

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:31

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

DROUGHT RELIEF

Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has provided assistance to the drought affected areas/States in the country during the last two years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds sought and disbursed and the number of farmers assisted as a result thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the various drought relief measures taken by the Government were unable to benefit the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.31 DUE FOR REPLY ON 27-07-2010

(a) & (b): It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities like drought. Funds are available with the States for this purpose in their Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) {(renamed as State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) with effect from 1.4.2010)}. The Government of India extends financial, logistic and other support. Additional assistance, over and above CRF, is considered from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) {renamed as National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) with effect from 1.4.2010} for natural calamities of severe nature in accordance with the established procedure and keeping in view the items and norms in vogue for assistance.

During 2008-09, Karnataka and Uttarakhand submitted Memoranda and sought assistance from NCCF for drought relief. During 2009-10, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh submitted Memoranda and sought assistance from NCCF for drought relief. State-wise details of assistance sought and assistance approved from NCCF during 2008-09 and 2009-10 for drought relief are indicated below:-

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	Drought of 2008-09	Drought of 2009-10
		Assistant sought	Assistance approved

1.	Andhra Pradesh	- -	10106.77 642.02
2.	Assam	- -	792.60 89.94
3.	Bihar	- -	23071.13 1163.64
4.	Himachal Pradesh	- -	608.13 88.93
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	- -	211.82
6.	Jharkhand	890.31	200.955
7.	Karnataka	2043.07 83.83	394.92 116.49
8.	Kerala	168.22	
9.	Madhya Pradesh		11669.68 246.31
10.	Maharashtra		15059.64 671.88
11.	Manipur	22.09	14.57
12.	Nagaland	119.28	21.12
13.	Orissa	2257.03	151.92
14.	Rajasthan	12690.99	1034.84
15.	Uttarakhand	200.14 57.51	- -
16.	Uttar Pradesh		1193.75 515.05

Subject to adjustment of available balance in the CRF of the respective States as determined by the Ministry of Home affairs (MHA).  
includes request for assistance in the wake of hailstorm.

The proposals relating to Jammu & Kashmir and Kerala are under consideration.

No proposal for assistance from NDRF for drought relief has so far been received from any State on account of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010.

Distribution of assistance at the ground level to the farmers is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The State Governments have not reported details of the number of farmers benefited from the assistance provided by the Government of India in the wake of drought.

(c) & (d): The Government of India took various measures to assist the affected States to mitigate the impact of drought of 2009-10 including implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme during Kharif 2009 in drought / deficit rainfall affected areas, allocation of additional power from Central Pool, ensuring availability of fertilizers and seeds, release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and periodic monitoring of situation at various levels to ensure prompt action.

These measures helped the farmers in saving their standing crops during Kharif 2009 and go for higher production during Rabi 2009-10 season. Consequently, despite drought, production of foodgrains during 2009-10 is estimated to be 218.20 million tonnes.