

fees to be levied by the authorised dealers in foreign exchange on their constituents for advising Letters of Credit, transfer of Letters of Credit, handling of export documents etc. These rules are meant only for the banks.

According to RBI, FEDAI has since segregated the rules relating to charges collected by authorised dealers on various foreign exchange transactions as applicable to general Public. These rules will be circulated to the public in due course. RBI has also reported that the exporters have been approaching the Bank for redressal of their complaints. Exporters/importers also seek remedy through all India organisations like Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Federation of Indian Export Organisations on the levying of the charges. These are sorted out through periodical meetings held by these organisations where representatives from FEDAI and RBI are also present.

Involvement of Secondary Sector in the Steel Industry

1510. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a scheme for greater involvement of the secondary sector in the steel industry of the country;

(b) if so, by what time, the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) to what extent, this decision will help the steel industry?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the private

sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant size keeping in view the product mix and technology to be adopted.

(c) It is expected that this decision will help to increase the production of steel from the secondary sector to meet the demand supply gap.

Export Efforts by TDA

1512. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trade Development Authority was set up to augment export efforts through trade;

(b) if so, the major achievements made by the Authority;

(c) the amount spent on its working till now;

(d) whether the Authority is working along the lines assigned to it;

(e) whether any evaluation of its working has ever been made; and

(f) if so, results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has evolved a number of techniques to boost India's exports of specific products in specific markets by specific exporters e.g. India Promotion Programmes with prestigious Department Stores, participation in specialised overseas trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, contact promotion/integrated marketing programmes, etc. It collects and disseminates information on latest marketing developments.

Capital expenditure Rs. 78 lakhs
total expenditure upto 1989-90 is as under—

Capital expenditure Rs. 78 lakhs

Revenue expenditure Rs. 3236 lakhs

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) TDA's working is continuously reviewed by its Steering Committee and the Standing Committee.

Besides, the Government of India appointed a Group in 1986 to review the functioning of Trade Development Authority, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and Trade Fair Authority of India.

(f) The Group has noted the importance of catalytic role of TDA. Most of the recommendations made by the Group in respect of TDA have been accepted by the Government.

[Translation]

Waiver of Agricultural Loans

1513. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI MANIKRAO
HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:
SHRI K. MURALEEDH-
ARAN:
SHRI KODIKKUNNIL
SURESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have submitted their debt relief schemes to Union Government; and

(b) the total amount of loans proposed to be waived and the number of beneficiaries under the debt relief scheme of Government, bank-wise and State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The following States have submitted their debt relief schemes for cooperative banks to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

1. Assam;
2. Bihar;

3. Gujarat;
4. Himachal Pradesh;
5. Maharashtra;
6. Madhya Pradesh;
7. Rajasthan;
8. Tamil Nadu;
9. Uttar Pradesh;
10. West Bengal.

(b) It is not possible at present to make any estimates bank-wise and state-wise about the number of beneficiaries who are likely to be benefitted by the Debt Relief Scheme. The quick estimates made by NABARD and Reserve Bank of India indicate that the amount likely to be written off might be around Rs. 4,000 crores.

[English]

Permission to Peerless to sell its Certificates Abroad

1515. DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd. has approached Government seeking permission to sell its certificates outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such permission to sell the certificates has been given or proposed to be given to the Company; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that M/s Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited had sought Bank's permission for selling certificates to non-resident Indians and for opening of sterling accounts abroad. The Bank had earlier given its no objection 'in-principle' to the Company for selling the certificates abroad subject to certain terms