

of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2265 dated December 6, 1996 regarding "stock invest scheme" and state:

- (a) whether the information has since been received and examined;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the action taken thereon; and
- (d) the punishment awarded to the managers of the branches of the private and public sector banks and the management of the private sector banks, bank-wise/branch-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) Public Sector Banks have reported that they do not accept photocopies of stock invest (SI) instead of original stock invests from the promoters. These banks are not aware of any instance where financiers of the stockinvest have supplied the photocopies of the stockinvests bearing the same number to other various promoters.

However, an instance has been brought to the notice of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by the Delhi Stock Exchange (DSE) about the misuse of the stockinvest of the public issue of a company where the Registrar to the Issue accepted six applications alongwith the photocopies of SIs. RBI has already written to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to take appropriate action against the Registrar.

RBI has initiated a series of steps to curb the irregularities in the operation of SI Scheme, the details of which are given below:

1. Banks are permitted to issue Stock Invests only to individuals and mutual funds.
2. A ceiling per individual per capital Issue for issue of Stock Invest has been laid down as corporates were found availing SIs using individual.
3. Acceptance of share applications unaccompanied by original stockinvest/cheques, furnishing declaration to appropriate authorities and treating such applications as valid applications are not in order.
4. The bankers' lien on the deposit account to the investor in respect of an unused stockinvest instrument should not be lifted before the expiry period of four months.

RBI have reported that penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs each was imposed private sector banks/public sectors under Sections 47A of the Banking regulation Act, 1949 for violations of their instructions on the Stock invest Scheme. Erring branches of some of the private sector banks are prohibited from issuing Stock Invest for a period of 3-6 months.

Action has been taken / is being taken by these banks

as per the conditions governing the services of employees/officers of private/public sector banks.

Vacant Posts of Judges

1603. SHRI I.D. SWAMI :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :
SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of additional posts of Supreme Court and High Courts Judges created and filled during the last three years, Court-wise;

(b) the details of posts of Judges lying vacant in the High Courts and the Supreme Court and the date from which these posts are lying vacant, Court-wise; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) The procedure for such appointments involves consultations among several constitutional authorities. Every effect is being made to fill existing vacancies at the earliest.

Sl. No.	High Court	Addl. posts created from 1.7.1994 to 30.6.1997	Fresh appointments made from 1.7.1994 to 30.6.1997	Posts of Judges/Addl Judges lying Vacant on 1.7.1997
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad	1	20	7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	10	18	1
3.	Bombay	5	27	8
4.	Calcutta	2	19	11
5.	Delhi	1	10	3
6.	Gauhati	1	5	1
7.	Gujarat	2	10	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	3	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	4	3
10.	Karnataka	7	19	4
11.	Kerala	4	13	2

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	19	5
13.	Madras	4	21	3
14.	Orissa	1	6	1
15.	Patna	1	9	7
16.	Punjab & Haryana	—	7	5
17.	Rajasthan	6	13	1
18.	Sikkim	—	1	2
Total		49	224	70
II Supreme Court		—	12	5

Production and Export of Handicrafts

1604. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
 SHRI RAMJIB BISWAL :
 VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
 SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :
 SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
 SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
 SHRI RAJESH RAJAN ALIAS PAPPY YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to boost the production and export of handicraft items;

(b) the funds provided by the Government under various schemes for the purpose during each of last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for promoting handicrafts in their respective States during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
 (a) The steps taken by the Government to boost the production and export of handicrafts items include: market development support; training; exhibition; setting up of crafts development centres; design development; sponsoring of sales-cum-study team abroad; organisation of buyer-seller's meet; participation in international fairs and exhibitions, overseas publicity; publication of catalogues and organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gift Fair and Carpet Expo annually.

(b) The funds provided by the Government under various schemes for the promotion of handicrafts during the last three years, state-wise, is as per statement attached.

(c) to (e) No proposal has been received from Government of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for promoting handicrafts in their respective States during the last three years. Nevertheless, 44 proposals were received by the Government from State Corporation of Uttar Pradesh and 3 proposals were received from State Corporation of Bihar during the last three years under the scheme of training; marketing assistance; exhibition & publicity, workshed-cum-housing; group insurance and marketing development support. Out of those proposals, 43 proposals from the State of Uttar Pradesh were approved by the Government.

Statement

		(Rs. in Lakhs)		
Sl. No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1.	Andhra Pradesh	94.00	63.18	36.61
2.	A & N Islands	1.53	1.50	1.38
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.56	3.71	1.34
4.	Assam	39.61	130.74	106.83
5.	Bihar	17.28	26.44	28.43
6.	Delhi	112.27	202.31	69.47
7.	Goa	7.09	5.08	8.64
8.	Gujarat	51.05	80.42	45.65
9.	Haryana	43.35	33.47	62.80
10.	Himachal Pradesh	44.21	99.55	64.32
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	45.61	40.61	21.49
12.	Karnataka	33.40	21.89	71.12
13.	Kerala	38.91	70.02	67.55
14.	Madhya Pradesh	99.83	127.51	70.27
15.	Maharashtra	37.70	40.79	37.86
16.	Manipur	11.26	15.43	9.30
17.	Meghalaya	3.80	6.41	2.73
18.	Mizoram	7.00	1.70	3.01
19.	Nagaland	7.17	11.90	6.18
20.	Orissa	80.27	110.50	85.22
21.	Punjab	15.80	23.75	16.41
22.	Pondicherry	1.93	3.86	3.00
23.	Rajasthan	32.48	50.52	18.19
24.	Sikkim	1.77	2.14	1.17
25.	Tamilnadu	71.72	82.33	84.15
26.	Tripura	21.56	12.94	16.27
27.	Uttar Pradesh	383.62	606.20	297.78
28.	West Bengal	62.47	64.03	83.10
Total		1369.25	1938.93	1320.27

Note : Figures do not include grants released for multi-state activities.