

**Grant to North East Development Financial Corporation**

**132. DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA:**  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a grant of Rs. 20 crores has been provided to the North East Development Financial Corporation by the Central Government through North East Council to fund techno-economic studies for industries and infrastructure best suited to this region; and

(b) if so, the details of studies conducted so far and the findings thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL):** (a) Yes, Sir. North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFC) has reported that a grant of Rs. 20 crores has been received by it on 29th January, 1999 through North Eastern Council to fund techno-economic studies for industries and infrastructure best suited to the region.

(b) The Advisory Board on techno-economic development fund has identified areas for study and following two studies have already been started:

(i) Sub transmission and distribution of electricity improvement upto 2025-AD.

(ii) Medical Plants Development in the North East.

**Amount in Central Road Fund**

**133. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:**  
**SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount, accrued so far in 1999-2000 in the Central Road Fund from the cess/duty on diesel;

(b) the amount proposed to be transferred to the States from this fund; and

(c) the amount proposed to be allocated this year from the fund to the Railways for over-bridges and safety works at unmanned railway crossings?