

Heavy Industry

452. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up any heavy industry under the public sector or private sector in the country, particularly in Gujarat with the assistance of World Bank or any other international organisations;

(b) if so, the budgetary allocations made for the said proposal and by when this is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) In the liberalised regime, most of the industries are delicensed and no permission from Government of India is necessary to set up these industries. Since August 1991 till 30th June, 1997, 374 Letters of Intent have been issued and 4483 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed for locating industries in Gujarat. However, the investment intentions do not indicate whether any assistance would be taken from World Bank or any other international organisation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Textiles Exports

453. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied and identified the major problems faced by the textile industry in its exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent upto what the exports of Indian Textiles are likely to be adversely affected after the transfer of Hong Kong to China; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to meet the challenge of new rules and import curbs imposed by rich nations and to help the textile industry to increase its exports?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Government have been in constant touch with the textile export industry and have been taking all possible steps to resolve the problems.

(c) The exports of our textile products are not likely to be adversely affected after the transfer of Hong Kong to China, at present.

(d) The challenge of new rules and import curbs imposed by rich nations are met by mutual consultations

or through the organisations of the WTO. However, in order to boost the exports of garments, Government have been taking a number of steps, which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets; fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc.

NBFCs in Bihar

454. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "RBI unaware of illegally operating NBFCs in Bihar" appearing in the Financial Express dated June 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard in terms of Government's declared policy of regulating the operations of NBFCs to protect the interests of general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prior to the recent amendments to the RBI Act, non-banking financial companies did not require prior approval/registration with RBI before commencing/carrying on business. As per the recent amendment to RBI Act, it is necessary for a non-banking financial company to obtain a certificate of registration from RBI before commencing/carrying on the business of a NBFC. However, a non-banking financial company in existence on the commencement of the RBI (Amendment) Act is required to make an application for registration to RBI within six months i.e. upto 8th July, 1997. Such companies may carry on business of an NBFC till such time the rejection of its application for registration by RBI is communicated to it. According to RBI, 480 Companies which have been incorporated in Bihar have applied for registration with RBI by the stipulated period. Companies which continue business of a NBFC without a Certificate of Registration are liable for prosecution under Section 58(3) (4A) of RBI Act entailing an imprisonment of not less than a year and upto five years and fine which shall not be less than one lakh but not more than five lakhs.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts of SCs/STs

455. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appointments made in the departments/undertakings under his Ministry during the last three years and as on date, post-wise;