

FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)  
(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c)  
Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table  
of the House.

[English]

#### Rashtriya Ispat Nigam

2620. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the  
Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of  
the Government for restructuring of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam  
(RINL);

(b) whether the restructuring plan for Hindustan  
Steel Construction Ltd. (HSCL) was also under the  
consideration of the Government; and

(c) if so, the time by which the restructuring work  
of RINL and HSCL is likely to be started/completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF  
STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Yes,  
Sir. The proposals for revival/restructuring of Rashtriya  
Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and Hindustan Steelworks  
Construction Ltd. (HSCL) are presently under the active  
consideration of Government. Efforts are being made to  
arrive at an early conclusion.

#### Reduction in the Strength of Employees of Coal Companies

2621. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH : Will the  
Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to reduce  
the strength of employees of various coal companies  
particularly Eastern Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF  
COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) As per the Memorandum  
of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry, Coal India  
Limited has planned to reduce its overall manpower by  
about 10,000 every year during 1998-99 and 1999-2000  
by way of natural wastage and Voluntary Retirement  
Scheme (VRS) particularly in the Eastern Coalfields and  
the Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

(b) Target of reduction of strength of employees in  
Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and Bharat Coking Coal  
Limited (BCCL) under VRS during 98-99 and 1999-2000  
are as under :-

	1998-99	1999-2000
ECL	3,800	3,300
BCCL	3,800	3,300

(c) To reduce surplus workers and to increase the  
productivity (Output per manshift) resulting in reduced cost  
of production.

#### Report on TCIL and IRP Division by IDBI

2622. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India  
(IDBI) was asked to submit separate viability reports for  
Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL) and Industrial  
Rubber Product (IRP) division by the end of September,  
1998;

(b) if so, whether the IDBI has submitted the report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the decision taken by the Government thereon;  
and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in submission of the  
report and the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF  
INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) to (e)  
BIFR, a quasi-judicial body, in its hearing held on 24.6.98  
directed the Operating Agency - Industrial Development  
Bank of India (DIBI) to formulate a Draft Rehabilitation  
Scheme (DRS) for Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL)  
incorporating separate schemes for both the Kankinara  
(Tyre) and Tangra (IRP) Units taking the cut-off date as  
30.9.98. IDBI has not yet submitted the Report to BIFR.

#### Central Loan

2623. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total loan sanctioned by the Government to  
the States since 1996;

(b) the total loan waived off since 1998, State-wise.

(c) the total loan terrorism hit States owe to the  
Union Government;

(d) whether the Government propose to waive  
complete loan granted to the States hit by the terrorism;  
and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is attached as Statement-I.

(c) Loans outstanding against the States as on 31.3.98 are given in the statement attached as

Statement-II; all States are covered in the said statement.

(d) and (e) The Eleventh Finance Commission has begun its work and it is the prerogative of the Commission to make recommendations regarding debt relief to be given to the various States.

#### Statement-I

*The details of Central Loans sanctioned to the State Governments from the Ministry of Finance and the loans waived off since 1998*

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State	Total Loan Sanctioned to the State Govts. during			Loan waived off During 1998-99	
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 upto 28.2.99	Specific Debt. Relief	General Relief
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	126794	196565	203962	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4193	4531	5095	5.92	28.00
3.	Assam	43411	32544	26553	129.28	194.00
4.	Bihar	132470	178945	242417	324.24	1146.08
5.	Goa	7005	9074	11152	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	153363	206981	295314	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	49722	80034	85929	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	33021	70938	35227	89.65	43.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	46142	37905	40520	61.60	703.86
10.	Karnataka	98658	111256	143008	0.00	558.64
11.	Kerala	53300	56375	74498	0.00	276.64
12.	Madhya Pradesh	98514	142135	166771	0.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	297851	382783	400749	0.00	0.00
14.	Manipur	3483	6597	3933	7.12	14.00
15.	Meghalaya	2710	3693	4085	11.55	70.69
16.	Mizoram	2829	3125	3154	7.59	14.00
17.	Nagaland	3296	3417	4047	9.87	24.00
18.	Orissa	63797	108348	106381	130.38	381.00
19.	Punjab	144179	138221	154797	0.00	34124.48
20.	Rajasthan	112021	137618	175262	0.00	0.00
21.	Sikkim	2320	2570	3059	5.61	12.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	127159	136408	135587	0.00	1658.99
23.	Tripura	5074	8186	10653	25.19	109.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	298598	399255	528952	837.10	1522.00
25.	West Bengal	247664	360922	496130	0.00	0.00
Total		2157574	2818426	3357235	1645.10	40880.70

**Statement-II**

The details of Loans owed by State Governments to the Government of India (Ministry of Finance) as on 31.3.98

(Rs. in Crores)		
S.No.	State	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11908.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	265.63
3.	Assam	3777.81
4.	Bihar	10836.81
5.	Goa	860.88
6.	Gujarat	11517.43
7.	Haryana	4093.22
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2322.51
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3063.38
10.	Karnataka	7576.73
11.	Kerala	4929.11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7515.37
13.	Maharashtra	19039.95
14.	Manipur	261.24
15.	Meghalaya	260.30
16.	Mizoram	174.92
17.	Nagaland	271.58
18.	Orissa	5546.66
19.	Punjab	11577.00
20.	Rajasthan	8108.28
21.	Sikkim	155.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	9427.39
23.	Tripura	419.35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	24246.84
25.	West Bengal	16400.18
Total		164556.35

**Reforms in State Financial Corporations**

2624. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up a Committee under the Industrial Development Bank of India to recommend reforms in the State Financial Corporations (SFC);

(b) if so, the salient features and objects of the proposed Committee; and

(c) the specific problems faced by the State Financial Corporations which are in dire need of recapitalisation besides financial and managerial restructuring ?

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) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[Translation]

**Sales Tax on Potatoes and Onions**

2625. SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for charging Sales Tax on Potatoes and Onions in Bihar only while it is not charged in any other State in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to abolish such Sales Tax in the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (c) Sir, Sales tax is a State subject as per Entry 54 of the List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The State Government of Bihar exercises its constitutional powers to levy sales tax on commodities accordingly. Hence the decision regarding levy or abolition of Sales Tax