

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1424
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26TH JULY, 2022

CROP LOSSES DUE TO HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS

1424. SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether many States in the country have been affected by heavy rains and consequent floods in the recent months and that has resulted in destruction of standing crops, fruits and vegetables to a great extent;

(b) if so, the details of the total loss of crops/paddy/ vegetables and the districts that have been severely affected;

(c) whether the State Governments have demanded any assistance to compensate for the loss suffered by the farmers and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any Central Government team had visited to assess the damage and if so, the details of their assessment;

(e) whether the Government has any plan to waive loan of farmers in the affected districts and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to change cropping patterns which will help to mitigate changes in climate across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): The estimation in regard to damages to crops is done by the concerned State Governments. As on 12.07.2022 (provisional), the following State Governments reported damage to crop area due to flood during 2022:

Sl. No.	State	Crop area affected due to flood (in hectares)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	67
2.	Assam	240097
3.	Karnataka	1479
4.	Meghalaya	1102
5.	Nagaland	294
6.	Sikkim	169
	Total	243208

The State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, including flood. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of a severe nature and is approved on the basis of a Memorandum received from the State Government, in accordance with established procedures. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) is constituted and deputed for an on-the-spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds for relief operations, as per the extant items and norms. The report of the IMCT is considered by the Sub Committee of the National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the High Level Committee (HLC) approves the final quantum of financial assistance.

So far, in 2022-23 the Ministry of Home Affairs have constituted /deputed Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) to the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Telangana, Maharashtra and Gujarat for assessment of damages on the ground.

(e): No, Sir. However, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' since Kharif 2016, along with 'Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme' to provide comprehensive risk cover in the event of crop damage due to natural calamities and preventable risks and provide financial support to the insured farmers against their notified insurance coverage. However, these Insurance Schemes are voluntary in nature.

(f): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) as an alternative to the traditional transplanting method and it has been demonstrated on a large scale in the farmers' fields. In addition, horticulture, oilseeds, maize etc. are being promoted as crop diversification measures. ICAR has also identified alternate and efficient cropping systems with the principles of crop diversification across different agro-climatic conditions in order to overcome the impact of climate change.

Further, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) in the Original Green Revolution States i.e. Haryana, Punjab & Uttar Pradesh (western part) since 2013-14 to divert the area of a water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, cotton etc.
