

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1088

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010

LOAN WAIVER SCHEME

Anuragi Shri Ghansyam ;Gowda Shri D.V. Sadananda;Mani Shri Jose K.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the implementation of the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken in respect of the shortcomings noticed, if any, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to extend/renew the said scheme in order to cover a large number of farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has received complaints against banks adopting corrupt practices in extending the benefit of the said scheme to the farmers;
- (f) if so, the details thereof, as on date, State-wise and bank-wise alongwith the Government's reaction thereto; and
- (g) the details of the farmers/complainants whose loans have/have not been waived off after receiving the complaints, as on date, State-wise and bank-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A Performance Audit of the implementation of the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme , 2008 has been initiated by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.

(c) & (d) : There is no proposal to extend/renew the Scheme. As per the Scheme, while Small and Marginal farmers holding land upto 2 hectares (5 acres), were entitled for complete waiver of overdue agricultural loans, the 'Other Farmers' holding agricultural land of more than 2 hectares were eligible for a One Time Settlement (OTS) Relief of 25% subject to these farmers remitting 75% of the overdue loans. The Debt Waiver part of the Scheme for the eligible Small and Marginal farmers was implemented by the due date i.e. 30-06-2008. However, the Government had extended the last date for the OTS for 'Other Farmers' upto 30-06-2010.

(e) to (g): Complaints received by Government against Banks have been passed on their head offices for redressal since as per the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme 2008, every lending institution was required to appoint one or more Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) for each State (having regard to the number of branches in that State). The name and address of the GROs concerned were to be displayed in each branch of the lending institution. The GROs had the authority to receive representations from aggrieved farmers and pass appropriate orders thereon within 30 days of receipt thereof. The order of the GROs was to be considered final. Further, as per the guidelines for the Scheme, there is a decentralised grievance redressal Scheme for dealing with complaints right down to the branch level of the bank. As it is a decentralised redressal system, data on complaints is not being maintained in the format sought.