

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2195**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2018

**DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS**

2195. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the continued state of drought in several areas has led to starvation, suicide by the farmers, economic backwardness and other painful situations;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the works undertaken by the Governments to provide relief in these areas in the wake of the said situations; and
- (d) the details of the progress made by the Government in this regard so far?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The State Governments are primarily responsible for providing necessary relief in the wake of natural calamities. Government of India supplements efforts of State Governments with financial assistance. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Governments in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Governments in accordance with established procedure, keeping in view items and norms in vogue for assistance. The State Governments have not reported cases of starvation or suicide by farmers due to drought, while submitting the Memorandum. Further, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, which compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI), has also not provided any data on suicides committed by farmers and agricultural labourers due to starvation.

Agriculture is a state subject. Agrarian distress can be addressed by enabling the farmers to increase their income. The Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government has been reorienting the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness, in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes to meet this objective viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.

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