lands enterpreneours.

[English]

Development of Handloom Industry in Assam and Nagaland

- 2119. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:
 - (a) the amount allocated and spent for the development of handloom sector in Assam and Nagaland during the Seventh Plan:
- (b) the funds allocated for the development of handloom industry in the above states during the Eight Plan: and
- (c) the progress achieved in the development of handloom industry so far in the above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) Allocation of funds to the handloom secctor is made schemewise and releases are made on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments from time to time. Statewise allocations are not however, made. Amount released under various schemes to the States of Assam and Nagaland during the VII Plan period are Rs. 3340.93 Lakhs and Rs. 23.69 Lakhs respectively.

- (b) The Plan outlay for the development of handloom sector in the country including the States of Assam and Nagaland for the VIII Plan period is Rs. 300 Crores.
- (c) In the State of Assam, through Central Assistance, satisfactory progress has been achieved in modernisation of looms and construction of Workshed-cum-Houses. A total of 124.70 million sq. meters was produced under Janta Cloth Scheme in

Assam during the Seventh Plan which provided employment to a large number of weavers. Satisfactory progress in marketing of handloom cloth was registered.

In Nagaland, a number of weavers were brought in the cooperative fold and reloom and post-loom processing facilities were set up during the Seventh Plan. Satisfactory progress was registered in the marketing of handloom cloth.

Allotment of Shops/Stalls on Averages Auction

2120. SHRIMOTILAL SINGH: SHRI JANGBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the D.D.A. alloted shops/ stalls/kiosks/open plateforms to the numbers of SC/ST on no profit no less basis;
- (b) whether the D.D.A. has recently given an advertisement for the allotment of shops/stalls on average auction price;
- (c) whether the price fixed by the D.D.A. for these units reserved for SCs/STs is higher than the auction price paid by the people of general category in the similar cases; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) The DDA reported that thay have earlier alloted shops/stalls/open platforms to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes applicants on reserve price during the year 1987-88, 1988-89 & 1989-90.

- (b) The DDA had issued advertisement in September, 1992 calling for applications from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes applications for allotment of 271 shops on reserve price/fixed priced as approved by Delhi Development Authority vied Resolution dated 12 3 93
- (c) No. Sir. The allotment price of shops for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is a fixed price. Allotment price of similar shops sold in auction for the general category various from auction to auction and is generally higher than allotement price for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes.
 - (d) Question does not arise.

Small Industries Consortium

- 2121. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision regarding setting up of Small Industries Consortium to protect the interest of the small scale industrial sector; and
- (b) if so, the time by which this consortium is likely to be set up and come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) In the policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises announced on 6.8.91 it has been envisaged to promote consortium of Small Scale Industries through National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and State Small Scale Industries Development Corporations. State Govts. have been advised to form such consortium. One such consortium has been formed

in Tamil Nadu.

(b) This is an ongoing activity.

Panel of Secretaries

2122. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the merit is taken into consideration for preparation of panel of Secretaries to the Government of India;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the criteria for selection thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONAL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) to (c). Inclusion in the panel of Secretaries to the Government of India is through a process of strict selection and evaluation of such qualities as merit, competence, leadership and flair for participating in the policy-making process. The posts at these levels at the Center are not considered as posts for improving the promotion prospects of any Service. It is the needs of the Central Government that are given paramount consideration.

[Translation]

Setting up of Joint Ventures

2123. SHRI SURYANARAYA YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for setting up of joint ventures with Japan, France, Britain and Germany; and