

Loan at one per cent interest to farmers

2840. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will provide loan at the rate of one per cent interest to farmers in view of severe drought and flood in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has issued any specific instructions to banks in this regard in view of severe drought and pathetic condition of farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) In order to provide relief to bank borrowers in times of natural calamities, Reserve Bank of India has issued standing guidelines to banks. The guidelines, *inter alia*, contain directions to banks to ensure that the meetings of the District Consultative Committees or State Level Banker's Committees are convened at the earliest to evolve a co-ordinated action plan for implementation of the rehabilitation programme in coordination with the state/district authorities. Banks have been advised to consider moratorium period of atleast one year in all cases of restructuring and not to insist for additional collateral security for such restructured loans. Asset classification for restructured loans will remain the same as prevalent at the time of restructuring for a period of one year. Banks are required to give adequate publicity to their relief arrangements. The rehabilitation measures *inter alia* include issuance of fresh loans for consumption and resumption of normal business as well as restructuring of existing loans.

Wish list of women groups

2841. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: