

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Drop in sowing area of summer crops**

386. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that delay in arrival of monsoon and a sharp drop in seasonal showers have dragged down the sowing area affecting the summer crops;

(b) if so, the details of the shortage of rain, drop in sowing area of different crops and expected decrease in production of these crops; and

(c) to what extent it would increase the prices of these agricultural commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, as per reports of Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the rainfall deficit in the current monsoon season (01.06.2014 to 06.07.2014) as compared to Long Period Average is as follows:

India as a whole:	(-) 43 %
East & North East India:	(-)20%
North West India:	(-) 46 %
Central India:	(-) 64 %
South Peninsula:	(-) 41 %

Due to delay in arrival of monsoon and deficient seasonal rainfall, kharif area coverage as on 04th July, 2014 is about 182.40 lakh hectares, against 237.43 lakh hectares normal (5 years average) area of corresponding period. However, sowing window of most of crops is available till early August. Hence, it may be too early to estimate the decrease in production of kharif crops or increase in prices of agricultural commodities.

Impact of low rainfall on Kharif pulses

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