

(d) the status of production of pulses and their demand in the country this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Rainfall during the monsoon season has been deficient/erratic in several parts of the country both in 2014-15 and 2015-16. As against overall rainfall deficiency of 12% over the LPA during the monsoon season of last year, the rainfall during the current year has been deficient by 14%.

(b) Rainfall during monsoon season is crucial for good agricultural production. The rainfall deficiency during last year as well as current year has adversely impacted kharif production in the country. Total production of Kharif Foodgrains during 2015-16, estimated at 124.05 million tonnes (1st Advance Estimates), is lower by 2.26 million tonnes as compared to Kharif foodgrains production of 126.31 million tonnes during 2014-15.

(c) Although production of foodgrains during 2014-15 has suffered due to erratic monsoon rainfall conditions and also untimely rains/hailstorms during February/March, 2015, there is sufficient stock of cereals under central pool for the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes and also for making available in open market at affordable prices. As on 1st November, 2015 there is a stock of 112.92 lakh tones of rice as against the stocking norm of 102.50 lakh tones and 299.06 lakh tones of wheat as against the stocking norm of 205.20 lakh tones.

(d) The demand of pulses in the country for the current year *i.e.* 2015-16 is projected at 21 million tones. As per the 1st Advance Estimate (only Kharif) released on 16th September, 2015, the production of Kharif pulses in 2015-16 season is estimated at 5.56 million tones. However, the annual estimates of total production of pulses for the current year are not yet available.

#### **Assistance to farmers for loss of crops**

2259. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts faced deficient monsoon this year, State/UT-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to help farmers who lost their crops due to insufficient rains; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure better preparation in the future to address the issue of deficient rains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) According to India Meteorological Department during South-West Monsoon, 2015 (1 June to 30 September) 302 districts of the country have faced the deficit rainfall. State/UT wise details is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) State Governments initiate necessary relief measures to farmers in the wake of drought from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance to State Government, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. During Kharif 2015, the Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand declared drought in parts of their States and submitted memoranda seeking financial assistance for drought affected areas from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An amount of ₹ 1540.20 crore has been approved for Karnataka from NDRF. The proposals from other States are at various stages of processing / finalisation.

Besides other measures and provisions of funds under SDRF as also NDRF, the following interventions have been made in the wake of deficient rainfall as per IMD forecast of below average monsoon:

- (a) Implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme for protective irrigation of crops;
- (b) Enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy to partially recompense the farmer for the additional expenditure incurred in resowing and/or purchasing appropriate varieties of seeds;
- (c) Implementation of interventions on perennial horticulture crops under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (d) Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Central Government has relaxed the norms under MGNREGA to provide additional employment of 50 days over and above the 100 days per household under MGNREGA in the areas affected by natural calamities including drought for the current year. Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the

eventuality of any extreme climatic events. States have also 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. All State Governments have also been advised to initiate advance remedial action e.g. constructing water harvesting structures under MGNREGA and other such schemes, promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation, promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops and restoring irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals, energizing tube-wells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps, etc.

***Statement***

*Details of districts affected by deficit and scanty rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2015*

Sl. No.	State	Deficient	Scanty	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	4
3.	Assam	3	0	3
4.	Meghalaya	2	0	2
5.	Nagaland	1	3	4
6.	Manipur	0	0	0
7.	Mizoram	1	2	3
8.	Tripura	0	0	0
9.	Sikkim	0	0	0
10.	West Bengal	3	0	3
11.	Odisha	8	0	8
12.	Jharkhand	10	0	10
13.	Bihar	22	1	23
14.	Uttar Pradesh	51	17	68

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Uttarakhand	10	0	10
16.	Haryana	17	2	19
17.	Chandigarh (UT)	1	0	1
18.	Delhi	3	0	3
19.	Punjab	11	3	14
20.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	4
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	0	2
22.	Rajasthan	8	0	8
23.	Madhya Pradesh	21	0	21
24.	Gujarat	16	0	16
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)	1	0	1
26.	Daman and Diu (UT)	1	0	1
27.	Goa	1	0	1
28.	Maharashtra	22	0	22
29.	Chhattisgarh	7	0	7
30.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	1
31.	Telangana	5	0	5
32.	Tamil Nadu	13	0	13
33.	Puducherry (UT)	2	0	2
34.	Karnataka	12	0	12
35.	Kerala	11	0	11
36.	Lakshadweep (UT)	0	0	0
TOTAL		272	30	302