

that the present system of maintaining statistics does not contain the break-up of frauds according to the type of transactions in which a fraud has taken place. However, the banks report to Reserve Bank of India all cases of frauds detected by them. The banks investigate the modus operandi, the involvement of bank employees and according to the nature of involvement, i.e. negligence or connivance in the fraud, action is taken by the bank which includes reporting to the Police/Central Bureau of Investigation for prosecution under the law. The number of cases where employees/officers of public sector banks were involved in fraudulent transactions and the action taken against them in all cases of frauds throughout India during the year 1984 is given below :

(i) No. of employees against whom departmental enquiries were held	—	465
(ii) No. of employees against whom challans were filed	—	156
(iii) No. of employees who were arrested	—	68
(iv) No. of employees against whom court cases were filed	—	84
(v) No. of employees who were convicted	—	14

[English]

Jute and Cotton Growers Facing Slump in Prices

956. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that jute and cotton growers have been facing slump in prices of their products; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the incentives Government propose to give to the jute and cotton growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). With record crop for the current year,

there has been a decline in prices for both jute and cotton. In order to safeguard the interests of the farmers, Government have announced minimum support prices for the season and both Cotton Corporation of India and Jute Corporation of India are in the market to provide remunerative return to the farmers.

The Jute Corporation of India has already procured over 15 lakh bales of jute so far which is substantially higher than the highest ever recorded during this period. Moreover, directives have been issued by the Jute Commissioner to the private sector mills under Jute (Licensing and Control) Order to build up adequate stocks of raw jute. The Jute Corporation of India will continue to procure jute from the farmers all the offerings at minimum support prices.

As regards cotton, the Government have released since January, 1985, a quota of 3.95 lakh bales for export through various agencies in order to relieve the pressure of arrivals. The Reserve Bank of India has recently notified selected credit control for enabling cotton trade and ginning as well as pressing factories to make purchase of cotton.

Import of Indian Engineering Products by Soviet Union

957. SHRI SRIVALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Soviet Union which has emerged as the top importer of Indian engineering products is planning to change the pattern of trade with India by going in for long-term production of orders;

(b) if so, whether any delegation has recently visited Indian in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the agreements, if any, in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c). Both India and the Soviet Union have been taking steps to diversify and broad-base

bilateral trade and to ensure its growth through new forms of cooperation. In that direction, a Soviet delegation recently visited India to identify areas of production cooperation between Indian and Soviet organisations. The delegations had detailed discussions to identify various products and fields in which mutually beneficial production cooperation could take place.

Orissa Government's Request for Second Jute Mill

958. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa have approached Union Government to establish a second jute mill in that State; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Government have recently received an application for grant of Letter of Intent for establishment of jute processing unit at Kendrapara District, Cuttack, Orissa from the Orissa State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd., Bhubaneswar. Action has been initiated to process the matter.

[Translation]

Textile Mills Declared Sick in U.P., Maharashtra and Gujarat

959. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills declared sick in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra since 1980 to date and the annual amount being spent by Government on these mills;

(b) the number of workers retrenched from said mills, mill-wise; and

(c) the total number of workers rendered jobless due to this retrenchment during the year 1984-85 and steps taken by

Government to re-instate them and the number of workers who are still jobless ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The number of large Textile Mill (i.e. those individually enjoying aggregate bank credit limit of Rs. 1 crores and over from the Banking System) identified as sick by the Reserve Bank of India, during the period 1-1-1980 to 31-12-1984 in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra is given below :

Uttar Pradesh	Gujarat	Maharashtra
6	22	22

As reported by R.B.I. total outstanding bank credit, as at the end of December, 1984, to these units was around Rs. 300 crores.

(b) and (c). Data of this classification is not available.

[English]

Supply of Excise Free Polyester Fibre to National Textile Corporation Mills

960. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of recent revision of textile duty structure by Government, the National Textile Corporation mills will be supplied excise duty-free polyester fibre;

(b) whether this would result in production of low-priced shirting and suiting cloth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Government has decided to supply excise duty free-polyester fibre to the National Textile Corporation subject to certain conditions.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. National Textile Corporation has started production of low-priced polyester cotton shirtings and