

the extent of Rs. 18,294.86 crore. Under the Debt Relief Scheme, 17.30 lakh farmers have been benefited to the extent of Rs. 3,363.84 crore.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the nodal agency in respect of Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks has reported that so far an amount of Rs. 25,033.83 crore has been released towards debt waiver benefiting 161.34 lakh farmers and Rs. 3651.76 crore has been released towards debt relief, benefiting 25.10 lakh farmers.

The Government of India (GoI) has so far released an amount of Rs. 51,340.47 crore to RBI and NABARD as reimbursement to the lending institutions under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008.

The information regarding the amount the lending institutions have recovered under the debt relief portion of the Scheme is not maintained centrally.

***IT payers in the country***

2043. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of individual Income Tax payers in the country;
- (b) the number of employees of the Central Government and the State Governments paying income tax, year-wise for last three years and their percentage out of total tax payers;
- (c) the total number of corporate house paying income tax in last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the total number of individuals paying one lakh and above and number of corporate houses paying five lakh and above income tax in last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) As on 31-03-2010, the number of effective individual assesseees is 3,13,84,084.

(b) and (c) Income Tax Department maintains data about the number of assesseees with reference to their status such as individual, HUF, Company etc. and not with reference to the sources from which income is derived or with reference to the corporate houses to which these assesseees belong to. Hence, the information desired is not available.

However, the number of effective corporate assesseees as on 31.03.2010 is 3,67,884.

(d) The data about the number of effective assesseees is maintained with reference to the returned income/loss and not with reference to the amount of taxes paid by them. The number of effective assesseees having returned income/loss of Rs 10 lacs and above in individual and corporate category is as follows:—

For year ending 31st March	Individuals	Corporate
2010	2,66,961	55,977
2009	2,25,019	50,728
2008	1,80,118	59,260

***Renewal of broking licences***

2044. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the abnormal delays in renewal of broking licences for two or three years as the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority has been issuing and then withdrawing show cause notices;

(b) whether some parties have sought the intervention of the High Courts to get their broking licences renewed early; and

(c) if so, whether there are any guidelines stipulating time-frame of final disposal of such cases of renewal of licences, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):  
(a) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that the number of applications received from Insurance Brokers for renewal of licences during last three years *i.e.* 2008-09 to 2010-11 were 230, out of which 208 applicants have been issued licences till January, 2011. The process of renewal takes considerable time as it involves examination of accounts of insurance brokers, complaints and inspection findings. Therefore, there is delay in issuance of licences in some cases. However, IRDA keeps them informed of the status of the application. The IRDA has further informed that in one case they have issued show cause notice and the same was withdrawn and IRDA sought permission of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta to proceed in the case in accordance with the Regulations and initiate action against the petitioner in the manner as deemed fit. On the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta the Authority is proceeding against that company in accordance with law for renewal of licence.

(b) The IRDA has further informed that there are no legal cases filed by the intermediaries for expediting grant of broking licence.