

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:358
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011
AGRICULTURAL DEBT WAIVER AND DEBT RELIEF SCHEME
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008, in ameliorating the condition of farmers, including Scheduled Castes(SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) community;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether certain deficiencies were noticed in the implementation of ADWDR Scheme;
- (d) if so, the corrective follow-up action taken thereon;
- (e) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala for waiving off loans upto rupees twenty five thousand for borrowers belonging to the SCs and STs Communities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (f): A Statement Is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 358 to be answered on 26th August, 2011 regarding Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, tabled by Shri Chandrakant Khaire.

(a) to (d): Govt. of India had advised National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to undertake an external evaluation study on the impact of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 by an independent agency of national repute. Accordingly, NABARD has entrusted the study to National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM), Pune. The report is awaited.

(e) & (f): The Government of Kerala had sent a letter dated 1.7.2009 to the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, stating that the Government of Kerala had announced a scheme for writing off loans upto Rs.25,000 to SC/ST loanees and requested the Government of India for assistance 'for undertaking this venture and also for waiving off all loans to the State-level Institutions.' This request is not covered under the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008. No action is presently under consideration on the above request.

The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 was implemented in the country. The Debt Waiver portion of the Scheme was closed on 30.6.2008. The Debt Relief portion of the Scheme was closed on 30.6.2010. The Scheme was applicable to all farmers eligible under the Scheme and there was no discrimination against any section of farmers.