

(c) Detailed engineering has been completed and work is in progress for production and laying of pipes, construction of treatment plants, reservoirs, etc. The project is expected to be completed by 30.12.2000.

Co-operative Banks

6080. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI CHHATARSINGH DABAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special assistance to the cooperative banks functioning in rural areas to enable these banks to come out of financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether there is any proposal to constitute a Central Fund for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Presumably, the Hon'ble Members are referring to schemes to strengthen the capital base of co-operative banks. It may be stated that unlike public sector commercial banks and regional rural banks where the Central Government directly contributes to the share capital, shareholding of State Co-operative Banks and District Co-operative Banks is contributed by their members and the State Government. To some extent, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides long-term loans to State Governments to enable them to contribute to the share capital of co-operative credit institutions.

On the initiatives of NABARD, State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks in all States have drawn up Development Action Plans (DAPs) for improving their functioning and attaining sustainable viability and based on such plans, NABARD has already entered into Memoranda of Understanding with the State Governments as well as the State/District level co-operative banks for ensuring implementation of the said DAPs.

[English]

Residuary Non-Banking Companies

6081. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently issued directions to all residuary Non-banking companies that they should discount only bonafide trade bills; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons

thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised all Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Miscellaneous Non-Banking Companies (MNBCs) and Residuary Non-Banking Companies (RNBCs) to discount only bonafide trade bills. RBI have further cautioned the Companies that any money received by way of rediscounting of bills which are not supported by genuine trade transactions will be treated as regulated deposits.

According to RBI it had come to their notice that certain non-banking financial companies received moneys by way of rediscounted of bills of exchange with other corporate bodies, societies, trusts, educational institutions, individuals etc. and in many cases those bills did not arise out of genuine business transactions and were merely in the nature of accommodation bills. The purported rediscounting of such bills was a deposit-taking activity disguised in the form of rediscounting of bills and was resorted to with a view to circumventing RBI's directions on matters relating to deposit taking activities.

Shortage of Drinking Water

6082. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide drinking water to drought affected areas of western Orissa;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Union Government for the purpose, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any action plan for the permanent solution of water scarcity in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time limit fixed and for the implementation of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment has stated that supply of safe drinking water facilities in the not covered and partially covered habitations including those in the drought affected areas is undertaken under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Minimum Needs Programme, Basic Minimum Services and DPAP Calamity Relief Fund, etc. The allocation under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme for 1997-98 is Rs. 41.73 crores out of which Rs. 12.51 crores has already been released. The district-wise releases are decided by the State Government. It has been further informed that the State Government of Orissa has an action plan to cover all not covered/partially covered habitations to provide sustainable sources by using resources available under various programmes. All the not covered habitation are proposed

to be covered by 1997-98 and partially covered habitation by 2000 A.D.

In so far as Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment is concerned, a centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme applicable to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) is being

implemented. Under the programme, so far 8 drinking water supply schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.58 crores have been approved and the Central share of Rs. 2.89 crores has been released to the State Government for implementation of the programme. The details are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Schemes sanctioned under the AUWSP in Orissa

PROJECTS SANCTIONED

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Town	District	Sanctioned date	Project cost	Central share
1.	Balimela	Koraput	March, 94	83.65	41.83
2.	Pipili	Puri	March, 94	83.65	41.83
3.	Kasinagara	Ganjam	March, 94	37.23	18.62
4.	Chandawali	Bhadrak	Oct., 95	90.73	45.39
5.	Panposh	Sundergarh	Oct., 95	93.78	46.89
6.	Kamakhyanager	Dhenkanal	Nov., 95	236.73	118.37
7.	Malkangiri	Malkangiri	Jan., 97	219.00	109.50
8.	Polsara	Ganjam	March, 97	313.80	156.90
Total				1158.62	579.31

World Bank

6083. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT: Will the Minister of State for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has launched/propose to launch any scheme under World Bank Project to stop leakage of water, illegal connection of electric and water and tampering with water/electricity metres and theft thereof;

(b) if so, the total amount promised to be provided by the World Bank for this purpose;

(c) the details of the projects likely to be taken up during 1997-98;

(d) whether the World Bank has asked the State Government to furnish details of programmes undertaken so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Computer Software Technology

6084. SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt and introduce Computer Software Technology in various other fields also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the technology package is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Computer Software Technology is increasingly being adopted and introduced in various fields like Government Administration, Commerce, Industry, Education, Health, Agriculture, Space, Defence. The following areas have been identified for increasing computer penetration in the country during IXth Plan:-

(i) Localisation of Software for Indian languages;

(ii) creation and maintenance of Data Warehouses/ Data bases; and

(iii) augmentation of Computer Networking infrastructure.

(c) Implementation of Computer Software Technology in various fields is a continuing process.