GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:287
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013
DEBT RELIEF PACKAGE FOR COFFEE GROWERS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had sanctioned any Debt Relief Package for the debt ridden small coffee growers in the country and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the Government has received any proposal from the medium and large coffee growers for waiver of the interest on the loans raised by them and if so, the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) the total amount released under the package along with the total number of coffee growers benefited by the package including the small, medium and large scale growers, State-wise;
- (d) whether there has been demands for similar relief package by the cultivators of other plantation crops; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 287 FOR ANSWER ON 18TH MARCH, 2013 REGARDING "DEBT RELIEF PACKAGE FOR COFFEE GROWERS"

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Government of India sanctioned the Coffee Debt Relief Package (CDRP)-2010 for the debt ridden small coffee growers and released Rs. 299 Crores benefiting 1,35,280 small coffee growers.

The relief package extended direct financial benefits to the debt ridden small coffee growers. The medium and large growers were eligible under the scheme for rescheduling of the loans. The state wise details of small growers who have been extended the benefit under CDRP are given below:-

```
S1. State Pre - 2002 Loan Crop Loan Post 2002 Loan Total
No. No. of Amount No. of Amount No. of Amount No. of Amount
Benefic (in Benefic (
```

Representations were made by some Members of Parliament, the Karnataka Growers' Federation etc. requesting for waiver of interest on the loans taken by the medium and large coffee growers. The matter was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. However, the request was not found feasible on the ground that such a waiver would have financial implications for banks and result in similar kind of demands from other sectors.

- (d): No, Madam. No such demand for similar relief package by the cultivators of other plantation crops has been received so far.
- (e): Does not arise.