

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1026  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000  
WRITE OFF LOANS  
AJAY CHAKRABORTY;CHANDRA NATH SINGH

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Colcotta High Court has ruled that the Union Government is fully competent to write off loans given by the Steel Development Fund (SDF) to Steel Authority of India Limited and other Steel Companies in private sector; and
- (b) if so, the details of the loans extended to the steel plants from the SDF; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government in regard to the ruling of the Colcotta High Court?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY)

- (a) The Colcotta High Court in its judgement dated 3.2.2000 has ruled, inter-alia, that Steel plants/industries in public sector can be treated differently than the plants/industries in the private sector, including the matter of loan advanced from the Steel Development Fund (SDF). In case of Public Sector Industries (SAIL) Government can waive the interest or even can write off the loan itself.
- (b) Details of loans extended to the main producers from the Steel Development Fund (SDF) as on 31.3.1999 are as under:

i) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)	Rs. 4761.44 crores
ii) Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (TISCO)	Rs. 905.10 crores
iii) Indian Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (IISCO)	Rs. 44.68 crores

- (c) The Government accepts the judgement of the Court.