

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4143
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
EXTENSION OF HELP TO DROUGHT PRONE AREA
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Krishi Vigyan Kendras extend help to the States to fight drought like situation in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): The ICAR along with State Agricultural Universities have developed number of technologies for management of drought. These include: short duration drought tolerant varieties in major rainfed crops like sorghum, pearl millet, pulses and oilseeds. In addition, a number of in-situ moisture conservation practices have also been developed suitable to different locations of the country. Water harvesting and recycling systems are standardized for giving supplemental irrigation and recharge of ground water. ICAR is regularly organizing training programmes on drought management to the state agriculture, horticulture and rural development officers including subject matter specialists and district level officers on dryland agriculture and watershed management which covers all techniques of drought management. ICAR through its network of Institutions, State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras is giving contingency planning and agro-advisories through electronic media and print media. These organizations are also demonstrating technologies through On-Farm Research (OFR), Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) and Operational Research Projects (ORP) on farmer's fields.