

1	2	3	4	5
Tripura	2.07	1.67	2.19	1.36
Uttar Pradesh	7.05	7.68	8.40	9.60
West Bengal	5.71	7.60	6.00	12.74
	59.77	62.32	58.22	90.32

Debt Position

2595. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's debt was over \$ 43 billion at the end of 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to reduce the debt position in coming periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The outstanding debt on Government account as on 1.4.1987, converted at the exchange rate prevailing on that day, was Rs. 32312 crores.

(c) The overall external debt position of the country is within manageable limits. The level of country's external indebtedness and the likely burden of the debt servicing are constantly kept in view to ensure that the debt servicing liability remains within prudent limits. The Government have been following a cautious policy of external debt and it has been the policy of the Government of accelerate exports and to ensure efficient import substitution so as to reduce dependence on external debt.

Opening of Branch of State Bank of India in Dilshad Garden, Delhi

2596. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29 April, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 9034 regarding opening of branches of nationalised banks and state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has set up its branch in Dilshad Garden, Delhi for which it had been given licence; and

(b) if not, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy, the opening of branches at Urban and Metropolitan centres, is to be evenly spread over the entire policy period.

National Equity Fund

2597. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review of the National Equity Fund has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the findings of the review; and