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Title : Need to give financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu for the farm loans waived by the State Government.

SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (NAGAPATTINAM): For the first time in the history of independent India fulfilling the promise made to the people, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced and waived the cooperative farm credit extended to the Agriculturalist of Tamil Nadu. Union Government too announced nationwide farm loan waiver in last year's Budget. So, the Government of Tamil Nadu wanted at least a part of the loan waiver amount it had paid to the farmers in the state. An amount due by the end of March in the year 2006 to the tune of about Rupees 3000 crore was sought as financial assistance from the Centre. But the Union Government had written to Government of Tamil Nadu that the cooperative loan waiver was outside the scope of the Centre's Farm-Credit Waiver Scheme. Tamil Nadu has again requested the Centre to provide atleast Rupees Seventy one crores as eligible financial assistance. This was against the loan waiver Tamil Nadu had already paid to the tune of Rupees Nine crore to the burdened farming community of the State. The Union Government is yet to extend this financial assistance to Tamil Nadu. Hence, I urge upon the Union Finance Minister to consider paying this money as reimbursement for a welfare scheme aimed at benefiting farmers to Tamil Nadu who had taken loans from cooperatives.