

Fifth Pay Commission

600. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the wide-spread resentment existing among various sections of Central Government employees due to the unbalanced Pay Commission report; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Some Associations and Unions of Central Government employees have represented to the Government against certain recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. The Government after careful consideration of the recommendations of the Commission in consultation with staff side have accepted the Report with some Modification and implemented the same vide Notification No. G.S.R. 569(E) dated 30.9.97. The Government has also constituted Anomalies Committees to look into specific anomalies.

Technology Development fund for SSIs

601. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Technology Development Fund has been set up for the small scale industries;

(b) if so, the amount of loan and other assistance proposed to be sanctioned to the small scale industries for their establishment, expansion and revival from that fund;

(c) the norms prescribed for the purpose; and

(d) the details of State where the Small Scale Industries have availed loan out of that fund so far?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Technology Development and Modernisation Fund has been set up during 1995-96 by SIDBI for the small scale industry.

(b) An amount of Rs. 200 crore has been earmarked by SIDBI from its own resources for the purpose. The amount of loan to a small scale industries depends on the project cost and other parameters and is decided on a case to case basis. SIDBI provides direct assistance under the scheme as well as through primary lending institutions by way of refinance.

(c) The prescribed norms are as follows:

(i) The SSI units should be in operation at least for a period of three years and the project should result in modernisation/technology upgradation.

(ii) The unit should not be in default to institutions or banks.

(d) The details of States where the small scale industries have availed loan out of that fund as on 31.3.1998 are:

State /UT	Amount sanctioned* (Rs in crore)	Amount disbursed* (Rs in crore)
Andhra Pradesh	2.49	1.38
Delhi	15.36	0.36
Gujarat	8.29	5.26
Haryana	6.08	1.52
Kerala	4.01	1.51
Karnataka	3.26	2.31
Maharashtra	14.00	5.30
Madhya Pradesh	1.27	1.27
Orissa	0.80	0.0
Pondicherry	0.30	0.12
Punjab	3.63	1.91
Rajasthan	2.59	0.0
Tamil Nadu	24.11	12.49
Uttar pradesh	1.82	1.16
West Bengal	0.64	0.56
Goa	0.42	0.0
Total	89.07	35.15

* Figures Provisional.

Panel for Import restrictions

602. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has again requested the World Trade Organisation to set up a panel to look into India's import restrictions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the first request made by the US in October this year was turned down;

(d) if so, the grounds on which rejected ; and

(e) the decision taken on the second request by the Dispute Settlement Body?