

and Textiles Surveillance Body, respectively. Article 11 also provides for the possibility of bringing certain persisting problems to the Textile Committee, the GATT Council or the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Article 12 defines "textiles" under the scope of the MAF. Handloom products and traditional folklore cottage industry products are exempted from the scope of MAF.

The protocol of Extension of 22nd December, 1981 extending the term of the MFA from 1st January, 1982 to 31st July, 1986 contains the conclusions reached in the meeting of the Textiles Committee on 22nd December, 1981 which reflected the then prevailing main concerns of the participants and their undertakings to accommodate them.

**Voluntary Consumer Agency for
supervision of public
distribution system**

3674. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that twelve voluntary consumer agencies in Delhi have been given statutory supervisory authority for public distribution system as reported in the Times of India of 19 January, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this authority will be extended to Super Bazar shops, Mother Dairy and Delhi Milk Scheme supply depots; and

(d) whether this authority will also be extended to goods and services now provided by Union Government/State Governments Cooperative Sector and units in the capital including Road/Bus/Rail, Air, DESU, DTC, Phones, Hospitals, P&T, Municipal Services ?

THE MINISTER - OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a)

and (b) In pursuance of powers conferred upon him vide Clause 25 of the Delhi Specified Articles (Regulation of Distribution) Order, 1981, the Commissioner, Food & Supplies, Delhi Administration has authorised 14 individuals/voluntary consumer organisations to visit Fair Price Shops and Kerosene and Coal depots licensed by Food and Supplies Department, situated in Circle Nos. 13,21 30,31,32, 34,35,36,37 and 38.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

**Grievances of cotton growers in
Prakasam District of
Andhra Pradesh**

3675. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cotton growers of Uppuganduru in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh are being harassed at purchase centres of Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cotton brought to the yard by the growers is kept there for more than two months and as a result thereof it gets rotten;

(c) whether payment of cotton growers is abnormally delayed for more than two months by the Cotton Corporation of India;

(d) whether it is also a fact that officials of Cotton Corporation of India are in collision with the middlemen; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps being taken by Government for the redressal of the grievances of cotton growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No such incidents have been reported.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India has been purchasing cotton of fair average quality or slightly below standard, every day in the market yard.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

1983

Rs. 5515.99 lakh

(e) Does not arise.

1984

Rs. 6448.96 ..

[Translation]

1985

Rs. 34083.14 .. (prov.)

Benefit of handloom not received by weavers in Bihar

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above

3676. SHRI SALAHUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether it is a fact that benefit of handloom is being received by middle class persons and not by weavers in Bihar ?

Planning Commission Report on Essential Supplies Programme

3678. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : No such report has been received by the Government of India.

(a) whether the Planning Commission in its report on Essential Supplies Programme made recommendation for improving the efficiency and performance of the Public Distribution System;

[English]

Voluntary Excise duty disclosure scheme

3677. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(b) if so, details of the action Plan suggested and the follow-up action taken thereon;

(a) Whether a Scheme of Voluntary Excise disclosure has been worked out;

(c) whether these recommendations have improved the existing system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how much leakage of Excise is estimated each year;

(d) if so, the details of the improved efficiency and the consumer satisfaction achieved ?

(d) whether this Scheme will be similar to Income Tax disclosure Scheme; and

(e) if so, how much collection is expected each year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The study made by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has revealed that the benefits of the Public Distribution System are reaching vulnerable sections of the population in an ample measure and thus the cardinal aim of adequately covering poorer sections of the population in rural areas is being adequately fulfilled. Details of the action plan suggested in the report are attached as statement. All the State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to take follow-up action with various recommendations of the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission Report.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) It is not possible to give any estimate of the leakage of excise duty each year. However, the evasion of excise duty detected in the last three years are given below :-

(c) and (d) The primary responsibility for implementing the recommendations