

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 04.12.2009**

ANSWERED ON

POWER SUPPLY FOR FARM PUMPS IN VIDARBHA .

1685

Shri Jesudasu Seelam

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government is aware of the sad plight of medium and marginal farmers of Vidarbha whose first paddy crop this year has been completely destroyed due to scanty rains, and those who waited for rains and delayed their sowing, are also equally suffering; and

(b) if so, the special steps taken during August-October, 2009 to provide three phase power supply needed for farm pumps on priority basis so that the cycle of unfortunate farmers' suicides is not repeated?

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):The Government is aware of the situation. It is partially true that due to scanty rains the paddy crop has been affected and caused losses of more than 50% to the paddy crop reported on 68500 hectares in Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra.

(b):There are 30,378 No`s paid pending applications for pump-sets connection as on 31.3.2009 in Vidarbha region. Out of which 25,370 numbers have completed formalities (i.e. submission of test report) and 11,876 numbers of Agricultural Pumps connections have been released so far up to 31st October, 2009. During the current financial year 2009-10 further directives have been issued to the field office to make all efforts to clear all pending cases as on 31.03.2009 in chronological order.