

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 978**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**ASSISTANCE TO COFFEE GROWERS**

978. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:  
KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coffee growers have sought interest waiver on loans for heavy loss they incurred after floods damaged their plantations in Karnataka and Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the coffee board has assessed/estimated the loss and damage to Coffee States, coffee crop and infrastructure due to floods and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has constituted a joint task force to address the concerns of flood-hit coffee growers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether it is a fact that 3.43 lakh coffee growers in Karnataka are facing pending loans cumulatively amounting up to Rs. 6,000 crore, and if so, the corrective steps being taken by the Government to address the issues of coffee growers in the country?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d) Representations have been received from various stakeholders including Coffee Growers' Associations namely Karnataka Growers Federation (KGF) and Codagu Planters Association (CPA) inter alia, seeking interest waiver on loans taken by the Coffee growers in view of the loss incurred and damage caused to their plantations due to heavy floods in Karnataka and Kerala.

With a view to address the issues raised by the coffee growers/stakeholders, the Central Government has taken up the matter with Government of Karnataka and suggested constituting a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary of Karnataka to assess the extent of damage due to natural calamity and suggest suitable measures to redress these issues.

The Coffee Board, along with Revenue, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments of Government of Karnataka, conducted detailed scientific assessment of damage due to heavy rains in the district of Kodagu, Hassan and Chikkamagaluru and submitted the assessment report to the concerned Deputy Commissioners, Government of Karnataka. In respect of Kerala, a detailed

scientific assessment was conducted by Coffee Board and a detailed report was submitted to the Government of Kerala.

The details are as under:-

State	Area affected by crop loss of > 33% (ha.)	Amount of eligible claims for crop loss of > 33% (Rs. Crore)	Coffee area damaged due to landslides & floods (Ha.)	Total coffee crop loss occurred due to heavy rains (MT)*
Karnataka	99984	128.04	550	60,103
Kerala	10308	18.55	73.6	9256
<b>Total</b>	<b>110292</b>	<b>146.59</b>	<b>623.60</b>	<b>69359</b>

(e) As per the information provided by State Level Bankers Committee, Karnataka as on 13.06.2018, there are outstanding loans amounting to Rs.5944.51 crores by 210346 coffee farmers. On pursuance of the Coffee Board, Government of Karnataka has extended relief of loan waiver to coffee growers farmers at par with other agriculture loans.

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