

(c) If so, the steps taken to boost the production and export of silk yarn?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) The total production of silk yarn in Maharashtra during the last two years is as under:-

I. Mulberry Raw Silk (in M. Tonnes)

Year	Quantity
1995-96	14
1996-97	12

II. Tasar Raw Silk (in Tonnes)

Year	Quantity
1995-96	1
1996-97	1

(b) and (c) Silk yarn export from India were negligible in 1995-96, 1996-97. The value of silk yarn exported was only Rs. 0.44 crores and Rs. 0.54 crores against the total export for Rs. 846 crores and Rs. 880 crores respectively. Most of the silk yarn exports are of yarn made from silk wastes and no mill is producing such yarn has been set up in the State of Maharashtra.

[English]

Law Ministers' Conference

521. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE:

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of State Law Ministers was recently held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the agenda discussed and major decisions taken thereat;

(c) the details of time bound action plan finalised for 1997-98; and

(d) the status of various legal reform process initiated in the recent past and suggestions/proposals received from the Government of Maharashtra along with the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the agenda of the Law Ministers' Conference is attached as statement. The major decision taken in the meeting are:

1. To amend the Code of Criminal Procedure broadly on the lines of recommendations made by the Law Commission in its 154th Report;

2. To amend the Code of Civil Procedure to avoid delay in completing procedural requirements and to promote alternative dispute resolution mechanisms;

3. To launch State-wise drive for one year with effect from 15 August, 1997 for holding Lok Adalats on quarterly basis to help reduce pendency of cases;

4. To restore position with regard to appointment of Judges as it existed prior to 1993 Supreme Court's decision in the case of Advocates on Record Association Vs. Union of India;

5. To take up review/repeal of obsolete laws on priority basis;

6. Making available legal information like Central enactments and decided cases on internet for easy accessibility; and

7. To amend Advocates Act, 1961 & Notaries Act, 1952.

(c) A time bound programme for one year commencing from 15 August, 1997 for holding Lok Adalats on quarterly basis in all States/Union Territories to help reduce pendency of cases has been drawn up.

(d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Agenda of the Law Ministers Conference 1997

1. Amendments to the Cr. P.C.

2. Amendments to the C.P.C.

3. Reduction of arrears in courts; All India Judicial Service; and Appointment of Judges.

4. Alternative Dispute Resolution; NALSA, Lok Adalats; Delineation of Constituencies; Advocates Act; Notaries Act; and Related Issues.

5. Repeal/Review of obsolete laws; Plain language in legal drafting; etc. Computerisation of legal information.

Loss Suffered by Indian Bank

522. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss suffered by the Indian Bank during 1995-96 & 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government/RBI have taken or propose to take any steps for improving the performance of the bank; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Indian Bank has reported a net loss of Rs. 1336.40 crores during the year 1995-96 (year ended 31.3.96). The bank is yet to finalise its accounts for the year ended 31.3.97.

(b) and (c) As the bank's performance during the year 1995-96 was not satisfactory the following suggestions were made to the bank by Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(i) Bank should constitute a special task force to make sustained efforts for mobilisation of deposits and take concrete steps to recover NPAs so as to improve its profitability.

(ii) Monthly status report on the progress of recovery in the major NPA accounts/review of staff accountability should be furnished to RBI.

(iii) Treasury management/house keeping should be improved.

(iv) The functioning of overseas branches should be closely monitored. Indian Bank has initiated the following measures for improving their performance:

- (i) Increasing core deposits.
- (ii) reducing financial mismatch.
- (iii) improving credit management.

(iv) recovery of NPAs—the bank has formed a Settlement Advisory Committee for finalising compromise proposals.

(v) improving house keeping.

IBA Envisage on Computerisation of Bank

523. SHRI RAMSAGAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the time of signing the settlement on computerisation by the IBA with the unions during 1993, it was envisaged that around 2800 branches would be fully computerised by June, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for the progress being rather slow and currently there being only 1400 branches fully computerisation; and

(c) by when the remaining 1400 branches proposed to be computerised fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) In view of the industry level agreement by Indian Bank's Association (IBA) in October, 1993 with the Employees' Federation, all banks were to take up full computerisation of their branches in a phased manner. As per the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), 2197 branches of Indian public sector banks have been fully computerised upto 31st March, 1997. The process of computerising more branches is an ongoing process.

Visiting of Officers of GIC Abroad

524. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Chairman of General Insurance

Corporation and Chairman of its (GIC's) four subsidiary companies who went abroad during the last three years and names of the countries visited alongwith their departure and arrival dates, country-wise;

(b) the purpose of their visit and expenditure incurred in foreign exchange in each case;

(c) the details of tours undertaken by the Chairman and Director of each subsidiary company of GIC from Mumbai to Delhi during the last three years; and

(d) the purpose of their visit to Delhi and expenditure incurred on them in each tour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Bank Branch at Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda

525. SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda, Darbhanga (Bihar) has fulfilled all the conditions stipulated by the Government to open a branch of a bank;

(b) if so, the reasons for not opening the said branch of bank there so far; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda is an unbanked rural centre. Under the extant Branch Licensing Policy, the need for opening a branch at a particular centre is left to the judgement of the bank to which the centre/village is allocated under the scheme of service area approach to rural lending. The banks proposals for opening rural branches within their respective service areas are required to be duly recommended by the concerned State Governments and forwarded to RBI for prior approval. Such proposals are considered by RBI on merits of each case. RBI have further reported that they have not received any application for opening a branch at Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda.

Achievements of PSUs

526. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements made by the Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years;

(b) whether the importance of Public Sector Undertakings has been decreasing due to external and other pressure;