

(d) whether Government would consider to publicise this scheme extensively so that farmers would become aware of this scheme and avail the benefits of the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (d) Based on the experience of past crop insurance schemes and with a view to include more risks under crop insurance, making it more affordable to the farmers etc., Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has been introduced for implementation from Kharif 2016 season. Due to the improved features of the scheme coverage under the scheme has been increased to 30% of Gross Cropped in the country from 23% in erstwhile crop insurance schemes. The major reason for farmers not availing the benefits of the scheme is lack of awareness about insurance/ insurance products in India in general and among farmers in particular. Further, all crops and areas in a State are not notified by the concerned State Governments, which also affects the coverage under the scheme.

Government has taken several initiatives including active involvement of all stakeholders especially States and implementing insurance companies for conduct of publicity campaign/awareness programmes including organization of camps in the rural areas to build farmer awareness about crop insurance schemes. Insurance companies have been asked to mandatorily utilize 0.5% of gross premium collected by them for publicity and awareness generation. Other activities for awareness generation involve the publicity of features and benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets in local languages, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/goshti, dissemination of SMS through Kisan Portal/national crop insurance portal and conduct of workshops/ trainings State officials, financial institutions and farmers. For non-loanee farmers since crop insurance is optional, the Common Service Centres (CSCs) and online enrolment have been activated to provide the services besides traditional modes like banks/PACS and insurance intermediaries. Due to the efforts made by the Government coverage of non-loanee, for whom the coverage is voluntary, has increased from 5% under erstwhile schemes to 42% during Kharif 2019, which shows the acceptability of the scheme on voluntary basis.

Amount released from NDRF to States

2904. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by the Central Government through National Disaster

Response Fund (NDRF) to drought-struck States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Gujarat and Karnataka in the last five years;

(b) whether there is any criteria to decide the amount to be approved against the amount demanded by the respective States, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of times droughts has been declared as 'severe' and 'moderate' by the above-mentioned States in the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) In the eventuality of all natural calamities, including drought, the State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for calamity of severe nature, on the receipt of Memorandum from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. The details of amount approved from NDRF for these States during the last five year i.e. 2014-15 to 2018-19 is given in Statement (*See* below). NDRF amount is released after adjusting 50% of SDRF balance, as on 31st March of the preceding financial year, as provided in the items and norms of assistance from SDRF/NDRF issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 08.04.2015.

(b) The amount approved under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) depends on the recommendation of Inter Ministerial Central Team, recommendation of Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC) and decision of High Level Committee (HLC), which are based on the items and norms prescribed in the SDRF/NDRF guidelines. The guidelines on Constitution and Administration of the SDRF/NDRF and the items and norms are available at Ministry of Home Affairs' website www.ndmindia.nic.in.

(c) As per memorandum submitted by the States for NDRF assistance frequency of drought in the above mentioned States during the last five years has been as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Frequency
1.	Tamil Nadu	1 time (Kharif 2016-17)
2.	Maharashtra	4 times (Kharif 2014-15, Kharif & Rabi 2015-16, Kharif 2018-19)

Sl. No.	State	Frequency
3.	Andhra Pradesh	6 times (Kharif 2014-15, Kharif 2015-16, Kharif 2016-17, Kharif 2017-18, Kharif & Rabi 2018-19)
4.	Telangana	1 time (Kharif 2015-16)
5.	Bihar	—
6.	Gujarat	1 time (Kharif 2018-19)
7.	Karnataka	7 times (Kharif 2014-15, Kharif & Rabi 2015-16, Kharif & Rabi 2016-17, Kharif & Rabi 2018-19)

Statement

*Details of amount approved from NDRF during the last five years i.e.
2014-15 to 2018-19*

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of States	Amount approved by GOI				
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	1748.28	—	—
2.	Maharashtra	1962.99	4318.37	—	—	4714.28
3.	Andhra Pradesh	237.510	433.77	518.93	113.14	900.40
4.	Telangana	—	791.21	—	—	—
5.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	—	—	—	—	127.60
7.	Karnataka	200.85	2263.43	2577.984	—	1978.88

Production of fruits and vegetables

2905. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranks second in the world in production of fruits and vegetables;