

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:528
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
TASK FORCE ON MICRO IRRIGATION
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Task Force on Micro Irrigation had recommended coverage of 3 million hectare under micro irrigation in the country during the Tenth Plan;
- (b) if so, the extent to which the said target has been achieved so far;
- (c) whether the Government has made adequate allocation for that purpose as recommended by the Task Force; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 528 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22ND MAY, 2006.

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Based on the recommendations of the Task Force, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation was formulated which was approved by the Central Government in December, 2005. The Scheme was launched in January, 2006 and Operational Guidelines issued thereafter. Based on the Work Plan received from the States a sum of Rs.280.46 crore was released to the States. States will have to be given some time to report progress on the implementation of the Scheme, as funds for the same have been released in March, 2006 for covering an area of 2.17 lakh ha. under drip and sprinkler irrigation. During 2006-07, Rs.520.00 crore has been earmarked in the budget for the above scheme. It is expected that the target of 6.2 lakh ha. will be covered under Micro Irrigation by the end of Xth Plan.