

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 27.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
DROUGHT SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY .

905

SHRI P.R. RAJAN

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to tackle the drought situation in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

(SHRI K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Due to erratic behaviour of South-West Monsoon, 2009, in all 12 States have declared drought/scarcity/drought like situation in 301 districts in the country. Steps taken by the Government to reduce the impact of drought situation in the country, inter-alia, include release of a sum of Rs.4073.785 crores from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance available with the States under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF); release of central share of instalment under CRF to the tune of Rs.1990.3275 crores, which is 75% of the State's quota; Diesel subsidy and additional power from the central pool to save the standing crop in the farmers' field; raised the distribution subsidy for the certified seeds, relaxed the age limit for seed varieties, allowed distribution of minikits and use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) Seeds under the Government programme; issued advisories and sent experts from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to the affected States to enable taking up of alternate crop strategy in the sowing failed/unsown areas and early Rabi.