

An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited the State and assessed the situation. Based on the report of IMCT and recommendation of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), Government of India approved Rs. 778.09 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to Maharashtra.

During Rabi – 2012-13, Government of Maharashtra has reported that 3905 villages in 9 districts have suffered crop loss of 50% and above on account of deficit rainfall. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team has visited the State and assessed the situation. An Empowered Group of Ministers has also been constituted to assess and monitor the situation arising out of drought/deficient rainfall on a regular basis; to take decisions on policy issues and approve new and innovative schemes for effective management of drought/deficit rainfall and related issues; and to examine the existing schemes of the Government of India and take decisions on any suitable modifications/relaxations that may be required for effective management of drought/deficit rainfall and related issues.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Production of mangoes in Uttar Pradesh

1241. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of mangoes;
- (b) whether Central Government has organized any buyer-seller meet on procurement of mangoes from Uttar Pradesh farmers;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government is providing any incentives to farmers of Uttar Pradesh for research and development in the field of producing large varieties of mangoes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Buyer-seller meet is one of the activities of mango promotion

programmes organized by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to increase export of mango from various States of the country including Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) offers technical and scientific support to State Governments for Research and Development. Through Biodiversity International, ICAR is also supporting custodian farmers in preserving valuable, rare and endangered mango germplasm.

#### **MSP for agricultural produces**

†1242. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices takes note of the Minimum Support Price proposed by the State Governments;

(b) whether Government intends to announce the Minimum Support Price of various agricultural produces particularly of paddy this year as per the proposals of State Governments; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers a number of important factors including the views of the State Governments.

(b) and (c) Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops including paddy on the recommendations of the CACP, the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments.

#### **Promotion of organic fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh**

†1243. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any corrective measures for reclamation of waste land into fertile land so that it can be converted into arable land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.