

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 180
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.06.2019

Impact of drought on environment

180. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has noticed the severity and the after effect of drought in India;
- (b) If so, the steps taken by Government to face the challenges;
- (c) whether any studies have been conducted on the impact of drought situation on environment by Government or by any agencies; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) Whether any drought prediction system is introduced by Government, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a),(b) and (c) As per the information provided by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), South West Monsoon (June to September) contributes to more than 73% of annual rainfall in the country. Timely onset and spatial distribution of rainfall during South West monsoon is crucial for cultivation of Kharif Crops. Deficient South West Monsoon leads into drought like situation. During current year i.e. 2019-20, no state has submitted any memorandum seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Relief Fund in the wake of drought till date. No studies have been conducted by MoA&FW on the impact of drought situation on environment. However, the Government of India has conducted study titled "Climate Change and India: A 4X4 assessment- a Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s" which provides assessment of impacts of climate change in 2030 on four key sectors of Indian Economy, namely, agriculture, water, forests and human health in four climate sensitive regions of India, viz, the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal region and North Eastern Region.

- (d) As per the information provided by Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), no drought prediction system is in place. However, rainfall monitoring is being done by IMD.
