

has been posed to the World Bank for financial assistance under the proposed Second National Highway Loan. Negotiations for the loan have been completed recently. However, the loan is yet to be signed with the World Bank. As such, it is too early to indicate the date of commencement of the work.

[Translation]

Promotion of Handloom Industry

4112. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new policy for the promotion of handloom industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Government of India have recently announced the policy measures for promoting and strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises which, *inter alia*, covered certain policy initiative in respect of Handloom sector also.

(b) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

The following are the enunciations made in the Small Scale Industrial Policy with a view to promote handlooms, to sustain employment in rural areas and to improve the quality of life for handloom weavers.

2. Schemes for the handloom sector will be redesigned keeping in mind the local and regional needs. Con-

straints of coverage will be removed so as to include bulk of the weavers who are outside the corporate/cooperative fold.

3. Existing schemes will be re-drawn and suitably revised under three major heads :—

- (a) **Project Package Scheme :** Under this scheme, area-based projects for product development, upgradation of technology, improvement of marketing facilities will be drawn up.
- (b) **Welfare Package Scheme :** Number of welfare schemes and quantum of funds earmarked for them will be substantially augmented.
- (c) **Organisation Development Package :** Schemes for participation in the share capital will be re-drawn under organisational development scheme for imparting a better management system in the existing state agencies.

4. Janata Cloth Scheme which sustains weavers often on a minimum level of livelihood will be phased out by the terminal year of the VIII Plan and replaced by the omnibus project package scheme under which substantial funds will be provided for modernisation of looms, training, provision of better designs, provision of better dyes and chemicals and marketing assistance.

5. A vastly expanded role for the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is envisaged. NHDC would be the nodal agency for increasing the supply of hank yarn and of dyes and chemicals. Spinning capacity in the cooperative sector will

be increased. National Cooperative Development Corporation will provide more assistance for this in the form of Seed Money, both for cotton growers spinning mills and weavers spinning mills.

6. For improving marketing of handloom products, a more intensive implementation of schemes for design and product improvement by national level publicity, exhibitions, and design exercise will be undertaken. A special scheme will be drawn up to graduate the handloom production, which is often of low value items, to high value products suitable for export markets. This will be done by better design inputs, upgradation of technology, diversion of weavers from cotton to silk and tassar weaving. Special projects for modernisation of looms for products suitable for export markets will be drawn up.

World Bank Assistance for Projects in Rajasthan

4113. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of projects being implemented in Rajasthan with the World Bank assistance;

(b) whether work on a number of these projects have been at a standstill due to non-availability of timely assistance from the World Bank;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to take up the matter with the World Bank authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :
(a) A number of Multi-State projects with Rajasthan as a participating state are under implementation with World Bank assistance. A list of these projects is given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) The World Bank assistance is provided to the state governments on reimbursement basis. Initially the expenditure is incurred by the state government. Therefore, the question of stoppage of work under these projects due to non-availability of timely assistance from World Bank does not arise. Thus (c) & (d) do not arise.

STATEMENT

List of Projects in Rajasthan

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Assistance US \$ Million
1.	Vocational Training Project	280.0*
2.	First Technician Education	260.0*
3.	State Road Project	256.572*
4.	Dam Safety Project	153.0*
5.	NEAP-I Project	53.40*
6.	TWDP (Plains)	67.45*
7.	NARP-II	97.14*
8.	National Social Forestry Project	225.097*
9.	National Seeds Project-III	154.268*