

Year	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
1982-83	690.51
1983-84 (Provisional)	725.00
1984-85 (Provisional)	775.00

Major importing countries of stainless steel utensils from India were : Bahrain, Canada, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, U. K., United Arab Emirates, U. S. A.

Closure of Powerloom in Bhiwandi in Maharashtra

3017. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SARI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Economic Times' of 31 October, 1985 where in it has been stated that more than 60 per cent of the 1.80 lakhs Registered powerloom industries of the textile town of Bhiwandi in Maharashtra have been closed down;

(b) whether more than 40 per cent of registered powerloom industries are partially operation and 20 per cent more are likely to be closed;

(c) the number of workers who have become jobless due to the closure of these units; and

(d) the measures taken by Union Government to restart the industries in Bhiwandi ?

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

(b) to (d). The information received by Government does not indicate that 60 per cent of the powerlooms in Bhiwandi have

been closed down or that there is such a substantial reduction in weaving activity.

The daily engagement of workers fluctuates with the levels of weaving activity, which change from time to time. No precise estimate is available regarding the number of workers presently without employment.

Government had received some reports that yarn dealers/traders in Bhiwandi were charging premium money for supply of yarn to powerlooms. National Textile Corporation has opened a yarn booking depot at Bhiwandi to facilitate direct sale to powerloom owners.

Export of Iron Ore through Paradip Port in Orissa

3018. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present level of export of iron ore per annum through Paradip Port in Orissa;

(b) whether Government propose to raise the present level of export through Paradip Port in 1986-86; and

(c) if so, the details of efforts made therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The iron ore exports through Paradip Port in Orissa during 1984-85 were 16.07 lakh tonnes. Exports through this port during the current financial year 1985-86 (1st April-31st October, 1985) are estimated at 11.30 lakh tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Following steps have been taken to increase the present level of export of iron ore through Paradip Port in 1985-86;

(1) Foreign buyers have been provided incentive by way of discounts to compensate for high freight incidence due shipment by smaller sized vessels, and larger distance

involved as compared to Madras and Vizag, Ports.

- (2) Quota restrictions for procurement of iron ore from mine owners have been removed by MMTC consequent upon higher off-take from the port.
- (3) In order to meet long term requirements, of the port, a proposal for improving iron ore handling facilities and deepening of the port is being examined.

Setting up of Super Mini Steel Plants

3019. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some super-mini-steel plants in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States where such steel plants are proposed to be set up;

(c) the cost of each of those projects; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to implement the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (d). It is presumed that the reference to 'super-mini-steel plants' is in respect of larger sized electric arc furnace units. The Government had decided in principle to set up two new such steel plants, one at Vijayanagar in Karnataka and the other at Daitari in Orissa. The cost of setting up each of these plants with a finished steel capacity of 2.1 lakh tonnes per annum was approximately Rs. 400 crores. However, due to overall constraint of resources, it would not be possible to take substantial steps for setting up these plants during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Flight of Capital to Foreign Countries and Foreign Banks

3021. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of "Flight of Capital" to foreign countries and foreign banks; and

(b) if so, the estimate thereof from 1982 to 1984 year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) While violations of FERA regulations come to notice from time to time and are dealt with severely, there is no question of any flight of capital as such taking place from India to foreign countries and foreign banks. R. B. I. keeps a close watch over foreign exchange transactions and operations by all banks, including foreign banks, and measures are taken as necessary to ensure that illegal transfers are corbed and severe action taken against offenders.

(b) Does not arise.

Delay in Clearance of International Flights Passengers by Customs at Airports

3022. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that many of the passengers coming by international flights are inordinately delayed at Delhi, Bombay and other airports by Customs clearance department; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to reduce the time for customs clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The present system of baggage clearance provides that passengers not carrying dutiable articles in excess of their free allowance are permitted to walk through the green channel. Examination of baggage of such passengers is done only at random. Even in the case of passengers carrying dutiable articles, the assessment of duty is being done on the basis of their own declaration since 1983, and only in case of suspicion, the baggage is examined.

These arrangements ensure that the bulk of the passengers arriving by international flights are cleared quickly. Even so,