

All the above mentioned proposals, except one of 1995-96 relating to renovation of an emporia, have been approved.

(c) and (d). For overall development and promotion of handicrafts in the country, including the State of Delhi, the schemes which are being implemented include: training; marketing development support; organisation of marketing programme; design development; setting up of craft development centres and setting up/renovation of emporia.

In addition to above schemes, a permanent "Dilli Haat" has been set up near INA Market, Delhi with a view to providing marketing outlet for the artisans of Delhi and other States. Similarly, the Central Cottage Industries Corporation Ltd. (CCIC) and Handicrafts and Handloom Exports Corporation Ltd. (HHEC) have set up their showrooms in Delhi for marketing of handicrafts of Delhi and of other States. Delhi has also its emporia for sale of handicrafts.

(e) The amount sanctioned for promotion of handicrafts in Delhi under various schemes of the Government during the last three years and the current financial year is as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
S.No.	Year	Amount Sanctioned
1.	1993-94	65.69
2.	1994-95	101.75
3.	1995-96	173.24
4.	1996-97	29.93
		(till 20.11.96)

#### Limit of Admissible Deduction in Income Tax

434. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present limit of admissible deduction of Rs.1500/- on account of maintenance of minor children is inadequate;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to raise this ceiling in view of the high expenditure on education of children.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The exemption of Rs. 1500 provided under clause (32) of section 10 of the Income-Tax Act is not on account of maintenance of a minor child. Therefor, the question of its adequacy or otherwise does not arise. No proposal to raise the exemption limit is under consideration of the Government.

#### Garments Export Policy

435. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reintroduced the non-quota exporters entitlement scheme and has earmarked a separate category for new investors for 1997-99; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In the new Garment Export Entitlement Policy (Quota Policy) 1997-99, the Government have reintroduced the Non-Quota Exporters Entitlement System with an allocation of five percent of the annual level. It would be an additional benefit to the non-quota exporters and it is likely to encourage them to export more non-quota items. For new investors, a separate system has also been earmarked in the new Policy with a 10% of annual level.

#### Winding Up of BIFR

436. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have mooted a proposal to wind up the functioning of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to adopt any other alternative to BIFR to save the sick PSUs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Government have initiated a total review of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) and the working of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with the intention to bring a new Bill in the Parliament.

#### Export Made by Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone

437. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of units and their production capacity which have been allotted land in Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone;

(b) the value of exports made by these units during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of units, if any, declared sick before they could start commercial production; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the exports from V.E.P.Z.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) (a) and (b) 13 Industrial units have been allotted land/built up space in Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone (VEPZ). Units are approved and allotted land and built up space in Export Processing Zones keeping in view factors like level of exports, and value addition projected. The units which have been allotted space broadly fall under the product groups of computer systems and fax paper rolls, ready made garments, pharmaceutical products, plastic goods, automobile wheels, beer etc. Exports from the Zone have commenced only in 1994-95. The value of exports made from VEPZ during 1994-95 and 1995-96 were of the order of Rs 40 lakhs and Rs 89 lakhs respectively.

(c) No units has been declared sick before commencement of commercial production.

(d) Steps taken to increase exports from Export Processing Zones include broadening of the area of activity to include trading re-export after re-packing/labeling, repairs, re-conditioning and re-engineering, higher access to the domestic market, flexible value addition norms and simplification of custom procedures. In addition, the Zone administration are also making efforts to attract industrial projects into the Zone through suitable publicity measures, addressing Indian Missions abroad, conducting Seminars with entrepreneurs, Chambers of Commerce etc.

#### HMT Expansion

438 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the Hindustan Machine Tools propose to expand its units.

(b) whether it also proposes to revive the units which have fallen sick.

(c) whether there is a need for introducing of modern technology in the HMT Units, and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) HMT has taken steps to modernise its operations and improve the functioning of its weaker

units. The steps taken include locating joint venture partners for technology transfer, financial investments and modernisation etc.

#### Dues against State Electricity Boards

439 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Coal India Limited continues to face a financial crunch following failure of the State Electricity Boards to pay the coal bills.

(b) if so, the details of the dues outstanding against each SEB as on July 31, 1996, and

(c) the steps taken by the CIL to realise its dues outstanding against SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of dues outstanding against each State Electricity Board as on 31st July 1996 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government/Coal India Limited to recover the outstanding dues from State Electricity Boards:

(i) Coal India Limited have been advised to supply coal to power utilities only against advance payment or Letter of Credit Cash and Carry Scheme has been implemented with greater rigour since 1st June, 1995.

(ii) Recovery of dues by way of adjustment against energy bills is also being done in respect of DVC, BSEB, UPSEB, MSEB and WBSEB.

(iii) State Governments have been requested to persuade/enable SEBs to clear their outstanding dues at the earliest.

(iv) Recovery from Plan Assistance to NCT, Delhi towards dues to CIL and the Railways outstanding against BTSPS was made in 1995-96. This is being continued for 1996-97.

(v) Umpires have been appointed for resolving the disputed dues between coal companies and State Electricity Boards.

#### STATEMENT

Coal sale dues of CIL against SEBs/Power Utilities as on 31.7.96

(Rs. in crores)

Name of SEBs/	Disputed	Undisputed	Total
1	2	3	4
1. Bihar State Electricity Board	21.38	63.90	85.28
2. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	86.23	245.33	331.56
3. Punjab State Electricity Board	130.64	39.96	170.60