

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2463
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
DROUGHT SITUATION IN MAHARASHTRA
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received the report of Shri Vijay Kelkar Committee and if so, the details of recommendations made with regard to drought situation in the country;
- (b) the action taken by the Government thereon particularly with regard to the State of Maharashtra;
- (c) the other main recommendations contained in the said report; and
- (d) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)& (b): The Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar, was mandated to give a report outlining a roadmap for fiscal consolidation in medium term framework in pursuit of the FRBM Act and related targets. The report submitted in September 2012 did not, however, contain any recommendation on drought situation in the country.

(c) The Committee recommended a number of reform measures in taxation, disinvestment and expenditure, such as transition to the Goods and Service Tax (GST) and quick review of Direct Taxes Code (DTC), administrative measures to improve tax collection, new models for disinvestment, rationalisation of schemes and strict control and monitoring expenditure, etc.

(d) The above recommendations were accepted and the Government adopted the following plan of fiscal consolidation during the period of 12th Plan i.e. 2012-13 to 2016-17, mainly, towards achieving return of economy to path of high investment, higher growth, lower inflation and long term sustainability.

Year	Fiscal Deficit as percentage of GDP
2012-13	5.3
2013-14	4.8
2014-15	4.2
2015-16	3.6
2016-17	3.0