

(d) and (e) No proposal for World Bank loan for these projects has been received by the Government.

Survey of IMF

4949. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to survey conducted by International Monetary Fund a higher saving rate is required in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage higher saving rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) According to the IMF Staff, the Domestic Savings Rate has shown an uneven upward trend over the past four decades, and according to projections, private savings are likely to rise only gradually over the years ahead. They noted, however, that policies that would boost the rate of increase of savings—particularly public savings—and facilitate its efficient allocation, would contribute towards achieving the Government's growth target of 7% over the medium-term. They also noted that higher growth would initiate a virtuous circle in which higher growth would lead to higher savings, and higher savings to higher growth, and so on.

(b) and (c) Even before the observations of the IMF staff, Govt. of India have emphasized the above aspects in various fora, e.g. in the latest Economic Survey and in the Budget Speech. In particular, the budget Speech of 28.2.97 clearly highlighted the importance of capital markets in boosting savings, while the Economic Survey indicated that recent reform efforts encouraged savings by expanding the savings and investment opportunities rather than by giving special incentives.

[Translation]

Beautification of Bihar

4950. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN DAS alias PAPPU YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided by the Union Government to the Government of Bihar for the beautification of the State during 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government of Bihar has utilized all the funds provided to them;

(c) whether some amount out of the allocation for 1996-97 is still unutilized; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No funds are provided by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for beautification of States.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

SAIL

4951. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Banks and Financial Institutions have provided over Rs. 5000 crores to Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) whether any irregularity has been committed while providing the said amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) is presently availing working capital credit limits from a consortium of 16 member banks. In addition, banks have sanctioned term loan to part finance the expansion/modernisation of Bokaro steel plant. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the details relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

(b) RBI has reported that no irregularity has been noticed by it during post-sanction scrutiny of the credit limits under Credit Monitoring Arrangement.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

CAT

4952. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Public Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies of the Central Government which have been brought under the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring the cases of the State Government employees also under the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 (AT Act) provides for setting up of a State Administrative Tribunal by the Central Government on a request from the concerned State Government to cover the cases of its employees. At present State Administrative Tribunals under the AT Act have been set up in the States of Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Statement

The names of the Corporations/Societies/Other Autonomous Authorities brought within the purview of the Central Administrative Tribunal under Section 14 (2) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985

Sl. No.	Name of the Corporation/ Society/other authority	
1.	Central Board of Trustees constituted under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.	Statutory Body
2.	Employees' State Insurance Corporation	Corporation
3.	Central Board for Workers, Education	Registered Society
4.	National Labour Institute	Registered Society
5.	National Council of Safety in Mines, Dhanbad.	Registered Society
6.	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research	Society
7.	Central Social Welfare Board	An authority controlled by Government
8.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	A Society controlled by the Government
9.	Sports Authority of India	A Society controlled by the Government

[Translation]

Call Letters to Unemployed Persons

4953. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have got themselves registered in the Daryaganj employment exchange for clerical cadre during 1990, 1991, year-wise.

(b) whether not even a single person belonging to scheduled caste has been sent call-letter for employment by the above exchange so far since their registration;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether irregularities are being committed where issuing call-letters for the clerical cadre by the above office; and

(e) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Import of Teakwood

4954. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Teakwood can now be freely imported from Myanmar through Road route along Manipur boundary;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Border tree Agreement between India and Myanmar does not cover import of teakwood through the Moreh Land Customs Station on the Manipur-Myanmar border. The Myanmar Government also does not permit export of teakwood. Hence, licit import of teakwood is not permissible through the said route.

Article 371

4955. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Sikkim has requested the Union Government not to extend direct central taxes in deference to Article 371 F of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Government of Sikkim has requested the Central Government to defer the implementation of the direct tax laws in the state of Sikkim. The Chief Minister had written a letter dated 2nd July, 1996 to the Prime Minister of India in this matter. The Ministry of Finance is of the view that the direct tax laws have been validly extended to the state and their implementation will be beneficial to the people and the state of Sikkim.

Funds for PF by IDBI

4956. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has sought funds from Provident funds, etc;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it mobilises funds from Provident Funds under certificate of deposits, fixed deposits and bonds in accordance with the guidelines on deployment of Provi-