

United Nations Development Programme Research Projects.			Remarks		
1977-78					
1.	Heat sealability of laminates	Project completed.			
2.	Packaging of Spices in laminates for export.	Project completed.			
3.	Evaluation of functional characteristics of pkg. materials friction properties and development of simple friction test.	Project completed.			
4.	Evaluation of printing inks and printed materials.	Project completed.			
1978-79					
1.	Development of suitable packaging system for dried fish.	Project commenced.			
2.	Development of suitable packaging system for spices.	Project commenced.			
3.	Studying the relationship of mechanical hazards observed in the laboratory test with actual operation.	Project commenced.			
<i>Consultancy Projects</i>					
Year	No. of Projects	Engg.	Food/Pharmaceuticals/chemicals	Products groups (nos) Textiles	Others
1977-78	17	4	7	2	4
1978-79	22	8	7	1	6
<i>Testing Facilities</i>					
					No. of tests
1977-78					150
1978-79 (todate)					160

Loan to Tata Iron & Steel Company

1815. SHRI PRANAB CHATTERJEE:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tata Iron & Steel Company have been sanctioned Rs. 33 crores loan from the financial institutions for colliery development plans;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have directed the financial institutions not to impose the convertability clause; and

(c) whether instructions have been issued in connection with similar loans provided by financial institutions to other industries; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for such instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI 'ZULFIQUARULLA): (a) Though public financial institutions have agreed in principle to sanction loans aggregating Rs. 30 crores (exclusive of foreign currency loan) to Tata Iron and Steel Company for financing a part of its capital expenditure programme, sanctions are reported to have been issued so far only by Industrial Development Bank of India (Rs. 6 crores), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (Rs. 4 crores), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (Rs. 3 crores) and General Insurance Corporation (Rs. 2 crores).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. (d)

Does not arise.

कृषि ऋणों पर ब्याज की दर

1816. श्री बापुरावजी माहतरावजी देशमुख : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से कृषकों को बैंकों द्वारा दिए जाने वाले ऋणों पर ब्याज की दर को कम करने का विवेदन किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

Rates of Interest on Agricultural Loans

1816. SHRI BAPURAOJI MAROTRAOJI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government have requested the Central Government to reduce the rates of interest on loans advanced to agriculturists by the Banks; and

(b) if so, what action Government proposed to take in this regard?

† [] English translation.

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जुल्फिकारुल्ला) : (क) महाराष्ट्र के मुख्य मंत्री ने कुछ अन्य राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों के साथ एक जापन 25 फरवरी, 1979 को प्रधान मंत्री को भेजा था। इस जापन में, इस प्रकार के मुद्दे उठाये गये थे जिन पर देश की व्यापक आवश्यकताओं और आर्थिक स्थिति से निपटने के लिए अपेक्षित उपायों के परिवेश में विचार करना जरूरी था। इस में काश्तकारों को दिये जाने वाले ऋणों पर ब्याज की दरों को घटाने का प्रश्न भी उठाया गया था।

(ख) सरकार इस जापन में उठायी गयी समस्याओं से अवगत है। रिजर्व बैंक ने हाल ही में कृषि ऋणों पर ब्याज की दरों में संशोधन किया है और वाणिज्यिक बैंकों से कहा गया है कि वे कृषि प्रयोजनों के लिए कम-से-कम 3 वर्ष की अवधि वाले सावधिक ऋणों पर 15 मार्च, 1979 से निम्नलिखित घटी हुई दरें अपना लें :

(क) छोटी सिज़ाई/भूमि विकास—अधिक-से-अधिक 9½ प्रतिशत

(ख) विविध प्रयोजन—छोटे किसानों के लिए अधिक-से-अधिक 9½ प्रतिशत और दूसरे के लिए 10½ प्रतिशत।

[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLA): (a) Chief Minister, Maharashtra along with Chief Ministers of some other States had sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister on 25th February, 1979. The memorandum raised issues which required to be considered in the broader perspective of the country's needs and measures required to deal with the economic situation. It also raised the question of reduction in the rates of interest on loans advanced to agriculturists.