

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare advises farmers to adopt techniques, such as, *in-situ* moisture conservation, on farm water harvesting through farm ponds, etc., ridge furrow, board bed furrow, promoting agronomic practices, including direct seeded rice through seed drills/drum seeder, use of short duration and stress tolerant varieties of paddy like Sahbhagi Dhan/Swarna Sub-I, Intercropping and mixed cropping with pulses/oilseeds/coarse cereals, spray of drought mitigating chemicals like bio-urea, KCL, KNO₃, hydrogel and mulching etc. However, agriculture being State subject, the primary responsibility of imparting training to the farmers and making them aware of various techniques to overcome damage to crops, rests with State Governments.

Statement

Names of the districts declared as drought affected during 2014-15 and 2015-16

Year	Name of district
2014-15	Kharif (26 districts) Nasik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Hingoli, Nanded, Beed, Osmanabad, Latur, Buldhana, Akola, Yavatmal, Washim, Amravati, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli.
2015-16	Kharif (21 districts) Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Hingoli, Buldhana, Akola, Yavatmal, Nagpur, Gadchiroli Kharif Supplementary (10 districts) Amravati, Akola, Washim, Yavatmal, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli Rabi (2 districts) Ahmednagar, Solapur

Inclusion of milk under Price Stabilisation Fund

1151. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to include milk under the Price Stabilisation Fund scheme to stem the sharp decline in milk prices and enable State Governments and milk unions to purchase bulk quantity of fresh milk from farmers and convert it into skimmed milk powder (SMP) and ghee for use in future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal before the Government to include milk under Price Stabilization Fund scheme. However, the Government has taken the following measures to stem the decline in procurement prices of milk and to reduce stock of Skim Milk powder;

1. Increased the import duty of Whey Powder from 30% to 40% *vide* notification dated 27.03.2018.
2. D/o Revenue *vide* notification dated 13.07.2018 has allowed 10% export incentive under Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) for all dairy products.
3. Advisory to all the States to include supply of milk/milk products of Cooperatives through Mid-day Meal Scheme, Anganwadis under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Health schemes, Tribal Hostels and Government/Institutional canteen.
4. Advise to all State Governments and State Milk Federations to use Public Distribution System of State Governments to market surplus milk.
5. The State Government of Bihar and Rajasthan issued order to provide milk powder to children of Anganwadi centres under ICDS.
6. State Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra have announced to provide subsidy of ₹ 50/Kg for skim Milk Powder.
7. A Scheme named "Support to State Cooperative Dairy Federation" has been approved to provide working capital loan to State Cooperatives and Federations with a corpus of ₹ 300 crore

Distress sale of tomato, onion and potato by farmers

1152. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched or planning to launch any programme that aims to end distress sales of tomato, onion and potato by farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the other alternative measures Government has taken/proposes to take to end farmers' distress?