

(c) The commercial purchase of cotton by Cotton Corporation of India from Karnataka is dependent upon factors like the price situation, requirements of mills, export prospects, etc.

[*Translation*]

### **Rajghat Project**

3274. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by Union Government so far on the Rajghat Project under Betwa River Board set up with the concurrence of the Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Government; and

(b) the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Funds for the Rajghat Dam Project are made available by the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in equal proportions. An amount of Rs. 129.14 crores has been spent on the project till the end of January, 1990.

(b) The head-works are scheduled for completion in 1992.

[*English*]

### **Examination for Head Clerks and UDCs in EPF Organisation**

3275. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints from various unions, including the complaints from some Members of Parliament, have been received by Government/Ministry of Labour, demand-

ing a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation in the scandal of leakage of question papers of Head-clerks and U.D.C. in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation; and

(b) if so, whether the investigation has been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The investigation has been entrusted to the Crime Branch of Delhi Police.

### **Stainless Steel Utensils Conforming Indian Standards**

3276. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of stainless steel utensils manufactured from rolled sheets do not conform to the prescribed Indian Standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, what check is exercised by Government to ensure that stainless steel utensils are manufactured conforming to the prescribed Indian Standards only?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Though the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have formulated a few Indian Standards in respect of some stainless steel utensils as well as stainless steel sheets, coils and strips, these Standards are voluntary in character. The Bureau administers a Certifications Marking

Scheme under which manufactures licenced by the Bureau are authorised to affix the ISI Standard Mark on the products manufactured by them in token of their conformity to the respective Indian Standard specification. The Bureau also monitors the performance of such licenced manufacturers by way of periodic surprise checks at production stage. There are only three manufactures in India, who are licenced by B.I.S. B.I.S. are not empowered to take action against any stainless steel utensil manufacturer for sub-standard or inferior quality of stainless steel utensils manufactured by him if he is not a licensee of the Bureau. BIS, however, through its publicity campaign keep on educating the consumer at large to go in for only ISI marked products to get quality.

#### **Wakf Properties in Lakshadweep**

3277. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Wakf Properties in Lakshadweep which have been notified in the official gazette since 1965;

(b) the number of new Wakf-Properties which have not been notified in the official gazette so far; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the time by the which the new properties are expected to be notified?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) 256 (Two hundred and fifty six) Wakf properties have been notified since 1965.

(b) 35 (Thirty five) new Wakf properties have not been notified in the official gazette so far.

(c) According to the information re-

ceived from Lakshadweep Administration, the verification and assessment of these 35 new Wakf properties is yet to be completed. As these properties are distributed in 10 inhabited islands lying scattered in the Arabian Sea, their exact position could be assessed and ascertained only after survey and inspection. This work could not be undertaken by the officials of the Lakshadweep Wakf Board during the current financial year 1989-90 for want of funds. It is now proposed to conduct the inspection of these properties during the financial year 1990-91 after getting sufficient grants-in-aid.

[*Translation*]

#### **Plantation of Mulberry Trees**

3278. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive scheme has been formulated by Government regarding plantation of Mulberry trees in the Eighth Five Year Plan in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to promote Silk production in these areas in the said plan period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). National Sericulture project (1989-94) being implemented by the Central Silk Board envisages development of 4,000 acres of mulberry plantation to yield 120 tonnes of raw silk in the State of Uttar Pradesh covering Deharadun District (which is part of the hill areas of State) and the Saharanpur District. The project envisages the setting up of the following supporting infrastructures in the States:—