

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought and flood. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure.

Government of Telangana has submitted a Memorandum for flood and cloudburst of 2016 projecting demand of ₹ 2203 crores from NDRF. An Inter-Ministerial Team (IMCT) has been constituted to visit the affected areas of the State for an on the spot assessment of damage caused by floods/cloudbroust during 2016. No Memorandum on drought has been received from Government of Telangana during the financial year 2016-17.

Unseasonal rain is not a calamity notified by the Central Government. However, as per the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) instructions dated 20th March, 2015, State-specific disasters within the local context which are not included in the GoI notified list of disasters, are eligible for assistance from SDRF subject to a ceiling of 10 per cent of the funds available under the SDRF. This flexibility would be applicable only after the State has formally listed the disasters for inclusion and notified transparent norms and guidelines.

Cropped area under irrigation

336. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the second largest irrigated country of the world after China;

(b) if so, whether only one-third of the cropped area is under irrigation in the country;

(c) whether irrigation is the most important agricultural input in a tropical monsoon country like India where rainfall is uncertain, unreliable and erratic; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to bring more cropped area under assured irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Food

and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) statistics for 2013, the total area equipped for irrigation in China is 68.8 million hectare and for India 67.0 million hectare.

(b) As per the latest available data, 47.68 per cent of the total cropped area in the country is irrigated.

(c) and (d) Irrigation is one of the important inputs along with other inputs such as use of quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, farm machinery and equipments, agricultural credit etc.

Union Government supplements States' efforts to bring more cropped area under assured irrigation by extending irrigation facilities. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched by Government of India in July, 2015 with the components of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Har Khet Ko Pani, Per Drop More Crop and Watershed which aims at providing end to end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, and distribution network and farm level applications.

Further, drip and sprinkler irrigation are also encouraged to bring more area under assured irrigation.

Suicide by farmers

337. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers who have committed suicide in the country in the year 2015 and 2016 so far, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has ascertained the reasons for committing suicide by the farmers, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of schemes launched by Government to curb the spate of suicides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides upto 2014 are available at its website. The Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 and 2016) have not been published yet. As per reports received from State Government, the number of suicides due to agrarian reasons is given in the Statement (*See below*).