

- (d) if so, the facts and details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which capture of dairy markets in neighbouring countries will help milk position in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise.

**Decline in sowing of Kharif crops in Punjab, Haryana and
Western Uttar Pradesh**

‡3038. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh play major role in foodgrain storage of the country;
- (b) if so, State-wise annual average percentage of the total foodgrain procured from these States;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that sowing of Kharif crops in the above said States upto 15th July is not satisfactory; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps to be taken by Government to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. FCI in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh regions are having storage capacities to the tune of 70.45 LMT, 23.19 LMT and 26.78 LMT respectively and play major role in foodgrains storage of the country.

- (b) The percentage of foodgrains procured from these States is as under:—

	RMS 2009-10 Wheat As on 29.07.2009	KMS 2008-09 Rice As on 29.7.2009
Punjab	42.40%	26.64%
Haryana	27.34%	4.44%
Uttar Pradesh	15.36%	11.25%

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation are listed in the Statement.

Statement

The steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation

1. Contingency Plans:

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has been constantly monitoring the progress of sowing operations with the States and Contingency Plans for specific agro climatic conditions, for different scenarios, has been prepared which include replacement of main crop such as paddy with alternate crops like millets in case of delayed sowing, planning for early maturing varieties of the main crop, planning for protective irrigation by efficient use of available water and promoting technical package of practices like direct sowing, less plant spacing, more seed rate etc.

2. Power:

100 MW of additional power from Central Pool has been allocated to Haryana and Punjab, for timely completion of paddy transplantations and to protect crops already sown. The Ministry of Power has been requested to consider additional requirements of power from Central Pool projected by Uttar Pradesh State.

3. Additional Seed:

The steps taken include availability of adequate quantities of seeds with the public sector institutions, allowing Truthfully Labelled Seeds to be distributed under the Government Schemes and relaxation of age norms of seeds. Uttar Pradesh has sufficient availability of seeds and the State Government has informed that shortages will be tied up at its level.

4. Flexibility to the States:

States have been given flexibility to utilize the funds provided under crop development programmes of Central schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to meet the contingent situations in the event of deficient rainfall, particularly for purchase and distribution of additional quantity of seeds support for micro-irrigation etc.

5. Advisory Services to Farmers:

Weather based Agricultural Management Plans are made available on the ICAR website, on a regular basis, which can be made use of by the State Governments, KVKs, district level officials of Department of Agriculture, for further dissemination of technical information to the farmers of different States.