

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1296**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 02/08/2024

**PROVISION FOR DROUGHT SUBSIDY**

1296. SMT. SULATA DEO:  
SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the farmers of Odisha are suffering due to the after effects of drought and have not been granted access to drought subsidy under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF);
- (b) if so, the reason for such delay in providing the drought subsidy to the farmers, if not, the details of subsidy granted under NDRF;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating the implementation of another scheme to assist farmers in addressing this issue; and
- (d) if so, the details of the alternative scheme, if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): The State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, including drought. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of a severe nature and is approved on the basis of a Memorandum received from the State Government, in accordance with established procedures. However, if the funds available in SDRF are not sufficient to meet the drought relief, the States may submit a Memorandum for assistance under NDRF, even if the drought is of moderate category. The State Government of Odisha has not submitted any Memorandum seeking financial assistance from NDRF for drought during current year, so far.

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