

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2651
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
PACKAGE TO FARMERS
Singh Shri Sukhdev;Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has announced/proposes to provide special package alongwith the packages sought by the States for the farmers in the country including Punjab to compensate them for the expenditure incurred on crop production due to delay of southwest monsoon in 2009 and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of beneficiaries under such packages; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION PROF. K.V. THOMAS

(a) to (c): During the South-West Monsoon 2009, 15 States declared drought/scarcity/drought like situation in 352 districts. Government of Haryana and Punjab, despite facing severe rainfall deficit during South-West Monsoon 2009, salvaged agriculture production by providing supplementary irrigation, for which they had to incur expenditure on purchase of additional power. Accordingly, Haryana and Punjab were sanctioned grants-in-aid of Rs.400 crores and Rs.800 crores, respectively, for the measures taken by these States to protect the standing crops during Kharif 2009 season. Funds were released to the States of Haryana and Punjab and not to any individual beneficiary. During 2010-11, Bihar and Jharkhand have declared drought in 40 districts. No State Government has sought any special package due to delay in South-West Monsoon 2010, so far.