

are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. The Directorate General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the managements for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance with the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default.

Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as:

- (i) Conference on safety in mines,
- (ii) Self-regulation by management,
- (iii) Workers' participation in safety management,
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels,
- (v) Training of work persons,
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and Safety Campaigns,
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

(b) to (d) As compared to the previous decade, the number of fatal and serious accidents as well as resultant casualties/injuries in respect of gold mines have declined during the current decade.

(e) Special efforts viz. air conditioning and use of spot coolers in the mines of Kolar Gold Fields have been undertaken to improve the working condition of the workers in these mines. Also extensive scientific studies have been undertaken to minimise the rock bursts in these mines.

#### **Smuggling of Silk**

6074. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA:

SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of raw silk from some neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received some representation from the silk producers of the country in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the domestic silk producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Available reports indicate illegal import of raw silk into India from Nepal, Bangladesh borders.

The Government of India have already drawn the

attention of Bangladesh Government to the matter with a request to take urgent measures to check smuggling of raw silk to India and matter is also being taken up with Nepal Government. Alert instructions have been issued to the field formations to ensure suitable deterrence to attempts of smuggling including smuggling of raw silk.

#### **Investigation against AEPC by DGI**

6075. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 has directed the Director General of Investigation to start preliminary investigation into the complaints against Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi relating to allocation of quota;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received by MRTPC in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) On the basis of a complaint made by All India Garment Exporters Common Cause Guild and Globe Overseas Trading Corporation, the MRTPC Commission has directed the Director General of Investigation and Registration to carry out a preliminary investigation into the allegations against M/s. Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) and file the Preliminary Investigation Report thereof within 60 days.

The complainants have alleged in their complaint that the respondent council, M/s. AEPC has furnished wrong data while making its recommendations to the Government regarding quantities to be released under the First-cum-First Served (FCFS) System on 28.10.1996 and has thereby manipulated the conditions of distribution of quota. The matter is now listed before the Commission on 10.7.1997 for consideration of the Preliminary Investigation Report.

#### **Exim Bank**

6076. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of number of branches of Exim Banks presently functioning in each State;

(b) the number of SC/ST and Minorities staff working category-wise; and

(c) the details of the backlog amongst these categories as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has reported that it has six Regional Representative Offices located in New Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

(b) Exim Bank has reported that out of the existing total staff strength of 150, the number of scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and minorities staff is 21, 10 and 34 respectively.

(c) As per the information provided by Exim Bank, the backlog as on date in scheduled caste category is six and in scheduled tribe category is three. Against this backlog, four scheduled caste candidates and two scheduled tribe candidates have been selected for appointment by the bank. There is, however, no reservation for minorities category and therefore, the question of backlog in this category does not arise.

M.R.T.S.

6077. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Delays raise MRTS cost by Rs. 1,000 crores' appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated November 22, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Any delay in implementation of the MRTS could lead to escalation of project cost. However, the project implementation has started only very recently.

(b) and (c) The MMRTS project is scheduled to be completed by 2005 A.D. All efforts are being made to adhere to the time frame fixed for implementation of the Project. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., a joint venture of Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi, has been set up for implementation of the Project.

The Loan Agreement for the project has been signed by the Government of India with OECF (Japan) in February, 1997. Besides this, the land acquisition process has also been started by the Government of Delhi. The appointment of General Consultant for the Project has been taken up by DMRC Ltd.

#### Development of Municipalities

6078. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have identified municipalities in different States for the urban poverty alleviation programmes for providing civic amenities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) This department is implementing the following three schemes for urban poverty alleviation in the country:-

(1) **Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)**: This scheme applies to all class II urban agglomerations in the country with a population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census as also to special category Urban agglomerations in the North-Eastern States, Hill States, and Garhwal and Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh. The total number of Urban agglomerations covered under this scheme throughout the country is 424.

(2) **Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY)**: This scheme applies to all urban towns in the country not covered under PMIUPEP.

(3) **Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP)**: This scheme applies to towns selected by the State Governments and approved by the Union Government for this purpose. The scheme currently applies to 353 towns throughout the country.

[Translation]

#### Drinking Water Schemes

6079. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where drinking water schemes with Indo-German Cooperation are in progress in Rajasthan and the names of the places where potable water have been made available;

(b) the amount sanctioned for these schemes and the total estimated expenditure to be incurred, scheme-wise; and

(c) the latest position of these schemes and by when these are proposed to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Government of Rajasthan has reported that an Integrated Water Supply, Sanitation and Community Participation project is under implementation with Indo-German Cooperation in 325 villages and 2 towns of Churu and Hanumangarh districts.

(b) The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 253.01 crores, which includes German assistance of DM 135 million. The break-up of the total estimated expenditure to be incurred on the project is as follows:

1. Technical	-	Rs. 214. 71 crores
2. Non-technical	-	Rs. 19.00 crores
3. Consultancy	-	Rs. 19.30 crores
Total	-	Rs. 253.01 crores