

1	2	3	4	5
31. Yugoslavia	Indian Rupees		267.008	267.008
32. Switzerland	Swiss Franc		283.888	211.544
33. UAE	US \$		70.000	70.000
34. UK	UK Pound		744.086	708.987
35. USA	US \$		5063.630	3115.189
36. USSR	Indian Rupees		28402.024	3903.704
37. Australia	US \$		11.131	0.000
38. Hungary	Indian Rupees		122.647	122.647
39. Iraq	US \$		182.746	182.746
40. ISO	US \$		5.708	0.000
41. Bahrain	UK Pound		5.891	5.891
42. Romania	Indian Rupees		53.260	53.260

[English]

Over Financing of Companies by Banks

1129. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the excess amount financed by the public sector banks over the permissible bank finance limit during the last one year, company-wise; and

(b) the guidelines issued by the RBI on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate such information in the manner asked for.

(b) RBI has issued guidelines to banks for assessing the maximum working capital finance (i.e. Maximum permissible Bank Finance) which could be sanctioned to borrowers on the basis of business projections made by them. These guidelines are applicable to borrowers enjoying fund-based credit facilities of Rs. 1 crore and above from the banking system. The norms prescribed under these guidelines indicate the manner in which the assets and liabilities are to be classified and computation of net working capital (i.e. excess of longterm sources over long-term uses) for arriving at the permissible bank finance is to be done. The banks are also required to ensure that 25 per cent of the current assets financed is brought by the borrower from long-term sources. Further, indicative norms regarding level of inventory, receivables etc. to be financed are also prescribed by RBI in this regard.

New Economic Reforms

1130. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bringout a

white paper on the advantages and disadvantages revealed during the last six years in respect of the new economic reforms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The economic reforms undertaken over the last few years have put the Indian economy on a higher growth path. Growth of real gross domestic product at factor cost, which had fallen to a mere 0.8 percent in the crisis year of 1991-92, accelerated to an average growth of around 7 per cent over the last three years (1994-95 to 1996-97). The Economic Survey 1996-97 tabled in both houses of Parliament on February 25, 1997 provides a comprehensive review of the ongoing economic reforms in different sectors and the current state of the Indian economy.

[Translation]

Fire in Coal Mines

1131. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

DR. G.R. SARODE :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal reserves in the country caught fire during the last three years;

(b) the financial loss in rupees incurred by the Government due to the incidents of fire in coal reserves;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Fire Control Cell for the coal companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other effective steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No coal reserves in any mine of Coal India Limited (CIL)/Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) caught fire during the last three years.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) In all the subsidiary companies of CIL and SCCL except the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), the existing Safety Department is responsible for all matters relating to safety including control/monitor of fire. In BCCL, in view of existence of large number of fires a separate Fire Control Cell headed by an officer of the rank of General Manager and assisted by other officers, is functioning.

(e) Coal Mine Regulations, 1957 stipulate prevention and control measures of fire in mines, which, inter alia, are :

(i) Sectionalisation of underground working;

(ii) Extraction of thick seams in conjunction with hydraulic stowing;

- (iii) Keeping immediate vicinity of workings in underground mine wet with water spraying and cleaning and stone dusting of old workings;
- (iv) Installation of gas monitoring system in fire-prone underground mines;
- (v) Provision of fire fighting equipment;
- (vi) Frequent inspection of workings; and
- (vii) Blanketting of surface to fill up cracks in case of surface subsidence.

[English]

Vacant Posts of Judges

1132. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

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

(a) the number of appointments made in Supreme Court and various High Courts during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that inspite of these appointments, the posts of judges are lying vacant in Supreme Court and High Courts resulting in delay in the judicial process;

(c) if so, the number of vacancies still unfilled court-wise;

(d) the reasons for not filling the vacant posts of judges in courts; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) A Statement showing the number of appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts made during 1995 and 1996 and the number of vacancies on 1.1.1997, is attached.

(d) and (e) The procedure for such appointments involves consultations among several constitutional authorities. However, every effort is being made to fill existing vacancies at the earliest.

Statement

Sl.No.	High Court	Appointments made in		Vacancies of Judges/ Addl. Judges as on 1.1.1997
		1995	1996	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad	8	5	9
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11	4	1

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bombay	4	12	11
4.	Calcutta	10	-	10
5.	Delhi	4	2	3
6.	Gauhati	-	4	1
7.	Gujarat	7	-	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	-	-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	4	-	2
10.	Karnataka	9	3	5
11.	Kerala	1	9	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	4	7
13.	Madras	-	14	-
14.	Orissa	1	4	1
15.	Patna	-	5	4
16.	Punjab and Haryana	-	7	4
17.	Rajasthan	5	8	-
18.	Sikkim	-	-	2
Total		71	81	68
II Supreme Court		5	2	4

[Translation]

Sale of Coal

1133. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) when the sale of coal from the coal depot of BCCL was started;

(b) the rate of dump charge per tonne taken at that time;

(c) the distance between these centralised dumps and collieries for which they were set up;

(d) the number of times the dump charge increased so far; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Coal sales from the coal depot (Satellite dump) of Bharat Coking Coal Limited was started from 29.7.1983 and the dump charges fixed at that time was Rs. 20/- per tonne.

(c) The distance between centralised dumps and collieries vary from dump to dump. The average distance between dumps and collieries ranges between 3 to 5 Kms.

(d) and (e) The dump charges were increased in 1987, 1991, 1992 and 1996. Revision of dump charges were necessitated on account of operational cost of the dumps.