

**REGISTERED SHIPPING COMPANIES  
IN KERALA**

1422. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of registered shipping companies in Kerala which are in income tax and freight arrears; and

(b) the amount of such arrears outstanding against each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) There is no shipping company in Kerala which owns a ship registered with the Directorate General of Shipping.

(b) Does not arise.

**HANDLOOM AND JANATA CLOTH**

1423. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the accumulated stock of handloom and janata cloth in the country as on December 31, 1990;

(b) whether the Union Government have introduced Market Development subsidy in place of rebate;

(c) whether the weavers societies are not utilising the aforesaid subsidy towards rebate for the consumer; and

(d) the quota of janata cloth allotted to Andhra Pradesh during 1989-90 and 1990-91, the quantity utilised and the subsidy claimed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Over 38 lakh handlooms dispersed in different locations all over the country produced 4150 million metres of cloth during the year 1990-91 as per our estimates. Over 80% of this production is marketed by the weavers on their own initiative. No record is kept by the Union Government of the total sale or of accumulated stock of handloom cloth.

Under the Janata cloth production programme, the accumulated stock as on December 31 1990 was approximately 75 million square metres.

(b) Yes, Sir. It is called Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme.

(c) The scheme of Market Development Assistance envisages that not more than 75% of the total assistance sanctioned should be utilised for giving rebate/discount to the consumers. In other words, a minimum of 25% of the assistance under this scheme should be utilised for any of the following purposes namely (i) interest subsidy, (ii) capital/margin money for setting up of showrooms etc., and (iii) any other purpose approved by the State and/or Central Government. There are no complaints with the Government that the Weavers societies are not utilising the funds properly under the MDA scheme.

(d) Figures for Andhra Pradesh relating to Janata cloth production for 1989-90 and 1990-91 are given below :—

Target	Achievement	Subsidy
(in million square metres)		(Rs. in crore)
61.00	52.46	15.16
65.00	60.78	17.67

**IMPORT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

1424. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has been importing sophisticated medical equipment; and

(b) if so, the details of the parties who placed the indents for these imported equipment with STC, the equipment actually imported with cost per unit and countries of origin during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) : STC