

(c) The annual inflation rate for each month since February, 1997 together with the rates for the corresponding period of 1994-95 and 1995-96 is listed below:

Month	Annual Inflationary rise in Consumer Price Index (%)		
	1997	1996	1995
February	10.8	8.6	9.8
March	10.0	8.9	9.7
April	9.3	9.8	9.7
May	7.3	9.3	10.3

[English]

Bank Branches of RRB in Azamgarh

628. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Regional Rural Banks working in the rural areas of Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount of loans disbursed during the last two years;

(c) the percentage of loan disbursed in comparison with the total deposits in the bank during the said period;

(d) whether the loan worth lakhs of rupees have been given against fake names;

(e) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), 64 branches of Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank are functioning in the rural areas of Azamgarh District of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The amount of loans disbursed by Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 (latest available) were as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Year	Amount
1994-95	1911.59
1995-96	1843.00

(c) The percentage of loans outstanding in comparison to the total deposits of the said Regional Rural Bank during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 were as under:-

Year	Loans outstanding	Deposits	(Rs. in lakhs)
			Percentage of loans to deposits
(as at end March)			
1994-95	7624	26919	28.32
1995-96	7845	33404	23.48

(d) to (f) NABARD have reported that they have no information regarding loans provided in fake names and that no such cases have been reported to NABARD during the last two years.

Separate Directorate for SSI

629. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for creation of a separate Directorate for small scale industrial units in all the States for taking proper decisions for promoting small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to hold any census of small scale industries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the last census held and latest census likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Department related Parliamentary standing Committee in its 21st report recommended a separate Directorate or Ministry for the Small Scale Industry in the States. States have been requested to take necessary action.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The third Census of registered small scale industries in the country is proposed to be conducted during the year 1999-2001. The last census was conducted during 1989-1992 with reference year 1987-88. Salient features are attached as Statement.

Statement*Second All India census of registered small scale industrial units: 1987-88 conducted during 1989-92***RESULT AT A GLANCE**

Distribution of Units:		Classification of Working Units	
1	2	3	4
Frame (31.3.98)	9,86,861	Small Scale Industries	96.24%
Non-traceable	57,041	Ancillary Industries	0.52%
Closed	3,04,856	Small Service Establishments	3.24%
Working units for		Proprietary	80.48%
which data tabulated	5,82,368	Partnership	16.84%
		Limited Company	2.01%
		Engaged in Manufacturing	50.19%
Located in areas		activity only	
Rural	42.17%	Engaged in Processing	15.23%
Urban	47.97%	activity only	
Metropolitan	9.86%		
Backward area	62.19%		
		Managed by SC Entrepreneures	6.84%
closed units for		Managed by ST Entrepreneures	1.70%
which data tabulated	3,01,390		
		Managed by Women Entrepreneures	7.69%
		Registered under Factories Act	7.53%
Closure due to Problems			
Financial	34.73%		
Marketing	14.42%	Tiny Units	95.90%
Raw Materials	5.64%		
Important Parameters		Ratios	
Description	Total	Per	
		Unit	
Fixed Investment	9,29,603	1.60	Production/Investment
(Book Value)			in Fixed Assets
(Rs. lakhs)			4.62
Investment in P&M	5,54,258	0.95	Net Value Added/
(Original Value)			investment in Fixed
(Rs. lakhs)			Assets
Working Capital	7,14,826	1.23	Employment/Investment
(Rs. lakhs)			in Fixed Assets
			3.94

1	2	3	4	
Production (Rs. lakhs)	42,97,205	7.38	Gross Value Added/ Employment (Rs. '000)	30.14
Employment (Nos.)	36,65,810	6.29	Net Value Added Employment (Rs. '000)	27.99
Capacity Utili- sation	50.60%	..	Wages Paid/Employment (Rs. '000)	6.27
Value of Exports (Rs. lakhs)	2,49,902			
Total Products manu- factured (Nos.)	7449			
Leading Reserved Products manufactured (Nos.)	843			

Import of Rice

630. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted to import the rice during the current year as reported in "The Hindustan Times" dated May 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of rice likely to be imported during the current financial year;

(d) the impact of this import on the prices of rice in the country; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the production of rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Import of common/coarse varieties of rice and rice with 50% or more broken has been permitted freely after review of the emerging trends in supply and stock of rice by the Government with effect from 27.5.97.

(c) and (d) It is not possible to accurately estimate the quantum of imports as they would depend upon the prices prevailing in the international and domestic markets, demand and supply of different varieties traded, variation in quality and other terms of trade.

(e) Some of the measures taken to increase production and productivity of rice are the implementation of the following Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes:-

(1) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice)-assistance is being provided to the farmers for the use of certified seeds of high yielding varieties and improved farm implements including sprinkler sets and power tillers. Besides, assistance is also provided for encouraging the use of green manure and soil ameliorants.

(2) Central Sector Rice Seed Minikit Programme including propagation of improved crop production technology-seed minikits of Rice are provided to the farmers at nominal cost for propagation of new varieties with biotic and abiotic resistance and also for organising training by the Agricultural Universities/ICAR Research Institutions to the State/District Level Agriculture Officers for dissemination of improved crop production technology.

VRS for Textiles Workers of Maharashtra

631. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Maharashtra Government regarding Voluntary Retirement Scheme for workers/staff in the mills run by Maharashtra State Textile Corporation and Textile Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd.; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government for early approval of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has requested