

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:35

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

IMPACT OF MONSOON ON AGRICULTURE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the monsoon pattern and its impact on agriculture in different parts of the country including Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been reports of excessive/deficient rainfall in different parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the various crops and the ensuring sowing season; and

(e) the details of the measures taken by the Government/Agricultural Research Institutes to educate the farmers on the monsoon pattern and for taking requisite steps?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.35 DUE FOR REPLY ON 27-07-2010

(a) to (e): The occurrence of rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010 and its impact on agriculture sector are being monitored regularly. As reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the country as a whole received 311.2 mm rainfall during the period 01-06-2010 to 21-07-2010 against the normal average rainfall of 359.9 mm with a deviation of -14%. Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions of the country, 5 received excess rainfall, 21 received normal rainfall, 10 received deficient rainfall and no sub-division received scanty rainfall, during this period. Cumulative rainfall during the period in different regions is indicated below:-

Region	Actual Rainfall (mm)	Normal Rainfall (mm)	% Departure
North West India	183.1	208.6	-12
Central India	316.1	388.0	-19
South Peninsula	335.2	306.5	9
East & Northeast India	518.5	658.3	-21

Status of sowing operations in the country as on 15.7.2010 is indicated below:-

(Areas in lakh ha.)				
Crop	Normal area	Area sown	2010	2009
			Increase /	Decrease over
			last year (+/-)	
Rice	395.17	124.78	122.40	+2.38
Pulses	111.692	45.055	38.227	+6.828
Jowar	35.984	14.470	15.569	-1.099
Bazra	91.523	45.384	30.272	+15.112
Maize	68.654	42.919	44.958	-2.039
Coarse cereals (Total)	219.944	107.229	95.188	+12.041
Sugarcane	45.46	47.37	41.79	+5.58
Jute	8.08	7.593	6.893	+0.700
Cotton	93.94	82.78	68.75	+14.03
Oilseeds	173.100	96.716	94.152	+2.564

No information has so far been received from Kerala during the current monsoon regarding any problems being faced by them.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is continuously monitoring the progress of monsoon in all parts of the country, every year. Based on the information received from IMD and the Centres of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Agrometeorology, they assess the rainfall and the crop situation every week and suitable contingency measures as required are recommended by different State Agricultural Universities for the areas in their jurisdiction.

ICAR has also recognized the importance of creating awareness about the weather and the positive and negative aspects of climate change among the farmers. Through its coordinating projects on Agrometeorology and Dryland Agriculture, a mass awareness campaign on climate change was conducted during October, 2008 at 37 research centres under the two projects. Farmers were exposed to the measurement of weather parameters in the observatory and their influence on agricultural crops. The ICAR institutes and agricultural universities are organizing climate awareness programmes for farmers, state department officers, NGOs in different States every year. Weather based agro advisories are also issued by different centres of AICRP-Agro-meteorology located in the State Agriculture Universities of different States. According to ICAR, the climate awareness programmes benefit the farmers in understanding and managing the weather resources properly for sustainable agricultural production.