

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5230
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
INDEBTEDNESS OF FARMERS
Pandey Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the burden of debt on each farmers in the country is more than the per capita annual average income;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c): As per the findings of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) Report No. 498, the average debt-burden per farmer household was Rs.12,585 as against per capita Net National Product of Rs.20,871 during 2003-04 (Rs.18,301 at constant (1999-2000) prices).

For reducing institutional debt burden of farmers, the Government has implemented the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008. Upto 31.3.2012, Rs.52,275.55 crore has been released to Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development for reimbursement of claims to the lending institutions under ADWDRS. In addition, for reducing the dependence of farmers on non-institutional sources of credit the Government has taken several measures for increasing institutional credit flow and bringing more and more farmers within the institutional credit fold. These measures, inter alia, includes fixation of annual targets for improving agricultural credit flow, provision of crop loans upto Rs.3.00 lakh @ 4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, extention of benefit of interest subvention scheme to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts, collateral free loan upto Rs.1.00 lakh, scheme for financing of Joint Liability Group (JLGs) etc.