

outstanding loan and the current rate of charge is 4.27% per annum.

(b) The details of principal amount and interest repaid to the World Bank and IMF are given below:

	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Repay.	Int.	Repay.	Int.	Repay.	Int.
IBRD (in US \$ m.)	709	620	757	646	815	631
IDA (in US \$ m.)	175	115	194	122	228	131
IMF (in SDR m.)	96	182	805	153	1138	107

Jute Packaging Materials

*160. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of recent Supreme Court's judgement in favour of compulsory jute packaging by concerned industries including Fertilizer and Cement industries; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to ensure that all concerned industries to comply with the above judgement?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). In a recent judgement dated 25.4.96, the Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of the jute packaging materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. Subsequent to the decision of the Supreme Court, the Standing Advisory Committee set up under the said Act has met to give appropriate recommendations. Concerned industry interests have also been given full hearing. Meanwhile, in respect of packaging of urea, for which the earlier Reservation Order was valid up to 30.6.96, the provisions of the order have been extended up to 30.9.96. For other commodities covered in the Order, there is no change in the percentage of reservation, as at present.

Intellectual Property Rights Agreement with W.T.O.

1080. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of USA has decided to keep India on a priority watchlist under special trade provisions especially when both the countries were signatories to the trade related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS) agreement of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) whether the U.S. is hauling India before a World Trade Organisation arbitration panel in Geneva over New Delhi's failure to provide patent protection for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On 2 July 1996, the US has sought consultations with India in the matter of Intellectual Property Rights under the Dispute Settlement Understanding of the World Trade Organization. India will be holding consultations with US for the resolution of this dispute.

Funds for Handicrafts

1081. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Handicraft Development Corporation has submitted any proposal for financial assistance for the works, like woodcraft, bronze craft, hand painting, carpet weaving, clay sculpture and bamboo craft; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Capital Mobilisation for PSEs

1082. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are working on a new resource mobilisation strategy from the capital market for the Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) to mop up the larger funds required to finance its modernisation and expansion programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of requirement of funds for modernisation/expansion/diversification public sector undertaking wise for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Central PSUs like any other commercial organisations are permitted to mop up funds required to finance their modernisation & expansion

programmes, through commercial borrowings, mobilisation of funds from the capital market, international financial institutions and other sources, depending upon the viability of the project.

(c) The requirement of funds by PSUs for modernisation/expansion/diversification keeps varying from time to time depending on the viability of the projects at a given time, and, future requirements cannot be quantified.

[Translation]

Export of Flowers and Fruits

1083. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of fruits and flowers exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1995-96;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed for production and the export of flowers and fruits during 1995-96, and

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Value of fruits and flowers exported and foreign exchange earned during 1995-96 is as follows :-

• (Value : Rs. in Crores)

(i) Cut flowers*	44.25
(ii) Fruits**	146.38

* Statistics on weight is not available

** Information on quantity of fruits exported is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

(Source : DGCI & S. Calcutta)

(b) Government has not signed any agreement for production and export of flowers and fruits during 1995-96.

(c) Does not arise.

Financial Aid to Enterprises in Delhi

1084. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial services scheme for small scale industries of National Small Scale Industries Corporation is in operation in National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for granting the financial assistance to entrepreneurs of Delhi, and

(c) the details of the financial assistance provided to Entrepreneurs of Delhi during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is in operation in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi since September, 1994.

(b) The Corporation is offering the following four schemes under Financial Services to the Entrepreneurs of Delhi :

(i) **Raw Material Assistance** : NSIC arranges to provide raw material on credit as per specific need and requirements of the Small Scale Units for a maximum period of 90 days.

(ii) **Bill Financing** : Bills drawn by small scale units for the supplies made to reputed and well established enterprises and duly accepted by them can be financed/ discounted by NSIC for a maximum period of 90 days.

(iii) **Working Capital Finance** : Finance for augmenting working capital of viable units on selective basis in case of emergent requirements is provided.

(iv) **Export Development Finance** : Finance for export development to export oriented units for meeting their emergent requirements.

(c) During the financial year 1994-95 and 1995-96, NSIC has provided assistance of Rs. 957 lakhs and Rs. 1563 lakhs respectively to the small scale units of N.C.T. of Delhi under its Financial Services Scheme

[English]

Committee on Labour and Trade Related Issues

1085. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government to formulate India's stand on various labour and trade related issues before the World Trade Organisation has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee on child labour and various labour legislations, and

(c) the decision taken by the Government on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). The Commission for the Study of Issues concerning the Protection of Labour Rights and related matters has submitted its report to the Government in which it has made several recommendations on labour issues, including the integration of all existing labour laws into an omnibus legislation, the recommendations of the Commission are under examination.