

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:508
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004
KISAN CREDIT CARD
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Kisan Credit Cards issued during the past three years, State-wise and-year-wise;
- (b) the performance of the scheme;
- (c) whether the Government intends to enhance such credits and broad base its issue to all States, Districts and villages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has launched another scheme for the benefit of farmers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a): The State-wise details of the number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued during the last three years, viz. 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, are given in the Annexme.
- (b): The overall performance of the Scheme has been satisfactory and the scheme has helped to make credit delivery to farmers hassle free and cost effective. As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), a total number of 4.14 crore KCCs have been so far issued by the banking sector as on 31.3.2004.
- (c) & (d): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) commissioned sample survey of the scheme has suggested further improvements in the scheme. In order that all the eligible agricultural borrowers are issued the cards, the banks will be advised to prepare an action plan for covering all the agriculturalists under the scheme. Further, investment credit and production credit are proposed to be integrated and covered under the KCC to facilitate drawals by the borrowers in a hassle free manner. The interest on these loans shall be at reasonable rates. RBI will also advise the State Level Bankers' Committees to review the existing scales of finance.
- (e) & (f): Government has recently announced a plan of action to increase the Ground Level Credit Flow to Agriculture by 30% during the current financial year.