

(RS. in crores)

| S.No.  | Name of State    | Amount approved from NCCF ** |
|--------|------------------|------------------------------|
| (i)    | Andhra Pradesh   | 642.02                       |
| (ii)   | Assam            | 89.94                        |
| (iii)  | Bihar            | 1163.64                      |
| (iv)   | Himachal Pradesh | 88.93                        |
| (v)    | Jharkhand        | 200.955                      |
| (vi)   | Karnataka        | 116.49                       |
| (vii)  | Madhya Pradesh   | 246.31                       |
| (viii) | Maharashtra      | 671.88                       |
| (ix)   | Manipur          | 14.57                        |
| (x)    | Nagaland         | 21.12                        |
| (xi)   | Rajasthan        | 1034.84                      |
| (xii)  | Uttar Pradesh    | 515.05                       |

\*\* subject to adjustment of available balances in the CRF of the respective States, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Necessary proposal relating to Orissa has been sent to MHA for placing it before the High Level Committee (HLC) for a decision on the quantum of assistance from NCCF, for drought relief to the State. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has been constituted to visit Jammu & Kashmir early for assessment of the drought situation and requirement of Central assistance.

#### Impact of BT. Cotton

1674. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of Bt. Cotton in the country so far and the States which are encouraging this cultivation;
- (b) the reports about Bt. Cotton production and its quality so far in the country; and
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to States, particularly Maharashtra to strengthen seed testing laboratories to test Bt. Cotton seed during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu are the major cotton growing States in the country. The area under Bt. cotton increased from 29000 hectares in 2002-03 to 80.00 lakh hectares (anticipated) in 2009-10. The average yield of cotton in India has also increased from 308 Kg/ha in 2001-02 to 560 Kg/ha, in 2007-08. Cultivation of Bt Cotton has resulted in 31% increase in yield, 39% reduction in pesticide usage and more than 80% increase in profitability of farmers (ISAAA-2009). India has emerged as a major cotton exporter with 6.5 million bales of export in 2006.

(b) The Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur has been conducting detailed studies at the State level in collaboration with the State Agricultural Universities of the nine cotton growing States. Information so far collected indicates that yield has increased in all the cotton growing States of the country with the introduction of Bt. Cotton. Bollworms menace in cotton has significantly reduced all over the country and there is a reduction in market share of insecticides used in Cotton.

(c) The Government has provided financial assistance to all major cotton producing states to test Bt. Cotton seeds. Details are given in the statement (see below). The State of Maharashtra has been provided financial assistance of Rs.91.00 lakh during 2006-07 for International Seed Testing Association membership (Rs. 45.00 lakh), hybridity testing (Rs.20.00 lakh), DNA Finger Printing facility (Rs.25.00 lakh) and purchase of Bt. Kits (1.00 lakh). Further, during 2009-10, another Rs.50.00 lakh has been provided to Maharashtra for strengthening of its three seed testing laboratories and two seed testing laboratories of Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation, Akola.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Details of Financial Assistance to States*

| (Amount in Rs.Lakh) |         |         |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| States              | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
| 1                   | 2       | 3       |
| Andhra Pradesh      | -       | 25.00   |
| Gujarat             | -       | -       |
| Jharkhand           | 45.00   | -       |
| Jammu & Kashmir     | -       | -       |
| Maharashtra         | -       | -       |
| Punjab              | -       | -       |

| 1           | 2      | 3     |
|-------------|--------|-------|
| Rajasthan   | -      | -     |
| Tamil Nadu  | 60.00  | -     |
| Uttarakhand | -      | -     |
| West Bengal | -      | -     |
| Orissa      | 25.00  | -     |
| Karnataka   | -      | 25.00 |
| Bihar       | -      | -     |
| Pudducherry | -      | -     |
| TOTAL       | 130.00 | 50.00 |

**Miserable condition of farmers**

1675. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that condition of farmers is very miserable particularly in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of suicides committed by farmers during last six months till date, State-wise and district-wise in case of above States;

(c) whether Government will announce MSP for all farm products so that at least farmers could sell their products at more than their cost of production;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps Government will take to save farmers from middlemen who reap the real benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There had been noticeable number of suicides due to agrarian reasons in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and 2 other States from the year 2004 to 2006. Therefore, the Government announced the Rehabilitation Package in 31 suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. 16 districts in Andhra Pradesh and 6 districts in Maharashtra have been identified for inclusion in this Package. The total amount of Package for Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra is Rs. 9650.55 crore and Rs. 3873.26 crore respectively.

District-wise number of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, as reported by the State Government concerned, are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*). Maharashtra has supplied consolidated information for 13 month starting from January 2009.