

(d) the main reasons for re-examination of these mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). The Study team, which was constituted by the Government to undertake an indepth study of the working of 8 weakest NTC mills, reported lack of viability by merely increasing the investment in these mills. It was felt that this matter need to be discussed further with representatives of the workers at the mill level and at NTC (Holding Company) level before a final decision regarding viabilities of these mills could be taken. Government have yet to receive the recommendations, resulting from the discussions with representatives of workers.

Demand for Synthetic Fibre Under New Textile Policy

2966. SHRI ANAND PATHAK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government expect substantial growth in the demand for synthetic fibres under the new Textile Policy;

(b) if so, whether the expected growth in demand will be utilised only in the internal market or outside market also; and

(c) how much of the said growth in the demand will be earmarked for external market so that handloom and other sectors are not affected adversely ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expected growth in demand is envisaged to be utilised both in domestic market and the foreign market by keeping the export window open.

(c) No earmarking for the external market has been made. However, in the handloom sector the steps envisaged by the Government include reservation of articles under the Handloom (Reservation of Articles of Production) Act, 1985 for exclusive production in the Handloom sector, modernisation of looms, provision for adequate

availability of yarn, development of infrastructure, for preloom and postloom activities programmes for marketing and strengthening of the machinery for implementation supervision and evaluation of handloom programmes. With regard to other sectors, the textile policy envisages full fibre flexibility between cotton and man-made fibres/yarn, rationalisation of fiscal levies, removal of restrictions on capacity expansion healthy development of the powerloom sector through a suitable package of measures, optimum utilisation of the spinning capacity and modernisation as well as rehabilitation package for the textile industry.

Refresher Courses for Bank Officers

2967. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the senior officers of the nationalised banks do not have banking background resulting in the malfunctioning of the banks; and

(b) what steps are being taken to give periodic refresher courses to such officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Banks have reported that all their senior officers have got sufficient background in banking and that they are given necessary training whenever needed.

Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme in Anantpur District (Andhra Pradesh)

2968. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Anantpur District in Andhra Pradesh has been included in the list of 100 districts in which the Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme, sponsored by the Union Government will be introduced soon; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?