[English]

Production of Muga Silk

729. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of Muga Silk produced during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91:
- (b) whether the Government are aware of the problems faced by 'Muga Silk' growers due to pollution from the Oil field in Upper Assam; and
- (c) if so, the steps the Govt. have taken or propose to take to protect the interest of 'Muga' silk growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The year-wise details of Muga Silk production are as under:

Sl. Year No.	Productiom (Metric Tonnes)
1. 1988-89	45
2. 1989-90	57
3. 1990-91	70
	(Provisional)

(b) and (c) None of the Muga growing States nor the Central Silk Board's units have brought any such problem to the notice of the Board.

Amount Awarded by Finance Commission to Autonomous Districts Councils of Assam

730. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount awarded to the Autonomous District Councils of Darbi Anglong and N.C. Hills of Assam (Constituted under the Sixth schedule of the Constitution of India) by the Eighth Finance Commission;

- (b) whether the Ninth Finance Commission has awarded any amount to the said District Councils: and
- (c) if not, what is the policy of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The Eighth Finance Commission awarded Rs. 5 crores during 1984-89 for both the District Autonomous Councils in Assam.

- (b) No Sir: The Ninth Finance Commission recommended grants-inaid to cover both the non-plan and part of plan gaps of the State of Assam as a whole.
- (c) Government have accepted the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

[Translation]

N.T.C. and S.T.C. Mills

SATYNARAYAN SHRI **731**. JATIYA: Will the Minister of TEX-TILES be pleased to state the measures taken by the Government under the new textiles policy to make the National Textile Corporation and the State Textile Corporation mills profitable and the time bound programme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): Improving the performance of textile under National Textile Corporation is a continuous process and it is not possible to indicate a time-bound programme. The following steps have been taken to improve the profitability of the mills under NTC:-

Modernisation

pruning uneconomic capacities optimising economic capacities