

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DISINVESTMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:223
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
AUSTERITY MEASURES
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent by the various Departments under his Ministry on various heads during last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Union Government propose any economy drive to reduce expenditure on publicity, advertisement, entertainment, catering, inauguration functions, seminars, tours within the country and abroad, including the payments made against STD and STD Bills, electricity bills particularly the bills of airconditioner and cooler and the other such expenditure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHEASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) There is no Department under Ministry of Disinvestment. The details of actual expenditure by Ministry of Disinvestment, including the Disinvestment Commission, on various budget Heads during last three years, year-wise are as under:-

(In Rupees)

Head	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Salary	22,85,000	45,24,000	82,05,000
Wages	49,000	88,000	33,000
Over Time Allowance	20,000	32,000	1,57,000
Travelling Allowance (Domestic)	5,10,000	2,38,000	9,86,000
Travelling Allowance (Foreign)	90,000	95,000	6,00,000
Office Expenses	36,79,000	76,08,000	61,48,000
Publication	6,14,000	2,19,000	6,35,000
Other Administrative Expenses	2,65,000	81,000	
Professional & Specpl. Services+	26,000	7,92,60,000	6,02,19,000
Other charges	15,000	13,000	-
Total	72,88,000	9,23,42,000	7,70,65,000

+ includes payment of fees to Global Advisors/ Legal Advisors/ Asset Valuers/Consultants.

(b)&(c) It is Government's constant endeavor to contain non-plan, non-developmental expenditure. It is in this context that, along with other measures, instructions to avoid wasteful expenditure are issued from time to time to all the Ministries/Departments. These measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, restriction on holding conference/seminars etc., reduction in electricity consumption, restriction on STD/ISD facility, restriction on number of free calls on official residential telephones, etc.