

The following measures have been taken to deal with the situation:

- Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts including 33 districts of Maharashtra for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of any extreme climatic events.
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched with the objective of extending the coverage of irrigation in a focused manner. Under PMKSY focus has been given for: creation of new water sources; repair, restoration and renovation of defunct water sources; construction of water harvesting structures, secondary and micro storage, ground water development and enhancing potentials of traditional water bodies at village level. During 2015-16, ₹ 66985.355 lakh has been released to Government of Maharashtra under this scheme.
- Central Government has relaxed the norms under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to provide additional employment of 50 days over and above the 100 days per household in the areas affected by natural calamities including drought during 2015-16. During 2015-16 and 2016-17, ₹ 123834.73 lakh and ₹ 81729.80 lakh have been released respectively to the Government of Maharashtra under MGNREGA.
- The first installment of Central Share of SDRF for the year 2016-17 amounting to ₹ 583.875 crore has been released in advance to Government of Maharashtra.
- In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests & diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif, 2016.

Water crisis in Marathwara region due to drought

*73. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is an acute water crisis in Marathwada region due to successive droughts during the last two years and farmers are migrating to other areas;

(b) whether Government is also aware that compensation to these farmers has still not been provided by either the Central Government or the State Government and the crisis in Latur has become very severe; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by Government to provide water and other facilities to the farmers of this area?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Government of India supplements efforts of State Government with financial assistance and logistic support. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). During 2015-16, the State had an allocation of ₹ 1483 crore in their SDRF, comprising ₹ 1112.25 crore as Central share and ₹ 370.75 crore as State share. The entire Central share of SDRF for 2015-16 has been released to the State.

During Kharif 2014, the Government of Maharashtra declared drought in 26 districts including all the districts of Marathawada region and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). Government of India considered the same as per the procedure and approved ₹ 1962.99 crore from NDRF to the Government of Maharashtra subject to the adjustment of 75% of balance available in SDRF account. Further, ₹ 26 crore was also approved from special component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for repair of damaged rural drinking water supply work.

During Kharif 2015, the Government of Maharashtra declared drought in 21 districts and in 07 additional districts as per information from the State Government on 25th April, 2016 including districts of Marathawada region. The State Government submitted Memoranda in November, 2015 to the Government of India for financial assistance under the NDRF. Government of India considered the same and approved ₹ 3049.36 crore from NDRF to the Government of Maharashtra subject to the adjustment of 50% of balance available in SDRF account for the instant disaster.

(c) The following measures have been taken to deal with the situation:

- Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts including 33 districts of Maharashtra for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of any extreme climatic events.

- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched with the objective of extending the coverage of irrigation in a focused manner. Under PMKSY focus has been given for: creation of new water sources; repair, restoration and renovation of defunct water sources; construction of water harvesting structures, secondary and micro storage, ground water development and enhancing potentials of traditional water bodies at village level. During 2015-16, ₹ 66985.355 lakh has been released to Government of Maharashtra under this scheme.
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- The first installment of Central Share of SDRF for the year 2016-17 amounting ₹ 583.875 crore has been released in advance to Government of Maharashtra.
- In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif, 2016.
- Government has also implemented Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP), as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during 2016-17 with an allocation of ₹ 100 crore (Central Share) to mitigate impact of drought on Livestock in the drought affected States.

Collection of boiled rice and raw-rice from rice millers

*74. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government institutions are collecting only 68 kilograms boiled rice or 67 kilograms raw-rice from rice millers for every 100 kilograms of paddy procured by them;
- (b) if so, whether there is any accounting of the remaining 32 kilograms or 33 kilograms by-products; and
- (c) if there is no accounting of the by products, the estimated losses to the Government?