

has received memoranda from State Government of Karnataka seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought affected Rabi crops in the current year 2015-16. The Government of Karnataka has declared drought in 12 districts and sought financial assistance of ₹ 1416.93 crore from NDRF. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has visited the State from 23.02.2016 to 26.02.2016 to carry out an assessment of the drought situation to suggest the quantum of assistance to be made available to the State by way of relief.

**Reducing dependence on monsoon for farming**

985. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of change in pattern of monsoon in past few years and its effect on crop growth across the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government has taken to provide modern irrigation facilities and reduce dependence on monsoon for farming the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in July 2015 with the vision of extending the coverage of irrigation 'Har Khet ko Pani' and improving water use efficiency 'More crop per drop' in a focused manner and to expand cultivable area under assured irrigation and improving water use efficiency. Besides, the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) addresses the issues of climatic variabilities in agriculture and allied sectors. NMSA envisages Rainfed Area Development through Integrated Farming System approach, On-farm Water Management and Soil Health Management. DAC&FW is also promoting climate resilient varieties identified/released by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the ongoing crop development programmes.

**Shortage of pulses for meeting the demand**

986. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has a shortfall of the supply of pulses for meeting the demand;