

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:452

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009

RELIEF PACKAGE FOR KERALA FARMERS

Karunakaran Shri P.;Raghavan Shri M. K.;Thomas Shri P. T.;Venugopal Shri K. C.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the implementation of the Kuttanad and Idukki Packages for Kerala farmers;
- (b) the details of schemes proposed under the said packages;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala suggested any changes in the conditions attached to the said programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the impediments in speedy implementation of the said two projects?

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): Government of Kerala has so far submitted 26 projects amounting to Rs.364.90 crores under Kuttanad package and 10 projects amounting to Rs.401.76 crore under Idukki package. Project on "Measures for augmenting biodiversity in the backwaters (Vembanad Wetland)" has been sanctioned under Kuttanad package and Rs.15.75 lakhs has already been released to the State Government of Kerala under this component. Under Idukki package, pepper development programme in Idukki involving total outlay of Rs.230.58 crore to be implemented over a period of 5 years has been sanctioned.

(b): On 24.07.2008, the Government has granted 'in-principle' approval for providing financial support of Rs.1840.75 crore for implementing various programmes/ interventions for the development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system. On 20.11.2008, Government has also granted 'in-principle' approval for providing financial support of Rs. 764.45 crore for implementing various programmes/interventions for mitigating the agrarian distress in Idukki district.

The programmes/interventions envisaged under the Kuttanad and Idukki packages will be implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India within their existing schemes and as per the extant funding pattern. The Government of Kerala will, after identifying the activities to be undertaken, submit appropriate proposals after formulation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the approved guidelines/procedures for such schemes for release of necessary funds. The programme/interventions involving financial outlay upto Rs. 50.00 lakhs under both the packages will be implemented by the Government of Kerala from their own funds under their schemes.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not.

(e): Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by Government of Kerala under Kuttanad and Idukki package require some modification/rectification and the State Government of Kerala has already been advised to effectively coordinate and interact with the concerned Ministries/ Departments of Government of India for sorting out the issues coming in way of sanction of projects.