

Title: Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Rajasthan

to tackle drought situation in the State.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (UDAIPUR): Sir, for the last three years, Rajasthan has been facing drought. Though Rajasthan is the largest State of Indian Union, it has only 1.1 per cent water resources of the country. Irrigation facilities are available in less than 25 per cent of the cultivable area. Kharif crop in the State is mainly rain-fed. Due to successive failure of the monsoon the Kharif crop in the State has become the major victim. Due to failure of monsoon, the water level has gone down considerably. Inadequate ground water collection in reservoirs and tanks has resulted in severe drinking and irrigation water problems. There is urgent need to provide relief to the people in affected areas to provide gainful employment, and to take measures for cattle and conservation of drinking water. The State Government is facing a severe financial crisis and immediate Central assistance is required. I request the Central Government to look into the matter more on humanitarian ground and rush immediate financial or material help to Rajasthan Government.