

Press Note

Mumbai, 22 September, 2015

Food Production Scheme will be implemented on one lakh hectare

- Eknathrao Khadse

Mumbai, 22 September: The calamity of drought, shortage of water and fodder in the state is almost over due to the recent rainfall. The number of water tankers in the rural areas is reduced by 70%. The crops of Rabbi season can be double due to this rainfall. The state government has decided to implement the Food Production Scheme over one lakh hectares of land under the NAREGA Employment Scheme. The Agriculture Minister Shree Eknathrao Khadse told reporters in Mantralaya today that this scheme will continue for three years.

Shree Khadse said that the state government is considering carrying out some works under the Employment Guarantee Scheme. Khadse further said that an amount of Rs. 125 Cr. is sanctioned by the Cabinet for the celebrations of the 125th birth Anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. The government is ready to spend even more for the celebrations. Various programs will be organized at those places where Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar stayed. The government is also considering to create basic facilities and amenities.

While answering the questions about past Central Agriculture Minister Mr. Sharad Pawar's visit to the drought stricken areas, Shree Khadse said that due to the recent rainfall the calamity of drought is almost over. So Mr. Pawar will come up with a new point to impress the people.

While answering the question about artificial rain Shree Khadse said that the contract to experiment for 100 hours is already given at the cost of Rs. 27 Cr. The contractor has said that he is ready to experiment for 100 more hours without any charges. The experiment so far has been quite successful. Shree Khadse further said that therefore, the experiment of artificial rain will continue till October as decided before.