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English Translation of G.O. No. 6 Revenue [DM-3(1)] Department
dt-10/01/2017



[Signature]
18/1/17
(APC)

Agricultural Production Commissioner &
Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department,
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

Abstract

Disaster Management - Drought due to failure of North East Monsoon during 2016 – Declaration of all 32 Districts as drought affected and issue of assistance for drought relief – Orders issued.

Revenue [DM-3(1)] Department

G.O (Ms) No: 6

**Dated: 10.01.2017
Thunmugi, Margazhi-26
ThiruvallurAandu 2047**

Read:

1. G.O (Rt.) No.4104, Public (Special-B) Department, dated 15.10.2016.
2. Press Statement of Hon'ble Chief Minister, dated 03.01.2017
3. G.O (Ms) No.1, Revenue [D.M-3(1)] Department, dated 03.01.2017
4. State Relief Commissioner and Principal Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Chennai -5, Letter No. NC.II (1)/7899/2016, dated 10.01.2017
5. Press Statement of Hon'ble Chief Minister, dated 10.01.2017.

ORDER:

In Tamil Nadu, the North-East Monsoon period is from 1st October to 31st December. The average rainfall during this monsoon period is 440 mm. But during the current year, it has rained 168.3 mm only. Rainfall deficit in the State is 62%. Further, the rainfall deficit in 32 districts range from 35% to 81%.

2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, during the meeting held on 3.1.2017, ordered the District Collectors in the State to undertake direct field inspection of crops. Guidelines for undertaking crop inspection were issued as per the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

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In the G.O. 3rd cited, District-wise Committees were formed consisting of Hon'ble Ministers and Senior Indian Administrative Service Officers to super-check the field inspections undertaken, and submit report on the drought conditions with their recommendations to Government. The District Level Committees after assessing the drought conditions in the affected districts submitted their reports on 09.01.2017 to Government.

3. The field assessment of drought concluded that out of 16,682 Revenue Villages, 13,305 villages are drought affected. Out of these villages, crop condition was assessed in 1,564 villages and it was found that nearly 87% of lands were affected by drought. These drought conditions will aggravate in the coming months. In view of the above, the Principal Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration vide reference 4th cited has recommended to Government to issue orders declaring all the 32 districts in Tamil Nadu as drought affected districts.

4. Based on the reports submitted by the District Level Committees, a detailed Consultative Meeting under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister was held on 9.1.2017. The meeting was attended by Hon'ble Ministers and Senior Officers. Based on the announcements made by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 10.01.2017, the following orders are issued:-

1. The rainfall during the North-East Monsoon period had been very low in Tamil Nadu and that the State is eligible for declaration as drought affected State as per the guidelines of Government of India, all the districts are declared as drought affected districts.
2. The Land Revenue dues of the farmers for the fasli year 1426 are fully waived in all the districts.
3. The Farmers could not repay their Loans due to drought. So, steps will be taken to convert the crop loan raised by farmers in Cooperative banks and Commercial banks to medium term loan.

The District Collectors are instructed to take urgent action for the issue of 'Annavari certificate' required for this conversion. Crop Loans amounting to Rs.3,028 crore have been issued during this year by Cooperative Banks. It is ordered to take action for conversion of loans issued by Cooperative Banks and Commercial Banks into medium term loan, through the Food, Cooperation and Consumer Protection department.

4. As per G.O.Ms.No.380 Revenue [D.M.3(2)] dated 27.10.2015, if the crop loss is more than 33%, relief amount will be paid to the affected farmers. As per the above G.O., Relief amount will be given for other crops also.
5. As the Prime Minister's Fasal Bima Yojana (New Crop Insurance Scheme) is beneficial to the farmers, it is being implemented in the State even though it entails higher expenditure. In the past, the average annual contribution by the State was Rs 40 crore. This year, the Government orders the payment of Rs.410 crore as its contribution through the Agriculture Department. Due to this, the farmers will be able to get compensation amount of Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 50,000, depending upon the crop loss, type of crops and districts.
6. The farmers who have insured their crops will be able to get compensation from the insurance firms for the loss of crops. It is ordered that the Crop Cutting Experiments which are required for this purpose should be taken up by the Agriculture department.
7. To mitigate the shortage of cattle feed due to drought, it is ordered to implement schemes for the supply of Green fodder, Cattle Feed and Dry Fodder through the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department at a cost of Rs.78 Crore.

8. Due to drought the Agricultural Labourers are affected by lack of employment and in order to provide employment opportunities to them, steps will be taken to enhance the ceiling of 100 days to 150 days of employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. It is ordered to take up works such as desilting of tanks, renovation of ponds and desilting of irrigation channels at a cost of Rs.3,400 crore through Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. Due to these measures, the rural agricultural labourers affected by drought will get employment opportunities.
9. In order to mitigate the drinking water scarcity in rural areas due to the prevailing drought, it is ordered to execute improvement of water sources and water supply works at an estimate of Rs.350 crore through Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.
10. To solve the drinking water scarcity in urban areas due to drought, it is ordered to execute drinking water supply improvement works at an estimate of Rs. 160 crore through the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department.
11. In order to protect the wildlife from the drought, it is ordered to implement works for augmenting fodder and drinking water for the wildlife, at an allocation of Rs.5 crore, through the Forest department.
12. It is ordered for taking up of Ground water conservation, Ground water rejuvenation and water source augmentation works through Public Works Department at an estimate of Rs.25 crore.
13. In the last two months 17 farmers have committed suicide. Though the farmers' suicides could have occurred due to various

reasons, considering the welfare of their families, each family will be granted Rs.3 lakh from Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

5. On the basis of the orders issued in para 4 above, subject to the guidelines of State Disaster Management Fund, the Heads of departments should send proposals to the Government for getting necessary allocation with due recommendations through Principal Secretary/ Commissioner of Revenue Administration.

6. State Relief Commissioner is requested to prescribe necessary formats for reporting the progress of above Schemes by the District Collectors and Heads of Departments, and also to compile such reports and sent it for the review of the Government.

7. The Monitoring Officers appointed vide G.O. first cited above should inspect the affected districts once in a month and ensure that relief is provided to the farmers and agricultural labourers as per the announcements made in this Government order. Monthly Report in this regard should be furnished to Government from February, 2017. They are also advised to implement the various schemes recommended, review the progress of works in the field and expedite the relief measures undertaken.

8. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O. No.291A/FS/P Finance (Revenue)/2017, dated 10.1.2017.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

Dr.Chandramohan. B
Secretary to Government

To
The Principal Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue
Administration, Chennai- 600 005.
The Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary /
Secretary to Government, All Departments, Secretariat,
Chennai- 600 009.
Heads of Departments Concerned.

All District Collectors.
All District Treasury Officers.
The Accountant General, Chennai- 600 018.
The Accountant General, Chennai-600 018 (by name).
The Accountant General (Audit I), Chennai-600 018.

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Department, Chennai-600 009
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