

(c) and (d) The present system of data collection by Reserve Bank of India does not generate information as asked for the Question. However, according to the information readily available, action taken against delinquent employees of public sector banks for frauds during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 is as under:-

	1994	1995	1996
(i) No. of employees convicted	50	33	46
(ii) No. of employees awarded major/minor penalty	1248	1160	1207
(iii) No. of employees dismissed/discharged/removed	360	301	331

State Bank of Indore

2653. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI had imposed a penalty interest of more than one crore upon State Bank of Indore on account of serious negligence of officers in currency chest branches in Delhi in 1991 and 1992;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that no action has been taken till now against responsible officers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and proposed action against erring officers;

(d) whether it is a fact that officers in Delhi Branches of State Bank of Indore have purchased/discounted cheques beyond their limit/authority in 1995;

(e) if so, whether the Higher Management had not taken action against these erring officers; and

(f) the so, the reason therefor and proposed action against the Higher Officers—who are shielding these corrupt officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) According to the RBI, the penal interest recovered from State Bank of Indore for wrong/delayed reporting of currency chest transactions by its branches in Delhi during the years 1991 and 1992 amounted to Rs. 34.63 lakhs.

(b) and (c) The State Bank of Indore has reported that on investigation of above matter, the Branch Head Cashier and seven officers were found accountable out of whom four officers have been served administrative warnings, two officers have been chargesheeted and awarded a penalty of "censure" and the case of the remaining one officer is under examination by the bank. The Branch Head Cashier has also been chargesheeted and awarded a penalty of Administrative warning.

(d) to (f) State Bank of Indore has reported that all the cases involving exceeding of discretionary powers in their Delhi Branches, relate to routine business transaction

and the actions of the Branch Managers were subsequently confirmed by the competent authorities. As all the cheques were purchased in the normal course of business, for genuine business transaction, no action was considered necessary by the bank.

Review Indo-Nepal Pact

2654. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has represented the Union Government to review the Indo-Nepal pact to protect the interests of middle and small scale industries which may hit by the treaty's "duty free" clause; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No representation has been received from the Government of West Bengal to review the provision for duty free import of products manufactured in Nepal, under the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade.

(b) Does not arise.

Female Workers

2655. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of female workers in Coal India Limited from the date of nationalisation and as on June 30, 1997 and December 31, 1996, subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the number of female workers for the last three years;

(c) if so, rate of decline, year-wise; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The number of female workers on the date of nationalisation was as follows:

BCCL	22,725
CMAL	32,452
Total:	55,177

The number of female workers as on 30.6.1997 and 31.12.1996, subsidiary-wise, is as under:

Company	No. of Female workers	
	as on 30.6.1997	as on 31.12.1996
1	2	3
ECL	9,830	9,772
BCCL	11,260	11,404

1	2	3
CCL	7,708	7,695
SECL	2,958	2,882
WCL	3,549	3,445
MCL	768	757
NCL	389	387
NEC	298	289
CMPDIL	139	139
DCC	21	20
CIL (HQ)	175	174
Total	37,095	36,964

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There has been decline in the number of female workers in the last three years as shown below:

Year (as on 1st April)	No. of female workers
1997	37,030
1996	37,267
1995	42,227
1994	44,123
Overall Reduction (in last 3 years)	7,093
%age reduction	16.08

(d) The main reasons for decline in the number of female workers are as follows:

- (i) Natural wastage, i.e. superannuation, death etc.
- (ii) Voluntary Retirements under BPE and CIL Schemes.
- (iii) Special Female VRS.
- (iv) Resignations.
- (v) Dismissals/Terminations from employment.

[Translation]

Pending cases in Women Courts

2656. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases are lying pending in the Women Courts in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending in these Courts at present and the reasons therefor;

(c) the action being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for speedy disposal of these pending cases; and

(d) the amount incurred by the Union Government

on setting up of these courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (d) As per information available, there are no Mahila Courts in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Production/Consumption of Salt

2657. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production and consumption of salt in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the quantity of salt exported during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The production and consumption of salt (both edible and industrial) in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise; is given in the attached statement I and II respectively.

(b) The quantity of salt exported during the said period is as follows:

Year	Quantity exported (in thousand tonnes)
1994	472.6
1995	516.4
1996	546.8

Statement-I

Statewise Production of Salt

S.N.	State	Production in Thousand Tonnes		
		1994	1995	1996
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Rajasthan	1096.7	1526.2	1131.4
2.	Gujarat	8881.4	8824.4	10403.5
3.	Maharashtra	185.8	224.3	245.9
4.	Karnataka	21.9	17.2	18.9
5.	Tamil Nadu	2010.9	1738.8	2283.6
6.	Andhra Pradesh	262.0	139.9	276.4
7.	Goa	2.2	1.7	2.5
8.	Orissa	50.6	26.5	47.0
9.	West Bengal	14.2	19.3	21.7
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.1	1.9	2.5
11.	Diu & Daman	16.4	23.8	32.7
Total		12344.2	12544.0	14486.1