

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:762

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007

RABI CROP AFFECTED BY SEVERE COLD AND INSUFFICIENT HEAVY RAIN

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to severe cold and insufficient heavy rains the rabi crops in certain areas have been affected badly in the country, particularly in hilly areas;
- (b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding the losses suffered as a result thereof;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to provide financial assistance to the affected farmers; and
- (e) if so, the allocation made or proposed to be made for the purpose, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): Cold wave conditions prevailed in hilly regions of Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand for more than ten days during the last week of December, 2006 to 12th January, 2007. This was beneficial for the major crop like wheat in Indo-Gangetic Plains. Recent well distributed rainfall has corrected minor damages to some sensitive crops. However, the long dryspell from first fortnight of December, 2006 to first fortnight of February, 2007 has reportedly affected wheat, barley, pulses, vegetables and oilseed wheat, barley, pulses, vegetables and oilseeds in Himachal Pradesh.

(b)&(c): About 350627 hectare area of different crops is reported to have been affected in Himachal Pradesh due to dryspell.

(d)&(e): An amount of Rs.3.00 crore has been released from Calamity Relief Fund by Government of Himachal Pradesh for providing subsidy on seeds.