

# PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAI YOJANA (PMKSY)

## Transforming Indian Agriculture through Efficient Irrigation

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### WHAT IS PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAI YOJANA (PMKSY)?

The **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)** is an ambitious initiative launched by the **Government of India** in 2015 to enhance irrigation facilities in the country. The scheme aims to provide **converged irrigation solutions** to farmers with the goal **of increasing the water-use efficiency** and ensuring **access to water for farming**, especially for areas with water scarcity.

PMKSY focuses on the efficient use of water for agricultural purposes and aims to achieve perennial irrigation for every farm. The vision of the scheme is to promote the idea of "**Har Khet Ko Pani**" (water for every farm), ensuring that farmers can access irrigation throughout the year.

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### OBJECTIVES OF PMKSY

The key objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) are:

1. Enhance Irrigation Coverage:

- The scheme aims to bring additional irrigated area under efficient irrigation by improving the existing irrigation infrastructure and creating new irrigation sources.

2. Improve Water Use Efficiency:

- PMKSY promotes the use of modern irrigation technologies like drip irrigation, sprinkler systems, and water conservation practices to improve the efficiency of water use in agriculture.

3. Convergence of Various Schemes:

- The scheme integrates existing irrigation schemes such as Command Area Development (CAD), National Mission for Micro Irrigation (NMMI), and others to ensure a comprehensive approach to irrigation.

4. Reduce Dependency on Rainfed Agriculture:

- By expanding irrigation coverage, PMKSY seeks to reduce farmers' dependency on monsoon rainfall and increase agricultural productivity in drought-prone areas.

5. Promote Watershed Development:

- The scheme promotes watershed development and rainwater harvesting to ensure the sustainable use of water resources and improve groundwater levels.

### Key Features of PMKSY

1. Micro Irrigation (Drip & Sprinkler Irrigation):

- The scheme promotes the use of micro-irrigation technologies such as drip and sprinkler irrigation systems to increase water-use efficiency in farming.

## 2. Command Area Development (CAD):

- The Command Area Development focuses on improving the irrigation infrastructure in irrigated areas to ensure optimal use of water resources.

## 3. Watershed Management:

- The scheme includes watershed development programs to improve the management of rainwater and groundwater resources, ensuring their long-term availability for farming.

## 4. Creation of New Irrigation Infrastructure:

- The scheme emphasizes the creation of new irrigation projects, including the construction of dams, canals, and tanks, to enhance water availability for agriculture.

## 5. Decentralized Water Management:

- PMKSY promotes the idea of decentralized water management by engaging local communities and water user associations in the management and maintenance of irrigation systems.

## 6. Farmer Training and Capacity Building:

- The scheme also focuses on training farmers on efficient irrigation practices, the installation of micro-irrigation systems, and water management techniques.

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## **BENEFITS OF PMKSY**

### 1. Increased Crop Production:

- By ensuring regular access to irrigation, PMKSY helps increase crop yields, especially in areas that are dependent on rainfed farming.

### 2. Water Conservation:

- The scheme promotes the use of water-efficient technologies like drip irrigation, reducing water wastage and improving water conservation in agriculture.

### 3. Improved Agricultural Sustainability:

- With better irrigation facilities, farmers can grow crops throughout the year, leading to more \*sustainable farming practice and higher income.

### 4. Increased Farmers' Income:

- By improving irrigation, farmers can reduce their dependence on the unpredictable monsoon, leading to higher productivity, reduced losses, and ultimately increased income.

#### 5. Empowerment of Farmers:

- The scheme empowers farmers by providing them with access to modern irrigation technologies and knowledge, enabling them to make more informed decisions about crop cultivation.

#### 6. Reduction in Crop Losses:

- With adequate irrigation even during dry spells, crop losses due to water stress or drought conditions can be minimized.

#### 7. Enhanced Livelihoods in Rural Areas:

- The scheme's focus on improving irrigation infrastructure contributes to rural development, providing employment opportunities and supporting agriculture-based livelihoods.

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### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PMKSY**

The following entities are eligible to participate in PMKSY:

#### 1. Farmers:

- Individual farmers, farmer groups, and farmer producer organizations (FPOs) are eligible to benefit from the irrigation schemes under PMKSY.

#### 2. State Governments:

- The state governments are responsible for implementing PMKSY at the local level, with the central government providing the necessary financial support.

#### 3. Irrigation Systems:

- Farmers in both irrigated and rainfed areas are eligible, with a special focus on farmers in regions affected by water scarcity or drought.

#### 4. Specific Schemes for Micro Irrigation:

- Farmers looking to adopt micro-irrigation systems like drip irrigation or sprinklers are eligible for financial assistance under PMKSY.

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### **STEPS TO APPLY FOR PMKSY**

Farmers can apply for assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana by following these steps:

### 1. Identify Eligible Projects

- Farmers should identify whether their project or farm is eligible for financial assistance under the PMKSY scheme, especially for adopting micro-irrigation systems or creating new irrigation infrastructure.

### 2. Contact the Local Agriculture Department

- Farmers should approach the local agricultural office or the state agricultural department to get information on the available schemes and financial assistance under PMKSY.

### 3. Submit Application

- Farmers need to fill out the application form, providing information about the farm, existing irrigation systems, and the proposed irrigation requirements or micro-irrigation systems.

### 4. Verification and Approval

- The concerned authorities will verify the application and inspect the farm if necessary. The farmer will then be informed whether their application has been approved.

### 5. Financial Assistance

- After approval, the farmer will be eligible for financial assistance for the installation of drip/sprinkler systems or any other irrigation infrastructure. This may also include assistance for creating new irrigation facilities or improving existing ones.

### 6. Installation of Irrigation Systems

- Once the assistance is sanctioned, the farmer can proceed with the installation of the irrigation systems with the help of certified service providers.

### 7. Monitoring and Follow-up

- After the installation of the irrigation systems, there will be regular monitoring to ensure proper implementation and maintenance of the irrigation infrastructure.

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## CONCLUSION

The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) is a crucial step towards making Indian agriculture more sustainable and productive by enhancing the availability of water for irrigation. By focusing on efficient water-use practices, micro-irrigation systems, and improving existing irrigation infrastructure, PMKSY aims to significantly reduce the reliance on monsoon rains and ensure year-round farming.

Farmers across India, particularly in areas facing water scarcity and irrigation challenges, stand to benefit from this scheme. With its goal of ensuring that every farm gets water, PMKSY seeks to promote increased productivity, sustainable farming, and higher incomes for farmers.