Delhi Administration for early rehabilitation of leprosy patients in the Union Territory and to dissuade them from beggary; and

(b) the number of leprosy patients rehabilitated during the last one year in the Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) All leprosy patients living in Delhi prior to 01.01.81 have been rehabilitated under the scheme of "Rehabilitation Centre for Lepers". They have been getting free facilities like Dry ration, clothing, bedding, general articles and medical treatment facilities. The Administration is now giving them Rs. 300/per month per capita through Banks with effect from 1st October 1989, in lieu of ration, clothing, bedding and general articles.

(b) Nil.

[Translation]

Delay in issuing of Ration Cards

234. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints that Food and Civil Supplies Department of Delhi Administration in trans-Yamuna area are delaying issuance of new ration cards despite complying with all required formalities:

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to look into the matter; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Delhi Administration have stated that no such complaints have been received by them. Incomplete application or non-furnishing of requisite documents may, however, lead to delay in issue of the ration cards.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[English]

Textile Industry in North Eastern Region

235. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop textile industry in the North Eastern Region in view of abundance of some fibres and particularly in the State of Tripura; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING IN-DUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). The development of the taxtile industry in a particular region or State would depend upon the availability of raw material, infrastructural facilities and the level of entrepreneurship in the particular State or region. Any proposal received in this regard be considered sympathetically.

[Translation]

Action Against Agents of Labour Exploitation

236. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a newsitem appearing in the "Hindustan" dated January 17, 1990 under the caption "Sarkar agenton ke khilaf karrvai karegi":