

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4897
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014
AGRICULTURE AND SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE
Ramadoss Dr. Anbumani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to bring forth policy initiatives regarding water management, conservation and irrigation infrastructure development on the lines of Malaysia and Indonesia to soften the effect of forecasted dry weather due to the Sea Surface Temperature (SST);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to initiate a baseline study on the effects of SST in agriculture;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

- (a) No Madam. The National Water Policy (2012) has already made recommendations for effective conservation, development and management of water resources in the country including adaptation strategies for designing and management of water resources structures in view of the climate change.
- (b) Doesn't arise.
- (c) to (e):- There is no such specific proposal as of now. However, the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has constituted a Centre for Climate Change Research (CCCR) at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune to investigate the changes in rainfall and other weather patterns under changing climate. Moreover, the studies conducted by IITM, Pune revealed that though sea surface temperature (SST) in the Indian Ocean has increased in the past century, no direct link has been established so far on its effect on monsoon rainfall or agriculture in India.