

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1316
ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMERS UNDER PM-KUSUM

1316. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any criteria has been laid down for including small and marginal farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) as the present focus has been on farmers with capacity of 3.0 HP motor and above;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate policies to deal with over-exploitation of already depleted ground water by solar pumps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) PM KUSUM is a demand driven scheme and therefore quantities/ capacities are allocated under the three components of the scheme based on demand received from the States/ UTs.

Solarization of pumps is carried out under Component 'B' & Component 'C'. As per PM KUSUM scheme guidelines, priority would be given to small and marginal farmers by State Implementing agency while implementing the scheme.

The size of the standalone solar pump is to be selected on the basis of the water table in the area, land covered and quantity of water required for irrigation.

(c) & (d) PM-KUSUM guidelines have a provision to address over-exploitation of ground water by solar pumps.

As per the scheme guidelines, new pumps are not permitted to be installed in Dark zone/Black zone/ over-exploited areas notified by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). However, existing standalone diesel pumps, can be converted into standalone solar pumps in these areas provided they use micro irrigation techniques to save water.
