

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 27.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE TO HELP DROUGHT HIT FARMERS .

125

Smt. Kanimozhi

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is contemplating a comprehensive package to help farmers affected by the severe drought conditions prevailing in many parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action plan is being drawn up by Government to tackle the loss of livelihood to the marginalized people in drought affected areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 125 FOR 27/11/2009 REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE TO HELP DROUGHT-HIT FARMERS.

(a) to (d):The Central Government has taken several steps in assisting the States in tackling the situation arising out of drought in several parts of the country which, inter alia, include release of Central Government share of the Calamity Relief Fund of Rs.1990.3275 crore and approval of Rs.4073.785 crores out of National Calamity Contingency Fund which is meant for providing input subsidy to the farmers, provision for drinking water and fodder, etc; assistance to save the standing kharif crops through provision of additional power from the Central pool and providing subsidy on diesel; assistance from Central Sector Schemes for better input distribution for kharif as well as rabi cultivation; providing technical know how through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA); allocation under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) for livelihood support; allocation of additional foodgrains and periodic monitoring and review at all levels of the Central and State Government on mitigation measures. The Government has also constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), which has been mandated to take decisions on policy issues and schemes required for effective management of drought/deficit rainfall and related issues.