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Title: Regarding full utilization of funds under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

DR. TAPAS MANDAL (RANAGHAT): One of the main reasons for the farmers' distress and crop failure is due to the lack of proper irrigation system in place. Since the inception of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in 2015, the total funds allocated was Rs. 20,925 crore whereas the promised allocation was 30,000 crores. The revised estimates of funds so far been allotted depict the reality of improper utilization at the ground level. In the year 2016-17, government drastically reduced the budget allotted for the PMKSY by approximately Rs. 2,000 crore to Rs. 5,767 crore. Above this, the revised estimates of the scheme is Rs. 5,187 crore only i.e. 51% of the promised average allocation.

Under this project with a tag line of “Har Khet Ko Pani (More Crop Per Drop)”, the Central Government allotted an average of Rs. 7,000 crore per year for the whole country. It must be noted that in Bengal, the budget for Irrigation and Waterways is Rs. 2,140 crores for 2017-18. Moreover, the State has also initiated a scheme called “Jaltirtha” for addressing the problem of irrigation coverage. So far a budget of approximately Rs. 500 crore has been spent by the government under 'Jaltirtha' with emphasis on surface water management in the state.

Therefore, it is imperative that the Government completely utilize the funds allocated under PMKSY to ensure welfare of farmers across the nation.