

US team comprising of experts from National Cancer Institute (NCI) took part in the two day exhaustive deliberations that have resulted into significant leads.

Loans disbursed to farmers

954. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans disbursed in the Financial Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 to farmers and their families, affected by drought in the country; and

(b) the steps taken, if any, by Government to ease the process of loan disbursement to farmers in drought affected areas at nominal rates of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The data regarding loan disbursed to farmers and their families affected by drought is not separately maintained by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). However, RBI and NABARD have issued directions for relief measures to be provided by lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities including drought, which include restructuring of existing crop loans and term loans, extending fresh loans, relaxed security and margin norms, moratorium of minimum 1 year, no penal interest in respect of current dues in default, etc. These directions have been so designed that they are automatically set in motion without any intervention and this saves precious time. The State-wise details of loans restructured on account of natural calamities during the last three years (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15), as reported by RBI, are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) Interest rates on loans have been deregulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and they are now linked to the Base Rate fixed by the banks. However, the Government of India implements an Interest Subvention Scheme for short term crop loans up to Rs. 3.00 lakh with a view to ensuring availability of short term agriculture credit at a reduced interest rate of 7% p.a. to farmers. Under the said scheme, additional subvention of 3% is given to those farmers who repay their short term crop loan in time, thereby reducing the effective rate of interest to 4% p.a. for such farmers. Further, under the extant Interest Subvention Scheme, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities including drought, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount and such restructured loans may attract normal rate of interest from the second year onwards as per the policy laid down by RBI.

1	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Gujarat	141	386.41	114	676.94	27	1297.72	282	2361.07
Jammu	1560	39.53	738	14.82	16407	694.79	18705	749.14
Karnataka	24542	29156	11854	20258	0	0	36396	49414
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	27630	15350					27630	15350
Maharashtra and Goa	410681	271232	0	0	0	0	410681	271232
Meghalaya	76	39.6	26	38	14	41	116	118.6
New Delhi	0	0	0	0	3	52876.8	3	52876.8
Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rajasthan	21664	3322634	4636	8158.15	7	614.74	26307	41999.23
Ranchi	2589	1038.3	1157	5558.36	0	0	3746	6596.66
Shimla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Telangana	34280	40066.54	2516	24098.16	47	29499.16	36843	93663.86
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	257244	270779					257244	270779
Uttaranchal	8160	6054.98	5806	7804.77	8126	67262.42	22092	81122.17
West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1091033	845708.45	54789	99029.27	27402	163173.2	1173224	1107910.92

Source: Reserve Bank of India

Waiving off of interest on crop loans

955. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides short-term crop loans under the Interest Subvention Scheme for various durations to farmers; and

(b) if so, the interest rate charged on such loans and whether the interest have been waived off and if so, the number and percentage of such farmers whose interest was waived off in the financial year 2015-16?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) With a view to ensuring availability of short term