

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3775

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007

LOSS OF CROPS DUE TO RAINS AND HAILSTORMS

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Mondal Shri Abu Ayes;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to the unexpected rains, hailstorms and strong winds in the months of February and March, 2007, crops like wheat, pulses and cereals have been badly affected in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated loss reported by each State as a result thereof; and
- (c) the assistance being provided by the Union Government to the affected farmers, State- wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): The Governments of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh reported damage to crops, of varying magnitude, due to rains and hailstorms during February and March, 2007. State-wise details of crop area affected, as reported by the States/as per available information, is indicated below:

State	Crop area affected
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Haryana	5.78 lakh acres
Madhya Pradesh	1.74 lakh hectares
Punjab	2.15 lakh acres
Rajasthan	2.85 lakh hectares
Uttarakhand	1.54 lakh hectares
Uttar Pradesh	4.12 lakh hectare

(c): It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including hailstorm. There is ready availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to take necessary measures. Additional assistance, over and above CRF, is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), if necessary, for natural calamities of severe nature, in accordance with an established procedure, on submission of a Memorandum for assistance from the NCCF by the State Government. The Government of Haryana had submitted a Memorandum seeking assistance from the NCCF, in the wake of hailstorm. However, it was assessed that the requirements, as per existing norms, could be met from the funds available in the CRF and the State Government have been advised accordingly. No other State Government mentioned above have so far submitted any Memorandum for assistance from the NCCF in the wake of recent hailstorms