

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2090
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
DROUGHT MANAGEMENT POLICY
Godse Shri Hemant Tukaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints with regard to irregularities in implementing the policy of Drought Management;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of efforts made by the Government to implement the policy properly and widely?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

(c): There is a Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) representing concerned Central Ministries/Departments under Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) which meets on regular basis to take stock of rainfall, weather forecast, progress of sowing, crop health, level of water in the major water reservoirs in the country, etc. The meeting of CWWG is coordinated by the National Crop Forecasting Centre (NCFC) under the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. The information received on rainfall and its forecast, water storage in reservoirs, pest control, inputs availability, crop sowing status and prices are shared among the members of the Group for formulating strategy to meet the contingencies, if any. The findings of CWWG and India Meteorological Department reports are also discussed by Secretary (A&C) with the Senior Officers and the requirements for agricultural and allied sector are assessed and appropriate actions taken by the Central Government. The State Governments are also advised suitably and their efforts are supplemented from the Central resources, whenever the situation warrants for immediate intervention for mitigating the hardships of agricultural sector. DAC is the nodal department for coordination of relief efforts necessitated by drought. The Crisis Management Group on drought headed by the Central Drought Relief Commissioner reviews situation with the representatives of all the Line Departments, as and when warranted. A Crisis Management Plan is released annually to guide and formulate the Contingency Plan for all the sectors linked with the impact of drought to mitigate the impact of drought situation. State Governments are also advised to prepare district-wise contingency plans accordingly. Contingency Plan has been prepared in 580 districts. In case of severe drought situation in the country, the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary also reviews the situation and takes necessary decisions to mitigate the drought situation. Separate Minister-level and Secretary level committees are in place to tackle the situation.