

appropriate relief measures in the wake drought/flood from funds readily available under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), upon receipt of detailed drought/flood relief memorandum from the State Government following which Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) is deputed for assessing the situation and recommending central assistance as per established procedure and extant norms.

During current year (2013-14), Government of India has not received any drought/flood relief memorandum from State of Bihar, so far.

Crop losses due to adverse weather conditions

2174. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study of the crop losses due to adverse weather conditions, if so, the details thereof for the last five years;

(b) whether Government has undertaken any measures to reduce crop losses due to adverse weather conditions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) No specific study has been conducted but crop loss due to adverse weather conditions is being assessed regularly. In order to reduce crop losses due to adverse weather conditions, Government of India regularly monitors rainfall and crop sowing situation for the country. Agricultural Universities under ICAR network in collaboration with Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issue suitable agro-met advisories to farmers through newspapers, radio and television. Government of India has also circulated Contingency Crop Plans to States, prepared by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in consultation with State Agriculture Universities comprising State/region-wise crop varieties/hybrids along with crop management practices for implementation in the event of main crop being affected due to adverse weather conditions. State Governments are advised to educate farmers about Contingency Crop Plans through extension agencies. Government of India is also implementing a Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme on pilot basis since Kharif 2007 season to

provide insurance protection/compensation to farmers against crop losses due to adverse weather incidents.

Growth rate of agriculture sector

2175. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contribution of agriculture to GDP has been declining over the years and is likely to decline further during next four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rate of growth of crops production and productivity has also declined leading to poverty in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to improve the growth rate of agriculture sector in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) As per the First Revised Estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on 31st, January, 2013, contribution of the agriculture sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country at 2004-05 prices declined from 14.6% in 2009-10 to 14.5% in 2010-11 and further to 14.1% in 2011-12. Similarly, this sector registered a growth rate of 0.8 % in 2009-10, 7.9% in 2010-11 and 3.6% in 2011-12 at 2004-05 prices. Further, as per the Provisional Estimates released by CSO on 31st May, 2013, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP is likely to decline to 13.7% in 2012-13 and this sector is estimated to grow at 1.9% in 2012-13 at 2004-05 prices. The decline in growth rate and contribution of agriculture to GDP is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to a service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy. Despite this, the production of foodgrains has increased from 230.8 million tons in 2007-08 to 255.4 million tons in 2012-13 (4th Advance Estimates). Similarly, productivity of foodgrains has increased from 1860 kg. per ha. in 2007-08 to 2125 kg. per ha. in 2012-13 (Fourth Advance Estimates).

(e) Further, Government has launched several schemes to increase the growth rate of agriculture and boost farm production in terms of its contribution to