under Micro Irrigation.

"CURRENTLY 141.88 LAKH HA ARE UNDER MICRO IRRIGATION"

(Source: <https://agricoop.nic.in/sites/default/files/Area%20cover%202005-06%20to%202019-20.pdf>)

CARBON CREDIT CELL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

A Carbon Credit Cell has been created under the NRM Division of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India. The Cell includes members of leading Agricultural Research Institutions, State Agricultural Universities, Irrigation Association of India, Ag-Tech Companies, Start Ups and Entrepreneurs working on Carbon Credits in agriculture. The Cell will work on the development of a framework for Carbon Markets in Agriculture sector and will include development of projects, setting standards, role of aggregators, capacity building, use of technology, monitoring and evaluation framework and impact assessment of mitigation activities. Subsequent meetings of the Carbon Credit Cell will focus on challenges of regenerative agriculture, barriers to adoption, domestic registries and integrity of data.

CENTRE EXTENDS PM-KUSUM SCHEME

The Centre has extended PM-KUSUM Yojana till March 2026 as its implementation was significantly affected because of the pandemic. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan, popularly known as **PM-KUSUM** was launched in the year 2019 aimed at adding solar capacity of 30,800 megawatt by 2022. According to the Minister for New and Renewable Energy, Shri R K Singh the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has also conducted a third-party assessment of PM Kusum and based on the recommendations, the scheme has been extended till 31st March 2026.

(Source: <https://krishijagran.com/news/good-news-for-farmers-centre-extends-pm-kusum-scheme-till-march-2026-know-how-to-apply/>)



INDUSTRY NEWS



REGISTRATION OF MICRO IRRIGATION MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN MAHARASHTRA

The Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra has recently issued a Notification to Micro-Irrigation Manufacturers for Registration under Per Drop More Crop (Micro Irrigation) component of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) Scheme for the plan period 2023-2024 to 2027-2028. Manufacturers who are already Registered in Maharashtra and whose Registration will expire in March 2023 need to apply for renewal of Registration. Registration is also open to Manufacturers willing to work in the State for the 1st time. Manufacturers of Drip and Sprinkler systems (both agriculture and horticulture crops) need to submit filled in Registration forms to the office of **"The Director(Horticulture), Commissionerate of Agriculture, Maharashtra"**. The last date for New Registration is 16th of every month.

(Source: Renewal Notification, Commissionerate of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra)



REGISTRATION OF MICRO IRRIGATION (MI) MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN MADHYA PRADESH

The Department of Horticulture and Food Processing, Government of Madhya Pradesh has released a list of 81 MI companies registered with the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing. The Department is the State Nodal Agency for implementation of the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme in Madhya Pradesh. The Registered Manufacturers will support the department in design and installation of Micro Irrigation Systems (MIS) in farmers' fields in the state. They will also provide the farmer with necessary training on usage of the system, maintenance of the system and various other after sales services.

(Source: <https://mpfstms.mp.gov.in/mphd/#/>)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



UTILIZE SOIL MOISTURE SENSORS TO MAINTAIN OPTIMAL LEVELS DURING THE PRODUCTION SEASON

An article “Going Deep” was recently published in Irrigation TODAY, the monthly magazine of Irrigation Association, USA. The article talks about the use of soil moisture sensors in scheduling irrigation in crops. The article is based on the study of varying soil moisture conditions in corn and corresponding irrigation requirements. The study presents an automated approach to irrigation scheduling and provides valuable information to decision makers on timely application of water to crops.

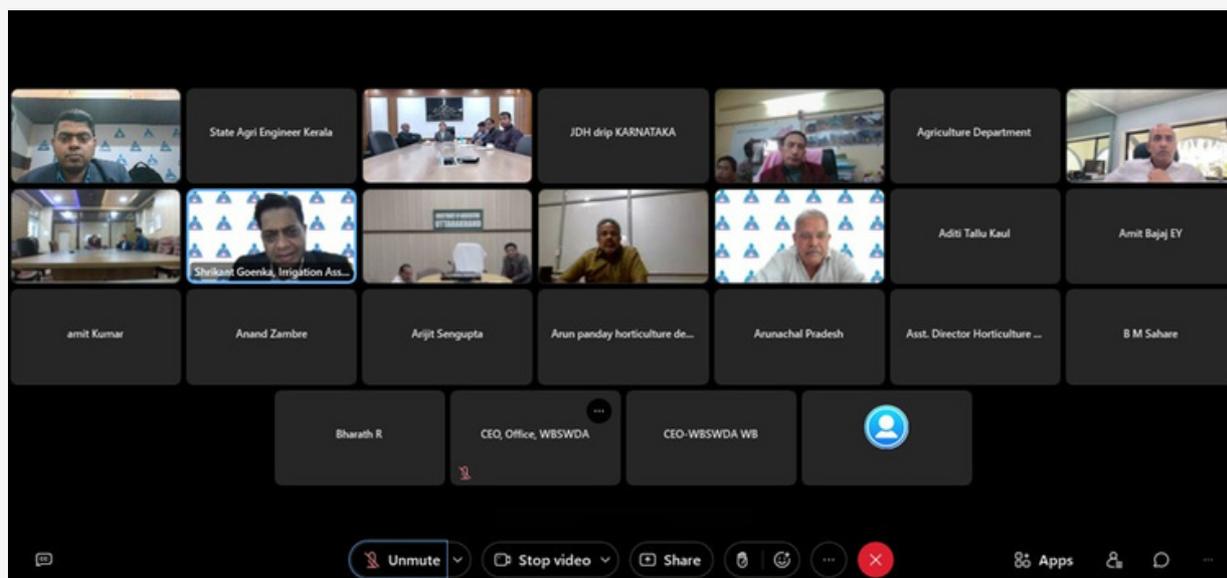
(Source: <https://irrigationtoday.org/features/going-deep/>)

NETAFIM DEVELOPS FIRST CARBON CREDITS INITIATIVE FOR RICE GROWERS

Netafim Israel has launched the 1st carbon credits initiative for rice growers. According to an article published in Irrigation Association, USA, Netafim’s carbon credit program is a pioneering example of the company’s commitment to solving global food security and economic enablement while contributing to a healthy planet”. According to the article, adoption of drip irrigation in 10% rice farmers will result in carbon emission reductions equivalent to emissions released by 40 million cars. The program marks the first time a carbon credit is being generated based on the application of irrigation technology.

(Source: <https://irrigationtoday.org/news/netafim-develops-first-carbon-credits-initiative-for-rice-growers/>)

IAI UPDATES



REVISION OF OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES OF PER DROP MORE CROP

Irrigation Association of India (IAI) has submitted its recommendations on changes in the Operational Guidelines of the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme to MoA&FW. The Guidelines was last revised in 2021 and provides both Central and State Governments with a framework for implementation of the scheme on Micro-Irrigation in their respective states. Based on consultations with members of the Executive Committee and other senior members of the State Chapters, IAI has shared detailed recommendations to the Ministry. These include recommendations on technical, financial and operational components of the guidelines.

MONTHLY REVIEW OF PER DROP MORE CROP SCHEME

Irrigation Association of India attended the monthly review meeting of the Per Drop More Crop Scheme organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on 24th January, 2023.

The Meeting was chaired by Joint Secretary (RFS) Shri Franklin Khobung. The key priority of the Ministry is ensuring utilization of funds released to states in 2022-2023, ensuring timely action plans finalization for 2023-2024 and timely initiation of the scheme in the coming fiscal.

POTENTIAL OF MICRO IRRIGATION IN SURFACE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

The Ministry of Jal Shakti invited recommendations from Irrigation Association of India on the potential of scaling up the adoption of Micro-Irrigation in surface irrigation commands. Since 26 million Ha is irrigated by surface water bodies, improving water use efficiency is key concern of the Ministry. IAI shared its key requirements for enabling Micro Irrigation in surface irrigation, command area development, existing models, innovations and recent developments in the use of Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The recommendations of IAI will help the Ministry is formulating future approaches/policies/ programmes/guidelines to increase the adoption of Micro-Irrigation in Surface Irrigation Commands.



BETTER TOGETHER

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