

(e) and (f) The requirement of funds by the PSUs and the means for meeting the requirement keep varying from time to time and depends upon general conditions in the money market and availability of funds with the PSUs and the Government. Need based financial assistance is also provided by the Govt. to overcome resources constraints, subject to the availability of funds.

Bank Loans in Ladakh

3576. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount deposited in the State Bank of India (SBI) of Leh and Kargil of Ladakh as on March 31, 1996, branch-wise;

(b) the total amount advanced to entrepreneurs under State and Centrally sponsored schemes in Leh and Kargil districts during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 separately;

(c) the total amount advanced to private individuals/agencies other than State and Centrally sponsored Schemes during the above period;

(d) whether new entrepreneurs in Leh and Kargil districts are agitated against the (SBI) Leh and Kargil for not financing their schemes which were recommended by the Rural Development and District Industries Departments of Leh and Kargil districts; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter and the details of the new entrepreneurs alongwith amount advanced to them during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) As reported by State Bank of India (SBI), the branch-wise total amount deposited in their branches at Leh and Kargil Districts of Ladakh as on 31.3.1996 is given below :—

S.No.	Branch	Amount of Deposit (Rs. in thousands)
District : Kargil		
1.	Kargil	91412
2.	Drass	12786
3.	Shakar	10019
4.	Shargole	8351
Total		122568
District : Leh		
1.	Leh	278673
2.	Chuglamsar	40877

3.	Toa Leh	51546
4.	Saspol	27786
Total		398882

(b) The total amount advanced by SBI to entrepreneurs under State and Centrally sponsored schemes in Leh and Kargil districts during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given below :—

(Amount in Rs. thousands)			
District	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Leh	545	1066	2013
Kargil	571	941	2569
Total	1116	2007	4582

(c) The total amount advanced to private individuals/agencies other than State and Centrally sponsored schemes during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under :—

(Amount in Rs. thousands)			
District	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Leh	7140	13345	15222
Kargil	1979	1865	1853
Total	9119	15210	17075

(d) and (e) State Bank of India has further reported that none of the new entrepreneurs in Leh and Kargil districts is agitated against the SBI Leh and Kargil for not financing their schemes which were recommended by the Rural Development and District Industries Departments of Leh and Kargil Districts. The total amount advanced to entrepreneurs Sponsored/recommended by DRDA/DIC is as given in part (b) above.

Status of UCO Bank

3577. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "UCO Bank may lose B — category status" appearing in the Economic Times dated July 14 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the performance of UCO Bank?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For the year ending 31st March, 1996, UCO Bank has made an operating loss of Rs. 26.2 crores. In view of this, the

bank has to be classified under Category 'C'.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had appointed Investment Information & Credit Rating Agency of India (ICRA), a leading firm of consultants, for conducting an indepth study of UCO Bank and suggest strategies for its turnaround. The firm has since submitted its report which is under consideration.

Duty Drawback by Companies

3578. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of fraudulently claiming due to drawback by some firms have come to the notice of the Government during 1996 so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against guilty persons; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to plug all loopholes to check recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, during this year some cases involving fraudulent claims of duty drawback have come to the notice of the Customs Department. In one case proprietor of the firm has been arrested and recovery of Rs. 2 lakhs has been made from the company. Investigations in these cases are in progress.

(d) The drawback procedure has already been streamlined by introducing a new Customs & Central Excise Duty Drawback Rules in the year 1995. However, in order to prevent recurrence of fraudulent drawback claims, procedure for processing of drawback claims by doing away with the necessity of filing separate claims treating the drawback shipping bills themselves as claims for drawback, by reducing the incidence of drawal of samples for tests, modification of procedure for payment of drawback amounts and computerisation of drawback processing are under active consideration of the Department.

Standard Deduction for Salaried Employees

3579. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODALYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received representations from several people that the standard deduction which had been raised from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 18,000 for salaried employees having an annual income of Rs. 60,000 should be extended to all salaried sections; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The post-Budget representations are examined by the Government as a normal exercise.

Indian Institute of Coal Management

3580. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Coal Management, Ranchi has an annual budget of 12.5 crores;

(b) if so, the average cost of training for executive per day during the year 1995-96; and

(c) the capacity utilization i.e. the total training days available stating the number of working days, the number of class-rooms and the number of participant accommodated alongwith the actual utilized training days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The annual budget of Indian Institute of Coal Management (IICM) for the year 1996-97 is as under :

Revenue	-	Rs. 7.5 crores
Capital	-	Rs. 2.23 crores

(b) The average per day cost of training of an executive for the year 1995-96 was Rs. 2,970/-.

(c) The capacity utilization during the year 1995-96 was 57% which has been worked out on the following basis:

i)	No. of working days	—	283
ii)	No. of class rooms	—	5
iii)	Average capacity of the class room	—	20
iv)	Maximum trainee days available during the year	—	28300
v)	Actual trainee days achieved during the year	—	16165

Export of Prawn to U.S.

3581. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that U.S. Government has banned the import of prawn from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and