

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 400  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023**

**HEALTH SCHEMES TO DROUGHT AFFECTED VICTIMS**

† 400 **SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:**

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any special scheme to protect the victims of the drought affected areas from likely epidemics and provide them proper healthcare in the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the amount/assistance provided therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (c): In the National Disaster Management Plan, 2019, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been identified as the Nodal Ministry for management/mitigation of droughts.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has drafted a Manual for Drought Management' (available at: [https://agricoop.nic.in/Documents/Updated%20Drought%20Manual\\_0.pdf](https://agricoop.nic.in/Documents/Updated%20Drought%20Manual_0.pdf)), wherein State Health Departments are the lead agencies for maintaining health and hygiene to mitigate health impact of drought. Union Ministry of Health provides supportive role in assisting State Health Departments in their prevention and mitigation measures for maintaining health and hygiene.

Major interventions in health sector related to drought include surveillance for epidemic prone water and vector borne diseases; laboratory support for diagnosis of epidemic prone diseases; vector control and management; generating community awareness on epidemic prone borne diseases; deployment of rapid response teams for managing outbreak of diseases and to manage nutritional deficiencies, in case of long standing drought conditions.

Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme (IDSP) through its State and District units takes disease surveillance & responds to outbreak of communicable diseases including those that are likely to be seen during drought conditions. Regular capacity building of State and District officials including Rapid Response Teams are undertaken by IDSP to ensure timely reporting and appropriate public health response to disease outbreaks.

Government of India provides financial and technical support to States/UTs to strengthen their health care systems under National Health Mission (NHM) and other programs as per the requirements posed by the States in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs). NHM provides support in terms of a range of free services related to maternal health, child health, adolescent health, family planning, universal immunisation programme, and for major diseases such as tuberculosis, vector borne diseases like malaria, dengue etc.

Further, provision has been made by Ministry of Home Affairs to provide for financial assistance, through State Disaster Response Funds.

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