

Employment in Khadi and Village Industries

909. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The number of persons employed in Khadi and Village industries at present;

(b) The annual production of Khadi and Village industries in terms of rupees at present: and

(c) The measures taken to increase the production of khadi items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALLER SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The employment in Khadi & Village Industries as on 31.3.93 is as under:

(lakh persons)

<i>Khadi</i>	<i>V.I.</i>	<i>Total</i>
14.45	38.05	52.50

(b) The production of Khadi & Village Industries in terms of rupees as on 31.3.93 is as under :

(Rs. in Crores)

<i>Khadi</i>	<i>V.I.</i>	<i>Total</i>
353.50	2523.45	2876.95

(c) Some of the important measures taken by KVIC to increase production of khadi items are mentioned below:-

1. KVIC has planned to generate massive employment opportunities in rural areas through special programmes.
2. Simplification of procedure of certification of Khadi Institutions.
3. Decentralisation of powers in KVIC by setting up zonal and regional offices.
4. Decentralisation of large Institutions into small independent Institutions.
5. Introduction of high speed new model charkhas.
6. Setting up of new Khadi Bhandars/ Bhavans.
7. Introduction of fancy readymade garments.
8. Setting up of Central Sliver Plants.
9. The spinning wages were increased by 10% and weaving wages by 20% for all items of khadi etc.

[English]

Electoral Reforms

910. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has recommended for various electoral reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government intend to