

INDIA'S EXTERNAL DEBT for the quarter ended DECEMBER 2005

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
EXTERNAL DEBT MANAGEMENT UNIT
MARCH 2006
www.finmin.nic.in

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INDIA'S EXTERNAL DEBT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 2005

1. Introduction

1.1 As a subscriber to Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India has been publishing external debt statistics on a quarterly basis, beginning with data on debt outstanding for end-September 2003, within three months of the close of the reference quarter. While Reserve Bank of India releases external debt statistics for the quarters ending March and June, Ministry of Finance disseminates such information for the quarters ending September and December. The current release relates to India's external debt stock for end-December 2005.

2. External Debt Stock

2.1 India's external debt stock decreased by US\$5.0 billion to US\$119.2 billion as at the end of December 2005 from US\$124.2 billion at end-September 2005 (Table1). The decline in external debt outstanding at end-December 2005 was essentially brought about by a drop in external commercial borrowings reflecting redemption of India Millennium Deposits (IMDs) of US\$5.5 billion in December 2005. Quarterly disaggregated data on external debt outstanding in terms of both Rupees as well as US dollars are provided for the last five quarters in Annex I and II, respectively.

Table 1: India's External Debt

(US \$ million)

_	Item	De	ebt Outstand	ling	Variation	(absolute)	Variation	(Per cent)
		March	Sept.	Dec.	Mar. 05	Sept. 05	Mar. 05	Sept. 05
		2005 (R)	2005 (R)	2005 (QE)	to Dec. 05 (4-2)	to Dec. 05 (4-3)	to Dec. 05	to Dec. 05
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Multilateral	31,702	31,429	31,799	97	370	0.3	1.2
2.	Bilateral	16,930	15,875	15,553	-1,377	-322	-8.1	-2.0
3.	IMF	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
4.	Export credit	4,980	5,150	5,168	188	18	3.8	0.3
5.	Commercial borrowings	27,024	28,319	22,433	-4,591	-5,886	-17.0	-20.8
6.	NRI Deposits (long-term)	32,743	32,861	33,239	496	378	1.5	1.2
7.	Rupee debt	2,301	2,120	2,069	-232	-51	-10.1	-2.4
8.	Long-term debt (1 to 7)	115,680	115,754	110,261	-5,419	-5,493	-4.7	-4.7
9.	Short-term debt	7,524	8,398	8,931	1,407	533	18.7	6.3
10.	Total debt (8+9)	123,204	124,152	119,192	-4,012	-4,960	-3.3	-4.0

R: Revised QE: Quick Estimates

- 2.2 In terms of components, long-term debt outstanding at US\$110.3 billion at end-December 2005 showed a fall of US\$5.49 billion over the quarter. Under long-term debt, multilateral debt rose by US\$370 million which was broadly offset by a drop in bilateral credits by US\$ 322 million. Export credit outstanding at US\$5,168 million showed no significant change over the quarter. Stock of commercial borrowings at US\$22,433 million were lower by US\$5,886 million as compared with those at the end of the preceding quarter mainly due to redemption of IMDs and contraction in FII investment in Indian debt papers. While Rupee debt remained broadly at the same level as at the end of previous quarter, NRI deposits rose marginally by US\$378 million to US\$33,239 million.
- 2.3 Short-term debt increased by 6.3 percent over the quarter to US\$8,931 million at end-December 2005 on account of a rise in trade credits. Increase in trade credits can be attributed to larger import growth during the current fiscal year so far.
- 2.4 In terms of their share in total debt stock, Non-Resident deposits accounted for 27.9 percent of the total debt at end-December 2005. Multilateral debt constituted 26.7 per cent followed by commercial borrowings at 18.8 per cent. The share of bilateral debt was 13.0 per cent. Export credit and Rupee debt accounted for 4.3 percent and 1.7 per cent, respectively. The share of short-term debt was 7.5 per cent (Figure 1).

□ Commercial
Borrowings
18.8%
□ NRI Deposits
27.9%
□ Rupee Debt
1.7%
□ Short-term Debt
7.5%
□ Multilateral
26.7%

Figure 1: Composition of India's external debt at end-December 2005

2.5 The composition of external debt shifted in favour of private debt over the last few years. Non-Government debt steadily increased from US\$39,506 million (39.9 per cent of the total debt) at end-March 1995 to US\$74,626 million (62.6 per cent) at end-December 2005. Correspondingly, Government debt showed a decline from US\$59,502 million (60.1 per cent of the total external debt) to US\$44,566 million (37.4 per cent) during this period (Figure 2).

100 90 39.9 80 52.3 55.9 56.6 58.0 60.0 70 62.2 62.6 60 50 40 60.1 30 47.7 43.4 44.1 42.0 40.0 20 37.8 37.4 10 0 Mar.1995 Mar. 2000 Mar. 2001 Mar. 2002 Mar. 2003 Mar. 2004 Mar. 2005 Dec. 2005 At the end of ☐ Government Debt: ☐ Non-Government Debt:

Figure 2: Share of Government and Non-Government External debt

3. External Debt Indicators

3.1 External debt to GDP ratio dropped from 30.8 per cent at end-March 1995 to 17.3 per cent at end-March 2005. Debt servicing as a proportion of gross external current receipts dropped from 25.9 per cent in 1994-95 to 6.2 per cent in 2004-05. The proportion of short-term debt in total debt as well as the ratio of short-term debt to foreign currency assets rose to 7.5 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively at end-December 2005 (Table 2).

Table 2: India's Key External Debt Indicators

(Ratio as per cent)

				As a	at the end	of								
Ratios				March				Dec.						
	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 R	2005 R	2005 QE						
External Debt to GDP	30.8	22.1	22.4	21.1	20.4	17.8	17.3	*						
Debt service to Current Receipts	25.9	17.1	16.2	13.6	16.0 (12.4)	16.3 (8.5)		=						
Short-term to total Debt	4.3	4.0	3.6	2.8	4.5	4.0	6.1	7.5						
Short-term Debt to Foreign Currency Assets	20.5	11.2	9.2	5.4	6.5	4.1	5.6	6.8						
Concessional Debt to Total Debt	45.3	38.9	35.4	35.9	36.8	36.1	33.3	3 32.7						

^{*} Not worked out for broken period of the year. R: Revised, QE: Quick Estimate

Note: Figures in brackets indicate debt service ratio excluding exceptional transactions such as prepayments for 2002-03 and 2004-05, and prepayments as well as redemption of Resurgent India Bonds (RIBs) for 2003-04.

4. External Debt and Foreign Currency Assets

4.1 India's foreign exchange reserves including foreign currency assets of the RBI, gold, SDRs and Reserve Tranche Position in the International Monetary Fund stood at US\$137.2 billion as at the end of December 2005. Foreign currency assets of the RBI were of the order of US\$131.0 billion as on December 31, 2005 providing a cover of around 110 per cent to total external debt stock.

5. Currency Composition

5.1 US dollar continues to be the major currency of denomination in India's external debt portfolio. The share of US dollar in the debt stock of the country has, however, declined from 54.3 per cent at end-March 2002 to 44.6 per cent at end-December 2005 (Table 3) (Figure 3).

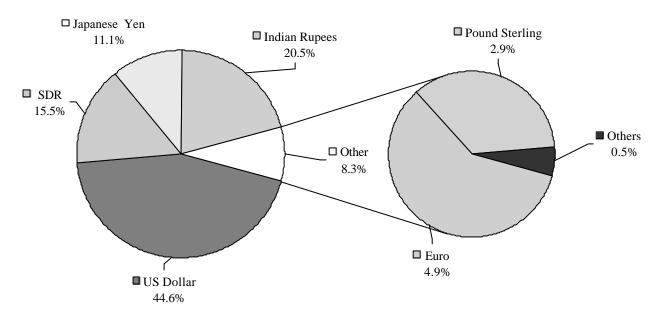
Table 3: Currency Composition of India's External Debt

(per cent to total external debt)

	As at the end of							
	Mar. 02	Mar. 03	Mar. 04 R	Mar. 05 R	Dec. 05 QE			
US Dollar	54.3	46.4	40.4	44.1	44.6			
SDRs	14.1	15.2	15.6	15.4	15.5			
Indian Rupees	11.9	17.4	22.7	21.1	20.5			
Japanese Yen	10.2	10.7	11.7	11.1	11.1			
Euro	5.7	6.2	5.8	5.0	4.9			
Pound Sterling	2.9	3.1	3.4	2.8	2.9			
Others	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.5			
Total:	100	100	100	100	100			

R: Revised. QE Quick Estimates

Figure 3: Currency Composition of India's external debt at end-December 2005



6. External Debt Management

6.1 The external debt management policy of the Government continues to be one of caution, focusing on raising loans from least expensive sources preferably with longer maturity profiles, accelerating growth of exports, monitoring of short-term debt, keeping commercial debt under manageable limits, and encouraging non-debt creating capital flows.

India's External Debt Outstanding (Quarterly)

 $(Rs.\ crore)$

		As at the end of							
		Sept. 2004 R	Dec. 2004 R		June 2005 R	Sept. 05 R	Dec. 2005 QE		
Ī.	MULTILATERAL	138,928	138,087	138,915	136,589	138,630	144,012		
A.	Government Borrowing	127,560	127,005	127,782	125,547	127,293	132,455		
	(i) Concessional	106,911	105,891	105,114	101,957	102,692	105,684		
	a) IDA	105,433	104,435	103,671	100,587	101,307	104,295		
	b) Others	1,478	1,456	1,443	1,370	1,385	1,389		
	(ii) Non-concessional	20,649	21,114	22,668	23,590	24,601	26,771		
	a) IBRD	15,511	15,615	16,500	16,960	17,640	18,760		
	b) Others	5,138	5,499	6,168	6,630	6,961	8,011		
B.	Non-Government Borrowing	11,368	11,082	11,133	11,042	11,337	11,557		
	(i) Concessional	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	(ii) Non-concessional	11,368	11,082	11,133	11,042	11,337	11,557		
	a) Public Sector	8,313	7,961	8,000	7,864	8,124	8,227		
	i) IBRD	4,662	4,422	4,462	4,368	4,459	4,516		
	ii) Others	3,651	3,539	3,538	3,496	3,665	3,711		
	b) Financial Institutions	2,814	2,870	2,789	2,788	2,740	2,770		
	i) IBRD	329	282	252	396	370	375		
	ii) Others	2,485	2,588	2,537	2,392	2,370	2,395		
	c) Private Sector	241	251	344	390	473	560		
	i) IBRD	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	ii) Others	241	251	344	390	473	560		
II.	BILATERAL	76,676	78,043	74,174	70,981	70,005	70,403		
A.	Government borrowing	57,848	58,959	57,458	55,158	54,555	54,355		
	(i) Concessional	57,583	58,708	57,207	55,037	54,433	54,230		
	(ii) Non-concessional	265	251	251	121	122	125		
В.	Non-Government borrowing	18,828	19,084	16,716	15,823	15,450	16,048		
	(i) Concessional	8,791	9,213	7,472	7,143	7,060	6,992		
	a) Public Sector	5,704	6,042	5,653	5,400	5,344	5,292		
	b) Financial Institutions	3,087	3,171	1,819	1,743	1,716	1,700		
	c) Private Sector	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	(ii) Non-concessional	10,037	9,871	9,244	8,680	8,390	9,056		
	a) Public Sector	4,746	4,699	4,354	4,031	3,935	3,895		
	b) Financial Institutions	3,095	3,017	2,844	2,699	2,609	2,574		
	c) Private Sector	2,196	2,155	2,046	1,950	1,846	2,587		
III.	IMF	0	0	0	0	0	0		
IV.	EXPORT CREDIT	21,224	21,752	21,798	22,785	22,668	23,314		
a)	Buyers' credit	11,814	12,447	12,900	14,208	14,257	15,381		
b)	Suppliers' credit	4,403	4,200	3,923	3,790	3,677	3,217		
c)	Export credit component of								
	bilateral credit	5,007	5,105	4,975	4,787	4,734	4,716		
d)	Export credit for defence purchases	0	0	0	0		0		
v. co	OMMERCIAL BORROWINGS	104,441	108,054	118,243	117,631	124,576	101,092		
a)	Commercial bank loans #	56,455	54,973	60,448	59,890	62,790	66,247		
	Securitized borrowings ##	44,363	49,484	54,152	54,111	58,144	31,388		
c)	Loans/securitized borrowings etc., with		3,597	3,643	3,630	3,642	3,457		
	multilateral/bilateral guarantee + IFC(
d)	Self-Liquidating Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0		
VI.	NRI DEPOSITS® (Above one year maturity)	141,045	139,088	143,267	142,425	144,556	149,792		

		As at the end of							
		Sept. 2004 R	Dec. 2004 R	Mar. 2005 R	June 2005 R	Sept. 05 R	Dec. 2005 QE		
VII.	RUPEE DEBT*	10,634	10,434	10,070	9,337	9,329	9,329		
a)	Defence	9,349	9,149	8,887	8,179	8,173	8,173		
b)	Civilian	1,285	1,285	1,183	1,158	1,156	1,156		
VIII.	TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT								
	(I TO VII)	492,948	495,458	506,467	499,748	509,764	497,942		
IX.	SHORT-TERM DEBT	28,108	29,917	32,922	31,657	36,525	40,248		
a)	NRI deposits (up to one year maturity)@	0	0	0	0	0	0		
b)	Others (trade-related)**	28,108	29,917	32,922	31,657	36,525	40,248		
	of which, short-term debt over 6 months	28,108	29,917	32,922	31,657	36,525	40,248		
X.	GRAND TOTAL (VIII+IX)	521,056	525,375	539,389	531,405	546,289	538,190		

QE: QuickEstimates

R: Revised

IFC(W): International Finance Corporation (Washington).

#: includes Financial Lease since 1996.

##: includes Resurgent India Bonds (RIBs), India Millenium Deposits (IMDs),

also includes Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs) and net investment by 100% FII debt funds.

FCCB debt has been adjusted since End-March, 1998 after netting out conversion into equity and redemptions.

@ Figures include accrued interest.

*: Rupee denominated debt owed to Russia and payable through exports.

**: This does not include Suppliers' credits of up to 180 days.

***: The definition of concessional debt here includes concessional categories under Multilateral and Bilateral debt

and Rupee debt under item VII.

Source: Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), Ministry of Defence, Reserve Bank of India, Securities & Exchange

Board of India.

India's External Debt Outstanding (Quarterly)

(US \$ million)

_			As at the en	d of		
	Sept. 2004 R	Dec. 2004 R	Mar. 2005 R	June 2005 R	Sept. 05 R	Dec. 2005 QE
I. MULTILATERAL	30,151	31,550	31,702	31,335	31,429	31,799
A. Government Borrowing	27,684	29,017	29,161	28,802	28,858	29,246
(i) Concessional	23,201	24,193	23,988	23,390	23,281	23,335
a) IDA	22,880	23,860	23,659	23,076	22,967	23,028
b) Others	321	333	329	314	314	307
(ii) Non-concessional	4,483	4,824	5,173	5,412	5,577	5,911
a) IBRD	3,368	3,568	3,765	3,891	3,999	4,142
b) Others	1,115	1,256	1,408	1,521	1,578	1,769
B. Non-Government Borrowing	2,467	2,533	2,541	2,533	2,571	2,553
(i) Concessional	0	0	0	0	0	0
(ii) Non-concessional	2,467	2,533	2,541	2,533	2,571	2,553
a) Public Sector	1,804	1,819	1,826	1,804	1,842	1,817
i) IBRD	1,012	1,010	1,018	1,002	1,011	997
ii) Others	792	809	808	802	831	820
b) Financial Institutions	611	656	636	640	622	612
i) IBRD	72	64	57	91	84	83
ii) Others	539	592	579	549	538	529
c) Private Sector	52	58	79	89	107	124
i) IBRD	0	0	0	0	0	0
ii) Others	52	58	79	89	107	124
II. BILATERAL	16,636	17,838	16,930	16,287	15,875	15,553
A. Government borrowing	12,553	13,471	13,113	12,654	12,368	12,002
(i) Concessional	12,496	13,413	13,055	12,626	12,340	11,974
(ii) Non-concessional	57	58	58	28	28	28
B. Non-Government borrowing	4,083	4,367	3,817	3,633	3,507	3,551
(i) Concessional	1,908	2,105	1,705	1,639	1,601	1,544
a) Public Sector	1,238	1,381	1,290	1,239	1,212	1,168
b) Financial Institutions	670	724	415	400	389	376
c) Private Sector	0	0	0	0	0	0
(ii) Non-concessional	2,175	2,262	2,112	1,994	1,906	2,007
a) Public Sector	1,028	1,077	995	926	894	863
b) Financial Institutions	671	691	649	620	592	570
c) Private Sector	476	494	468	448	420	574
III. IMF	0	0	0	0	0	0
IV. EXPORT CREDIT	4,600	4,986	4,980	5,234	5,150	5,168
a) Buyers' credit	2,559	2,856	2,948	3,265	3,241	3,413
b) Suppliers' credit	954	964	897	871	836	714
c) Export credit component of						
bilateral credit	1,087	1,166	1,135	1,098	1,073	1,041
d) Export credit for defence purchases	0	0	0	0	0	0
V. COMMERCIAL BORROWINGS	22,630	24,791	27,024	27,032	28,319	22,433
a) Commercial bank loans #	12,232	12,613	13,815	13,763	14,274	14,701
b) Securitized borrowings ##	9,613	11,353	12,376	12,435	13,217	6,965
 c) Loans/securitized borrowings etc., with multilateral/bilateral guarantee + IFC(W 	785 ()	825	833	834	828	767
d) Self-Liquidating Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0
VI. NRI DEPOSITS@ (Above one year maturity)	30,559	31,912	32,743	32,730	32,861	33,239

		As at the end of							
		Sept. 2004 R	Dec. 2004 R	Mar. 2005 R	June 2005 R	Sept. 05 R	Dec. 2005 QE		
VII.	RUPEE DEBT*	2,305	2,392	2,301	2,146	2,120	2,069		
a)	Defence	2,026	2,099	2,031	1,880	1,858	1,814		
b)	Civilian	279	293	270	266	262	255		
VIII.	TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT								
	(I TO VII)	106,881	113,469	115,680	114,764	115,754	110,261		
IX.	SHORT-TERM DEBT	6,090	6,864	7,524	7,275	8,398	8,931		
a)	NRI deposits (up to one year maturity)@	0	0	0	0	0	0		
b)	Others (trade-related)**	6,090	6,864	7,524	7,275	8,398	8,931		
	of which, short-term debt over 6 months	6,090	6,864	7,524	7,275	8,398	8,931		
X.	GRAND TOTAL (VIII+IX)	112,971	120,333	123,204	122,039	124,152	119,192		
	Memo Items:								
	Concessional Debt***	39,910	42,103	41,049	39,801	39,342	38,922		

QE: QuickEstimates

R: Revised

IFC(W): International Finance Corporation (Washington).

#: includes Financial Lease since 1996.

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@ Figures include accrued interest.

*: Rupee denominated debt owed to Russia and payable through exports.

**: This does not include Suppliers' credits of up to 180 days.

***: The definition of concessional debt here includes concessional categories under Multilateral and Bilateral debt

and Rupee debt under item VII.

Source: Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), Ministry of Defence, Reserve Bank of India, Securities & Exchange

Board of India.