

to the Robert McNamara Foundation to be set up under the auspices of the World Bank; and

(b) if so, the considerations for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :
(a) and (b). Government have decided to contribute \$ 0.5 million towards the funding of the Robert McNamara Fellowships which are being sponsored by the World Bank. Our contribution is in keeping with India's general policy of associating itself, wherever possible, with causes that promote international cooperation, especially in the field of economic development.

**Amount written off as bad debt
by Financial Institutions**

4407. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the amounts written off as bad debts in the financial institutions like I.F.C., I.D.B.I. and I.C.I.C.I. during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the names of the defaulting parties together with the amounts due from each one of them;

(c) the details of long outstanding amounts from various parties (which are not treated as bad debts); and

(d) what are the steps taken to recover these amounts ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :
(a) and (b). During the last five years the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has not written off any amount as bad debts. The amounts written off as bad debts

by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) during the last five years are as under :

Year (July June)	Amount written off (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of concerns
1976-77	8.00	1
1977-78	—	—
1978-79	77.66	2
1979-80	—	—
1980-81	168.12	4
Total	253.78	7

The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) did not write off any loans as bad debts during the Calendar years 1977, 1978, and 1979. During the Calendar years 1980 and 1981 the ICICI had written off as bad debts loans aggregating Rs. 226.46 lacs to 11 concerns and Rs. 76.85 lacs to 7 concerns respectively.

With a view to safeguard the credit-worthiness of the assisted concerns, their ability to recover and maintain confidence among suppliers and attract good mechanical and managerial personnel, it will not be in the larger public interest to furnish the names of defaulting concerns.

(c) and (d). As at the end June 1981, overdues for period over two years to IDBI under direct loan schemes aggregated to Rs. 39.2 crores in respect of 144 companies. As on the 31st December, 1981, 37 concerns assisted by the IFCI were in default for more than 5 years. The amount in default in respect of these concerns aggregated to Rs. 22.12 crores. Overdues in respect of ICICI for period over two years as at the end of December, 1981 aggregated to Rs. 750 lakhs in respect of 55 companies.

The cases of default are being vigorously pursued and progress is closely monitored and reviewed by the institutions through periodical progress reports, frequent inspections exchange of views at Senior Executive Meetings/Inter-Institutional Meetings, discussions with the managements of the assisted concerns etc. Appropriate action is being taken for the recovery of amount in default as also rehabilitation of affected concerns jointly with other participating institutions/banks. All efforts are being made by the institutions to recover the dues.

House Rent Allowance to Central Government Employees without production of rent receipts

4408. SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering hardships of a section of Central Government employees with a monthly pay of Rs. 751 and above who are not paid House Rent Allowance at the admissible rate of 15 per cent without production of rent receipts ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal ;

(c) whether in view of steep rise in rental value of houses in Delhi and other Metropolitan cities and also merger of Dearness Allowance with basic pay for purpose of grant of HRA and CCA etc. Government are considering to raise the pay limit from Rs. 751 to Rs. 1500 p. m., enabling the affected employees to draw full benefit of H.R.A. ; and

(d) the date by which the decision of Government is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):

(a) to (d). Consequent on the merger of dearness allowance sanctioned upto average index 320 with pay for the purpose of house rent allowance, Government have raised the existing pay ceiling of 750/- p.m. for claiming House Rent Allowance without production of rent receipt/assessment of rental value (of owned house) to Rs. 1065/- p. m. This will result in raising the ceiling limit of HRA admissible without production of rent receipt in A, B-1 and B-2 class cities from Rs. 112.50 p. m. to Rs. 159.75 p.m.

World Bank Aided Agricultural Scheme

4409. SHRI A. NEELALOHIT-HADASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the agricultural schemes, if any, aided by the World Bank; and

(b) the State-wise details and the amount of assistance so far given?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :

(a) and (b). Details of ongoing Agricultural Schemes aided by the World Bank group are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4431/82]

Import of Colour TV Sets at Reduced Duty

4410. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Government proposal to allow Indian residents abroad to send colour TV sets freely to this country