150	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]		Unstarred	' Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Jammu and Kashmir	165318	100142	65160	914044	127633
IV.	East Zone					
18.	Bihar	1308778	1394248	828436	7236233	2866557
19.	Jharkhand	115302	115302	91506	637507	180968
20.	Odisha	668635	651607	546791	3696881	1617978
21.	West Bengal	1300349	1080000	669000	7189629	2024000
V	NE Zone					
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	20532	20262	19001	113523	9670
23.	Assam	278707	181041	51119	1540968	139150
24.	Manipur	20713	9719	6380	114522	5351
25.	Meghalaya	39372	37958	34372	209561	47213
26.	Mizoram	11986	12412	9216	11986	8216
27.	Nagaland	33423	24995	20675	184797	17700
28.	Sikkim	13217	13217	13217	46000	27000
29.	Tripura	32736	33000	33000	180998	78334
VI.	Union Territories					
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	1405	2176	2176	7799	1918
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2162	0	0	12000	0
32.	Puducherry	3530	4736	4736	19594	1261
33.	Chandigarh	277	544	0	277	0
	Total	25354394	27160182	20585176	139996178	56625036

## **Drought in Andhra Pradesh**

1783. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh is in the grip of severe drought;

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- (b) whether any request has come for Central help from the State Government for taking up rural wage works; and
- (c) if not, whether Government will suo-moto send a team to study the situation and provide assistance to the farmers in distress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Yes, Sir. During 2016, the State Government declared drought in 268 mandals in 7 districts (including 4 districts of Rayalaseema) in the State.

(b) and (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a Memorandum seeking assistance of ₹ 2281.79 crores (including ₹ 839.79 crores for providing relief employment) from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought relief. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the affected areas in the State for assessment of the drought situation and requirement of financial assistance and has submitted its report. The report of IMCT is under consideration.

Assistance for relief employment is not covered under NDRF norms. However, the Department of Rural Development has decided to provide upto 50 days of additional employment in notified drought affected districts, under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), during the financial year 2016-17.

## Drought in the country

1784. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that farming has been affected by severe drought in most parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government is planning to give financial assistance to the States hit by drought, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) During 2016-17, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry have declared drought in parts of their States.

(b) The State Governments are primarily responsible for taking necessary relief in the wake of natural calamities and are empowered to initiate immediate relief measures to address the situation arising out of drought. Government of India supplements the