

pesticides, etc. and draw cash to satisfy their agricultural and consumption needs. The KCC Scheme has since been simplified and converted into ATM enabled RuPay debit card with, *inter alia*, facilities of one-time documentation, built-in cost escalation in the limit, any number of drawals within the limit, etc.

- To enhance coverage of small and marginal farmers in the formal credit system, RBI has decided to raise the limit for collateral-free agriculture loans from ₹ 1 lakh to ₹ 1.6 lakh.
- The requirement of 'no due' certificate has also been dispensed with for small loans up to ₹50,000 to small and marginal farmers, share-croppers and the like and, instead, only a self-declaration from the borrower is required.
- To bring small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, etc. into the fold of institutional credit, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) have been promoted by banks.

Bank loan to economically weaker sections

330. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has extended provision of bank loans for economically weaker sections in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the criteria for selection of economically weaker sections of the country for the said purpose, district-wise;
- (d) whether an expert group has been constituted for the said purpose to identify the needy people; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (e) In terms of Reserve Bank of India guidelines on Priority Sector Lending (PSL) a target of 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposures (OBE), whichever is higher, as of preceding March 31st, has

been mandated for lending to the priority sector by domestic scheduled commercial banks and foreign banks with 20 branches and above. Within this, sub-targets of 10 and 18 per cent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent amount of OBE, whichever is higher, as of preceding March 31st, have been mandated for lending to weaker sections and Agriculture respectively. Further, within the 18 per cent target for agriculture, a sub-target of 8 per cent of ANBC or OBE, whichever is higher has been prescribed for Small and Marginal Farmers.

As per RBI's notification dated 19.06.2018 loans to individuals up to ₹ 28 lakh in metropolitan centre and ₹ 20 lakh in other centres, are eligible to be classified under priority sector, provided that the cost of dwelling unit does not exceed ₹ 35 lakh and ₹25 lakh, respectively. To give a filip to low-cost housing for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIG), the housing loan limits for eligibility under priority sector lending have been revised to ₹ 35 lakh in metropolitan centres, and ₹ 25 lakh in other centres with certain conditions. Further, there is provision of loan for construction of house for EWS and LIG wherein the total cost of house does not exceed Rs 10 lakh provided the family income limit is ₹2 lakh per annum. This income criteria has been revised to ₹ 3 lakh per annum for EWS and ₹ 6 lakh per annum for LIG

Government extends bank loans to Economically Weaker Section (EWS) under various schemes. Some of the schemes of Government for EWS are as under:

- I. In pursuance of the Government vision of facilitating housing to all by 2022 Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) mission on 25.06.2015. The mission aims to provide assistance to all states/UTs in addressing the housing requirement of urban poor including EWS/LIG
- II. Under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) for EWS/LIG component of PMAY-U an interest subsidy of 6.5% for EWS/LIG, calculated on housing loan up to ₹ 6 lakh over a tenure of 20 years is provided by Government.
- III. All Scheduled Commercial Banks have adopted and implemented the IBA Model Educational Loan Scheme for pursuing higher education in India and abroad. The scheme is applicable uniformly to all students' borrowers including students belonging to weaker sections. However, for the students

belonging to EWS whose parental/family income is upto ₹ 4.50 Lakh, an interest subsidy scheme, namely Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme (CSIS), is operational under which full interest subsidy, on educational loans upto ₹ 7.50 lakh, is available during the period of moratorium on loans availed under the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) Model Education Loan Scheme from Scheduled Banks. CSIS scheme benefits all categories of economically weaker students for pursuing professional/technical courses in India and intends to provide affordable higher education.

Increase of banking fraud cases

331. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a manifold increase in banking fraud cases during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of fraud cases registered and the amount involved in these cases, year-wise; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken up by Government to prevent these frauds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) No, sir. Details of frauds involving amount of ₹ 1 lakh and above that occurred during the last three financial years (FYs), reported by Scheduled Commercial Banks and select financial institutions, as per inputs received from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), are as under:

FY of occurrence	Amount involved (in crore ₹)	Number
2016-17	25,884	3,927
2017-18	9,866	4,228
2018-19	6,735	2,836

(d) Comprehensive measures have been taken to prevent frauds in banks including, *inter alia*, the following: