

52,628 tonnes and in February West Bengal was allotted 48,784 tonnes, Maharashtra 96,377 tonnes, Tamil Nadu 64,764 tonnes and Gujarat 53,150 tonnes;

(b) what is the policy adopted in regard to the allotment of diesel and kerosene; and

(c) month-wise and State-wise distribution of diesel and kerosene during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) The actual figures of allocation of High Speed Diesel (HSD) for the months of January 1980 and February 1980 for these States are as under:—

(Figures in Metric Tonnes)

	January, 1980	February, 1980
1. West Bengal	50,000	52,740
2. Maharashtra	98,5000	101,377
3. Tamil Nadu	66,360	67,754
4. Gujarat	52,628	57,150

(b) While the system of **State-wise** allocation of kerosene, has been in force for sometime, similar system for High Speed Diesel Oil has been introduced with effect from 1st October, 1979. The allocations have been made on the basis of the past consumption figures.

(c) The requisite information State-wise is not readily available. Collection thereof will involve considerable time and labour and it may not be commensurate with the purpose proposed to be achieved by the question.

Drought in Gujarat

835. **SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain parts of Gujarat have also been affected by drought;

(b) if so, the names of the districts;

(c) whether that area has been declared drought-affected area; and

(d) the details of the help rendered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). Districts of Panchmahals, Sabarkantha and Banaskantha as also other isolated areas of Vadodara, Valsad, Mehsana and Ahmedabad are affected by lean agricultural situation. The drought conditions do not exist anywhere.

(c) No area has yet been declared as scarcity/semi-scarcity hit, by the Government of Gujarat.

(d) The State Government have introduced rural relief employment scheme in the affected areas to provide employment to needy people. The Collectors have been authorised to sanction relief works in addition to normal budgeted works. Instructions have also been issued by the State Government for cash doles for childrens, old, infirm etc. and also for rescheduling of cooperative dues and refraining from coercive measures for recovery and also for suspension of Government dues like land revenue, taccavi etc. The State Govt. have sanctioned grants to local bodies for drinking water supply arrangements and supply of water by tankers. Further, the State Govt. have stated that arrangements have been made for grass movement to affected areas. Administrative machinery has been geared up for providing relief measures.

The Government of India have allocated 7,500 M.Ts. of foodgrains under the Special Food for Work Programme to Gujarat for generation of gainful employment in the affected areas in addition to 41,000 M.Ts. of foodgrains under the normal Food for Work Programme. The State Government so far have not asked for any financial assistance from the Government but has been meeting the situation from its own resources.