

software as needed are made by Indian vendors and the consumables required for the day to day use on these machines are procured by the banks from local vendors. However, MICR Ink and MICR ribbons are imported by vendors and supplied to banks as the same are not locally manufactured.

Waiver of Bank Loans

5892. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have reacted adversely on the decision of Government to waive the bank loans upto Rs. 10,000;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has also reacted adversely on the subject and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has reportedly refused any positive action in the matter; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government of India has taken a decision to provide debt relief which will be applicable to borrowers who have taken loans upto Rs. 10,000/- and the same will cover all overdues as on 2nd October, 1989, including short-term as well as term-loans. There will be no limit on the size of the borrower's land holdings. However, wilful defaulters will be excluded from the scheme. It will cover Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperatives. The question of refusal by any bank to the

implementation of the scheme does not arise.

Recovery of Excise Duty

5893. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outstanding Excise duty of more than one lakh against various industrial houses in default for more than one year as on 31st March, 1989 and for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 with the details of defaulters and amount involved; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to recover the duty and in how many cases prosecutions have been initiated during the last three years and the number of cases decided in last three years in favour of Government and duty collected and the number of cases in which Government lost?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ropeway for Bokaro Steel Plant

5894. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ropeway was constructed across the river Damodar for supply of coking coal to Bokaro Steel Plant and if so, its total cost;

(b) whether the ropeway is not being used for transportation of coal these days; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the guidelines of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The total cost of the ropeway is Rs.