

acquired so far and that has been causing great difficulty.

MR. SPEAKER: No, don't ask such questions. Go through the original question and then put you supplementary.

[English]

Mr. Minister, if you have information please give it to the hon. Member.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, this constitutes a different question. I request the hon. Member to give some time.

MR. SPEAKER: You can send it in writing.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the hon. Minister says that the resources are not available. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the World Bank or the Asian Development bank have agreed to any proposal of the Ministry of Surface Transport for the National Highway projects and if so how many such projects have been cleared by the World Bank and for which Government of India's approval is still pending.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, I cannot give the details at present. Some projects were funded by the World Bank. The World Bank money goes direct to the kitty. We get the allocation from the Central Budget.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

SHRIG. DEVARAYANA NAIK: Sir, there is a very important question. You are not giving me an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be important. But you should not raise it like this. I take objection to it. There are 542 Members. You should understand.

SHRIG. DEVARAYANA NAIK: I have tried many times.

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. Please take your seat now.

Loans Advanced to SC/STs and farmers by Nationalised Banks

*151 SHRI KRISHNAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans advanced by the nationalised banks to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and marginal farmers during the last six months; and

(b) the percentage of the above amount recovered so far.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The total outstanding amount of loans advanced by Public Sector Banks to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as at the end of March 1990, March 1991 and September 1991 (latest available) was as under;

<i>As at the end of</i>		<i>Amount (Rs. Crores)</i>
March	1990	3115
March	1991	3288
September	1991	3381

The total outstanding amount of loans advanced by Public Sector Banks to marginal farmers as at the end of June 1988, June 1989 and June 1990 (latest available) was as under.

As at the end of		Amount (Rs. Crores)
June	1988	2324
June	1989	2015
June	1990	2727

The data reporting system does not generate the information about recovery of bank dues borrower group wise. No separate data is, therefore, available for SC/ST and marginal farmers. However, the percentage of recovery to demand for the agricultural loans as at the end of June 1991 (latest available) was 59.8 as against 46.8 as at the end of June 1990.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHANA DUTT SULTANPURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to know the amount of loan sanctioned to the marginal farmers by the Government. The hon. Minister may also tell the number of farmers who have been benefited by the scheme under which National Front Government had written off the loans of up to Rs. 10,000/- and the total amount of loan which has been written off?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wants to get the information in this regard. So far as the outstanding recovery from the marginal farmers is concerned the banks have been directed to provide 40 percent of the total loan sanctioned to the parity sector to craftsmen, small farmers, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In 1991-92 the Government of India had provided Rs. 703.6 crores to Rural Development Department to benefit about 22, 51, 519 families.

So far as the question of writing off loans to farmers is concerned, as per the

announcement made by the previous Government, the Government had to bear the burden of about Rs. 8000 crores. Even in the last Budget about Rs. 2500 crores had been provided for the purpose. In this manner the Government had to bear a very burden. But since it is related to the farmers, the matter had been considered very sympathetically.

SHRI KRISHANA DUTT SULTANPURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the figures in regard to the small loans sanctioned to the members of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The Government may also make it clear whether the loan being given to the farmers is exactly in according to the norm of 10 percent of total amount of loan as per the directions issued to banks or less than that?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are set guidelines to be followed whenever budget allocation is made for certain projects. There are schemes like IRDP and DRDP as also schemes which are meant to be implemented at block level. The people whose income is up to Rs. 6500 are sanctioned loan at 4 percent rate of interest. Out of the total beneficiaries during 1991-92, about 45.3 percent were from Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes.

[English]

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGAWAN THORAT: Sir, the Narasimhan Committee has suggested some measures regarding the Financial assistance to the weaker sections and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but the Government has not come out with any policy measure. So, may I know from the Minister, through you, whether any policy measure has been prepared and if so, when the Government is going to declare that policy.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: This is under consideration.