

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Machinery and transport equipment	584.60	493.98	232.40
21.	Iron and Steel (incl. mfrs.)	55.75	46.43	27.01
22.	Crude Oil	1063.37	1231.09	516.33
Grand Total (incl. other items)		8907.75	9865.30	5120.50

P—Figures are provisional/preliminary and subject to revision.

Source : DGCI and S, Calcutta.

* The export target fixed for the year 1984-85 is Rs. 11,127 crores, and the latest provisional figures for total exports during April-December, 1984 is Rs. 8146.2 crores.

(d) Import and export policy measures are being continuously evolved for increasing India's exports. These include measures for increasing and diversifying the production, making our exports more competitive, finding new markets for our products and processing commodities for higher value realisation. Different instruments of policy available to Government are being utilised for this purpose and adjusted as and when necessary.

Seminar on International Finance

2931. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the conclusions arrived at by the two day Seminar on International Finance, organised recently in Delhi, by the State Bank of India and the State Trading Corporation of India; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken thereon, with particular reference to the role of banks in preventing industrial sickness ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the following conclusions were arrived at the two-day Seminar on 'International Finance' organised recently in Delhi by State Bank of India for the senior executives of the State Trading Corporation of India/(STC) :

1. The inter-actions between the operative levels in State Bank of India and State Trading Corpora-

tion should be at regular and frequent intervals;

2. The State Bank of India as banker to the State Trading Corporation Should arrange detailed discussions on various operative aspects for the benefit of operative levels in State Trading Corporation; and
3. The State Trading Corporation and State Bank of India should jointly explore the feasibility of State Trading Corporation undertaking countertrade activities.

(b) The State Bank of India has further reported that neither industrial sickness nor the role of banks in this regard came up for discussion.

Loans given by Banks to Shipping Industry

2932. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian banks are nursing loans totalling over Rs. 150 crore given to the shipping industry both within the country and abroad;

(b) if so, whether it has been reported that at least half of these are sticky;

(c) whether these banks have provided large funds to shipping companies in India under the ship acquisition from abroad under the new scheme by which the shipping development fund committee guarantees the loans provided by the Reserve Bank to the companies in the acquisition of ships;

(d) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard by the Ministry; and

(e) the action taken against those held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Assistance for acquisition of ships by shipping companies in India from abroad is granted by commercial banks in the country mainly under the scheme known as 'Ship Acquisition From Abroad Under New Scheme' (SAFAUNS). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that it does not have ready information in regard to precise amount of loans given to shipping industry being nursed by Indian Banks. However, as per the information furnished by the Reserve bank of India, upto 31-12-1984, a sum of Rs. 470 crores has been disbursed to 23 shipping companies by the commercial banks in the country under the aforesaid scheme. Due to recessionary trends in the shipping industry as a whole, some of the shipping companies are finding it difficult to adhere to the schedule of repayment of their liabilities to the banks. While no enquiry into all the cases of these loans has been made, whenever any specific allegation is made the same is got looked into.

W.C.L. decision to Boost Coal Production

2934. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a massive effort to boost coal production Western Coalfields Ltd. has decided to invest at least Rs. 1,600 crores for excavation of new coal mines and expansion and upgradation of the existing mines;

(b) whether Western Coalfield Limited has decided to double their annual production capacity from 46 million tonnes in 1984-85 to well over 90 million tonnes by 1989-90; and

(c) if so, whether any assistance and help is being provided by Union Government to achieve this aim ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The Working Group on Coal and Lignite for the 7th Five Year Plan have recommended an investment of over Rs. 1,700 crores during the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-86 to 1989-90) for increasing the coal production of W.C.L. from present level of 46 m.t. (Provisional) in 1984-85 to about 65 million tonnes by 1989-99. Government will provide necessary financial support to the coal company and any other help that may be necessary in achieving the production targets finally fixed by the Government.

Shortage of Steel

2935. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of steel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the exports and imports of steel in the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). For the year 1985-86, the Working Group on Iron and Steel has projected a demand of 11.2 million tonnes of finished steel in the country against an indigenous availability of 9.9 million tonnes. It is normal practice to allow adequate import of various items to meet the needs of the engineering industry and other users.

(c) Steel exports and arrivals of canalised steel imports through SAIL were as under :

Year	Canalised Imports Quantity (in million tonnes)	Canalised Exports Quantity (in million tonnes)
1982-83	1.401	0.011
1983-84	0.656	0.024
1984-85 (Provisional)	0.700	0.153