

Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janata cloth is being provided to the poor section of people all over the country;

(b) if so, the norms fixed for the distribution of Janata cloth to States;

(c) whether the supply of Janata cloth to Gujarat during the last year was inadequate as compared to the actual demand;

(d) if so, the details of the demand of cloth made by Gujarat during the each of the last three years and the actual supply thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to make the Janata cloth available to the needy persons in the rural and remote areas of Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Each State producing Janata cloth is allowed to consume the entire production within the State.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Janata cloth produced in Gujarat is sold to the targeted consumers, including those in the rural areas, through Gujarat State Consumer Co-operative Federation, fair price shops and the retail outlets of Gujarat State Handloom Agencies.

[English]

Child Labour

1434. SHRI SANAT KUMAR

MANDAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "US resolution precursor to ban on child labour imports" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated November 13, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof so far as Indian Industries employing child labour are concerned and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to get the bonded child labour freed from the clutches of the carpet loom owners in UP and bring to book the perpetrators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed legislation is neither country specific nor product specific. The exact impact on the various export industries has not been assessed. However, the extent of the impact depends on various factors including the steps taken by the concerned employers, manufacturers and exporters to ensure non-employment of child labour and on involvement of the Non-Governmental Organizations in welfare and rehabilitation activities. Government have stepped up enforcement of provisions pertaining to child labour under various Acts; specially in the carpet-belt.

(c) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 provides for identification and abolition of bonded labourers including child bonded labourers. Wherever children are found to be working under conditions of bondage, the State Governments take appropriate steps, through their enforcement machinery for their release and restoration to parents. Under the Act, State Govts. are

the appropriate authorities for enforcement of the provisions of the Act including penal action against the offenders under Sections 16 to 20. State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to take stringent action in this respect.

International Price Reimbursement Scheme

1435. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to continue International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS); and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) in the engineering goods sector is presently in operation on the basis of a cess levied on primary steel producers. The future pattern of the IPRS is still under consideration of the Government and no final view has yet been taken by the Government.

Strike by Air India Crew

1436. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4881 answered on August 27, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the management of the Air India has taken up the matter with the concerned authorities to evolve the suitable procedure;

(b) if so, the details of procedure finalised to avoid sudden cancellation of flights; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Customs authorities have agreed that they would not delay crew members on matters in which the crew are not involved.

(c) Doesn't arise.

Catering Service on Domestic Flights

1437. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any improvement in the catering service on the domestic flights of the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the additional cost incurred by the Indian Airlines on this account?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional expenditure incurred by Indian Airlines per passenger is Rs.8.40 in Economy Class and Rs.21.80 in Executive/ Business Class.

Welfare Schemes for Unorganized Sector

1438. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are restructuring the entire programmes under