

the number of places where these Exchanges are located is twenty because three stock Exchanges are located in one place viz. Mumbai.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the required information as furnished by SEBI is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) SEBI has indicated that the estimated number of shareholders in the country is approximately thirty million.

(e) SEBI Act 1992 and the Rules and Regulations notified thereunder and the Companies Act, 1956 contain various provisions for protecting the interests of shareholders. The functions of SEBI, inter-alia, relate to taking measures to promote the development of the securities market and investors' education.

(f) to (h). Since SEBI has been endowed with statutory powers for regulating the Stock Exchanges, communications relating to various aspects of their functioning are examined by SEBI and appropriate action is initiated in this regard by it. SEBI is also inspecting the Stock Exchanges once in a year as a part of its efforts to ensure the orderly functioning of the Exchanges and investor protection.

#### STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Stock Exchange	Number of companies listed (As on 1.11.96)	Volume of business as on 1995-96 (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad Share and Stock Brokers Association	3197	8786.36
2.	Bangalore Stock Exchange Ltd.	560	890.12
3.	Bhubaneshwar Stock Exchange Association Ltd.	69	226.18
4.	Calcutta Stock Exchange Association Ltd.	3204	62128.00
5.	Cochin Stock Exchange Ltd.	240	1803.04
6.	Coimbatore Stock Exchange Ltd.	222	2503.55
7.	Delhi Stock Exchange Association Ltd.	3794	10076.53
8.	Gauhati Stock Exchange Ltd.	267	619.53
9.	Hyderabad Stock Exchange Ltd.	817	1285.62
10.	Jaipur Stock Exchange Ltd.	942	1047.76
11.	Ludhiana Stock Exchange Association Ltd.	437	4849.12

1	2	3	4
12.	Share Brokers Association (M.P. Stock Exchange)	357	204.65
13.	Madras Stock Exchange Ltd.	1703	1594.20
14.	Magadh Stock Exchange Ltd.	75	1629.23
15.	The Stock Exchange, Mumbai	5941	50064.16
16.	Mangalore Stock Exchange Ltd.	40	38.66
17.	National Stock Exchange	1455	68141.92
18.	Over the Counter Exchange of India	106	218.39
19.	Pune Stock Exchange Ltd.	271	7071.83
20.	Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange Ltd.	183	564.41
21.	Uttar Pradesh Stock Exchange Association Ltd.	872	12373.00
22.	Vadodara Stock Exchange Ltd.	522	1259.57

#### Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Maharashtra

2128. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide assistance from National Renewal Fund for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the textile mill;

(b) if so, the amount provided to the State Government of Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c). Assistance from the National Renewal Fund is presently restricted to Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings and to schemes for counselling, retraining and redeployment assistance to rationalised workers including those in the textile mills.

#### Loan to State Governments

2129. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan taken by the State Government of Sikkim during the last three years;

(b) whether the loan granted for specific sector/ purpose has been utilised for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total amount of loan released

by the Ministry of Finance to the Government of Sikkim during the last three years is as under :

Years	Amount (Rs. crore)
1993-94	10.99
1994-95	15.98
1995-96	17.59

(b) and (c). As these comprise block loans granted under Central Assistance and share of loans against small savings collections, they are not earmarked for specific purposes.

#### Goods Seized by Customs Authority

2130. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons and cooperative societies in Delhi have been permitted to sell confiscated goods seized by officials of Customs Department;

(b) if so, the names and addresses of such persons and Societies with formalities prescribed for seeking such permission;

(c) whether margins of profit has been fixed for sale of confiscated goods to customers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). Consumer goods seized by Delhi Customs are being sold on becoming ripe for disposal to NCCF. The address of NCCF is as follows:

National Consumer Cooperative Federation of India Limited, Deepali Building, 6th Floor, 92, Nehru Place, New Delhi.

M/s. NCCF are given a discount of 14.5% on the price fixed for the goods.

#### Foreign Debt Liability

2131. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in "the Hindustan Times" dated November 21, 1996 under the caption "Finance Ministry blamed for export slowdown" in the context of foreign debt liability of U.S. Dollars 100 billion on the Indian Government which have to be paid in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy to develop close coordination between the concerned ministries to boost the exports on war footing; and

(c) if not, the reaction of the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) the news item referred to does not reflect the factual position since the Finance Ministry has not been blamed as mentioned therein.

The total external debt outstanding of the country has declined from US\$ 99.04 billion as on March 31, 1995 to US\$ 92.66 billion for the period ending March, 31, 1996. Moreover the debt service ratio has also declined from the peak of 35.25% during 1990-91 to a more manageable level of 25.54% during 1995-96.

(b) and (c). Export promotion is a continuous process. This includes inter alia, close inter-action with the concerned Ministries/Departments so as to provide the congenial environment for sustained increase in exports.

#### Trade Fairs Organised by ITPO

2132. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the national and international trade fairs sponsored, organised and hosted by the India Trade Promotion Organisation during 1995-96;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the establishment and maintenance of the Pragati Maidan during 1995-96;

(c) the total income likely to be generated by ITPO by way of organising the trade fairs during the current year.

(d) whether the ITPO has leased out the space permanently for non-promotional purposes to various parties at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details of the area with its units rent, party-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) During 1995-96 ITPO held 17 exhibitions in India which are Consumexh, Sajavat, Delhi Book Fairs, Intl. Shoe Fair, Shoe Comp. Prakash India, India International Trade and Gramawas '95 Fair, International Security Exhn., Tex-India, National Children Fair, SAARC Fair, Print Pack India, AHARA'96, National Consumex Fair, India International Leather Fair, Tex-styles India, and International Leather Goods Fair.

23 Fairs were held by third parties. They are : 1st Delhi Tourism and Travel Show, CYMO India '95, Indian Garment Fair '95, BREW BEV India '95, Korea Trade Show'95, Broadcast, Cable and Satellite, India Intl. Power Generation and Energy Exhibition and Congress, Oil and Gas Petrochem Show and Congress, 1st India Built Intl. Building Construction Material Show'95, Communication India'95, IT ASIA'95, PAPEREX'95,