

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1479
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010
WAIVING OFF LOANS
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has waived off the loans of farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the parameters adopted for such waiving off loans during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the action plan prepared for the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c): The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme 2008 has been implemented throughout the country covering around 3.68 crores farmers with total eligible waiver and relief amounting to Rs. 65,318.33 crore, (all figures are provisional). Statewise provisional figures are enclosed at annex.

The ADWDR Scheme, 2008 has covered all eligible agricultural loans disbursed by scheduled commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative credit institutions during the period from 01-04-1997 to 31-03-2007 which became overdue as on 31-12-2007 and remained unpaid until 29-02-2008. For marginal farmers (i.e. holding upto 1 hectare) and small farmers (1-2 hectare), there was a complete waiver of all such overdues while in respect of `other farmers`, there is a One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for such loans. Under the OTS, a rebate of 25 per cent is to be given against payment of the balance of 75 per cent of the eligible amount. Farmers fulfilling the eligibility criteria under the scheme are covered. The parameters adopted are available at http://www.finmin.nic.in/the__ministry/dept_fin_services/fin_services.html.

The Debt Waiver Scheme, 2008 closed on 30-06-2008. The Agricultural Relief Scheme (ADRS), 2008 for `other farmers` closed on 31-12-2009. However, the Budget Speech 2010-11 proposes to extend the OTS for `other farmers` upto 30-06-2010.