

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:499
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
DROUGHT PRONE AREA
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat is a drought prone state; and

(b) if so, the concrete measures taken by the Government to meet crisis seriously during drought?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 67 blocks in 14 districts in Gujarat are covered by the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) implemented by the Department of Land Resources. The State Government had reported drought situation in some parts of the State during 2000-01. In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) assistance amounting to Rs.112.00 crore was released to the State. The other steps taken by the Government of India to assist the State Government include allocation of foodgrains free of cost under Food for Work Programme, free transportation of drinking water and fodder by the Railways, handing over of exploratory wells for drinking water purposes and relaxation in norms under the schemes implemented by the Department of Drinking Water Supply. The State Government has not reported any drought situation during 2001-02.