

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2492
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
RELIEF MEASURES FOR CROP LOSS
Choudhary Shri Harish;Singh Rajkumari Ratna

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Agriculture coordinates mandatory relief measures in the event of drought, hail storms and pest attacks;
- (b) if so, the details of works undertaken in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the financial assistance sanctioned under the said work were released after a long delay;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such delay in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Concerned State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary actions in the wake of natural calamities. For this purpose, State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has been constituted for each State with contributions from Central and State Governments and is readily available with the State Governments for undertaking immediate relief works in the event of natural calamities, including drought, hailstorms and pest attacks.

Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing financial support. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum of the State Government in accordance with the established procedure and keeping in view the items and norms in vogue for assistance.

The details of relief works undertaken are maintained by the State Government concerned, however, broadly they include (i) provisioning of supplementary irrigation by providing additional power and or diesel for pumpsets, (ii) provisioning of agricultural inputs, (iii) distribution of fodder I fodder seed minikits, (iv) credit support, (v) transportation of drinking water and fodder through railways, (vi) ensuring supplementary nutrition through Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), (vii) providing alternative employment beyond mandated 100 days under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), (viii) drinking water supply through National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) (ix) repair and restoration of irrigation works etc.

(c): No State Government has reported about delay in release of funds from the NDRF for natural disasters arising out of drought, hailstorms and pest attacks. After the Memorandum is received from the State Government concerned, funds are approved/ released after fulfillment of procedural requirements.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.