

to us but when it is misused, it is a curse to all the people. So, many are apprehending that behind this spread of rumours, SMSs and other technological inputs are there; so, he should also rise to the occasion to teach a lesson that these SMSs, are beneficial for all of us, but at the same time, these false SMSs, when it is doing a mischief to the society, to the nation and to the people have to be curbed. Culprits have to be identified and some exemplary punishment has to be given. I join this House to give the message to our brothers and sisters of the North-East that we are all with them, and, as the citizens of this great country, they have the right to stay anywhere, to go anywhere, to work anywhere and to take their education anywhere. If there is any obstruction to it, we must curb it with iron hands.

With these words, I again appeal to all our friends here that irrespective of the Party colour or all our differences, we must rise to the occasion and unitedly fight it. We must not allow it to move an inch further, and we must keep the unity and integrity of the whole nation intact. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the following is the text of the Resolution proposed to be adopted:—

“This House expresses its serious concern at the feeling of persecution of our brothers and sisters of the North-Eastern States who are leaving various cities and returning back to the North-East. All sections of this House and all political parties are of the firm opinion that as citizens of this country, the people of North-East have a right to live in any part of India. Full security should be provided to them in all parts of India. This House appeals to all those who are returning to North-East not to be misled by false rumours, and to come back to their places of study or work. Their presence in various parts of the country promotes national unity. The mischief-mongers and anti-national elements behind the electronic campaign to create panic should be urgently investigated by the authorities”.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Measures to combat drought situation

\*101. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether delay in the onset of monsoon has affected the Kharif crop cultivation;

- (b) if so, the extent of effect of drought in terms of area and the regions most affected by it;
- (c) the extent of losses suffered by farmers in the affected regions;
- (d) the remedial measures suggested to combat the drought situation; and
- (e) whether impending drought would necessitate import of foodgrains to meet the domestic demand?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) Delay in onset of monsoon and subsequent rainfall deficiency has affected kharif sowing in some parts of the country. Against an average area of 105.70 million hectare under kharif cultivation, 85.4 million hectare is normally sown by 8th August. This year only 80.2 million hectare has been covered under various crops by 8th August. State-wise crop sowing details indicating increase/decrease in area coverage *vis-a-vis* area normally covered upto this date are given in Statement (*See* below).

Ministry of Agriculture is closely monitoring monsoon and crop sowing situation along with India Meteorological Department (IMD) and State Governments. Comprehensive contingency plans have been prepared for 343 districts based on which States have been advised to initiate location specific measures. Decisions have been taken for introduction of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc.

The current deficiency in rainfall may not severely impact foodgrains production if rainfall becomes normal in August-September. Adequate stocks of wheat and rice are available hence import of these commodities may not be necessary. However, pulses would have to be imported, as in previous years, in order to meet domestic demand.

**Statement**

*State-wise crop sowing details indicating increase/decrease in area coverage vis-a-vis area normally covered upto this date*

(Area in lakh ha.)

**State-wise Area sown as on 08.08.2012**

Sl. No.	State	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Normal area of corres-ponding week	Area covered 2012	Changes over normal
		Rice		Coarse Cereal		Pulses		Oilseeds		Sugarcane		Cotton		Jute and Mesta		All crops		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>North West India</b>																		
1.	Haryana	11.00	10.54	6.69	3.33	0.13	0.23	0.04	0.05	0.85	1.07	5.21	6.03			23.92	21.25	-2.67
2.	Himachal Pradesh	0.73	0.73	2.97	3.04	0.09	0.14	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			3.79	3.91	0.12
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.72	1.01	1.85	2.15	0.04	0.11	0.02	0.03			0.00	0.00			2.63	3.30	0.68
4.	Punjab	26.86	27.55	1.52	1.35	0.16	0.16	0.12	0.05	0.69	0.75	5.57	5.16			34.91	35.02	0.11
5.	Rajasthan	0.76	0.78	57.70	39.31	19.82	9.04	14.70	16.35			3.48	4.49			96.46	69.98	-26.48
6.	Uttar Pradesh	51.14	50.93	17.76	15.75	7.52	8.42	2.44	4.09	20.75	24.25	0.24	0.30	0.00	0.00	99.86	103.74	3.89
7.	Uttarakhand	2.56	2.51	2.38	2.33	0.14	0.36	0.03	0.06	1.04	1.05	0.00	0.00			6.14	6.31	0.17
<b>Central India</b>																		
1.	Chhattisgarh	32.00	32.19	2.14	1.95	2.61	2.32	2.11	2.33			0.00	0.00			38.86	38.79	-0.07
2.	Gujarat	4.91	4.52	9.72	6.35	4.94	2.66	21.01	13.18	1.76	2.03	24.76	22.20			67.10	50.94	-16.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
3.	Madhya Pradesh	11.21	12.17	15.38	14.64	11.69	11.15	56.19	62.79	0.69	0.90	6.53	5.97			101.69	107.62	5.93
4.	Maharashtra	10.63	10.13	25.92	21.27	20.32	17.93	30.35	33.73	9.10	9.45	36.69	40.74			133.02	133.25	0.23
5.	Odisha	25.83	22.23	3.67	3.57	4.09	3.99	1.17	1.19	0.17	0.39	0.72	1.13	0.22	0.22	35.87	32.72	-3.15
<b>Southern Peninsula</b>																0.00	0.00	0.00
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.09	8.11	6.46	6.03	6.45	5.44	13.57	11.40	1.78	1.76	13.56	19.94	0.32	0.16	51.23	52.84	1.61
2.	Karnataka	5.02	3.13	18.80	10.61	10.94	8.45	9.78	5.22	3.96	3.84	3.03	3.17			51.53	34.42	-17.11
3.	Kerala	0.86	0.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			0.86	1.13	0.27
4.	Tamil Nadu	2.25	1.48	0.83	0.70	0.99	0.52	1.60	1.07	3.14	3.73	0.11	0.10			8.93	7.60	-1.33
<b>East and North-East India</b>																0.00	0.00	0.00
1.	Assam	16.28	17.13	0.05	0.10	0.02	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.66	0.68	17.30	18.32	1.02
2.	Meghalaya													0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.01
3.	Nagaland													0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
4.	Bihar	20.83	21.67	2.95	3.41	0.59	0.55	0.07	0.05	2.01	2.70	0.00	0.00	1.35	1.39	27.80	29.78	1.97
5.	Jharkhand	6.92	7.91	2.08	2.23	1.45	2.56	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00			10.45	12.70	2.25
6.	Tripura													0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01
7.	West Bengal	27.59	23.34	0.67	0.55	0.26	0.38	0.06	0.04	0.15	0.22	0.00	0.00	5.47	5.81	34.20	30.35	-3.86
	Others	5.39	5.50	1.70	2.22	0.55	0.00	0.14	0.18	0.34	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.02	8.20	8.31	0.11
TOTAL:		272.58	264.39	181.24	140.89	92.81	74.78	153.39	151.82	46.72	52.88	99.90	109.23	8.23	8.41	854.86	802.39	-52.46
Changes over normal		-8.19		-40.35		-18.03		-1.57		6.16		9.33		0.18				