

Drought in Andhra Pradesh

2586. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

(a) whether Government has sent any Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to Andhra Pradesh to assess the extent of damage in 9 districts covering 347 mandals which were declared drought hit during 2018 Kharif season;

(b) whether Government has received any report from the Central Team in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has submitted its report. As per the existing procedure, the report/recommendations of IMCT are placed before the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the recommendations of the SC-NEC are considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by Home Minister for approval.

Practical solution for agrarian distress

2587. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian agriculture is confronted with high price volatility, climate risks and indebtedness, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the farmer's welfare/supporting programmes and schemes are disjointed and function independently of each other, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any practical solution for reviving the agrarian sector which would reduce the agrarian distress, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Indian agriculture is confronted with high price volatility and climate risk for which adequate preparedness has been put in place. Price of any agriculture commodity at any point of time depends on its demand and supply, climate conditions, availability of transportation, perishable nature of crops, which may give rise to price volatility.

Due to occurrence of localized extreme climate events like drought, frost, hailstorms etc, crops are affected in some parts of the country, resulting in some