

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3437
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2010
WRITE OFF OF FARMERS ARREARS
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had announced a scheme to write off arrears of loan of small and marginal farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether cases of people from Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST) community are given special consideration under the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): The Government of India had announced the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 to waive off the entire 'eligible amount' in the case of small or marginal farmers. The details of Debt Waiver/ Debt Relief released for State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are as under:

Category of farmers No. of Accounts Total Amount Waived (Rs. Lacs)

Small Farmer (SF) / 16096059 2494510.45
Marginal Farmer (MF)

Other Farmers (OF) 322846 53967.75

Total 16418905 2548478.20

(c) & (d): The eligibility for the ADWDRS, 2008 was based on the land holding and the loan disbursement/overdue date. Accordingly, farmers including SC/ST farmers fulfilling the eligibility criteria were eligible for Debt Waiver/ Debt Relief.