

- (c) whether there is a demand to further increase the MSP of paddy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) by Rs.50 per quintal for common variety of paddy and by Rs.55 per quintal for Grade A variety.

(b) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops including paddy based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers, *inter-alia*, a number of important factors including cost of production and changes in input prices. The cost of production, *inter-alia*, includes all paid out costs including imputed value of family labour.

(c) and (d) Representations were received from various States for higher MSP of paddy.

The MSP of Rs.1360 per quintal for common variety and Rs.1400 per quintal for Grade A variety of paddy fixed by the Government for 2014-15 season gives adequate return over weighted average cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) estimated at Rs.978 per quintal.

Drought like situation in the country

1097. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the latest information on monsoon indicates deficiency in rainfall in various parts of the country, particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its likely impact on agriculture; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to mitigate the hardships faced by the farmers due to drought like situation and crops loss, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) As per information of India Meteorological Department (IMD), cumulative seasonal monsoon rainfall till 14.07.2014 was 170.4

mm. which is 41% less than normal (LPA) rainfall of 289.2 mm. So far, all States except Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar & Tamil Nadu have received sub normal rainfall. Details of sub-division-wise rainfall are given in Statement (*See* below).

Delay in onset of monsoon and its slow progress has caused delay in sowing of paddy, coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds and cotton. However, the sowing window is available till early August and sowing coverage is expected to improve with further progress of monsoon.

(c) Government has taken several measures to address any situation arising due to deficiency in monsoon rainfall.

States have been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such a need arises. States have also been advised to keep asides 10% of funds available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and other schemes for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate any situation arising out of deficient rainfall.

States have also been requested to construct water harvesting structures, restore irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals; energising tubewells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps and arranging power to meet irrigation needs.

Farmers have also been advised to adopt techniques such as *in-situ* moisture conservation, on farm water conservation, ridge furrow sowing, promoting suitable agronomic practices including mulching, inter cropping, mixed cropping, sowing of less water consuming crops etc.

Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 520 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

*Statement**Details of Sub-division-wise Rainfall (MM) Distribution*

| Sl. No. | Meteorological Sub-divisions | Day: | 14.07.2014 | To | 14.07.2014 | Period: | 01.06.2014 | To | 14.07.2014 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|---------|------------|--------|------------|
| | | Actual | Normal | % Dep. | Cat. | Actual | Normal | % Dep. | Cat. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| East and North East India | | 11.1 | 13.8 | -20% | | 415.2 | 557.1 | -25% | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 11.2 | 18.1 | -38% | D | 514.7 | 753.9 | -32% | D |
| 2 | Assam & Meghalaya | 21.6 | 14.3 | 51% | E | 577.7 | 780.0 | -26% | D |
| 3 | NMMT | 10.6 | 13.4 | -21% | D | 306.4 | 605.9 | -49% | D |
| 4 | SHWB & Sikkim | 7.8 | 19.9 | -61% | S | 747.3 | 779.8 | -4% | N |
| 5 | Gangetic West Bengal | 9.6 | 11.5 | -17% | N | 337.4 | 397.9 | -15% | N |
| 6 | Jharkhand | 10.0 | 10.0 | 0% | N | 301.8 | 346.2 | -13% | N |
| 7 | Bihar | 2.9 | 12.9 | -77% | S | 282.9 | 329.0 | -14% | N |
| North West India | | 5.5 | 8.0 | -31% | | 73.1 | 156.5 | -53% | |
| 1 | East U.P. | 5.1 | 12.1 | -58% | D | 154.7 | 235.2 | -34% | D |
| 2 | West U.P. | 2.7 | 7.2 | -63% | S | 44.8 | 177.8 | -75% | S |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|------|---|-------|--------|------|----|
| 3 | Uttarakhand | 15.5 | 14.5 | 7% | N | 158.4 | 342.7 | -54% | D |
| 4 | Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi | 2.7 | 5.8 | -53% | D | 46.6 | 114.1 | -59% | D |
| 5 | Punjab | 1.5 | 6.4 | -77% | S | 43.2 | 124.2 | -65% | S |
| 6 | Himachal Pradesh | 18.7 | 9.7 | 93% | E | 128.9 | 208.8 | -38% | D |
| 7 | Jammu and Kashmir | 3.8 | 7.8 | -52% | D | 73.3 | 137.2 | -47% | D |
| 8 | West Rajasthan | 1.5 | 3.4 | -55% | D | 20.2 | 69.6 | -71% | S |
| 9 | East Rajasthan | 9.7 | 9.4 | 3% | N | 47.7 | 148.5 | -68% | S |
| Central India | | 12.3 | 10.5 | 18% | | 137.6 | 303.3 | -55% | |
| 1 | Odisha | 23.4 | 10.1 | 131% | E | 224.3 | 355.6 | -37% | D |
| 2 | West Madhya Pradesh | 17.0 | 9.4 | 81% | E | 81.9 | 223.6 | -63% | S |
| 3 | East Madhya Pradesh | 11.2 | 11.3 | -1% | N | 137.7 | 285.6 | -52% | D |
| 4 | Gujarat Region | 0.8 | 12.3 | -93% | S | 26.0 | 279.6 | -91% | S |
| 5 | Saurashtra and Kutch | 2.3 | 7.8 | -70% | S | 40.4 | 163.2 | -75% | S |
| 6 | Konkan and Goa | 44.7 | 35.5 | 26% | E | 732.9 | 1197.3 | -39% | D |
| 7 | Madhya Maharashtra | 6.6 | 7.2 | -9% | N | 87.3 | 253.2 | -66% | S |

116 *Written Answers to*

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|---|-------|--------|------|---|
| 8 | Marathwada | 3.8 | 5.0 | -24% | D | 84.1 | 217.0 | -61% | S |
| 9 | Vidarbha | 5.5 | 10.3 | -47% | D | 103.8 | 307.1 | -66% | S |
| 10 | Chhattisgarh | 15.9 | 11.6 | 37% | E | 201.9 | 347.4 | -42% | D |
| South Peninsula | | 11.4 | 6.5 | 77% | | 180.1 | 255.2 | -29% | |
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 5.3 | 13.4 | -61% | S | 668.9 | 613.1 | 9% | N |
| 2 | Coastal Andhra Pradesh | 3.8 | 4.4 | -14% | N | 95.1 | 170.0 | -44% | D |
| 3 | Telangana | 8.6 | 6.4 | 34% | E | 109.7 | 231.8 | -53% | D |
| 4 | Rayalaseema | 2.5 | 3.1 | -21% | D | 115.9 | 103.4 | 12% | N |
| 5 | Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry | 1.7 | 1.8 | -7% | N | 81.4 | 73.4 | 11% | N |
| 6 | Coastal Karnataka | 78.3 | 38.6 | 103% | E | 895.2 | 1388.1 | -36% | D |
| 7 | N. I. Karnataka | 4.6 | 3.8 | 20% | E | 106.5 | 159.9 | -33% | D |
| 8 | S. I. Karnataka | 17.4 | 6.4 | 172% | E | 189.4 | 242.4 | -22% | D |
| 9 | Kerala | 55.1 | 21.7 | 154% | E | 716.7 | 1012.5 | -29% | D |
| 10 | Lakshadweep | 7.6 | 10.6 | -28% | D | 318.7 | 464.7 | -31% | D |
| Country as a whole | | 9.9 | 9.5 | 4% | | 170.4 | 289.2 | -41% | |

E-Excess, N-Normal, D-Deficient, S-Scanty