

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). Irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments. The main reasons for delay include financial constraints, cost escalations, inadequate investigations at the project formulation stage, difficulties in land acquisition and non-availability of building materials at times. The State Governments have been advised to priorities the projects for optimal allocation of available resources and lay stress on completion of ongoing projects. External assistance is also being arranged, wherever possible to step up the resources, and assistance is provided to States for procuring adequate supply of scarce material and equipment.

[*Translation*]

National Housing Bank

3799. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure prescribed for loan seekers for getting loan from the National Housing Bank set up to promote housing activities in the country and the extent to which one can avail loan from the aforesaid bank; and

(b) whether weaker sections are proposed to be given loan by this Bank at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987, the Bank will not directly lend to individuals for housing. It is empowered to extend refinance facilities under specific schemes to be formulated by it to eligible housing finance institutions and scheduled banks against loans granted by latter for housing including those for economically weaker sections of society. The terms and conditions under which loans would be re-

financed would be decided by the National Housing Bank after it is established.

[*English*]

Loans written off by Industrial Finance Corporation of India

3800. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the loans which have been written off by Industrial Finance Corporation of India since the appointment of the present Chairman;

(b) the rent of the office accommodation hired by the Corporation in Calcutta and the expenditure incurred on its furnishing and decoration;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the purchase of a residential flat in Bombay for the use of the Chairman; and

(d) whether Government propose to investigate the purchase and rental value of immovable property acquired by the Corporation during the last three years all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The possibility of certain advances going bad is inherent in the operations of banks and financial institutions. In accordance with the provisions of Section 39(1) of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948, information relating to or to the affairs of its constituents cannot be divulged except in circumstances; in which it is, in accordance with law or practice and usage, customary among bankers, necessary or appropriate for Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) to divulge such information. Information with regard to the particulars of bad and doubtful loans of its constituents which have been written off by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) from time to time cannot, therefore, be divulged as the same relates to affairs of its constituents.

(b) IFCI has reported that the office accommodation was hired in Calcutta @ Rs.15 per sq.ft. It is also reported that existing furniture & fixtures, generating sets and other associated equipments were taken over for Rs. 20 lakhs, on as is where basis, after getting the valuation done by an approved valuer. No further amount has been incurred by the Corporation on the furnishing and decoration of the said premises which were taken over with its fixtures, equipments, etc.

(c) IFCI has reported that no flat has been purchased for the use of its Chairman at Bombay.

(d) The Government have no proposal under its consideration in this behalf.

Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam

3801. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO:
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in setting up Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) the likely date by which the Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam will come into being?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Govt. have agreed in the principle to the location of a possible Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam. The modalities of implementing the possibility have to be worked with reference to the relevant techno-economic considerations. It is not feasible to indicate a time limit in this regard at this stage.

External Debt

3802. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outstanding external debt burden on the country as on 31 March, 1987;

(b) the interest payable on this debt during the year 1987-88;

(c) the break-up of total external debt into public debt, private loan, IMF credit and short term debt; and

(d) the steps proposed to meet this commitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The estimated external indebtedness of the country as on 31.3.87 is Rs.32312 crores in respect of Government loans, Rs.889 crores in respect of Non-Government Loans. In addition India has outstanding repurchase obligations of Rs.4826 crores in respect of IMF borrowings. Approvals of external commercial borrowings and supplier's credit from 1980-81 to 1986-87 amounting to Rs. 10355 crores have been given. However the addition to external debt on this account will be spread over a number of years in future as and when loans are actually drawn/utilised

The estimated amount of interest to be paid during 1987-88 on this debt (i.e. inclusive of the debt on Government and Non-Government Accounts, IMF Borrowings and commercial borrowings) is about Rs.2280 crores. The loans are being repaid according to their terms and conditions.

Alleged Involvement of NTC Officers

3803. DR. DATTA SAMANT:
SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some senior officer of the National Textile Corporation posted in Gujarat were arrested recently for