

**Raw Silk Production**

6424. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that demand for silk has increased ;

(b) if so, whether there is a big scope for development of silk production in the country ;

(c) to what extent the production of the raw silk had increased during 1980-81 and what is the latest position in 1987-88 ; and

(d) the efforts being made to double the production of raw silk during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). From a level of 5041 tonnes in 1980-81, the production of raw silk in the country increased to 8787 tonnes in 1986-87. In order to supplement the efforts of State Governments, Central Silk Board has set up a network of units for extending R & D, extension and training support for increasing raw silk production in the country. The Board also implements intensive sericulture development projects. It is anticipated that the raw silk production during 1987-88 will be around 9420 tonnes. By the end of the VII Plan, the raw silk production is expected to go up to 10,900 tonnes.

**Foreign Investments**

6425. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that foreign investors find infrastructural problems and restrictive import policy as main hurdles in promoting foreign investment in India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken to remove such hurdles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Suggestions for improving our investment environment are received from time to time from different quarters. Due note of these suggestions is taken and appropriate remedial action initiated wherever necessary and feasible.

**Joint Ventures with Nepal**

6426. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up some joint ventures with Nepal ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal under consideration of Government for setting up Joint Ventures with Nepal.

**Demand of Employees of Coffee Board**

6427. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the Indian Coffee Board have been agitating for a number of demands including revision of pay scales, bonus, better promotion opportunities etc. ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to settle their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). The agitation by the employees of Coffee Board has ended with effect from 28th March, 1988. Except for the demand for grant of bonus to the Coffee Board employees which is subjudice and pending before the Supreme Court, the Coffee Board has decided to resolve the other major demands of the employees of the Coffee Board at their own level, on the basis of the comprehensive proposals received from the Employees Coordination Committee.