

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:145

ANSWERED ON:09.07.2014

SHORTFALL IN MONSOON

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Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rainfall for the current year is estimated to be below average;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its adverse impact, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons leading to the shortfall in monsoon and the measures being taken to ensure sufficient water availability for agriculture purposes across the country, State wise;
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any study on the quantity of water being flown into the sea; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the measures adopted for maximum utilisation of river water for agriculture and human usages?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) Yes Madam. The rainfall for the country as a whole for the current monsoon season is estimated to be 93% of long period average, which is below normal.

(b) Quantitatively, the seasonal rainfall (June-September) for the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of the long period average (LPA) within a range of $\pm 4\%$. The LPA rainfall for the country as a whole for the period 1951-2000 is 89 cm. Detailed probability forecasts for the seasonal (June to September) rainfall over the country as a whole are given below.

Region Season Rainfall States in Geographical Region

North- 85% of LPA Jammu and Kashmir,
West Himachal Pradesh,
India Punjab, Rajasthan,
Haryana, Chandigarh,
Delhi, Uttaranchal
and Uttar Pradesh.

North- 99% of LPA Arunachal Pradesh,
East Meghalaya, Assam,
India Nagaland, Manipur,
Mizoram, Tripura,
Sikkim, West
Bengal, Bihar
and Jharkhand

Central 94% of LPA Gujarat State,
India Madhya Pradesh,
Chattisgarh,
Maharashtra,
Goa and Orissa.

South 93% of LPA Andhra Pradesh,
Penin- Karnataka, Tamil
sula Nadu, Kerala,
Lakshadweep and
Andaman and
Nicobar Islands.

#within the range of $\pm 8\%$.

Further rainfall over the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of its LPA for July and 96% of LPA for August within the range of $\pm 9\%$.

(c) During the first month (June) of the season, the realized rainfall over the country as a whole was deficient by 43% from LPA. The rainfall deficiencies observed over Northwest India, Central India, South Peninsula and NE India were, 55%, 61%, 37% and 26%, respectively from respective LPAs. The observed rainfall deficiency during June was caused by delayed arrival of monsoon over Kerala and slow progress subsequently while covering the country. The formation of cyclone "Nanauk" over Arabian Sea during the second week of June has disturbed the monsoon advancement and hence delayed the arrival of monsoon to the central and north India, thus causing deficient monsoon rains in June.

Indian Council of Agriculture Research(ICAR) is advocating several technologies like use of short duration drought tolerant varieties, in-situ soil moisture conservation and water harvesting measures, mulching, micro irrigation, resource conservation technologies and use of poor quality water to tackle the situation of moisture deficit in agriculture across the country. The ICAR has also prepared district level contingent plans for over 500 districts to address seasonal rainfall variability (including drought) impact on agriculture.

(d) As per present assessment, the average annual water availability in the country is about 1869 billion cubic meters (BCM). It has been estimated in the year 2009 by Central Water Commission (CWC) that about 450 BCM of surface water is being utilized for various purposes. Further, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has also assessed in 2009 that about 243 BCM of ground water is utilized for various purposes. The rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea.

(e) With a view to augmenting the water resources for utilization for various purposes, several measures are undertaken by the respective State Governments which, inter-alia, include conservation of water resources through reservoir based irrigation and command area canal networks, rejuvenating traditional water bodies, rain water harvesting and accelerated recharge to ground water etc. Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments in this regard through various schemes and programmes viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies.