

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3791
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
EL NINO EFFECT ON AGRICULTURE
Argal Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to El Nino effect, irregular rainfall and drought in the year 2010 is likely to occur;
- (b) if so, the details of the likely effects on agricultural production; and
- (c) the details of the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): India Meteorological Department (IMD) have informed that while giving Long Range Forecast for South-West Monsoon, 2010, the factor of El Nino effect had been taken into account. According to them, El Nino conditions have vanished and weak La Nina condition emerged in mid June and it is likely to be well developed during the remaining part of the season. With La Nina in offing in the Pacific Ocean, IMD expects good rainfall activity during the remaining part of South-West Monsoon season.

Kharif sowing operations are still continuing. In view of deficit rainfall during current monsoon, Bihar and Jharkhand have so far declared drought in 28 districts and 12 districts, respectively.

It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in wake of natural calamities including drought. For such purpose, the States have ready availability of funds in their State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). First instalment of Central share of SDRF for 2010-11 has already been released to all the States.