

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Rubber Plantation in Orissa

3664. SHRI K. PRODHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land brought under rubber plantation in Orissa so far;

(b) the approximate annual yield of rubber from Orissa during the last two years;

(c) the additional hectares of land proposed to be brought under rubber plantation in the State during Eight Five Year Plan; and

(d) the names of new places in the State which have been found suitable for rubber plantation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) An area of 270 hectares of land has so far been brought under rubber plantation in the State of Orissa.

(b) The trees have not yet started yielding. A few seedling trees planted in 1965 on trial basis which have been test tapped and yield obtained is found to be encouraging.

(c) An area of 500 hectares has been proposed for rubber plantation in the State of Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) The survey of areas carried out by the Rubber Board has revealed that inland regions of Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Cuttack, Puri, Ganjam and Dhenkanal District of Orissa are suitable for rubber plantation.

Refinancing Vacillated to State Rural Development Bank of Assam

3665. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank has extended refinance facilities to the State Rural Development Bank of Assam for construction and repair of houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). National Housing Bank (NHB) has reported that financial assistance from NHB to the Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) of the various States including that of Assam is provided in the form of subscription by NHB to "Special Rural Housing Debentures" (SRHDs) floated by ARDBs (to the extent of 100%) in respect of eligible housing loans disbursed by them. The Assam State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Ltd. had applied for and was accorded approval for subscription by NHB for SRHDs to be floated by them to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs. This has not been utilised by them

(c) Does not arise.

Wending up of JCI

3666. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has decided to wind up its operation in stages:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of employees likely to be retrenched; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide alternate jobs to retrenched workers and support price to the jute growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Rebate to NTC Employees in Purchase of Cloth

3667. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether rebate is given to the employees of the National Textile Corporation for the purchase of National Textile Corporation Cloth;

(b) if so, the amount of such rebate given to the employees and officers of the corporation; and

(c) the reasons therefor when the mills under NTC are incurring losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rebate ranges between 10 to 20% and is subject to ceiling.

(c) The rebate is part of welfare measures for employees.

Loans to Government of Orissa

3668. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) the amount of loans sought by the Government of Orissa during the last two years and the purposes thereof;

(b) the amount of loans granted to the State Government;

(c) whether the amount of loans given was much less than the loans sought by the State Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDJUKHE): (a) During the year 1990-91, Government of Orissa requested for an assistance of Rs. 135 crores for covering the opening deficit and Rs. 150 crores to meet the budgetary deficit during the year. The State also requested for a plan loan of Rs. 250 crores for funding the State's Annual Plan for the same year. In 1991-92 the State Government sought a plan loan of Rs. 150 crores for financing the Annual Plan of the State for that year.

(b) to (d). All the requests of the State Government were considered and a non-plan loan of Rs. 100 crores was released to the State to cover the budgetary deficit for 1990-91. The request for a plan loan of Rs. 250 crores in 1990-91 was not acceded to as the request was made in pursuance of para 7.31 of the Ninth Finance Commission's Second Report which was in the nature of a suggestion and not a recommendation and not accepted by the Government of India. The request for an assistance of Rs. 135 crores in 1990-91 and Rs. 150 crores in 1991-92 were not agreed to in view of the State's own resource constraints.