

below Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) and the loan of Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 7 lakhs at BPLR;

(b) if not, whether a subsidy is provided so that bank could consider offering interest rate below BPLR; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):
(a) to (c) The interest rates on loans and advances have been deregulated by RBI and banks are free to decide interest rates on loans and advances above Rs. 2 lakhs with the approval of their Boards, subject to Benchmark Prime Lending Rates (BPLR) and spread guidelines. The loans and advances upto Rs. 2 lakh carry the prescription of not exceeding the BPLR. However, Ministry of Human Resource Development (M/o HRD) has proposed a scheme for interest subsidy, during the period of moratorium, on loans taken by students belonging to economically weaker sections, for pursuing higher education, under the Model Educational Loan Scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

Waiver of farmers' loans

‡1256. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers whose loans have been waived so far under the 'Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008' announced by Government and the number of farmers yet to get debt waiver despite their inclusion in the scheme;

(b) the reasons for not waiving the debt till now;

(c) whether Government has set any time-frame for waiving debts of all the farmers falling under this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):
(a) to (e) The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008 covered only the overdue portion, and not the total outstanding, of the loans disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Credit Institutions between April 01, 1997 and March 31, 2007, which remained unpaid until February 29, 2008. The Scheme envisaged that nearly 3.6 crore farmers be provided debt waiver or debt relief amounting to around Rs. 65,300 crore under the ADWDR Scheme, 2008.

The provisional State-wise details of the number of farmers covered under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008 along with the total amount waived and eligible for relief is given in the Statement (*See below*).

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The portion of the scheme covering debt relief to all eligible small and marginal farmers has come to an end on 30.06.2008. In the Budget Speech 2010-11, it is proposed to extend the scheme for debt relief for 'Other Farmers' upto 30th June, 2010.

Statement

*Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008
State-wise figures (provisional)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total Farmers covered			Total eligible Waiver/ Relief
		SF/MF	OF	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6646198	1109029	7755227	11353.71
2.	Assam	319546	18146	337692	405.51
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10775	1241	12016	20.47
4.	Bihar	1662971	94548	1757519	3158.90
5.	Chhattisgarh	493828	201119	694947	701.28
6.	Delhi	1324	388	1712	7.36
7.	Gujarat	576137	410605	986742	2395.32
8.	Goa	1592	768	2360	5.58
9.	Haryana	527490	357612	885102	2648.73
10.	Himachal Pradesh	114997	4794	119791	273.82
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	47449	3081	50530	97.06
12.	Jharkhand	639187	27239	666426	789.60
13.	Karnataka	1171983	555360	1727343	4020.29
14.	Kerala	1390546	40192	1430738	2962.97
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1715624	659202	2374826	4203.25
16.	Maharashtra	3023000	1225000	4248000	8951.33
17.	Meghalaya	40885	2129	43014	77.94
18.	Mizoram	18699	1641	20340	34.22
19.	Manipur	56670	1393	58063	57.49
20.	Nagaland	12623	2290	14913	22.39
21.	Orissa	2377022	135935	2512957	3277.75

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Punjab	227416	193862	421278	1222.91
23.	Rajasthan	1111821	732765	1844586	3795.78
24.	Sikkim	7140	651	7791	13.39
25.	Tamil Nadu	1427280	328206	1755486	3365.39
26.	Tripura	60502	1101	61603	97.09
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4794348	621693	5416041	9095.11
28.	Uttarakhand	154962	18733	173695	317.65
29.	West Bengal	1445743	16590	1462333	1882.27
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1537	958	2495	1.96
31.	Chandigarh	148	79	227	1.35
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	351	137	488	0.69
33.	Daman and Diu	65	38	103	0.15
34.	Lakshadweep	130	2	132	0.25
35.	Puducherry	26247	5055	31302	59.37
TOTAL:		30106236	6771582	36877818	65318.33

Corporate fixed deposit rate

1257. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investors are finding Corporate fixed deposit rates hard to resist because banks have not revised their interest rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what Government proposes to do to attract investments in public sector projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):
(a) and (b) During the current financial year scheduled commercial banks have reduced their term deposit interest rates on various maturities. The mobilization of time deposits by banks during the first ten months of 2009-10 has also been lower compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. However, given the differing risk appetites and preferences of investors this may not be directly attributable to interest rates offered on corporate fixed deposits. Corporate fixed deposits compared to bank deposits carry higher risks, are unsecured