

(a) whether Government is aware of the impending drought in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand and Eastern Uttar Pradesh due to which kharif crop is getting damaged and adversely impacting the production;

(b) if so, the strategy made or proposed to be made by Government to tackle the drought in these areas;

(c) whether Government is considering to call a meeting with the representatives of these States with regard to drought relief; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Due to deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010, Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand have so far declared drought in 28 and 16 districts, respectively. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has not so far intimated regarding declaration of drought due to deficit rainfall during current monsoon.

It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For such purpose, the States have ready availability of funds in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). First installment of Central share of SDRF for 2010-11 has already been released to Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh, to enable the State Governments take immediate measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government is constantly monitoring the situation in the drought/ deficit rainfall affected States, to take necessary measures in assisting the States to tackle the situation. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have been constituted to visit Bihar and Jharkhand to assess the drought situation and the requirement of Central assistance. The IMCT has already visited Bihar in this regard and the IMCT is visiting Jharkhand immediately.

Assistance for Drought Affected States

†2891. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided assistance to drought affected States/areas in the country during last three years and the current year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds sought and disbursed and the number of farmers assisted as a result thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether various drought relief measures taken by Government were unable to benefit the farmers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government and the remedial action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Details indicating the assistance sought by State Governments and approved by Central Government from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given in the statement (see below).

In the wake of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010, Bihar and Jharkhand declared drought and submitted Memoranda seeking assistance of Rs. 5062.75 crores and Rs. 2157.77 crores, respectively, from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have been constituted to visit Bihar and Jharkhand to assess the drought situation and the requirement of Central assistance. The IMCT has recently visited Bihar in this regard. Further action will be taken as per prescribed procedure. First installment of Central share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for 2010-11 has already been released to Bihar and Jharkhand for taking immediate measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought.

Government of India took various measures to assist the affected States to mitigate the impact of drought of 2009-10 which included implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme during Kharif 2009 in drought/deficit rainfall affected areas, allocation of additional power from Central Pool, ensuring availability of fertilizers and seeds, release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and periodic monitoring of situation at various levels to ensure prompt action.

Distribution of assistance at the ground level to the affected people including farmers is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The State Governments have not reported details of the number of farmers benefited from the assistance provided by the Government of India in the wake of drought of 2009-10.

Statement

*Assistance sought and assistance approved from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)
for droughts of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	Drought of 2007-08		Drought of 2008-09		Drought of 2009-10	
		Demand by the State	Assistance approved*	Demand by the State	Assistance approved*	Demand by the State	Assistance approved*
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	10106.77	575.30
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	792.60	89.94
3	Bihar	-	-	-	-	23071.13	1163.64
4	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	608.13	88.93
5	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	211.82	**
6	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	890.31	200.955
7	Karnataka	-	-	2043.07	83.83	394.92	116.49
8	Kerala	-	-	-	-	168.22#	**
9	Madhya Pradesh	1883.81	42.09	-	-	11669.68	246.31
10	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	15059.64	671.88
11	Manipur	-	-	-	-	22.09	14.57
12	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	74.76	21.12
13	Orissa	-	-	-	-	2266.65	151.92
14	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	12690.99	1034.84
15	Uttarakhand	220.04	27.78	200.14	57.51	-	-
16	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	12133.42	515.05

Including hailstorm

* Subject to adjustment of available balance in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) on concerned State Government

** Under Consideration