GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1971 ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009 DEBT RELIEF FOR FARMERS Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outlay earmarked for loan waiver scheme for farmers for 2008-09 and 2009-10;

(b) the number of farmers benefited from it so far, State-wise;

(c) whether there are still some grievances related to the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to settle them;

(e) whether the Government proposes to introduce another scheme for repayment and waiving off loan in parts; and

(f) if so, details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a): Rs. 25,000 crore, as first installment, has already been released to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in December, 2008 for reimbursing the claims of the lending institutions under Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008. Further, a Budget provision of Rs. 15,000 crore exists for the year 2009-10, of which Rs. 5,000 crore, as 1BE tranche of Ind installment, has been released to RBI in June 2009.

(b): The provisional details of farmers benefited from ADWDR Scheme, 2008, State-wise, are at Annex.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The last date for receipt of grievances by all concerned agencies has been fixed as 31.07.2009.

As stipulated in the Guidelines of ADWDR Scheme, every lending institution has appointed one or more Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) for each State (having regard to the number of branches in that State). The lending institutions have been directed to display the name and address of the GRO concerned in each branch. The GRO has the authority to receive representations from aggrieved fanners and pass appropriate orders thereon.

(e) & (f): There is neither any proposal to extend the scope of the ongoing ADWDR Scheme nor is there any proposal to bring in any new Scheme for repayment and waiving of loan in parts. However, it has been announced in the Union Budget 2009-10 to extend the last date for repayment of 75% of the overdues amount by `other farmers` under ADWDR Scheme by six months i.e. upto 31st December, 2009.