

(d) Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of textile items, on a regular basis, such as encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc. Recently, the Government have announced specific measures for boosting cotton yarn exports which include delinking of cotton yarn exports from hank yarn obligation; greater operational flexibility to 100% EOUs producing cotton yarn by way of relaxation of count/domestic cotton use restrictions etc.

(e) and (f) The exports of certain textile and garment products to the European Union (E.U.) are regulated under the provisions of the MoU on market access for textile products signed with the E.U. on 31-12-94. The MoU and the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) envisage annual growth in the export quota levels. As per the ATC, all restrictions under the Agreement would be eliminated with effect from January 1, 2005.

There has not been any specific agreement on exports of textiles signed by India with the Gulf and African countries.

[Translation]

Indian Brand Equity Fund

2134. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for giving special import licences for Indian brand Equity Fund for popularising Indian brands in international markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a national Export Council for making Indian products competitive;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Amount Owed by CIL

2135. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued instructions to the State Governments regarding supply of coal on immediate payment basis i.e. "cash and carry system";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount at present owed by Coal India Limited, State-wise;

(d) the reaction of the States thereto;

(e) whether Coal India owes any amount against private companies;

(f) if so, the names of such companies; and

(g) the time by which outstanding dues are likely to be realised by Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued to all State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities and also to the concerned State Governments to strictly follow the payment terms as agreed between CIL and the Council of Power Utilities from 1.11.98. These provide for advance payment equivalent to 90% of the value of the coal plus 100% of royalty and transportation charges etc. and statutory levies, pending opening of IRLC to cover linked quantity of coal for 10 days. The balance 10% of the value of coal supply will be settled in a period of one month based on the results of joint sampling. The advance payment is required to be made at an interval of 10 days for 1/3rd of the monthly linked quantity.

(c) SEB's-wise and Power Utility-wise dues to CIL as on 31.10.98 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Except one State Government there has been no reaction from other State Governments. However, SEB's has cut down the off-take of coal.

(e) and (f) The dues of CIL from private companies are as under:

| Name of the Consumer | Amount (Rs. in crores) (Provisional) |
|---|---|
| Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation | 27.56 |
| Ahmedabad Electricity Company | 30.46 |
| Tata Hydro | 0.01 |
| Renusagar Power Corpn. | 0.11 |
| Tata Iron & Steel Company | 2.86 |
| Others | 26.69 |
| Total | 87.69 |

(g) The time by which the outstanding dues will be realized can not be correctly specified.

Statement*SEB's/PU's-wise Outstanding Dues as on 31.10.98*(Rs. in Crores)
(Data Provisional)

| SEB's/PU's | Disputed | Undisputed | Total |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| BSEB | 61.53 | 268.93 | 330.46 |
| UPSEB | 48.25 | 458.37 | 506.62 |
| PSEB | 202.76 | 64.75 | 267.51 |
| TNEB | 93.21 | 176.73 | 269.94 |
| HSEB | 23.54 | 102.68 | 126.22 |
| 'RSEB | 7.32 | 80.38 | 87.70 |
| MSEB | 437.62 | 248.26 | 685.88 |
| MPEB | 41.89 | 425.43 | 467.32 |
| GEB | 27.94 | 470.52 | 498.46 |
| WBSEB WBPDC | | | |
| DPL | 198.93 | 216.69 | 415.62 |
| APEB | 4.44 | 2.32 | 6.76 |
| ASEB | | 0.29 | 0.29 |
| KPCL | 6.41 | 39.44 | 45.85 |
| DVC | 96.84 | (-)12.21 | 84.63 |
| DVB | 19.05 | 11.99 | 31.04 |
| BTPS | 273.29 | 274.29 | 547.58 |
| NTPC | 89.58 | 106.81 | 196.39 |
| CESEC | 1.19 | 30.53 | 31.72 |
| AEC | 18.22 | 18.57 | 36.79 |
| BSES | 0.03 | 1.14 | 1.17 |
| OTHERS | 0.22 | 19.12 | 19.34 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1652.26 | 3005.03 | 4657.29 |

Plan to Eco-Tourism

2136. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up a comprehensive plan in coordination with other relevant departments to formulate eco-tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the departments which are coordinating; and

(c) the guidelines evolved with special reference to health care and animal behaviour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has formulated the Policy and Guidelines for Eco Tourism in India in 1998. The guidelines have been formulated after detailed consultations with the Travel Trade, Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board, State Governments and experts in Eco Tourism. The guidelines aim to preserve, retain and enrich our natural resources. It includes operational guidelines for the Government, developers and providers of eco tourism, the visitors, the host population and non governmental organisations.

*(Translation)***Loans by NABARD in Bihar for Roads and Bridges**

2137. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD provides financial assistance for construction of roads and bridges;

(b) if so, the provisions and terms and conditions adopted by NABARD regarding construction of roads and bridges;

(c) the amount provided for this purpose to Bihar during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government of Bihar have sought any financial assistance from NABARD for renovat on of link roads for tourist centres in the States;

(e) If so, the details of the amount sought by the State Government and the number of the tourist centres for which these funds will be utilised; and

(f) the number of roads and bridges being constructed in Shekपुरa, Lakhi Sarai, Begu Sarai and Jamui districts of Bihar with the assistance of NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides financial assistance to State Governments under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for construction of roads and bridges. The loans are provided for a maximum period of 5 years including 2 years grace period at an interest rate of 12% per annum.

(c) and (d) NABARD has reported that the Government of Bihar has not availed any assistance for the purpose for the last three years. No such proposals have been received by NABARD from the State Government of Bihar. NABARD has further reported that no roads or bridges are being constructed in Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Begusarai and Jamui districts of Bihar with the assistance of NABARD.