GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 160

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, 22.07.2024

COUNTRY'S EXTERNAL DEBT

160. Shri Manickam Tagore B:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the country's external debt rises to \$663.8 billion at the end of March 2024 which was higher by \$39.7 than at the end of March 2023;
- (b) if so the details thereof;
- (c) whether loans remained the largest component of external debt followed by currency and deposits, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the outstanding debt of both Government and non-Government sectors increased at the end of March 2024; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): Yes Sir. The data on India's external debt are presented in the following Table 1.

Table 1: India's External Debt		
Period	US\$ billion	
End March 2023	624.1	
End March 2024	663.8	
Sources: RBI		

(c) Loans were the largest component of external debt as of end March, 2024, with a share of 33.4 per cent, followed by currency and deposit-s at 23.3 per cent. Details are in Table 2.

Table 2: Outstanding External Debt by Instruments - End March 2024			
Instrument	US\$ billion	Share (per cent)	
Loans	222.0	33.4	
Currency and Deposits	154.8	23.3	
Trade Credit and Advances	118.6	17.9	
Debt Securities	115.1	17.3	
Direct Investment: Intercompany Lending	31.4	4.7	
Special Drawing Rights (allocations)	21.9	3.3	
Other Debt Liabilities	0	0	
Total External Debt	663.8	100.0	
Sources: RBI			

(d) and (e) The data on India's Government and non-Government external debt are presented in the Table 3.

Table 3: Government and Non-Government External Debt (US\$ billion)			
Period	Government Debt	Non-government Debt	
End-March 2023	133.3	490.7	
End March 2024	148.7	515.1	
Sources: RBI			
