

(b) to (d). Examined, but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints. However, 5 through coaches (1 First-cum-second, 2 sleeper and 2 ordinary II class) are available between Delhi and Kotdwara by 4041/4042 Mussoorie Express and 1KN/8KN Passenger with attaching/detaching at Najibabad.

[Translation]

Khadi and Village Industries Commission

479. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has formulated any programme to provide employment to 1,25,000 persons in 125 blocks of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise number of the blocks selected under this programme and the criteria prescribed for the selection of such blocks;

(d) whether any time-limit has been fixed for achieving the target under this programme;

(e) if so, the total time-limit fixed to achieve the target of providing employment; and

(f) the total amount likely to be invested for the implementation of this programme in each block?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To commemorate 125th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi this programme was launched on 2nd October, 1994. This programme is likely to generate employment opportunities for 1000 artisans per block by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) The State-wise number of blocks selected in the country is given in the enclosed *Statement*. While selecting the blocks, preference has been given to backward blocks covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The time-limit fixed for the implementation of the programme is three years.

(f) The estimated investment requirement per block is Rs. 3.00 crores which is to be met from Budgetary support, DRDA, financial institutions, beneficiaries, etc.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of blocks selected
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10
2.	Assam	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Bihar	11
5.	Gujarat	6
6.	Haryana	3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9.	Karnataka	6
10.	Kerala	4
11.	Maharashtra	9
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15
13.	Mizoram	1
14.	Nagaland	1
15.	Rajasthan	8
16.	Tamil Nadu	5
17.	Uttar Pradesh	11
18.	Punjab	1
19.	Orissa	9
20.	Tripura	1
21.	West Bengal	9
22.	Meghalaya	1
23.	Lakshadweep	1
24.	Goa	1
25.	Manipur	2
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	1
Total		125