

also aid the Government in taking important policy decisions. The Bureau also administers the COFEPOSA Act.

The Bureau is headed by Director General, who is assisted by two Deputy Director General-cum-Joint Secretaries and one Joint Secretary, five Assistant Director Generals and other supporting staff. The sanctioned strength of the Bureau is 133.

Bureau has collected secret intelligence on economic offences and forwarded to various enforcement agencies under the Department of Revenue. Those agencies in turn have carried out investigation. The Bureau had made investigative studies on various types of economic offences and prepared reports for use of the government. In a number of cases the Bureau has also carried out investigation. These cases include under-invoicing of import of non-ferrous metal, under invoicing of import of electronic goods, over-invoicing of import of a primary commodity, hawala transactions in foreign exchange, misuse of MODVAT facilities, evasion of Central Excise duty by other modes, concealment of income and evasion of direct taxes.

Relief In Interest rate to Riot-Affected Borrowers

6395. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to give relief to November, 1984 riot-affected borrowers in reducing the rate of interest to 1 per cent (simple) and repayment in five years to those borrowers whose principal amount of loans was above Rs. 25,000/- and the RBI has issued a circular No. RPCD PLFS; BC 26/05.04.0293-94 on 1st September, 1993 to all the banks;

(b) what action has been taken by the banks for its implementation and

settlement of cases of those borrowers which are pending in the civil courts for recovery of dues;

(c) when all such cases are likely to be withdrawn from civil courts and would be settled as per the Government's revised decision for giving relief to 1984 riot affected borrowers whose principal amount was above Rs. 25,000/- and

(d) whether State bank of India has issued instructions to its Delhi branches for speedy implementation of the instructions of Government/RBI for the said relief?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has circulated the Central Interest subsidy Scheme (Revised) for November, 1984 Riot Affected Borrowers to all banks on 1st September, 1993. The Scheme, *inter-alia*, provides scaling down of interest rate to 1% (simple) from 1st November, 1984 to 31st March, 1992 on the outstanding loans where principal is above Rs. 25,000/- (aggregate of all eligible loans) and repayment of the balance amount to be spread over 5 years from the date of the decision. Banks have been advised by RBI to take necessary steps for speedy implementation of the Scheme. The Scheme does not provide for withdrawal of civil suits filed against borrowers covered by the scheme. However, in view of the RBI instructions accompanying the Revised Central Interest Subsidy Scheme there should not normally be any instances of Court proceeding for recovery consequent upon the implementation of the Scheme.

(d) State Bank of India has reported that instructions were issued by it to all its branches of Delhi for speedy implementation of the Interest Subsidy Scheme (Revised) of RBI.