

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:291
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2000
AGRICULTURAL LOAN
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of irregularities in distributing agriculture related loans by bank officials have come to the notice of the Government during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the bank-wise details thereof;
- (c) the action taken against the officials responsible;
- (d) whether unrecovered agricultural loans has been put under bad debts;
- (e) if so, the bank-wise amount put under this head during the above period; and
- (f) the parameters for putting amount under bad debts?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA):

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have stated that no cases of irregularities in distributing agriculture related loans by bank officials have come to their notice during the period asked for.
- (b) and (c) Does not arise in view of above.
- (d) and (e) The bank-wise details of the Non-performing assets in agricultural loans of public sector banks as on 31st March, 2000 are given in the enclosed Statement.
- (f) As per the extant guidelines of RBI, advances granted for agricultural purposes maybe treated as Non-performing Assets (NPAs), if interest/or instalment of principal remains unpaid, after it has become `past due, for two harvest seasons or for a period not exceeding two half years.