

capital of Rs. 5000 crore for development of North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that instead of Development Bank some North-East Financial Development Corporation with capital of Rs. 100 crore has been set up;

(d) if so, the details thereof with reasons for such change;

(e) whether some terms of reference and detailed functions for this Corporation have been specified; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) to (d) A Development Bank named as North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) has been registered with the Registrar of Companies, Shillong with its registered office at Guwahati. NEDFi's authorised share capital is Rs. 500 crores and it would have a subscribed capital of Rs. 100 crores.

(e) and (f) The functions of NEDFi *inter-alia* include identifying and developing entrepreneurship and finance the establishment of new industrial and infrastructure projects as well as expansion, diversification and modernisation of existing industrial enterprises in the North Eastern Region. NEDFi would also provide venture capital to encourage commercialisation of new and innovative goods and processes developed in the established research laboratories etc. and which are relevant to the economy of the region.

Evasion of customs duty by Reliance Industries

1163. SMT. KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a case of evasion of customs duty to the extent of

Rs. 180 crores against Reliance Industries has been pending adjudication for over five years;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in adjudication proceedings; and

(c) by when the case is likely to be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. A show cause notice was issued to M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. for evasion of customs duty of about Rs. 174 crores in import of a PTA Plant on 11.5.1990 by Commissioner, Customs, Bombay.

(b) and (c) Requirements of sifting through voluminous documents and their examination by both sides has taken time. The Government has engaged Additional Solicitor General of India for presenting its case. Personal hearings were granted on day-to-day basis including hearings in Delhi on 30.9.1995 and 1.10.1995. Submission and arguments by M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. has since been conceded. The Additional Solicitor General has made his submission on behalf of the Government on day-to-day basis. Further hearings have been fixed for 13th, 14th and 15th March, 1996. The case is now at final stages of hearing and is likely to be finalised shortly.

Transfer of Foreign Exchange Outside the Country

1164. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the banks and financial institutions responsible for unscrupulously transferring foreign exchange outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action initiated against such banks; and

(d) the directions issued to such banks to stop such practice in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) to (d) The information is being and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal for expansion and upgradation of LPT/HPT in Orissa

1165. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received from Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise for opening and also for expansion and upgradation of LPT and HPT in that State;

(b) the details of the proposals cleared so far; and

(c) the steps taken to clear remaining proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P. M. SAYEED):

(a) The Government of Orissa, in April, 1992, had proposed setting up of 32 additional LPTs and upgradation of the transmitters at Baleshwar and Rourkela during the 8th Plan.

(b) Transmitters have already been commissioned at 15 locations proposed by the State Government and seven more projects, including upgradation of power of the transmitter at Baleshwar, are presently under implementation.

(c) Further augmentation of TV service in the State, including upgradation of power of the existing transmitter at Rourkela, would depend upon the availability of resources and infrastructural facilities.

Repatriation of value of exports

1166. SHRI MURLI MANOHAR

JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKINATH

CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the exporters have delayed or altogether avoided the repatriation of value of exports; if so, the estimated amount involved therein in 1993-94, 1994-95 and so far in 1995-96; and

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure the repatriation of export proceeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The export outstandings as per Reserve Bank of India figures as on June/ December 1993, June/December 1994 and June 1995 are indicated below:— (Rs. in crores)

Period	Amount of exports outstandings
June 1993	2442.57
December 1993	2984.91
June 1994	3641.30
December 1994	4492.96
June 1995	5168.64

(b) The cases of outstanding export proceeds referred to by the Reserve Bank of India to the Enforcement Directorate for necessary action are investigated for appropriate action under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

Requirement of Power

1167. SHRI PARMESHWAR

KUMAR AGARWALLA:

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: