

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1285  
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000  
WELFARE PROJECTS IN THE COUNTRY  
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether due to non-implementation of welfare projects, drought and famine like conditions prevail in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not releasing the funds sanctioned by the Planning Commission;
- (c) the projects held-up for want of funds and the amount remained unspent during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government propose to fix the responsibilities in regard to allocation of funds; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) to (e): Drought and famine like conditions are not due to non implementation of welfare projects. Further, it is clarified that there are no famine like conditions prevailing in the country at present. However, some parts of the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa are likely to face drought like situation due to deficient rainfall during south-west monsoon. The Central Government is regularly monitoring the situation and have taken a number of steps which include:

- (a) Circulation of Drought Contingency Plan to the concerned States for taking necessary steps.
- (b) It has been decided to allocate additional foodgrains at BPL rate @ 20 kg. Per family unit to all the families in the drought affected areas.
- (c) Funds have been released under related Central Schemes for starting employment generation programmes.
- (d) The States have also been advised to start Food for Work Programme.
- (e) The Department of Drinking Water Supply is constantly monitoring drinking water supply projects with a view to expediting these.
- (f) The Central Ground Water Board has been advised to hand over exploratory tube wells to the States for the purpose of drinking water.
- (g) The States have been advised to sensitize farmers about the scarcity of water and encourage them to go for the crops which require less water.
- (h) States have also been advised to open fodder depots and cattle camps wherever necessary.

(i) Amounts as indicated below have been released to the following rain deficient states as part of the central share of Calamity Relief Fund during 2000/2001:

Name of the State	Funds Released
(Rs. Crores)	
Gujarat	131.14
Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	31.98
Orissa	41.05
Rajasthan	168.18
Total	372.35