

**Rise in prices due to drought**

1438. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is apprehending drought in several States this year;
- (b) if so, the estimated loss of agricultural products due to drought;
- (c) the estimated rise in prices of foodgrains, pulses, etc., consequent upon loss of agricultural products; and
- (d) the action being taken to counter the drought situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) reports that as on 21st August, 2012, the rainfall departure for the country as a whole is (-)15%. Out of the 36 Met Sub-Divisions in the country, 20 received normal rainfall (+19% to -19%), 13 received Deficient rainfall (-20% to -59%) and 3 received Scanty rainfall (-60% to -99%). Average area sown under kharif cultivation in the country is 105.70 million hectare. During the third week of August, 2012, against normal sowing of 89.62 million hectare about 88.37 million hectare has been covered under various crops which is about 1.25 million ha. short than normal. Met Sub-Division-wise rainfall status is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) As per reports on crop sowing status (as on 16.8.2012), coverage is more than normal in case of Rice (17.16 lakh ha.), Oilseeds (0.45 lakh ha.), Sugarcane(6.17 lakh ha.), Cotton (5.15 lakh ha.) and Jute & Mesta (0.38 lakh ha.). Shortfall in area coverage is reported in Coarse Cereals (-30.01 lakh ha.) and Pulses (-11.8 lakh ha.). But with the signs of improvement in rainfall, this gap may narrow enhancing prospects of larger coverage in early Rabi crops and therefore, may not have any significant impact on prices of agricultural commodities.

Government is closely monitoring monsoon and crop sowing situation in consultation with State Governments. Contingency plans for 343 districts have been made available to the States for implementing location specific interventions. 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, allocation of additional power from the central pool, etc.

**Statement***Subdivision-wise rainfall distribution*

Sl. No.	Meteorological subdivisions	Day: 21.08.12 to 21.08.12	Period: 01.06.12 to 21.08.12	Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.	Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	East & North East India	16.3	12.0	37%		887.1	1030.8	-14%			
1	Arunachal Pradesh	33.9	13.3	155%	E	1146.5	1280.6	-10%	N		
2	Assam & Meghalaya	29.7	14.7	102%	E	1270.3	1332.4	-5%	N		
3	NMMT	6.6	12.8	-48%	D	718.5	1094.9	-34%	D		
4	SHWB & Sikkim	27.6	16.7	65%	E	1461.6	1434.5	2%	N		
5	Gangetic West Bengal	15.4	9.8	57%	E	647.3	795.3	-19%	N		
6	Jharkhand	3.4	8.8	-61%	S	678.3	760.0	-11%	N		
7	Bihar	1.8	9.9	-82%	S	540.8	708.3	-24%	D		
	North West India	11.4	6.4	77%		342.4	444.5	-23%			
1	East U.P.	5.2	8.5	-39%	D	474.4	613.3	-23%	D		
2	West U.P.	14.4	7.7	87%	E	345.7	538.5	-36%	D		
3	Uttarakhand	23.6	13.4	76%	E	796.8	907.6	-12%	N		
4	Haryana Chandigarh & Delhi	23.4	6.1	284%	E	131.9	337.5	-61%	S		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	Punjab	12.3	5.1	141%	E	130.2	361.7	-64%	S
6	Himachal Pradesh	12.9	7.6	70%	E	429.4	614.0	-30%	D
7	Jammu & Kashmir	16.5	4.9	237%	E	348.9	394.2	-11%	N
8	West Rajasthan	0.5	3.0	-83%	S	147.8	198.0	-25%	D
9	East Rajasthan	13.6	8.1	68%	E	404.3	454.4	-11%	N
Central India		6.3	8.5	-26%		633.1	707.0	-10%	
1	Orissa	7.9	11.4	-31%	D	816.5	810.0	1%	N
2	West Madhya Pradesh	13.8	8.0	73%	E	709.2	617.5	15%	N
3	East Madhya Pradesh	6.8	10.9	-38%	D	732.5	751.9	-3%	N
4	Gujarat Region	1.0	5.9	-83%	S	351.9	664.3	-47%	D
5	Saurashtra & Kutch	0.3	2.3	-87%	S	64.7	362.5	-82%	S
6	Konkan & Goa	12.3	19.3	-36%	D	1994.0	2377.1	-16%	N
7	Madhya Maharashtra	1.1	4.8	-77%	S	384.8	524.1	-27%	D
8	Marathwada	0.7	8.6	-92%	S	266.3	454.4	-41%	D
9	Vidarbha	3.6	9.0	-60%	S	684.1	697.7	-2%	N

102	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]					Unstarred Questions			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
10	Chhattisgarh	9.8	10.2	-4%	N	874.8	828.0	6%	N	
	South Peninsula	2.2	6.3	-65%		412.6	505.7	-18%		
1	A & N Island	7.6	12.8	-41%	D	899.9	1117.8	-19%	N	
2	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	1.1	6.4	-83%	S	388.6	368.9	5%	N	
3	Telangana	6.8	8.1	-16%	N	516.1	529.0	-2%	N	
4	Rayalaseema	0.0	5.3	-99%	S	193.8	231.2	-16%	N	
5	Tamilnadu & Pondicherry	0.0	3.3	-100%	NR	128.8	167.0	-23%	D	
6	Coastal Karnataka	16.0	21.2	-25%	D	2350.1	2609.0	-10%	N	
7	N.I. Karnataka	1.1	4.1	-73%	S	203.5	322.8	-37%	D	
8	S.I. Karnataka	0.5	4.7	-89%	S	322.1	477.5	-33%	D	
9	Kerala	1.3	11.9	-89%	S	1115.6	1688.2	-34%	D	
10	Lakshadweep	1.1	8.5	-87%	S	778.2	766.4	2%	N	
	Country as a whole	8.6	8.0	8%		540.9	638.4	-15%		

**Adhoc appointments made by NIPER, Mohali**

1439. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of *adhoc* appointments made by National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali during last three years, year-wise;