

[*Translation*]

Withdrawal of restrictions on Export of Agriculture Produce

4955 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers organisations in Maharashtra had launched 'Rasta Roko' agitation in more than 500 places with a view to raise their voice against the restrictions imposed on the export of agriculture produce;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw the restrictions imposed on the agriculture produce;

(c) if so, details thereof, and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, sir.

(b) to (d). Except in case of certain items of mass consumption there are no restrictions on exports of farm products. In fact Government is keen to promote exports of farms products and has provided various incentives.

Opium recovered from growers in Uttar Pradesh

4956. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of opium recovered during each of the last three years from the opium growers in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of opium growers deprived of getting opium licences with the result of this recovery; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide relief to such farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) the value of opium recovered during each of the last three years from the Opium growers in Barabanki District of U.P. is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of Opium recovered</i>
1988-89	Rs 2,23,341/-
1989-90	Rs 6, 57, 341/-
1990-91	Rs. 2, 07, 990/-

(b) the recovery of payment from the cultivators in these cases was made on account of difference in the yield of opium tendered by the cultivators as determined by handparakh initially and by factory analysis, subsequently. As the cultivators are initially paid 90% of the price of the yield of opium tendered 'by them on the basis of handparakh, the excess amount paid to them is liable to recovery if their yield of opium is found to be less on the basis of subsequent factory analysis.

(c) The number of opium growers deprived of getting opium licences with the result of this recovery are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cultivators de-licensed.</i>
1988-89	239
1989-90	203
1990-91	226

(d) There is no proposal for providing any relief to such cultivators

Silk Design cum Research Centre

4957 SHRI YASWANTRAOFATIL Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian silk Export Promotion Council has requested the Union Government to set up a Silk design Cum research Centre,

(b) if so whether the Government propose to set up such a Centre and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) In his speech at the Annual Award Function of the Council held on 24th January 1992 the chairman Indian Silk Export Promotion Council had suggested that Government may allocate funds for establishment of Silk Design Cum Research Centre under the National Sericulture Project

(b) and (c) The Central Silk Board has already initiated action for establishment of a Design Centre under the National Sericulture Project at an approximate expenditure of Rs one crore. The Centre which is being established at Board's Central Silk Technological Research Institute at Bangalore will have the following sub-units

- (i) Design Collection and Documentation (Museum)
- (ii) Art Studio
- (iii) Operational Research Studies
- (iv) Computer Aided Textile Design (CATD) and Colour Matching

(v) Innovation of Woven and printed Designs

Problems of Powerloom Industries

4958 SHRI SIMON MARANDI Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the powerloom industries are facing problem of raw materials due to steep rise in Polyester filament yarn, Nylon filament yarn, Viscos filament yarn, Acitlate filament yarn and Copereonium filament yarn,

(b) the action taken by the Government since January 1991 to control the prices of essential items/products of this industry

(c) the details of the concessions proposed to be provided to the Powerloom and Handloom industries, and

(d) whether OGL facility is proposed to be provided to these industries to enable them to import raw material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) and (b) There have been fluctuations in the prices of filament yarn during the last one year. However, in order to keep the prices under check, a meeting was convened by the Ministry of Textiles in October, 91 with the manufacturers of PFY, NFY and VFY and it was impressed upon them to make available yarn to the weavers at reasonable and affordable prices. In the January, 1992, Textile Commissioner also convened a meeting with VFY manufacturers and user industry and requested the manufacturers to arrest any further increase in the prices of VFY and bring down the prices

(c) The Government is aware of the development requirement of Powerloom and Handloom Industry. During the VIIIth Five