



IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Newsletter March-April 2026

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IAI in association with MICADA, Govt. of Haryana organized the SMART Irrigation Tech Summit 2026 on 31 March–1 April 2026 at Bhiwani, Haryana



The Irrigation Association of India (IAI), in association with Micro Irrigation Command Area Development Authority (MCADA), organized the SMART Irrigation Tech Summit 2026 on 31 March–1 April 2026 at Bhiwani. The summit was inaugurated by Shri Nayab Singh Saini, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Smt. Shruti Choudhry, Hon'ble Irrigation Minister, Haryana

The summit showcased smart irrigation technologies, automation solutions, and IoT-based systems aimed at promoting water-efficient agriculture and strengthening Haryana's long-term water security and agricultural sustainability.

The exhibition witnessed participation from over 100 micro-irrigation, automation, and agri-tech companies, along with policymakers, government officials, financial institutions, progressive farmers, and FPOs. It featured advanced irrigation systems, fertigation and filtration technologies, sensors, flow controllers, and data-driven smart irrigation solutions.

During the Summit, the Hon'ble Chief Minister launched MCADA 2.0 portal, introducing several farmer-centric and industry-supportive initiatives, including:

- Simplified Farmer Registration and Fund Disbursement Processes
- Additional subsidy of 5% on the mandatory Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- Inclusion of micro-sprinklers, rain-guns and centre-pivots
- Insurance on all installed Micro-Irrigation Systems
- Registration of Micro-Irrigation & Automation Companies and Dealers
- Effective integration of state portal with other central sector schemes under PMKSY and PMKUSM
- IT enabled governance with focus on efficiency, transparency and accountability

IAI delegation met Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare- Govt. of India



Irrigation Association of India (IAI) met with Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare- Govt. of India in the esteemed presence of Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of Labour and Employment & Youth Affairs and Sports at Sansad Bhavan, New Delhi

The IAI delegation, comprising past presidents and industry leaders, highlighted the challenges being faced by the micro-irrigation industry due to rising raw material costs amid ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. Key concerns related to administrative bottlenecks, operational guidelines, and subsidy disbursement processes impacting the adoption of micro-irrigation across states were also discussed.

The Hon'ble Minister assured the delegation of the Government's continued support towards farmers

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and the irrigation industry and directed IAI to submit a detailed representation to his office and meeting in coming months for further discussion to find the resolutions

IAI convened its Gujarat State Chapter Meeting at Vadodara, Gujarat

Irrigation Association of India's Gujarat Chapter held a meeting on 27th April 2026 in Vadodara to



discuss key challenges and future initiatives for the micro-irrigation industry in the water-stressed state of Gujarat.

The meeting was chaired by Shri Abijit Page, Sr. Vice President, IAI along with Shri Randhir Chauhan, Past President, IAI and Shri Hitesh Patel, Chairman, IAI Gujarat Chapter and attended by IAI members and representatives from leading micro-irrigation companies.

During the meeting, Arun Virungama was announced as the new Chairman of IAI Gujarat Chapter, while Jaman Baldha and Rakesh Donga were appointed as Vice Chairman.

Discussions also focused on the impact of rising raw material costs due to geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and the initiatives undertaken by IAI with the Government of India regarding price revisions and industry support.

IAI organized a Micro Irrigation Pavilion during Unnat Krishi Mahotsav, Raisen, Bhopal, MP



Irrigation Association of India (IAI) organized a dedicated Micro Irrigation Pavilion during the Unnat Krishi Mahotsav held at Raisen near Bhopal.

The event was inaugurated by Shri Shivraj Singh, Chouhan, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI, in

esteemed presence of Hon'ble Defence Minister, Hon'ble Chief Minister of MP along with various dignitaries.

During the exhibition IAI members showcased the advanced micro-irrigation technologies, automation solutions, and water-efficient farming practices aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and water conservation. The initiative witnessed active participation from farmers, industry stakeholders, agri-tech companies, and government officials.

IAI engages with Central and State Governments for timely release of Mother Sanction funds to ensure faster benefits to farmers.

Irrigation Association of India (IAI) actively coordinated with State Governments for timely conduct of SLSC meetings and finalization of Annual Action Plans with the Government of India to facilitate early release of the first tranche of Mother Sanction funds under PDMC for FY 2026–27.

These efforts helped ensure that major states received the first tranche of sanctions during April itself for the second consecutive year, enabling timely availability of micro-irrigation systems to farmers during the peak season. IAI will continue to work closely with the Central and State Governments to further strengthen coordination and accelerate implementation under the PDMC programme.

SL No	State	Allocation 26-27	1st Mother Sanction released
1	Andhra Pradesh	314.51	157.26
2	Bihar	83.59	41.80
3	Chhattisgarh	72.45	36.23
4	Gujarat	213.00	106.50
5	Haryana	77.94	38.97
6	Himachal Pradesh	11.08	4.74
7	Jammu & Kashmir	26.72	13.36
8	Jharkhand	63.08	31.54
9	Karnataka	308.33	154.17
10	Kerala	11.92	5.96
11	Ladakh	1.50	0.38
12	Madhya Pradesh	168.73	84.37
13	Maharashtra	249.76	124.88
14	Manipur	21.42	10.71
15	Nagaland	37.31	18.66
16	Orissa	30.82	15.41
17	Puducherry	0.10	0.05
18	Punjab	7.80	3.90
19	Rajasthan	203.56	101.78
20	Tamil Nadu	255.64	127.82
21	Tripura	12.78	6.39
22	West Bengal	64.46	32.23
23	Telangana	146.40	73.20
24	Uttarakhand	23.44	11.72
	Total	2406.340	1202.03

Shahdol gets Rs 2,300 Cr irrigation push



Shri Mohan Yadav Hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh has announced a string of development projects aimed at the political, economic and social empowerment of tribal communities in the state. The projects include an irrigation complex, new educational facilities and major road works. The Shahdol Irrigation Complex approved at an estimated cost of approximately Rs 2,300 crore includes the construction of four micro-irrigation projects on the river Son. The Irrigation complex will expand irrigation coverage by 50,000 hectares across 122 villages in the state.

(Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhopal/shahdol-gets-rs-2300-cr-irrigation-push-new-colleges-and-roads/articleshow/128081038.cms>)

Union Agriculture Ministry urged to ensure pipeline distribution, micro-irrigation systems in PAP modernisation project

The PAP Vellakovil Branch Canal Water Conservation Association submitted a petition to Shivraj Singh Chouhan seeking modernization of the Parambikulam Aliyar Project through pipeline-based water distribution and advanced micro-irrigation technologies.

The petition also requested redesign and rehabilitation of the PAP Vellakovil Branch Canal using modern engineering solutions and enhancement of the canal carrying capacity from 900 cusecs to 2000 cusecs to address irrigation and drinking water needs in Tamil Nadu.



(Source: <https://shorturl.at/Hh0dF>)

World Bank clears Rs 5,700 Cr for 'Jal Sanrakshit' Haryana, canal revival and micro-irrigation at core



Shri Nayab Singh Saini Hon. Chief Minister of Haryana chaired a meeting to review progress under the 'Jal Sanrakshit Haryana Project' in the state. The 'Jal Sanrakshit Haryana' programme aimed at making the state self-reliant in the water sector, represents a "paradigm shift" in the state's water management approach. With technical assistance and financial support of Rs 5,700 crore from the World Bank, the project includes large-scale restoration of canals, introduction of water efficient micro-irrigation technologies, groundwater recharge and sustainable agriculture initiatives. An estimated Rs 900 crore has been earmarked for the implementation of innovative micro-irrigation systems across nearly 70,000 acres of farmland alone.

(Source: <https://shorturl.at/1YaiT>)

Govt. sets target to bring additional 100 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation during 2025-30



The Government of India has set a target to bring an additional 100 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation during 2025–30 to promote climate-resilient agriculture and improve water-use efficiency under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

To achieve this target, an annual coverage of at least 20 lakh hectares under the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme will be required.

Source: <https://www.aninews.in/news/business/govt-sets-target-to-bring-additional-100-lakh-hectares-under-micro-irrigation-during-2025-3020260510215159/>

Indian Institute of Skill Development (IISD) opens admissions to a 2-month Certificate Course for Micro-Irrigation Technicians

The Indian Institute of Skill Development (IISD) has opened admissions to a 2-month Certificate Course for Micro-Irrigation Technicians. The Micro Irrigation Technician Certificate aims to equip learners with a thorough understanding of the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of micro irrigation systems such as drip and sprinkler irrigation. The course covers topics including water distribution, system components, troubleshooting, water conservation techniques, and the benefits of micro irrigation in sustainable agriculture.



Key benefits:

- Practical, Job-Ready Skills
- Lifetime Validity
- Lifetime Certificate Verification
- Industry-Aligned Certification
- Preferred by Employers
- Career Options (Field Installer, Irrigation Maintenance Supervisor, Sales & Service Executive, Agri-Entrepreneur)

(Source: <https://shorturl.at/SrTIn>)

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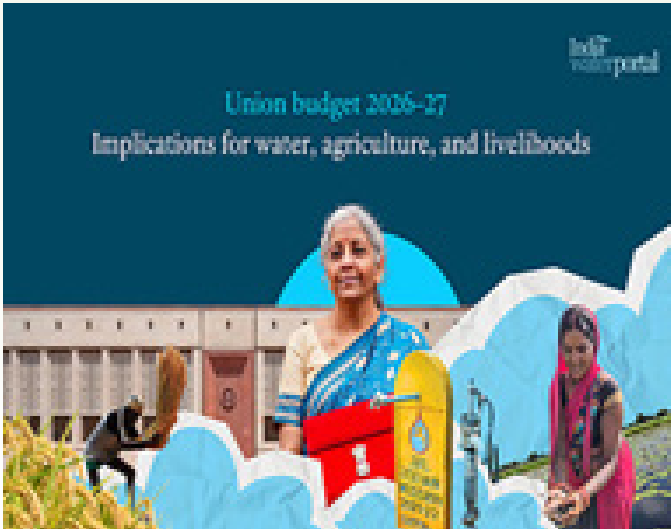
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BUDGET 2026-2027 HIGHLIGHTS

Union budget 2026–27: What it means for water, agriculture, and rural livelihoods in India



The Union Budget this year, signals a turning point in India’s rural development trajectory, as flagship programmes move decisively from rapid infrastructure creation to the harder task of sustaining services and livelihoods. Across drinking water, sanitation, agriculture, irrigation, and rural employment, the budget restores or stabilises allocations after a year marked by significant execution slippages, evident in sharp Budget Estimate–Revised Estimate (BE-RE) divergences in FY 2025–26.

Irrigation policy in the 2026–27 budgets is shaped less by new canal projects and more by the link between energy, water, and agriculture.

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Large and medium irrigation projects continue under existing commitments, mainly through the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. With continued support to irrigation efficiency and restoration of water bodies. However, the budget gives limited attention to deeper resilience measures such as crop diversification, soil moisture conservation, and risk management in rainfed areas.

(Source: <https://www.indiawaterportal.org/governance-and-policy/union-budget-202627-what-it-means-for-water-agriculture-and-rural-livelihoods-in-india>)

Haryana Approves ₹ 402.41 Crore Solar-Powered Micro Irrigation Projects



Haryana's State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) has approved four Community-Based Solar-Powered Integrated Micro-Irrigation Projects with a total investment of ₹ 402.41 crore. The projects are estimated to bring 11,040 hectares of culturable command area under advanced micro-irrigation systems, directly benefitting 8,926 farmers across 94 villages.

The Community Micro-Irrigation projects aim to significantly improve water-use efficiency, reduce transmission losses and enhance crop productivity by promoting drip and sprinkler systems within canal command areas.

The Micro Irrigation & Command Area Development Authority (MICADA) under the Haryana government will implement the micro-irrigation projects across 61 canal outlets covering 20 blocks in the Bhiwani, Jhajjar, Kurukshetra and Mahendragarh districts.

(Source: <https://www.saurenergy.com/solar-energy-news/haryana-approves-40241-crore-solar-powered-micro-irrigation-projects-11132446>)

Water Resources Dept. gets Rs 18, 224 Cr to boost irrigation infrastructure in AP budget

Shri P Keshav, Hon. Finance Minister Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has announced a massive ₹ 18,224 crore allocation for the state's Water Resources Department (WRD) in the state's Budget 2026-27. Smart underground pressurised piped networks will replace open canals to enhance on-farm water-use efficiency. Other strategic initiatives include restoration of tanks and water bodies to increase storage capacity, equitable supply to tail-end farmers, developing catchment areas to improve groundwater recharge and promoting micro-irrigation systems to boost agricultural and horticultural productivity. With the budget announcement, the Hon. Finance Minister has reaffirmed the government's commitment to completing major projects including pursuing the Polavaram-Nallamala Sagar link to drought-proof Rayalaseema.

(Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/water-resources-dept-gets-rs-18224-crore-to-boost-irrigation-infra-in-ap-budget/articleshow/128355952.cms>)

CM Bhajanlal Sharma Seeks Public Input, Deputy CM Presents State Priorities to Centre

Shri Bhajanlal Sharma Hon. Chief Minister of Rajasthan held pre-budget consultations with represen-



tatives of farmers, livestock keepers, and dairy organizations. With concerns on issues related to irrigation, crop insurance, minimum support price, and agricultural loans noted the government aims to formulate effective policies to strengthen the agricultural sector in the state.

Smt. Diya Kumari Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister of Rajasthan participated in a pre-budget consultation meeting.



Chaired by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Union Finance Minister, the deputy Chief minister took the opportunity to present Rajasthan's developmental needs and financial priorities. Highlighting the vast potential for micro-irrigation, the deputy Chief minister also demanded Rs 900 crore rupees in central assistance for promoting micro-irrigation techniques aimed at helping farmers reduce grow more crops with less water, contributing to sustainable agriculture.

(Source: <https://www.zoomnews.in/en/news-detail/cm-bhajanlal-sharma-seeks-public-input-deputy-cm-presents-state-priorities-to-centre.html>)

Shri Omar Abdulla, Hon Chief Minister, Jammu and Kashmir announced a 25% top-up subsidy to promote micro & sprinkler irrigation in the state



In the Budget 2026–27, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced a 25% top-up subsidy for promotion of micro and sprinkler irrigation systems, reaffirming the State Government's commitment towards water-efficient agriculture and sustainable irrigation practices.

An allocation of ₹116.86 crore has been earmarked under the programme, which is expected to improve water-use efficiency by 60–80% and benefit farmers across nearly 3 lakh hectares. The initiative is aimed at encouraging wider adoption of advanced irrigation technologies, reducing water wastage, improving crop productivity, and strengthening climate-resilient farming across the state.

(Source: https://x.com/CM_JnK/status/2020058599268155399)

100% subsidy for small farmers in micro irrigation scheme

Shri M.R.K. Panneerselvam Agriculture Minister of Tamil Nadu announced a 100 per cent subsidy for small and marginal farmers under the micro-irrigation scheme. Presenting the states Interim Budget 2026-2027 in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, the Minister outlined the State government's priorities especially with regard to farm growth and expansion of the irrigation sector.

(Source: <https://afternoonnews.in/article/100-subsidy-for-small-farmers-in-micro-irrigation-scheme/>)



Mahindra EPC bags Rs 2-cr order from community micro irrigation project



Mahindra EPC Irrigation has secured a new order worth Rs 1.79 crore for the construction and implementation of a Community Micro Irrigation Project. The contract carries a completion timeline of 12 months and involves the construction of a pressurized micro-irrigation system.

(Source: https://www.business-standard.com/markets/capital-market-news/mahindra-epc-bags-rs-2-cr-order-from-community-micro-irrigation-project-125111800112_1.html)

Micro-Irrigation plan needed to tackle climate risks: NABARD

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has recommended the Government of Goa to prepare a micro irrigation plan for the state with a focus on horticulture belts. Highlighting the states vulnerability to climate change, the country's apex development financial institution expressed a keen interest to support the state with climate-smart agricultural practices, micro irrigation, soil health management, and integrated farming. Precision farming, digital soil health monitoring, and integration of IoT-based irrigation systems would also be encouraged.

The national development agency also recommended improvements in tail-end distribution and modernisation of pumping systems in the state.



(Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/micro-irrigation-plan-needed-to-tackle-climate-risks-nabard/articleshow/127322508.cms>)

Gujarat aggressively expanding modern irrigation methods to boost productivity



Gujarat's sustained push for efficient water management has delivered strong results with 1.20 lakh hectares brought under micro-irrigation in 2024-2025 alone. Under Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel, the state has further accelerated the shift towards advanced irrigation practices - aggressively expanding modern irrigation methods such as drip, sprinkler, rain-gun, and porous pipes - to boost productivity while conserving water. Of the 20.5 lakh hectares covered statewide, 20.52 lakh hectares are under field crops and 4.52 lakh hectares are under horticultural crops. The micro-irrigation scheme initiated under the then Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi also launched the Gujarat Green Revolution Company (GGRC) - a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) aimed at the

promotion of micro-irrigation technologies in the water-scarce state.

(Source: <https://investmentguruindia.com/newsdetail/gujarat-aggressively-expanding-modern-irrigation-methods-to-boost-productivity707129>)

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The India-US trade deal is historic and will give new heights and momentum to the Indian economy: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development highlighted key outcomes of the US-India Trade Deal at a press conference held at his residence in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Key announcements: -

- Agricultural exports with zero tariffs include spices, tea, coffee, coconut, coconut oil, betel nut, cashew, vegetable wax, avocado, banana, guava, mango, kiwi, papaya, pineapple, mushrooms, and some grains
- Emphasis on export of spices and other agricultural products
- No tariff concessions on soybean, corn, rice, wheat, sugar, coarse grains, poultry, dairy, banana, strawberry, cherry, citrus fruits, green peas, chickpeas, mung beans, oilseeds, ethanol, and tobacco.



(Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2225186®=3&lang=2>)



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Senegal Launches Agri-Connect Compact to Transform its Agriculture Sector



The Government of Senegal, in partnership with the World Bank Group has announced the launch of the AgriConnect Senegal Compact. This strategic initiative is aligned with the Senegal National Agenda for Transformation 2050 and the Food Sovereignty Strategy (SSA 2025-2034) and aims to transform the country's agri-food systems and improve food security for millions of Senegalese. The initiative focuses on three priority value chains: grains, horticulture, and livestock.

(Source: <https://shorturl.at/xMG3q>)

European Commission has redirected ₹ 3.1 billion towards modernization of water infrastructure



The European Commission has redirected ₹ 3.1 billion towards modernization of water infrastructure across 16 European countries, including smart irrigation, IoT-based water monitoring, and digital water management systems to improve water efficiency and climate resilience.

Source: <https://www.smart-water-utilities.com/news/eu-directs-31-billion-to-european-water-infrastructure>

GLIMPSE OF SMART IRRIGATION TECH SUMMIT, HARYANA





About Irrigation Association of India

Irrigation Association of India (IAI) is an apex industry body established in 1999, representing Micro Irrigation System (MIS) manufacturing companies in India. It is a not-for-profit organization and is working towards the successful implementation of Micro Irrigation in India for the benefit of farmers.

IAI has a registered office at Pune, Maharashtra, India and corporate office at New Delhi. IAI is closely working with the central Government of India and the State Governments. The association has a strong presence in states through IAI State Chapters at Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and North Eastern Region.

What we do

- Policy Advocacy
- Knowledge Dissemination
- Capacity Building
- Convene meeting with Central/State govt. departments to apprise the industry issues
- Sectoral Conference/Workshop to promote Micro Irrigation



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