GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:654 ANSWERED ON:10.05.2002 LOANS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several countries including Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Sudan have not repaid the loans provided to them by India;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken for recovery of these loans;

(c) the names of the countries against whom loans are outstanding alongwith the dates when such loans became due including the details of the amounts of loans; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to recover the loans at an early date ?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 654 answered on 10th May, 2002

(a) to (d): The Government of India has extended lines of credit to various countries. However, no line of credithas been extended to the Government of Sudan by the Government of India. Some countries like Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya, which have availed of GOI lines of credit and are Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs), are unable to repay their dues.

The details of outstanding Government of India dues in respect of these countries are as under:

Country	Principal	Interest
5	US \$ 3 .207 millior 30.6.2001)	u US \$ 1.189 million (as on 30.6.2001)
	Rs.14.17 crores 31.3.2002)	Rs.14.39 crores (as on 31.3.2002)
7	Rs.0.059 crores 31.3.2002)	Rs.0.74 crores (as on 31.3.2002)

Government of India had been trying to resolve this problem of outstanding debt through bilateral discussions. Some of the options being considered were - local investment by Indian companies, repayment in kind and equity participation in Government-owned companies being privatized.

However, in response to HIPC Initiative started by theInternational Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) reduce the debt of these Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs) to sustainable levels, Government of India is examining the modalities of providing debt relief to these countries.