

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1042  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014  
AGRICULTURAL DEBT WAIVER AND DEBT RELIEF SCHEME  
Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any changes under Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of farmers being benefited under this scheme so far, and
- (c) whether any irregularities were reported while implementing this scheme and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the Government?

**Answer**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. The Scheme benefitted 3.73 crore farmers to the extent of Rs. 52,259 crore.

(c) The Performance Audit of the Scheme was carried out by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) from April, 2011 to March, 2012 which reported various errors of inclusion and exclusion at the beneficiary level. Based on the feedback during Exit Conference with CAG on 7.12.2012, the Government on 11.1.2013 directed all institutions to take immediate corrective action and re-verify all the claims under the Scheme. National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued directions to the lending institutions on 11.1.2013 and 14.1.2013 respectively to examine the cases of any irregularities and take corrective steps, including recovery of such amounts from ineligible beneficiaries, recovery of any excess payment and fixing responsibility of the bank staff in appropriate cases. To this effect, a total recovery from lending institutions has been to the extent of Rs. 627.68 crore.