

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2730
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003
KISAN CREDIT CARDS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the target set to issue Kisan Credit Cards during the current financial year, State-wise;
- (b) the number of the Kisan Credit Cards issued till date; and
- (c) the benefits provided to these card holders by the Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL):

- (a) State-wise target for issue of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) during the year 2003-04, is given in the enclosed statement.
- (b) A total of 3,13,44,289 KCCs have been issued by the Public Sector, Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks, as on March, 2003.
- (c) The KCC Scheme enables easy access to short term credit to farmers from banks and enables them to benefit from timely and hassle-free credit availability. The KCCs are issued based on the farmers' land holdings so that these can be used to purchase agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides and also draw cash for the production need of the farmers. It also benefits in reduction of work load for the bank branches by avoiding repeat appraisal and processing of loan papers, simplification of documentation, reduction in transaction cost to banks, etc. personal insurance packages are also provided by banks to KCC holders to cover them against accidental death or permanent disability upto a maximum of Rs. 50,000/-.