

(b) if so, the names of such contractors;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the said contractors are raising coal from some coalmines of ECL which have been left by the company without permission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the losses incurred by the company as a result thereof; and

(f) the action being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise in view of reply given to (a) above.

Data on Industrial Production

602. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has not produced quality datas on industrial production;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any discrepancies in the datas on industrial production compiled by Central Statistical Organisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is required to furnish information on monthly production in respect of 213 item Groups to the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) as input for compilation of the Index of Industrial production within a time frame of four weeks. This is done as per the methodology agreed between the CSO and the Department.

(c) and (d) CSO has confirmed that in the compilation of the Index of Industrial production there has been no discrepancy in the data utilised by CSO.

(e) There is a continuing effort for improvement in the methodology for compilation of the Index of Industrial production and also for increasing the coverage and response of the industrial units for reporting the data.

Assistance to Assam by Financial Institutions

603. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1539, dated June 5, 1998 regarding assistance by Public Sector Financial Institutions to Assam and state:

(a) whether the information sought for has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

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) The information is given in the attached statement.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) As per information provided by IDBI/NABARD, the details of financial assistance given by All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs)* and NABARD to Assam during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	DISBURSEMENT		
	AIFIs	NABARD	Total
1995-96	121.40	44.46	165.86
1996-97	242.12	65.53	307.65
1997-98	88.09	81.33	169.42

(b) The decision to locate an industrial enterprise rests with the businessman/company. They take into account various factors like infrastructure facilities available before deciding to set up a project. The financial institutions are there to help them financially. The All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs), as their usual strategy of business promotion, make all possible efforts to increase financial assistance to various States including Assam. However, the flow of financial assistance depend upon the flow of credit worthy applications received from any State. As per the information furnished by the IDBI, the financial assistance given to Assam appears favourable with other similarly placed States.

(c) Most of the financial institutions including IDBI have their full fledged offices in Assam which have been catering to the financial needs of entrepreneurs in the State. SIDBI has been taking care of needs of small scale industries. NEDFI has been set up exclusively for the economic and industrial development of North Eastern Region. State financial corporation have been providing financial assistance to medium and small industrial units in the State. NABARD has reported that the credit facilities to agricultural sector has been liberalised.

* AIFIs include: IDBI, Industrial Financial Corporation of India Ltd., Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI), Small Industries Development Bank of India, Industrial Investment Bank of India, SCICI Ltd. (since merged with ICICI), Risk Capital & Technology Finance Corporation Ltd., Technology Development & Information Company of India Ltd., Life Insurance Corporation of India, Unit Trust of India and General Insurance Corporation of India.

Provident Fund

604. SHRIMATI BHAVANA KARDAM DAVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether deduction of Provident Fund vary from employees strength in an establishment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Deduction of Provident Fund does not vary with reference to the employees strength in an establishment.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Surplus Land of Bokaro

605. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land of Bokaro Steel Plant lying surplus;

(b) whether the said land is being encroached;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government propose to return this land to the State Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Land for setting up the Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) was acquired as per the Project Report and its major portion has been utilized for the Plant, township and other facilities; the remaining land would be utilized in due course.

(b) and (c) At times there is encroachment on the land. In pursuance of the directive of the Hon'ble High Court Patna, permanent encroachments on the BSL's land have been removed with the help of the District Administration and periodic dozing is also being carried out. However, there are, at times, encroachments of mobile & temporary nature, for which it is difficult to maintain records.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Steel Production

606. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the steel production in the country from Fifth Five Year Plan to Eighth Five Year Plan, Plan-wise;

(b) the per capita availability of steel in each Plan; and

(c) the demand supply gap in each Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) The