

**During 2018-19:**

Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Jharkhand (6 States).

(b) and (c) The 'Manual for Drought Management, 2016' highlights the various drought mitigation programmes and measures in vogue, such as construction of water harvesting & conservation structures, use of water saving technology, afforestation etc. A Drought Management Plan, 2017, has been prepared for the benefit of all stakeholders for drought management & mitigation. These documents are available at Ministry's website.

District Agriculture Contingency Plans for 650 districts have been prepared by Central Research Institute for Dry land Agriculture (CRIDA) to mitigate the situation in drought affected areas. There is a provision of distribution of seeds of contingency crops such as pulses, millets, oilseeds, which are drought hardy and survive with minimal available water in rain fed/drought affected areas under National Food Security Mission (NFSM).

In the eventuality of natural calamities, 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), on the receipt of Memorandum from State Governments and in accordance-with extant norms and procedures.

**Drought managment**

663. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are regions that have no drought management plans;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) by when drought management plans would be introduced in these regions; and
- (d) the steps taken to deal with Maharashtra's drought issue?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) A National Drought Management Plan has

been prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in 2017, as required under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Drought Management Plan is aimed at providing guidance for the overall management of drought in a structured and planned manner. The Plan has been developed with the objective of denning the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders involved in mitigation, preparedness and relief measure in managing drought. The Plan is applicable to the entire country encompassing all the States and Union Territories.

(d) The State Government is primarily responsible for managing and undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, including drought. Government of India supplements the efforts of State Government with financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). The financial assistance of ₹ 4714.28 crore has been approved by the High Level Committee to the State Government of Maharashtra from NDRF for drought during 2018-19.

#### **Production of exportable crops**

†664. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in the country could avail better prices for their yields on producing exportable agro products which could help towards doubling their income;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that adequate measures have been adopted by Government in the said direction and results have come on expected lines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (d) Agriculture Export Policy (AEP), 2018 has been unveiled to focus on growth of export of agro products from the country which would *inter-alia* improve the alternative market access for our farmers thereby contributing to the objective of doubling farmers' income.

The said Policy provides for cluster based approach whereby clusters for specific agri products are identified across the country and focused interventions are carried

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.