Organisation (WTO) ministerial meeting in Singapore to be held in December, 1996;

- (b) whether the Government had made a major move to seek changes in the World Trade Organisation's Trade Related Intellectual Property (TRIPS) agreement defying the pressures from the developed countries especially the United States and the European Union:
 - (c) if so, the details thereof:
- (d) the stand to be taken by India at the Singapore meeting;
- (e) the nature of assistance likely to be given by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to the developing countries with regard to trade issues coming up that the above meeting; and
- (f) the role of the WTO in defining the natural frontiers of a body dealing with international trade?

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

- (b) and (c). India had initiated discussion in the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) of the WTO on access to transfer environmentally sound technologies and products mandated for use under national or international law. In this connection, certain suggestions were made on amending the TRIPS Agreement suitably. This subject will continue to be discussed in the CTE after the Singapore Ministerial Conference.
- (d) India's stand at the Singapore Ministerial Conference is under finalisation.
- (e) From time to time, UNCTAD organises workshops, seminars and meeting to help developing countries in the WTO negotiations. Recently, UNDP/UNCTAD organised a Ministerial Round Table Meeting on "Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development" in Geneva from 30th September to 1st October, 1996.

A high level segment on Foreign Direct Investment and development in a globalising world economy, i.e. "UNCTAD Global Investment Forum" was held as a part of Trade and Development Board 43rd Session on 10th October, 1996.

(f) The scope, functions and structure of the WTO are laid down in Article II, III and IV of the Marakkesh Agreement Establishing the WTO.

Decline in Grant of Bank Loans

- *223 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the total loans sanctioned by the public sector banks and financial institutions during the first

half of the current financial year have declined as compared to the loans sanctioned during the same period in the last financial year:

- (b) if not, the details thereof, and
- (c) the reasons, if any, identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As reported by Reserve Bank of India, the outstanding net non-food bank credit of 27 public sector banks has shown an increase as given below:

(Rs. Crores)

As on last Friday of Non-food bank credit September, 1996 1.89,048 September, 1995 1.67,032

As far as financial/investment institutions are concerned, Industrial Development Bank of India have reported that assistance sanctioned and disbursed by these institutions during April-September 1995 and 1996 was as under:

(Rs. crores)

	• ′	1996 (April- September)	Percentage Change
Sanctions	33,526	23,243	(-) 30.7
Disbursements	15,246	19,696	(+) 29.2

The Industrial Development Bank of India have also reported that the decline in sanctions is mainly due to comparatively lower number of large projects assisted during April-September, 1996 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Committee on Pay Structure for Employees of RRBs

*224. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the RBI has appointed any Committee to examine the present pay structure for the employees of Regional Rural Banks:
- (b) if so, the details of the subjects to be examined by the committee with composition thereof and the time by which it is likely to submit the report;
- (c) whether any interim report has been submitted by the committee; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, at the instance of Government, constituted a

Committee to make recommendations with regard to determination of salaries and allowances of employees of Regional Rural Banks. A copy of the order of the RBI indicating, inter-alia, the composition, terms of reference of and the time frame prescribed for the Committee is enclosed as statement. The Committee has not submitted any report so far.

STATEMENT

Executive Director

Reserve Bank of India Central Office Bombay

ORDER

Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)

In terms of Section 17(1) of the RRBs Act. 1976, the Government of India are required to determine the salaries and allowances payable to the employees of RRBs. Such determination was last carried out in the year 1991 and made effective from 1st September 1987. In view of the many changes which have taken place since then, the Reserve Bank of India hereby appoints a committee with the following members to study and make recommendations in this regard.

(i) Shri S.C. Mahalik Former Secretary Department of Posts Government of India Chairman

(ii) Kum. V. Visvanathan

Former Executive Dire

Former Executive Director Reserve Bank of India

Member

(iii) Shri J.V. Shetty Former Chairman & Managing Director Canara Bank Member

- 2. The terms of reference of the Committee will be as follows:
 - (a) To examine the present structure of emoluments of the employees and suggest changes therein which may be desirable and feasible.
 - (b) To examine the allowances and other benefits that are presently available to the employees and suggest nationalisation and simplification thereof.
 - (c) To examine the desirability and the feasibility of introducing performance linked incentives for the Regional Rural Banks and the nature, scope and structure of such incentives.
 - (d) In making recommendations on the foregoing, the Committee shall apart from

other relevant factors, have regard to the wide differences in parameters like size, level of business, productivity ratios and profitability of the various Regional Rural Banks.

- 3. The Committee will devise its own procedure and may call for such information as it may consider necessary. The Committee may also elicit the views of the employees, the shareholders and such other interested bodies like depositors/borrowers' associations.
- 4. The Committee will make its recommendations in a period of three months from this date.

Mumbai

-Sd-

November 5, 1996

(J.R. Prabhu)

[Translation]

Outstanding dues of CIL

*225. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a huge amount of the Coal India Limited is outstanding against its big consumer institutions;
- (b) if so, the total amount outstanding against them as in March, 1996;
- (c) the amount outstanding against major industries like steel, cement, fertilizers etc. out of the said amount;
- (d) whether disputed amount is also included in the said outstanding amout;
- (e) if so, the amount in dispute out of the total amount outstanding against the said big industries; and
- (f) the reasons for the said disputes and the steps taken to resolve the disputes and realise the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c). As on 31.3.1996, a total of Rs. 2962.26 crores of coal sale dues of Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies were outstanding. The consumer-wise details of the outstanding dues as on that date are given in the enclosed statement-I.

- (d) Yes Sir.
- (e) and (f). A statement showing consumer-wise and reason-wise break-up of disputed dues as on 31.3.1996 is given at statement-II. Coal companies are having constant discusion with the consumers to resolve the disputed dues and realise the same. Umpires have also been appointed for resolving the disputed dues wherever large amounts are outstanding from the Power Utilities.