

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:65

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

SHORTFALL IN KHARIF PRODUCTION

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether deficient rainfall in some parts of the country is likely to result in decline in foodgrains production and sowing area for various crops including wheat and paddy during the ensuing kharif season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof crop-wise alongwith the areas affected and measures being taken by the Government to tackle the situation;
- (c) whether any assessment has been made about the resultant shortfall in crop production;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise and State-wise;
- (e) the details of the assistance/compensation provided/proposed to be provided by the Government to the farmers and especially the small and marginal farmers affected/likely to be affected due to shortfall in production; and
- (f) the strategy formulated by the Government to tackle the impending situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 65 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24TH NOVEMBER,2009.

(a) to (f): As per assessment made by the Government, the State-wise details of shortfall in area and production of major Kharif crops during 2009-10 as compared to Kharif 2008-09 are given in the Annexure.

The Government has taken several measures to tackle the impending situation which, inter alia, are constitution of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) to review the condition and take appropriate decisions to counter the impact of deficit rainfall; providing assistance to the States to save the standing Kharif crops through providing additional power, diesel subsidy, etc; increase the area under Rabi cultivation to compensate for likely loss in Kharif; increasing upper ceiling of distribution subsidy on certified seeds under Government of India programmes; providing assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to the affected States for agriculture input subsidy and other relief measures etc; and regular review with all concerned Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments. Central Teams have visited drought affected States and based on their recommendations, the Government has approved a total assistance of Rs.4073.785 crore from NCCF so far and also released Rs.1990.3275 crore to these States as the Central Government share under CRF. The assistance provided from NCCF as well as CRF includes assistance to be provided to farmers including small and marginal farmers affected by drought.