

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2229
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019**

Acute Water Shortage in Drought Hit Areas

2229. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of acute shortage of drinking water in many parts of the country especially the drought hit areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has identified such regions and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the action plan of the Government, if any for addressing these issues on priority?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)**

- (a) & (b) Water is a State subject. The identification of drought hit areas is done by States. After identification of such areas, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is approached by States for financial assistance. According to Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, details of States/ UTs which faced drought like situation in 2018-19, are as under:

Name of States	Number of District
Andhra Pradesh	09
Gujarat	11
Jharkhand	18
Karnataka	30
Maharashtra	26
Rajasthan	09
Total	103

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare

- (c) This Ministry supplements the efforts of State Governments for improving coverage of rural drinking water supply by providing technical and financial assistance through centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). To take relief measures for restoration of the drinking water supply in drought affected areas, States may utilize up to 25% of NRDWP funds as Flexi funds, in case of Natural Calamity. States can also take a long term measures using NRDWP funds for providing permanent solution to the drinking water problem in such areas.