

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

(c) the steps taken on the findings of this review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The "National Equity Fund Scheme (NEFS)" which is being operated by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) since August, 1987 was recently reviewed by the Government of India in June, 1988. For the successful implementation of the NEFS and with a view to making it more useful to the entrepreneurs, following modifications have been made by the IDBI, which came into force with effect from July 14, 1988.

- (i) The NEFS will be operated through SBI also in addition to the nationalised banks.
- (ii) State Financial Corporations/twin function Industrial Development Corporations will also be the operating agencies in addition to banks in the North Eastern Region and hilly States of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.
- (iii) The population limit has now been increased from 5 lakhs to 15 lakhs in so far as rehabilitation/revival of Sick SSI/tiny units are concerned so that larger number of sick units could benefit from the assistance out of NEFS. There will, however, be no change in the population limit with regard to setting up of new units.
- (iv) As an incentive to banks to bring

in larger number of cases under the purview of NEFS, the extent of refinance for term loans, to be sanctioned by banks simultaneously with assistance out of NEFS, has been increased from the present level of 75% to 100%.

Export of NTC Cloth to USSR

2598. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the exports of the cloth produced by the National Textiles Corporation mills to USSR and other countries during 1987-88; and

(b) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to increase the exports thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The value of NTC's export of cloth to USSR and other countries during 1987-88 was respectively Rs. 1.38 crores and Rs. 25.11 crores.

(b) Measures taken by NTC for increasing exports include identification of potential markets and establishment of contacts with buyers.

Export of Textiles

2599. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details with value of textile items being exported during the last three years;

(b) whether Government propose to