

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:296

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011

SOWING OPERATIONS

Gavit Shri Manikrao Hodlya;Jeyadural Shri S. R.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of sowing operation of different crops affected by erratic and deficient rainfall in various agroclimatic zones of the country;
- (b) the agronomical/agro-climatic zones which have received excessive or deficient rainfall during the current monsoon, State-wise and zone-wise;
- (c) the details of assessment made in regard to erratic/deficient rainfall pattern and its effect on agriculture;
- (d) whether the Government has taken adequate steps to educate farmers about the need to grow crops requiring excessive/ deficient rainfall water; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial and technical assistance provided to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER 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. 296 DUE FOR REPLY ON 23RD AUGUST, 2011.

(a): For the week ending 12th August 2011, overall area coverage under Kharif Crops is more by 11.38 lakh hectares compared to coverage at this time last year with significant area gains in paddy, oilseeds, cotton and sugarcane. However decline in area under Pulses and Coarse Cereals crops is reported in some parts of the country. The details of area coverage under various crops as on 12th August 2011 is given at Annexure I.

(b): Meteorological Subdivision/State-wise rainfall distribution up to 17th August 2011 during the current monsoon season is given at Annexure II.

(c): Government regularly monitors and assesses the rainfall situation and issues advisories to concerned State Governments whenever the situation so demands. However, keeping in view generally evenly distributed rainfall over all agro climatic regions this year, the overall production scenario for Kharif crop season is likely to be normal.

(d) & (e): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is educating farmers on monsoon pattern by issuing weekly agromet advisory services and contingency crop plans through its coordinating centres in all Agriculture Universities. ICAR has also brought out district wise contingency plans for 209 districts in the country which provide details on alternate crops and recommended crop management practices during drought and flood situations. In case any contingency arises the State Governments provide assistance under various ongoing State Plan and Centrally sponsored schemes.