

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
LOANS TO SMALL FARMERS FROM BANKS
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the target set by various scheduled banks for providing loans to small and marginal farmers and agricultural sector in Rajasthan during the last three years alongwith the target achieved;
- (b) whether small farmers are facing difficulties in getting loans from banks; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate loans to farmers in the State for development of agricultural sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) :

(a) As per the extant policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), all scheduled commercial banks in the country are required to lend 18 percent of their net bank credit for agriculture under the priority sector. Though no specific targets have been fixed for providing loans to small and marginal farmers, they are included under the targets fixed for agriculture and weaker sections. However, the data relating to loans outstanding to small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan during the last three years, as reported by RBI, is as under :

Year ended	Loans Outstanding
(Rs. in crore)	
June 1996	207.37
June 1997	211.19
June 1998	247.25

- (b) No, Sir. No such instances have come to the notice of the Government.
- (c) Does not arise in-view of (b) above.