

Coffee debt relief package

321. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Coffee Debt Relief Package, 2010 was sanctioned by the Centre;
- (b) if so, the details of the amount released under the package;
- (c) what is the total number of coffee growers benefited by the package;
- (d) the State-wise, district-wise details of small, medium and large growers benefited?
- (e) whether Government has received any proposal for waiver of interest on the loans raised by coffee growers; and
- (f) if so, what is the response of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India sanctioned the Coffee Debt Relief Package-2010 for the debt ridden small coffee growers and released Rs. 299 Crores benefiting 1,35,280 small coffee growers.

(d) 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 and district-wise details of small growers who have been extended the benefit under CDRP are given below:

Sl. No.	State/ District	Pre - 2002 Loan		Crop Loan		Post 2002 Loan		Total	
		No. of Beneficiaries	Amount in Rs.	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount in Rs.	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount in Rs.	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount in Rs.
I	Karnataka								
1	Chikmagalur	4815	687890466	9945	115605341	4623	95192278	19383	898688085
2	Kodagu	6579	674616639	27030	245551103	8208	151242153	41817	1071409895
3	Hassan	3788	412093251	11761	90629833	3435	66173352	18984	568896436
4	South Canara	4	1037179	13	166335	1	72206	18	1275720
5	Shimoga	9	873323	8	205778	5	218094	22	1297195
6	Mysore	5	1992739	4	67017	2	60572	11	2120328
	Sub Total	15200	1778503597	48761	452225407	16274	312958655	80235	2543687659
II	Kerala								
1	Wayanad	6659	189351374	38116	102311680	9138	73662651	53913	365325705
2	Idukki	1	128472	5	54103	2	25917	8	208492
3	Palakkad	0	0	1	33872	0	0	1	33872

4	Calicut	12	375184	0	0	0	0	12	375184
	Sub Total	6672	189855030	38122	102399655	9140	73688568	53934	365943253
III	Tamil Nadu								
1	Coimbatore	0	0	2	50000	2	167088	4	217088
2	Nilgiris	0	0	13	55437	0	0	13	55437
3	Salem	19	2713614	278	1248451	32	958006	329	4920071
4	Dindigul	183	8744021	427	4463888	128	2421873	738	15629782
5	Theni	5	1597108	6	84298	5	328050	16	2009456
	Sub Total	207	13054743	726	5902074	167	3875017	1100	22831834
IV	Odisha								
1	Koraput	3	1017335	0	0	8	393829	11	1411164
GRAND TOTAL		22082	1982430705	87609	560527136	25589	390916069	135280	2933873910

Written Answers to

[27 February, 2013]

Unstarred Questions

(e) and (f) 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.

Countervailing duty by US on export of Shrimp

322. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's seafood industry is facing serious pressure from the US after the association of American Shrimp farmers asked the US Department of Commerce (USDOC) to impose a countervailing duty on shrimps in addition to the anti-dumping duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India along with other countries have approached WTO Dispute Settlement Body (dsb) to get the restriction removed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A legal petition to USA has been filed on 28.12.2012 by Coalition of Gulf Shrimp Industries, for imposition of countervailing duty (CVD) on import of shrimps to USA by seven countries viz. China, Thailand, Vietnam, Ecuador, Indonesia, Malaysia and India. Coalition of Gulf Shrimp Industries claims that subsidies provided by Government of India to the Indian Shrimp Industry provide unfair advantage for Indian shrimp exporters to export shrimps to USA at lower prices. United States Department of Commerce (US DOC) and the United States International Trade Commission (US ITC) are in the process of investigation on the case of Countervailing Duties on export of frozen shrimp from India.

Government of India had consultations with the US DOC on the subject matter and had meeting with USITC on January 14, 2013. Government of India expressed its concerns about the protective regime followed by USA with regard to shrimps, WTO inconsistent actions taken by US Authorities and gross deficiencies in the petition. The ITC hearing in connection with the investigation on 18.01.2013 was also attended by officials of the Government of India.