

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1042  
ANSWERED ON:10.07.2009  
LOAN TO FARMERS  
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the farmers are facing problems in getting loans from the banks in view of the Debt Waiver Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued any directions to banks pertaining to Debt Waiver Scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to cover those farmers in the above said scheme who have taken loans from the private money lenders; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The agricultural credit flow by all banks has shown a continuous increase during the last five years in a row. The Agriculture credit disbursement increased nearly three and a half times from Rs. 86,981 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 2,87,149.19 crore in 2008-09. The provisional figures for the year 2008-09 report that a total of Rs. 2,87,149.19 crore (102.55% of the target) was disbursed against the target of Rs. 2,80,000 crore.

Besides, the nationalised banks have a robust internal grievance redressal mechanism to address all customer complaints including those relating to availing of crop loans, etc. Various instructions have been issued to banks from time to time in this regard. Any customer who has a genuine grievance, is to be attended by the concerned bank.

(c) & (d): The Reserve Bank of India, the nodal agency for implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme 2008, has issued several orders from time to time for effective and efficient implementation of this Scheme in respect of domestic commercial banks, Urban cooperative Banks and Local Area Banks.

(e) & (f): The Government has advised all the Public Sector Banks to earmark at least 3% of their target for agriculture credit in 2008-09 for giving loans to the farmers indebted to non-institutional lenders, including money lenders. Besides above, the following has been announced in the Union Budget 2009-10 -

‘It is learnt that in some regions of Maharashtra, a large number of farmers had taken loans from private money lenders and the loan waiver scheme did not cover them. The matter requires special attention. To examine the matter in greater detail and suggest the future course of action, I propose to set up a Taskforce.’