

outstanding loan and the current rate of charge is 4.27% per annum.

(b) The details of principal amount and interest repaid to the World Bank and IMF are given below:

	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Repay.	Int.	Repay.	Int.	Repay.	Int.
IBRD (in US \$ m.)	709	620	757	646	815	631
IDA (in US \$ m.)	175	115	194	122	228	131
IMF (in SDR m.)	96	182	805	153	1138	107

Jute Packaging Materials

*160. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of recent Supreme Court's judgement in favour of compulsory jute packaging by concerned industries including Fertilizer and Cement industries; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to ensure that all concerned industries to comply with the above judgement?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). In a recent judgement dated 25.4.96, the Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of the jute packaging materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. Subsequent to the decision of the Supreme Court, the Standing Advisory Committee set up under the said Act has met to give appropriate recommendations. Concerned industry interests have also been given full hearing. Meanwhile, in respect of packaging of urea, for which the earlier Reservation Order was valid up to 30.6.96, the provisions of the order have been extended up to 30.9.96. For other commodities covered in the Order, there is no change in the percentage of reservation, as at present.

Intellectual Property Rights Agreement with W.T.O.

1080. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of USA has decided to keep India on a priority watchlist under special trade provisions especially when both the countries were signatories to the trade related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS) agreement of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) whether the U.S. is hauling India before a World Trade Organisation arbitration panel in Geneva over New Delhi's failure to provide patent protection for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On 2 July 1996, the US has sought consultations with India in the matter of Intellectual Property Rights under the Dispute Settlement Understanding of the World Trade Organization. India will be holding consultations with US for the resolution of this dispute.

Funds for Handicrafts

1081. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Handicraft Development Corporation has submitted any proposal for financial assistance for the works, like woodcraft, bronze craft, hand painting, carpet weaving, clay sculpture and bamboo craft; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Capital Mobilisation for PSEs

1082. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are working on a new resource mobilisation strategy from the capital market for the Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) to mop up the larger funds required to finance its modernisation and expansion programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of requirement of funds for modernisation/expansion/diversification public sector undertaking wise for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Central PSUs like any other commercial organisations are permitted to mop up funds required to finance their modernisation & expansion