

[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.	Production (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 District 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-in-aid 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

731. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES 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 mills 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

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- selective modernisation
- higher productivity
- labour rationalisation
- competitive purchase of raw materials
- higher yarn production
- lower cloth production
- price optimisation
- product upgradation.

Improving the performance of the textile mills run by the State Textile Corporations is the concern of the respective State Governments.

[English]

**Settlement of L.I.C. Policies**

732. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Life Insurance policies which had matured or became payable prior to 31-3-90 and which remained unsettled on 1-4-90;

(b) the number of such policies which matured or became payable during 1990-91;

(c) the number of policies included in (a) and (b) above which were settled during 1990-91;

(d) the number of policies which remained under settlement on 31-3-91;

(e) the average time taken by Life Insurance Corporation to settle claims on maturity; and

(f) the steps taken to reduce processing time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) 64,946 policies.

(b) 13,94,277 policies.

(c) 19,08,739 policies.

(d) 50,484 policies.

(e) The Corporation has laid down the following time norms to be observed by its all offices in respect of maturity claim payments:

(i) where all requirements are received sufficiently in advance of the date of maturity, post dated cheques in advance should be issued.

(ii) where all requirements are received after the date of maturity, the cheques towards the payment of claims should be issued within a maximum period of 4 days from the date of completion of all formalities.

(f) Several administrative measures such as use of micro-processors, purification of records, sending the discharge forms well in advance, etc. are being taken to reduce processing time.

**Sanctioned strength of Posts in High Courts**

733. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sanctioned posts of Judges and Additional Judges of High Courts as on 1 April, 1991, Court-wise;

(b) the vacancies in each High Court on that date;

(c) the number of Judges and Additional Judges belonging to OBC's SC, ST and religious minorities on that date;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to upgrade the representation of the under represented groups in these posts; and

(e) the break-up of existing Judges/ Additional Judges by mode of appointment i.e. promotion from the bench or nomination from the Bar?