

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:62

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

DROUGHT RELIEF

Basheer Shri E. T. Muhammed; Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several States/UTs are facing drought and/or drought like conditions due to failure of monsoon this season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Central teams have been deputed to assess the drought situation in these States/UTs; and
- (d) if so, the details of their report and the financial assistance provided to these States/UTs by the Union Government so far?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 62 DUE FOR REPLY ON 14TH AUGUST, 2012.

(a) to (d): As per report of India Meteorological Department, as on 12th August 2012, overall rainfall deficit for the country as a whole was 16%. Out of 36 Met Sub-Divisions in the country, 15 received deficient rainfall (-20% to -59%) and 3 received scanty rainfall (-60% to -99%). Details of Met Sub Division wise rainfall are at Annexure-I.

Against average area of 105.70 million hectare under kharif cultivation in the entire country, 85.4 million hectare is normally sown by 8th August. This year 80.2 million hectare has been covered under various crops by 8th August. Statewise details indicating increase/decrease in area coverage vis-a-vis area normally covered upto this date are at Annexure-II.

Central teams are deputed to visit States to assess the situation and recommend assistance under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) after States declare drought and submit detailed memoranda to the Central Government. So far, Karnataka and Rajasthan have declared drought in 142 out of 176 talukas and in 5 out of 33 districts in the States respectively. Both the States have submitted memoranda seeking central assistance. Central Teams have been constituted to visit the States and assess the situation.

Government of India has proactively taken some decisions including introduction of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed & fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. and would render required assistance to all States as may be necessary to mitigate the effects of deficiency in rainfall.