

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 922
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

DAMAGE OF CROPS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

922. DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that heavy rains and floods in districts of Andhra Pradesh have damaged agriculture crops spread over eight lakh hectares with crop loss estimated at around Rs. 3,000 crore;
- (b) if so, whether any compensation and financial assistance has been provided for the same to the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to change cropping patterns which will help mitigate changes in climate across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. 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, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The financial assistance includes agriculture input subsidy as one of the components, which is computed for the affected area having crop loss of 33% & above.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been allocated Rs.1252.80 crore (Rs.940.00 crore as central share & Rs. 312.80 crore as state share) under SDRF during 2022-23. First installment of central share of SDRF amounting to Rs.470.00 crore has been released to the State.

As per the Memorandum submitted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, the affected area having crop loss of 33% & above from heavy rainfall is 6928.13 hectares. Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. IMCT visited Andhra Pradesh from 10.08.2022 to 11.08.2022 for an on-the-spot assessment of the damages caused by the floods of 2022 and submitted its Report. The Report of the IMCT is considered by the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC) and subsequently, by the High Level Committee (HLC) as per the laid down procedures.

(d): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project has developed several resilient technologies to mitigate climate change. Climate resilient technologies viz., resilient intercropping systems, crop diversification from paddy to other alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, agroforestry systems, alternate methods of rice cultivation (system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, direct seeded rice) etc. have been developed and evaluated in farmers' fields for their adoption. Prominent resilient intercropping systems performed better than traditional farmers' practices resulting in improved yields up to 18% in the climate resilient villages. Shift from rice-rice to rice-pulse (green gram/ black gram) cropping system is promoted in Eastern India (specifically in Odisha). Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) as an alternative to traditional transplanting method has been demonstrated on large scale in the farmers' fields.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, through AICRP-Integrated Farming Systems (AICRP-IFS) identified alternate cropping systems such as rice-groundnut-greengram, rice-fodder cowpea-fodder sorghum, rice-marigold-sweet corn and rice-sweet corn-vegetables having better productivity and profitability for the existing rice-rice cropping systems. Identified systems are also shared with the development agencies for popularization among the farmers. A 0.56 ha integrated farming system has also been developed, comprising of crops, dairy, fishery, poultry, fruits and mushroom for the lowland rice areas of West Godavari district. On-Farm Research Centre of AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems at Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh is involved in demonstration of alternative cropping systems and integrated farming systems in farmer participatory mode.
