

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	1752	4	1756
Jammu and Kashmir	2349	9	2358
Jharkhand	3420	198	3618
Karnataka	15905	771	16676
Kerala	8643	346	8989
Lakshadweep	16	0	16
Madhya Pradesh	9342	307	9649
Maharashtra	23125	1420	24545
Manipur	305	0	305
Meghalaya	388	0	388
Mizoram	150	0	150
Nagaland	298	0	298
Odisha	5917	297	6214
Puducherry	615	77	692
Punjab	7071	75	7146
Rajasthan	8387	321	8708
Sikkim	182	0	182
Tamil Nadu	20325	3001	23326
Telangana	8816	985	9801
Tripura	454	0	454
Uttar Pradesh	17039	1757	18796
Uttarakhand	2505	60	2565
West Bengal	10837	658	11495
Total	198952	12962	211914

Source: RBI

Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) with US

2542. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and US have decided to speed up the pending Bilateral Investment Treaty, (BIT) if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the US is pushing India to wrap up the talks during second round of annual Strategic and Commercial Decalogue (S&CD) or the next round of Trade Policy Forum;

(c) whether the US has been pressurising India to accede to a treaty similar to Free Trade Agreement (FTA) India signed with Japan and Korea; and

(d) if so, what precautionary steps Government is taking to protect indigenous industries in the country and the Government's proposals/offers to conclude the BIT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) Technical discussions with the US side have been held on an ongoing basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. USA has expressed its desire to sign a treaty similar to the FTA signed with Japan and Korea. However, Japan and Korea FTAs were signed based on the earlier Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) text of India and the negotiations with US will be on the basis of the new Indian Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) text.

(d) Does not arise.

Short and long term loans for farmers

2543. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Central Government to farmers for tilling land and purchasing agricultural equipments and the agencies through which these assistance are provided to them;

(b) the current rate of interest charged on short term and long term loans given to farmers; and

(c) whether Government proposes to waive off the interest on the loans given to farmers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Banks extend short term and long term agricultural loans to farmers, which, *inter alia*, cover investment credit for tilling land and purchasing agricultural equipments.

The interest rates on loans have been deregulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and they are now linked to the Base Rate fixed by the banks. However, the Government of India implements an Interest Subvention Scheme for short term