

Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture

Hyderabad

Reply to the Rajya Sabha provisional admitted starred/unstarred Dy. No. S5353 due for reply 'Agricultural losses due to recent rains'

a) Whether it is a fact that due to the recent incessant rainfall in different parts of the country a huge agricultural loss will be incurred ;

Yes. Heavy rainfall, winds and isolated incidence of hail storm events during March 1-10 have caused damage to agricultural crops in different parts of the country.

b) If so, the amount of loss, state-wise;

Maharashtra

In Solshi village and Naigaon taluka of Satara district, heavy hail storm and rainfall is reported on the evening of 10 March 2015. In Kundal town of Sangli district, 73 mm rainfall occurred on 10 March which damaged onion cultivated for seed production. In Ratnagiri district, thunderstorm on 10 and 11 March affected mango and cashew. Dapoli region received 28.8 mm rainfall on 28 Feb and 13.4 mm on 1 March.

Uttar Pradesh

Heavy rainfall occurred at Kanpur during 1-3 March which affected wheat, pulse crops like gram and chickpea

Karnataka

For the second year in succession north Karnataka received unseasonal rainfall with hailstorms during March 2015. In the period 6-12 March, all the 13 districts of north Karnataka covering five agroclimatic zones received rainfall in the range of 7.1 mm (Bagalkot) to 38.9 mm (Dharwad). In Bagalkot, Vijayapur (Bijapur) and Belagavi districts, grape was badly affected. Physical loss due to wind, hail and rainfall has been noticed. The fruits kept in drying sheds have lost quality completely because of considerable increase in humidity.

Gujarat

Nearly more or less 5 mm to 25 mm rainfall was received in Gujarat at all most all the places with nearly 4 km/hour wind speed. Higher damage was observed in Saurashtra region where mango orchard are under blossom stage. Nearly 50 % damage was observed in mango orchards in Saurashtra region. In middle Gujarat, wheat, chickpea, pigeon pea, cotton, mustard,

tobacco and potato were damaged. Nearly 20% (approx.) damage to various crops was observed in the state.

Rajasthan

Unseasonal rain and hailstorm in various parts of the state on 1-2 March 2015 has caused losses in 13 districts, but the severity of damage was more in 8 districts viz; Kota, Bundi, Baran, Ajmer, Bikaner, Alwar, Chittorgarh and Pratapgarh. In these 8 districts, the extent of crop loss was 20-80%.

It is estimated that standing crop of wheat, barley, mustard, coriander, cumin and Isobgol were damaged due to unseasonal rain and hailstorm. At many places in Kota district the crop damage is up to 80%, while that of Ajmer is up to 50%.

c) The measures taken by Government to combat the situation ?

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