

[Translation]

Verification of Coal Stock

3647. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether ground stocks of all the mines under Central Coal Fields Limited have been verified during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The ground stocks of all the mines under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) have been verified by measurement during last three years;

(b) The details regarding stock position, year-wise, in CCL are as under :—

Year	Book Stock (M.T.)	Measured Stock (M.T.)	Remarks
As on 31.3.94	11.51	10.95	Within the allowable limit of variation
As on 31.3.95	11.22	4.95	Action initiated for the variation
As on 31.3.96	Measurement of the stock has been completed; auditing is in progress.		

[English]

Reforms in Foreign Exchange Market

3648. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India intends to introduce wide ranging reforms in foreign exchange market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits RBI expects by introducing these reforms; and

(d) by when these reforms are likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) RBI is examining various recommendations on Forex Markets made by the Expert Group. Out of 33 major recommendations of the Expert Group, 10 directly relate to Forex Market Reforms, 3 of which have already been introduced.

The reforms are aimed at adding depth and liquidity to the market.

Income Tax Act

3649. DR. RAMKRISHANA KUSMARIA :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modify the Section 80 HAC of Income Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received representations from the federation of Indian exporters regarding continuation of the said section and its extension on the long term basis; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There is no proposal to modify section 80 HHC. However, by Finance Bill (No. 2) of 1996, it has been proposed to levy a minimum tax on companies. Some corporate exporters may, therefore, have to pay a small tax.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Representations are considered by the Government.

Financial Assistance to Women Cooperatives

3650. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance the financial assistance from Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 1 lakh to Women Cooperatives in the ratio of 25% loan and 25% subsidy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Community Development and Welfare works done by CIL

3651. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of community development and welfare works undertaken by Coal India Limited in the coalfield areas of Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) the amount spent by the CIL thereon during each