

Policy for Financial Assistance for Construction of On-Farm Water Tank for use of Micro-irrigation in Agriculture & Horticulture Crops

Although water is a renewable resource, its availability in appropriate quantity is under severe stress due to increasing demand from various sectors. Agriculture is the largest user of water, which consumes more than 80% of the Country's exploitable water resources. The conventional methods of water conveyance and irrigation lead not only to wastage of water but also invite several ecological problems like water-logging, salinity etc. The major area under Micro Irrigation System (MI) spreads especially in south-western parts of the State where soil is light textured & undulated in topography. In such areas, intensive crop cultivation and operation of MI systems through tube-wells causing degradation of ground water resources. The construction of Water Tanks would play an important role in covering more area under assured irrigation as well as efficient use of water by integration with Micro Irrigation equipments. Similar Policy already exists for Horticulture crops. Considering the need of hour, the cluster approach in irrigation chain development to have effective integration of source, connectivity, distribution and application is required for agricultural crops also. To discourage the flood / conventional irrigation methods, the construction of water tanks and integration with Micro Irrigation Systems are need of hour and required to be promoted in a holistic manner in the State.

Objectives:

- Integration of water source, distribution and its efficient use, to make best use of water through appropriate water saving devices.
- Improve on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage and increase availability both in duration and extent.
- Promote water management as per requirement of crops.
- Developing irrigation sources and encouraging community irrigation.
- Conjunctive use of brackish water with canal water.
- Improve socio-economic status of farmers.

Strategies and Methodologies:

The area of operation for construction of community water tank/ individual water tank integration with water saving equipments like Sprinkler, Mini Sprinkler and Drip Irrigation System will be entire area of the State. The eligibility for community as well as individual water tank will be as under:-

- i) The land owners shall only be considered for providing assistance (subsidy) on construction of On-farm water tank for use with Micro Irrigation Systems.
- ii) The water tank constructed by a group of four or more farmers shall be treated as community water tank.

- iii) In case of community water tank, the farmers of command area shall be bound to cover atleast 75% area under MI System.
- iv) In case of water tank constructed by the individual farmer, the farmer shall be bound to install MI System at least in 50% of land ownership.
- v) The size of land of a farmer as per revenue record i.e. Fard will only be considered for determining the quantum of subsidy.
- vi) In case of tenant farmer, the benefit of assistance on water tank as well as on MI System shall be given to the actual owner of the land.
- vii) Assistance @ 85% shall be admissible in case of construction of community water tank. Whereas, assistance @ 70% of cost of the water tank shall be admissible in case of individual farmer. The eligible size of tank for availing assistance will be 5 acres to 50 acres for horticulture and agriculture crops.
- viii) In case of the farmer having land at different locations, the farmer shall be entitled to avail the benefit of subsidy at all locations in case of community water tank only in addition to one unit of individual water tank.
- ix) The farmer / group of farmers shall be free for preparation of design estimate of water tank through any registered / approved Architect or the Assistant Soil Conservation Officer (Agriculture Department or MICADA) / XEN of any government department / Civil Engineer of public undertakings.
- x) The farmers or group of farmers shall be free to construct water tank at their own resources or through any Government department/public undertakings (Soil Conservation, MICADA, PWD&BR, Panchayati Raj, I&WR, DRDA, NABARD, WAPCOS etc).
- xi) The farmer / group of famers shall be eligible for availing assistance on construction of water tank where assured water source is available.
- xii) Assistance on MI equipments (Sprinkler, Mini-Sprinkler and Drip) shall be governed as per guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY) as well as implementation guidelines of the State as amended from time to time.
- xiii) The farmers who have already availed the benefit of subsidy on water tank for horticulture crops under MIDH/IHD on a particular piece of land shall only be eligible to avail such benefit on community water tank to be used for irrigation of additional land under agricultural crops.
- xiv) The cost norms for construction of water tank given at **Annexure-I** (for 5 acres to 50 acres size) shall be followed for calculation of assistance for community as well as individual water tank subject to actual construction cost of tank. The actual size / dimensions of the tank shall be determined on the basis of Command area of tank, crop geometry, water requirement of crops, availability of surface water (number of days in a month) etc. The actual size / capacity of water tank required for the crops grown in command area will be assessed by Agriculture Inspector / Surveyor / ADO (SC) / ASCO or any officer assigned by the Administrator, MICADA (formerly CADA).

- xv) Application for community/individual water tank shall be invited online by developing portal. The priority shall be decided on following parameters:
- a) Applicants, in order of priority decided by MICADA under its Water Course Policy will be taken up first.
 - b) Applicants will be given priority in order of higher area coverage under Micro-irrigation.
 - c) In case of draw between applicants in sub-para (a) or within sub-para (b), priority will be decided on first-cum-first serve basis.
 - d) In case of any ambiguity coming while deciding the priority, Administrator, MICADA formerly (CADA) will be competent to decide reasonable criteria for deciding priority list.
- xvi) The beneficiary farmer / group of farmers shall execute an undertaking / agreement with the MICADA that they will use MI system for at least 7 years to irrigate their fields.
- xvii) The programme will be implemented under 'Other Intervention' component of "Per Drop More Crop" under Centrally sponsored Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY) Scheme. In case of growing demand of farmers / group of farmers, the possibility of availing funds under Micro Irrigation Fund (NABARD) / State Plan Scheme / Other sources will be explored.

Maintenance and Responsibilities:

- i) The individual farmer or group of farmers shall be responsible for quality or any defect in construction of water tank irrespective of Agency / Department.
- ii) They shall be fully responsible for completion of work as per sanctioned design and specifications.
- iii) The farmer's group/farmer shall maintain the structure and all expenditures on maintenance of structure be borne by the beneficiaries in future.
- iv) The water tank constructed shall not be utilized for any purpose other than agriculture and allied activities.

Release of Assistance:

- i) Assistance @ 85% of the construction cost of water tank shall be applicable in case of community water tank. However, it shall be @ 70% of the construction cost of the water tank in case of individual farmer.
- ii) Assistance norms which are applicable at the time of case shall be followed.
- iii) The cost norms of construction of water tank will be revised as per revision of rates of HSR from time to time.
- iv) The cost norms for construction of water tank given at **Annexure-I** shall be followed for calculation of assistance for community as well as individual water tank. Assistance admissible will be decided on the basis of cost norm and actual construction cost of tank whichever is less.

- v) Assistance minimum of Rs. 3.34 lakh (5 acres command area of tank) to maximum of Rs. 20.00 lakh (50 acres command area of tank) will be admissible.
- vi) The expenditure over and above the sanctioned estimate shall be borne by the farmer / group of farmers.
- vii) Assistance shall be released on community as well as individual water tank in 3 stages of on-going construction work i.e. 20% after completion of earth work (digging of tank); 40% after completion of construction of tank; and remaining 40% after installation of MI system as per details given below:

Sr. No.	Stage	Assistance to be released
1	Completion of earth work (digging of tank)	20%
2	Completion of construction work of water tank	40%
3	Installation of MI system in prescribed area (75% in case of community water tank & 50% in case of individual water tank)	40%

- viii) Assistance shall be released after physical verification of structure by a team constituted or through any agency as decided by the Administrator, MICADA (formerly CADA).
- ix) Assistance shall be credited directly in the bank account of the beneficiary. However, in case of Community tank, the assistance shall be credited in the joint bank account of group of farmers / a farmer authorized by all members of the group.

Penalty:

The use of MI system in the command area of water tank shall be mandatory and in case, the farmer / group of farmers do not use the MI system for minimum period of 7 years, they shall be liable to refund the whole amount of assistance as per undertaking / agreement executed with the MICADA.

Dispute & Redressal:

- (i) In case of any dispute, the decision of the Administrator, MICADA (formerly CADA) shall be final and binding to all parties.
- (ii) In case of requirement of any clarification about Policy or implementation of the Policy, the Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation & Water Resources Department shall be competent authority for same.

Description of Unit Cost for Water Tank

(Size, Capacity & Cost of Water Tank- HSR, 2012 effective from 26.6.2012)

Sr. No.	Tank Size (ft)			Depth (ft)	Capacity (liters)	Tank with polylining (500 micron & above)		Tank with brick work including polythene sheet		Coverage Area (acre)
	Top Size (ft)	Bottom Size (ft)	Mean Size (ft)			Rate per liter (Rs.)	Total Cost (Rs. in lakh)	Rate per liter (Rs.)	Total Cost (Rs. in lakh)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	65x55	45x35	55x45	10	700000	0.18	1.26	0.48	3.34	5.00
2.	80x70	44x34	62x52	12	1050000	0.18	1.89	0.46	4.85	7.50
3.	90x78	54x42	72x60	12	1400000	0.18	2.52	0.41	5.80	10.00
4.	100x84	64x48	82x66	12	1750000	0.18	3.15	0.37	6.50	12.50
5.	100x96	64x60	82x78	12	2100000	--	--	0.36	7.50	15.00
6.	120x90	84x54	102x72	12	2450000	--	--	0.34	8.40	17.50
7.	120x100	84x64	102x82	12	2800000	--	--	0.33	9.30	20.00
8.	120x110	84x74	102x92	12	3150000	--	--	0.32	10.15	22.50
9.	120x120	84x84	102x102	12	3480000	--	--	0.32	11.00	25.00
10.	130x120	94x84	112x102	12	3830000	--	--	0.31	12.00	27.50
11.	140x120	104x84	122x102	12	4170000	--	--	0.30	12.51	30.00
12.	140x125	104x89	122x107	12	4350000	--	--	0.30	13.05	32.50
13.	150x120	114x84	132x102	12	4500000	--	--	0.30	13.50	35.00
14.	150x128	114x92	132x110	12	4870000	--	--	0.30	14.61	37.50
15.	150x136	114x100	132x118	12	5200000	--	--	0.30	15.60	40.00
16.	160x134	124x98	142x116	12	5594000	--	--	0.30	16.78	42.50
17.	160x142	124x106	142x124	12	5980000	--	--	0.30	17.94	45.00
18.	160x148	124x112	142x130	12	6269000	--	--	0.30	18.80	47.50
19.	160x156	124x120	142x138	12	6655000	--	--	0.30	20.00	50.00

