

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2141
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010
KUTTANAD AND IDDUKKI PACKAGES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has finalised/implemented the Kuttanad and Iddukki packages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the funds sanctioned alongwith the share of the Union and State Governments in the above said packages; and
- (d) the details of the benefits likely to accrue to the farming community of the region on the implementation of the same?

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) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has granted `in principle` approval for providing financial support of Rs.1840.75 crore and Rs.764.45 crore for implementing various programme/ intervention for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system and mitigation of farmers distress in Iddukki district of Kerala respectively.

(c): As reported by the Government of Kerala, an amount of Rs. 643.56 crore and Rs.199 crore has been sanctioned under Kuttanad and Iddukki packages respectively under the various existing schemes of the different Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The share of Union and State Governments are as per the approved funding pattern and norms for the schemes under which the amount has been sanctioned. The programme/interventions involving financial outlay upto Rs.50.00 lakhs are to be implemented by the State Government from their own funds under their schemes.

(d): The anticipated benefit to the farmers/area under Kuttanad package are as under:-

- i. Promotion of natural water flow, dilute pollutants & enhance ecological health.
- ii. Minimize the adverse ecological impact on closure of the barrage and elimination of waterweeds.
- iii. Reproduction of native fishes, prawns and shells.
- iv. Cut down the solid waste pollution.
- v. Elimination of insitu water pollution in Kuttanad.
- vi. Minimization of chances of major crop loss during flood, improve de watering operation.
- vii. Promote better rice cultivation, reduction in cost of cultivation and increase in fish production.
- viii. Improved livelihood for farmers and fishing community

Implementation of the programmes/interventions envisaged under Iddukki package will lead to rejuvenation of plantation and horticulture crops and animal husbandry activities in the district which is perceived as a `Spices district` or `Plantation crop district`.