

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1634

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010

FINANCIAL DISTRESS IN PLANTATION SECTOR

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Gowda Shri D.V. Sadananda

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether plantation sector including coffee industry is passing through financial distress due to hostile weather conditions and unremunerative prices during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the coffee industry comprises of mainly small and marginal farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith debt relief measures being taken by the Government to help the coffee growers in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

a)&(b) : Yes Madam, During the past decade plantation sector including Coffee industry have passed through financial distress due to international market situation and adverse weather conditions. However, the price situation has improved to remunerative levels in past few years.

(c)& (d): Yes Madam, Coffee Industry comprises of 99% small growers having less than 10 ha. land holding. In order to support the cash strapped growers, Govt. of India from time to time extended various relief measures/support to the coffee growers such as Special Coffee Terms Loan Package April, 2002, Relief package to revive coffee sector, P.M.'s Relief Package for debt stressed farmers, 2006 and Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme. Government is also helping the growers and Coffee Industry through its XI Plan Schemes.