

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1914  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010  
LOSS OF KHARIF CROPS  
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether various State Governments including Madhya Pradesh have submitted their assessments regarding loss of kharif crops in their respective States due to drought/deficient rainfall in the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction and steps taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the drought/ deficient rainfall situation and to increase the production of kharif crops; and
- (d) the total fund utilised from the National Calamity Contingency Fund to meet the challenges of low agricultural production?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): In view of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon 2009 (June-September), 14 States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh declared 337 districts as facing drought/scarcity/drought-like situation, which included 37 districts by Madhya Pradesh. All these States submitted Memoranda for assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for drought relief which, inter-alia, included assistance towards input subsidy for crop loss. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have visited 13 of these States (except Jammu & Kashmir) for assessment of the drought situation and requirement of Central Assistance. An IMCT has been constituted to visit Jammu & Kashmir shortly for assesement of the drought situation. In addition to release of entire Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2009-10 to the admissible States in accordance with the guidelines, the Government of India approved assistance from NCCF for drought relief, taking into account the recommendations of IMCTs and keeping in view the items and norms of expenditure for assistance from CRF/NCCF. In addition, the Government initiated various measures to mitigate the impact of drought/deficit rainfall, which included scheme of "Diesel Subsidy" to save the standing crops, additional allocation of power from Central pool, issue of appropriate agricultural advisories, ensuring availability of agricultural inputs, relaxation of age for seed varieties, allowing use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) seeds, distribution of minikits under various Government programmes and subsidy to use certified seeds to take up diversified crop plan in unsown/germination failed areas during Kharif 2009 as well as for early Rabi 2009-10. Assistance from NCCF is meant for providing relief to the people affected by natural calamities. Challenges for low agricultural production is met from the ongoing schemes of the State Governments and from the relevant Centrally assisted programmes of the Government of India.