

NRI Bonds for sardar sarobar Project

2887. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government have accorded approval for the issue of NRI Bonds for the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the nomenclature and terms and conditions of these bonds; and

(c) the time frame for launching of these bonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, this does not arise.

Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

2888. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to grant financial assistance to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to meet its financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details therefor,

(c) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (c). Uttar Pradesh along with the other States is entitled for Normal Central Assistance, Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided

Projects, Share in Central Taxes, Grants in lieu of Railway Passenger Fare, Small Savings Loans, Revenue Gap Grants, Allocation under Hill Area Development Programme, etc. In addition to the aforesaid, a Special Loan of Rs. 127 crores to Uttar Pradesh has been approved to meet 50% of the local cost on the Externally Aided Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project. In addition, the Centre has decided to pass on 100% of the bilateral assistance for the above project to the State with effect from 1.4.1991.

[English]

Subsidies to Big Industrial Houses

2889. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of subsidy is provided on various items to big industrial houses in spite of the fact that huge amount of income-tax and excise duty arrears remain pending against them; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the government in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Subsidies are given by the Government on the basis of basic social and economic considerations. The principal subsidies on food products are distributed through the public distribution system and on fertilisers distributed to farmers. No specific subsidies are provided to big industrial houses.

(b) Does not arise.

Waiver of Interest on Government Borrowings

2890. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the Reserve Bank of India to waive interest on Government borrowings from the RBI;

(b) if so, the total amount of interest accrued on Government borrowings from RBI as on December 31, 1991;

(c) the reasons for asking waiver of the interest obligations by the Government; and

(d) the reaction of the RBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SNAN-TARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

CESS Collection From Pepper

2991. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of CESS on pepper collected during the last two years and during 1991-92 so far;

(b) how the amount has been utilised and proposed to be utilised;

(c) whether the Government propose to utilise the amount on the welfare of cardaam planters; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). Any amount collected by way of cess on export of spices including pepper is credited to the Consoli-

dated Fund of India, from which funds are released to the Spices Board for carrying on export promotion measures for all spices and for the development for cardamom in the country. Under the provisions of the Spices Board Act, 1986 (No. 10 of 1986), the Board has been given the responsibility of development, both production and export, of cardamom. The amount realised from export cess on black pepper is indicated below:-

1989-90	Rs. 0.75 crores
1990-91	Rs. 0.65 crores
1991-92	Rs. 0.40 crores

Allocation of Fund to Maharashtra from Workers Rehabilitation Fund

2992. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund allocated to Workers Rehabilitation fund by the Government;

(b) the amount allocated out of the Fund to the Textile Mills, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra; and

(c) the amount actually disbursed to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The total fund allocated to workers under Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme is Rs. 40.00 crores (R.E.) during 1991-92, which are placed at the disposal of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay who disburses the amount to the eligible mills/workers.

(c) A Statement is attached.