

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4134

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014

DROUGHT LIKE SITUATION

Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Suresh Shri Doddaalahalli Kempegowda

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States where drinking water shortage has occurred due to drought like situation;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to overcome the situation;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any requests for additional financial assistance from these States including Karnataka; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

- (a) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has not received any report regarding declaration of drought due to failed monsoon .
- (b) The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) in its first stage Long Range Forecast for the 2014 Southwest Monsoon issued on 24.4.2014 predicted the probability of below normal (33%) to deficient (23%) monsoon in the country. The Ministry immediately wrote to all the States in the country to take immediate steps to tackle the drought like situation and scarcity of drinking water arising out of deficient monsoon as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for responding to Natural Disasters in Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation. The States were requested to prepare contingency plan as per the SOP.
- (c) & (d) As requested by the Ministry , 21 States including Karnataka have prepared contingency plans in which some of them have requested for additional central assistance to meet the drought like situation in the States. In response to this the Ministry has written to all the States that they should immediately repair or re-bore hand pumps and tube wells so as to keep them in proper order so that supply of drinking water is maintained. The payments for repair or re-boring of tube wells is to be made from the O&M components which is 15% of funds under the NRDWP with a matching contribution from the State Governments. In case of high water-stressed areas where water supply through tankers becomes inevitable to tackle drinking water supply, the same be deployed. However, the same is to be recouped later from State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) / National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) and 2% Calamity component of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) , after a drought is declared by the State followed by visit of Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) and orders of High Level Committee (HLC) .