

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:992
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
BUNDELKHAND PACKAGE
Das Shri Ram Sundar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that farmers of the country particularly Bundelkhand area are on the verge of death due to starvation, hunger and debt;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether package for Bundelkhand area has not reached the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Agriculture does not maintain data on death of farmers due to starvation, hunger and debt. In so far as Bundelkhand region is concerned, Government of India is implementing a Special Package for drought mitigation with an outlay of Rs.7266 crore (Rs.3506 crore and Rs.3760 crore for Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh respectively) for a period of three years (2009-2012). The Package focuses on rainwater harvesting and water management especially through completion of ongoing and incomplete irrigation projects for speedy accrual of benefits to farmers. Bundelkhand Package also includes components of crop diversification, strengthening livelihood systems through appropriate interventions in animal husbandry, horticulture and agricultural marketing sectors. Under this package, an amount of Rs. 925.69 crore to Uttar Pradesh and Rs.1287.03 crore to Madhya Pradesh has been released so far as Additional Central Assistance.