

[Translation]

149 Uttar Pradesh

Setting up of a Depot to Provide Silk to Weavers in Azamgarh (U.P.)

2431. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a depot in district Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh to provide silk to weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) the directives issued by the Union Government to the State Government to provide incentives and adequate facilities to weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b) There is no Central Government scheme for opening of silk yarn depots. This is usually done by the State Handloom Corporations/ Apex Societies. In Azamgarh District, U.P. State Handloom Corporation Ltd. is operating a depot in Mubarakpur which provides silk and cotton yarn to the handloom weavers in the area.

(c) A number of centrally sponsored schemes are being operated through State Governments to provide incentives and adequate facilities to handloom weavers. The following schemes are being operated throughout the country, including U.P. :—

1. Financial assistance for modernisation of looms;
2. Scheme of decentralised training to train weavers on improved technology;
3. Design support and provision of technological inputs through a number of Weavers' Service Centres in the country;

4. Special fiscal concessions to the handloom sector to remove the cost handicap of handlooms vis-a-vis the powerlooms;

5. Assistance to weavers to enable them to form industrial type cooperatives;

6. Hill Area Woollen Handloom Development Project/Export Production Projects;

7. Pre-loom, post-loom processing facilities for weavers to make their products competitive in the market;

8. Thrift Fund Scheme which covers Group Insurance Scheme;

9. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for providing suitable work places to the weavers and thus achieve better productivity;

10. Market Development Assistance Scheme including Special Rebate, Share Capital Assistance to Apex Societies and State Corporations to give market support to handloom products; and

11. The Janata Cloth Scheme under which it is ensured that reasonable level of wages is paid to handloom weavers.

[English]

Export of Sugar

2432. SHRI R. JEEVARATHI-NAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of sugar exported during the period from January 1989 to June 1991, country-wise and the foreign exchange earned through these exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : A statement is attached.