

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:372

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009

IMPACT OF MONSOON ON AGRICULTURE

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Monsoon is likely to be less than normal this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on agriculture, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of contingent plan/special scheme chalked out by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): As per the updated forecast released by India Meteorological Department on 24th June, 2009, rainfall during South-West monsoon season (June-September) is likely to be below normal. Quantitatively, rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of the long period average with a model error of +4%.

The impact on sowing of kharif crops in different states will depend on the extent of deficiency in rainfall in the respective States. As on date, a delay of one to two weeks in arrival of monsoon in certain states such as Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, East Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, East Uttar Pradesh has been observed. As a result, some delay in sowing of Rice, Groundnut, Soyabean in these states has been reported.

(c): Government is closely monitoring the situation on a day to day basis. States have been advised to identify the pockets of distress, if any, and take remedial measures. The Ministry also intends to increase the allocations under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and give more flexibility to States to use these schemes to meet the contingent situations in the event of deficient rainfall, particularly for purchase and distribution of seeds, support for micro-irrigation etc.