

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:793

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

LOAN DISBURSED BY FISHERIES COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have communicated to the States that the loan disbursed by Matsyafed and the Fisheries Cooperative Societies attached to it cannot be included under the ambit of Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to include the loans of such fishermen under any other debt waiver scheme; and
- (d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b) Fisheries, including loans given to marine fishermen, are covered under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008 in the category of investment credit for allied activities. However, loans disbursed by 'NATSYAFED' and other Fisheries Cooperative Societies, being functional Societies, have been kept outside the ambit of the Scheme since they are not Cooperative Credit Institutions as defined under the Guidelines of ADWDR Scheme. The Scheme defines Cooperative Credit Institution as a cooperative society that

- (i) provides short-term crop loans to farmers and is eligible for interest subvention from the Central Government; or
- (ii) carries on banking activities regulated or supervised by RBI or NABARD; or
- (iii) is part of the Short-Term Cooperative Credit Structure or Long-Term Cooperative Credit Structure in a State or Union Territory.

(c)&(d) No, Madam.