GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1821 ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012 DROUGHT RELIEF

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of drought affected States/UTs in the country and the details of losses suffered by farmers as a result thereof;
- (b) whether a Central team visited these States/UTs to assess the prevailing situation;
- (c) the details of the report submitted by the Central team;
- (d) the assistance sought by and provided to the States/UTs by the Government; and
- (e) the details of any relief package announced by the Government for the farmers of these States/UTs so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

- (a) to (c): Governments of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts), Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) and Kerala (4 out of 14 districts) have declared drought during kharif 2012. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have visited these states to assess the loss/damage to crops and recommend central assistance. IMCT for Karnataka has submitted its report.
- (d): Governments of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Kerala have sought Central assistance of Rs. 7672.40 crore, Rs. 7424.13 crore, Rs. 3011.61 crore, Rs. 6259.70 crore and Rs. 1468.63 crore respectively for drought relief.
- (e): State Governments initiate necessary relief measures in wake of natural calamities including drought from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. State-wise allocation of funds under SDRF for the year 2012-13 is annexed. In addition, Govt. of India has decided to introduce diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed & fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, additional allocation under Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP), providing assistance for feed and fodder supplements under National Mission for Protein Supplements (NMPS), introducing drought impact mitigating interventions in perennial horticulture crops and reducing interest on rescheduled crop loans to mitigate the effects of drought. Besides, additional wage employment upto 50 days per household beyond 100 days under MGNREGS, interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and fast tracking release of installments under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) etc. were extended to drought affected areas.