

(i) conversion of short term production loans into medium term loans; (ii) rescheduling/postponement of existing term loan instalments; (iii) provision of additional need based crop loans working capital and (iv) relaxation in security and margin norms. The guidelines also envisage provision of consumption loans upto Rs. 1,000/-. The rates of interest are to be charged by the banks as per the directives on interest rates issued by RBI from time to time. However, those borrowers who meet the eligibility criteria under the Scheme of Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) are to be provided credit in accordance with the DRI scheme. In respect of current dues in default, no penal interest will be charged. The banks also suitably defer the compounding of interest charged.

The above guidelines were issued to enable the banks to take uniform and concrete action expeditiously, particularly to provide financial assistance to agriculturists, small scale industrial units, artisans, small businesses and trading establishments affected by natural calamities in any part of the country, including the State of Assam. However, the existing data reporting system of RBI does not generate information in the manner asked for.

Export of Groundnut

5767. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of groundnut exported and oreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether there is any scope for exporting groundnut to European Union; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity and value of groundnut exported during the last three years is as under :

Quantity : in Metric tonnes
Value : in Rs. Crores

Year	Quantity (MTs)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1993-94	254207	171.12
1994-95	51123	101.32
1995-96 (P)	1000953	224.35

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Country-wise details of exports are given in the monthly bulletin/annual number of Foreign Trade Statistics of India Published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Some of the steps taken to enhance exports are :

(i) dissemination of information on international quality standards to exporters/processors;

(ii) participation in International seminars/workshops;

(iii) sponsoring delegations abroad;

(iv) arranging buyer seller meets; and

(v) participation in international trade fairs.

[Translation]

Export of Inferior Quality of Rice to Bangladesh

5768. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether inferior quality of rice has been exported to Bangladesh during April, 1996;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to affect the bilateral and commercial relations between the two countries; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons/establishment found guilty in this regard and to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). A few complaints have been received alleging supply of inferior quality of rice which are presently under investigation.

In respect of cases where it is established that actually sub-standard goods have been exported, immediate deterrent action is initiated under the provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulations) Act, 1992, and the Rules framed thereunder against the concerned exporters, for cancellation/suspension of Importer-Exporter Code Number of the party concerned, without which imports or exports cannot be undertaken by him, and for imposition of fiscal penalties.

Such isolated incidents would not effect the relations between the two countries.

[English]

Despatch of Coal

5769. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the quantum of coal despatched by different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited for each of the last five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : Coal despatched by

different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited for each of the last five years was as under :

(Million Tonnes)					
Company	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
ECL	22.47	22.21	22.30	24.21	25.79
BCCL	24.98	26.72	28.55	28.34	26.49
CCL	28.00	32.31	32.98	31.11	30.74
NCL	30.37	30.30	32.37	32.91	35.08
WCL	24.45	24.98	25.52	27.24	30.35
SECL	63.02	44.93	46.91	47.82	52.28
MCL	—	22.51	23.99	26.91	34.31
NEÇ	0.99	0.86	0.75	0.83	1.03
TOTAL	194.28	204.82	213.37	219.37	236.07

NOTE : MCL was carved out of SECL w.e.f. 3.4.92.

Tractor Industry

5770. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the tractor industry in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give any incentive to the tractor manufacturing units to increase the production of tractors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). The manufacture of Tractors has been delicensed under the new Industrial Policy and there is now no capacity constraint in the production of Tractors. The excise duty on tractors has been reduced to a nominal rate of 10%. No excise duty is being levied on tractors upto 1800 cc capacity.

Misuse of MODVAT Credit

5771. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate loss of revenue resulting from the misuse of MODVAT scheme during the last two years, till date;

(b) the loopholes noticed by the Government in the MODVAT scheme; and

(c) the steps being taken to plug them ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The approximate alleged revenue loss on account of misuse of MODVAT scheme detected during last two years is as under :

Year	Amount Involved (in crores)
1994-95	Rs. 696.00
1995-96	Rs. 944.00

(b) The alleged misuse of MODVAT which has been noticed, consists of availment of credit on ineligible inputs on inputs used in or in relation to the manufacture of exempted goods and issue of forged Modvatable invoices etc.

(c) The Government is constantly reviewing and monitoring the MODVAT scheme and necessary administrative and legislative steps are being taken to prevent the misuse. The measures include registration of dealers, maintenance of certain documents, filing of monthly returns etc. In pursuance of the Budget 1996-97, Government has restricted issue of invoice upto two stages of dealers and that the invoice issued by the second stage dealer shall be pre-authenticated by the Department for the availment of input credit and reversal of credit on inputs used in the manufacture of exempted goods upto 8% of the value of exempted goods. A provision have also been made for charging interest on wrong availment of credit and for imposition of mandatory penalty.

[Translation]

R.N. Mishra Committee Report

5772. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers and employees in B.C.C.L. who had been chargesheeted on the basis of the report of R.N. Mishra Committee;

(b) the number of officers out of them against whom act has been taken and the nature of the action taken;

(c) the reasons for not taking action against the remaining officers;

(d) the time by which action was to be taken on the basis of R.N. Mishra Committee report;

(e) whether action is being taken within the time frame;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which action is likely to be completed on the basis of the report of Mishra Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) As per information received from BCCL, Chargesheets have been issued against 90 executives of the Company in the cases arising out of the findings of R.N. Mishra Committee Report.

(b) Out of 90 BCCL executives chargesheeted, action against one was to be taken by the Ministry of Coal since he became a Board level officer before issue of the chargesheet. Action against that officer has been completed by issue of an order on 23.8.96 from the Ministry of Coal imposing a penalty of recovery of 50% of his gratuity.