

Government have taken following steps to improve the profitability of steel industry and to overcome the press problems :

- (i) To boost the demand and consumption of steel, the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel (DCI&S) has launched a National Campaign.
- (ii) To reduce input costs for steel making, the special import duty on several inputs such as coking coal (ash content<12%), non-coking coal (ash content<12%), metallurgical coke, ferro nickel, charge nickel and nickel oxide sinters, low silica limestone and graphite electrodes>28") has already been waived.
- (iii) Anti-dumping duty on Hot rolled coils imported from Ukraine and Russia has been imposed.
- (iv) Rationalization of Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) rates for steel exports have been carried out to boost exports.
- (v) A Steel Exporters Forum has been set up to help steel exporters overcome bottlenecks in exports.
- (vi) Enhanced project financing to steel sector by All India Financial Institutions and relaxation of ECB norms have been recommended.
- (vii) Government has set up an Empowered Committee to examine and assist specific Research and Development projects to improve technology for steel making and enhance quality of Indian Steel.

With a view to assist RINL become financial available, the Government approved a financial restructuring of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited in May, 1998 and further directed to prepare a comprehensive revival plan. The revival plan presently under inter-ministerial consideration.

(e) and (f) To meet the part requirement of coal, Ministry of Coal, Government of India offered four Coking Coal Blocks namely Parbatpur, Mahal, Bitanala & Tasra in Jharia coalfield in Bihar in October, 1995 for development by SAIL for its captive. Out of the four blocks, only Tasra Block was found techno-economically viable.

SAIL has engaged Centre for Mines Planning Design India Limited (CMPDIL), CIL for preparation of feasibility report of Tasra Block, which is under preparation.

Foreign Loans

2561. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives for which the Government took loans from the World Bank/International agencies/other foreign countries during the 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, till date;

(b) the total loans obtained from World Bank, International agencies and other foreign countries, separately, during the above period;

(c) the works on which the amount of loans was utilised alongwith details thereof;

(d) the amount of interest paid to above agencies/countries on the aforesaid loans during the above period, year-wise; and

(e) the number of instalments in which this loan likely to be repaid?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) In general, the Government took loans from the World Bank/International agencies/other foreign countries during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 with the objective of assisting developmental projects in sectors like Agriculture and Rural Development, Coal, Power, Industry and Finance, Environment and Forests, Railways, Roads, Ports, Irrigation, Social Sector and Urban Development.

(b) The information is given in the attached Statement - I.

(c) The projects for which the amounts of loan was utilized are given in the attached Statement II for 1997-98 and 1998-99. For 1996-97, the information is available in the External Assistance Brochure, a copy of which is available in the library of the House.

(d) The information is given in the attached Statement-III.

(e) The repayment of loans received from various donors are made as per the amortization schedule of the loan agreements. The terms of repayment vary from donor to donor.

Statement I

Source-Wise Details of Utilisation of Foreign Loans during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99
(Only Govt. Account)

(Rs. in crores)				
Sl. No.	Name of the Country/Institution	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (upto Jan 1999)
1	2	3	4	5
MULTILATERAL				
1.	A.D.B.	1772.08	741.1	1112.56
2.	I.B.R.D.	1681.15	1279.91	543.8

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
3.	I.D.A.	3379.61	3063.67	1944.8	10.	Japan	1613.33	2004.22	1666.76
4.	I.F.A.D	48.42	59.8	32.91	11.	Kuwait Fund	22.24	8.97	2.69
5.	O.P.E.C.	2.41	11.12	13.16	12.	Netherlands	0	0	77.55
TOTAL		6883.67	5155.6	3647.23	13.	Saudi Fund	25.95	4.88	6.65
BILATERAL									
6.	Australia	1.85	3.94	0.84	14.	Sweden	108.85	0	0
7.	Denmark	0	14.23	0	15.	Switzerland	4.09	0	0
8.	France	127.99	209.22	30.78	Total		2082.8	2421.49	1932.19
9.	Germany	178.5	176.03	146.92	Grand Total		8966.47	7577.09	5579.42

Statement II

Donor-Wise Details of Loans Utilised during 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto 31.1.1999)

(Provisional)
(Donor Currency in million)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Date of Agreement	Loan Amount	Unutilised Balance
1	2	3	4	5
IBRD (US Dollars)				
1.	National Agriculture Tech. Project	22.6.98	96.80	96.80
2.	U.P. Diversified Agri. Support Project	30.7.98	79.90	79.90
3.	Haryana Power Restructuring Project	16.1.98	60.00	45.91
4.	AP State Highway Project	30.7.97	350.0	327.32
5.	Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project	19.3.98	515.00	500.00
6.	Advance for Perp. of A.P. Power Sector	24.12.97	2.00	2.00
IDA (US DOLLARS)				
1.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency Cyclone	9.7.97	100.00	75.87
2.	National Agriculture Technology Project	22.6.98	100.00	100.00
3.	U.P. Diversified Agri. Support Project	30.7.98	50.00	45.81
4.	Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project	30.12.97	52.94	46.95
5.	Kerala Forestry project	13.8.98	39.00	36.01
6.	Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project	19.3.98	2.00	2.00
7.	AP Irrigation - III	3.6.97	150.00	86.85
8.	Reproductive & Child Health Project	30.7.97	248.30	237.84
9.	DPEP-III	23.2.98	152.00	146.26
10.	U.P. Basic Education - II	3.3.98	59.40	43.72
11.	Orissa Health Systems Dev. project	13.8.98	75.35	75.35

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Rural Women's Development Project	14.9.98	19.50	19.50
13.	Kerala Forestry Project	23.12.97	0.56	0.22
GERMANY (DEUTSCHE MARK)				
1.	Modernisation of Signalling System	1.8.97	185.00	185.00
2.	Fertilizer Sector Project-VI	10.11.97	70.00	35.37
FRANCE (FRENCH FRANC)				
1.	Mixed Project (Financial Protocol attached)	25.1.98	125.00	125.00
JAPAN (JAPANESE YEN)				
1.	Simhadri & Vizag Trans. System	12.12.97	10629.00	10629.00
2.	Srisailam Left Bank Power Station Project	12.12.97	14499.00	12626.40
3.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station II	12.12.97	34151.00	26887.00
4.	Punjab Afforestation Project	12.12.97	6193.00	5899.30
5.	Madhya Pradesh Sericulture Project	12.12.97	2212.00	2161.20
6.	Manipur Sericulture Project	12.12.97	3962.00	3841.10
7.	Rengali Irrigation Project	12.12.97	7760.00	7110.30
NETHERLAND (DUTCH GUILDER)				
1.	ORET PROJECT for Gujarat Health Care	27.11.97	59.74	24.39
OPEC (US DOLLAR)				
1.	Shimla Sewerage Project	21.8.97	10.00	9.90

Statement III

Source-Wise Details of Payment of Interest paid during
1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto Jan. 1999)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country/Institution	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (upto Jan 1999)
1	2	3	4	5
MULTILATERAL				
1.	A.D.B.	409.61	465.03	442.07
2.	I.B.R.D.	1950.36	1759.07	1426.59
3.	I.D.A.	465.21	482.52	451.86
4.	I.F.A.D.	8.6	7.43	8.46
5.	O.P.E.C.	2.2	1.69	1.72
TOTAL		2835.98	2715.74	2330.7
BILATERAL				
6.	Austria	4.02	3.57	3.87

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Belgium	1.37	1.12	1.29
8.	Canada	0.02	0.02	0.01
9.	Reps. of Czech & Slovak	0.91	0.08	0.37
10.	Denmark	0.03	0.71	0
11.	E.E.C. (SAC)	1.17	1.07	0.79
12.	France	152.41	131.81	141.89
13.	Germany	206.71	175.87	171.98
14.	Italy	12.51	12.08	12.82
15.	Japan	703.09	703.58	655.93
16.	Kuwait Fund	16.11	15.41	9.58
17.	Netherlands	67.47	59.4	33.2
18.	Saudi Fund	4.11	3.07	2.66
19.	Spain	3.23	3.32	4.79

1	2	3	4	5
20. Sweden		2.06	1.71	1.91
21. Switzerland		14.45	11.83	11.02
22. USA		176.53	175.09	147.58
23. Russian Federation		20.6	94.14	0.19
24. Australia		0.63	0.66	0.79
Total		1387.43	1395.26	1200.67
Grand Total		4223.4	4111	3531.37

Note The above figures include Commitment charges

Licence to Polyester Staple Fibre

2562. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the companies to which the licence have been issued by the Government for producing polyester staple Fibre (PSF) and (PFY);

(b) the total production and demand of PSF and PSY during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Government propose to import PSF to meet the domestic demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) With the initiation of liberalisation, Petrochemicals industry has been gradually delicensed. The current situation is that most of the products including PFY & PSF are not under compulsory licensing for setting up manufacturing facilities. A statement giving names of manufacturers of PFY & PSF is attached.

(b) Domestic production of PFY & PSF during 1998-99 is estimated at 7 lakhs and 5 lakhs MT respectively which is by and large expected to meet the domestic demand.

(c) and (d) Import of PSF is under OGL. Imports of PSF is dependent upon attractiveness of price and other commercial terms offered by overseas suppliers.

Statement

List of Manufactures of PFY and PSF

Sl.No.	Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY)
1	2
1.	Baroda Rayon Corpn. Ltd.
2.	Century Enka Ltd.

1	2
3.	DCL Polyesters Ltd.
4.	Garware Nylons Ltd.
5.	Haryana Petrochemicals Ltd.
6.	Jindal Polyester & Steel Ltd.
7.	Indian Organics Chemicals Ltd.
8.	J K Synthetics Ltd.
9.	Modipon Ltd.
10.	Nirlon Ltd.
11.	Orkay Polyesters Ltd.
12.	Sanghi Polyesters Ltd.
13.	Petrofils Coop. Ltd.
14.	Reliance Ind. Ltd. (Patalganga)
15.	Reliance Ind. Ltd. (Hazira)
16.	Ester (I) Ltd.
17.	Shree Synthetics Ltd.
18.	JCT Ltd.
19.	Raymond Synthetics Lt.d
20.	Orissa Synthetics Ltd.
21.	Rajshree Polyesters Ltd.
22.	Prag Bosimi Synthetics Ltd.
23.	Parasrampur Ind. Ltd.

Sl.No. Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF)

1.	Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochem. Ltd.
2.	Terene Fibre India Ltd.
3.	India Polyfibres Ltd.
4.	Indian Organic Chemicals Ltd.
5.	JCT Fibres Ltd.
6.	J K Synthetics Ltd.
7.	Orissa Synthetics Ltd.
8.	Reliance Ind. Ltd. (Patalganga)
9.	Reliance Ind. Ltd. (Hazira)
10.	Swadeshi Polytex Ltd.
11.	Indo Rama Synth. (I) Ltd.

Development of Gems and Jewellery Industry

2563. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :