

(f) whether it is a fact that the prices of cloth produced by healthy mills and sick mills differ; if so, by what percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The reasons indicated in part (c) of the aforesaid question were diagnostic in nature. According to the Textile Policy, selective modernisation would be undertaken where units can become viable. No final decision has been taken regarding the viability and the future course of action regarding the heavily losing mills.

(c) Rationalisation of labour is an ongoing process depending upon several factors e.g. implementation of modernisation schemes, change in products mix, change in capacities and revision of work norms. The said rationalisation of labour is done only with due payment of terminal benefits according to law. However, no separate rehabilitation schemes have been undertaken.

(d) The future course of action would be decided after examination of all relevant aspects.

(e) and (f). Floor prices for cloth and yarn are fixed and reviewed from time to time irrespective of cost, taking into account the rates of other mills in the market, rates of various mills under NTC and accordingly mills are advised to sell their production at such fixed prices. Cost of the production in the heavily losing mills is more than the sale price due to old and outdated machinery, excess labour etc.

Bulk Handling Facilities at Ports

8605. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite several keen inquiries from overseas buyers from wheat, export contracts were not finalised due to lack of bulk handling facilities at our ports ; and

(b) if so, the details of export contracts which could not be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Tourism Facilities to Students During Seventh Plan

8606. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the facilities provided by Tourism Department to students for excursion and the names of the States where these facilities have been provided, and the criteria adopted for providing these facilities to them;

(b) the number of students who have availed of these facilities so far; and

(c) the details of the additional steps proposed to be taken to provide more tourism facilities to students during the Seventh Five Year Plan, and the amount Government propose to invest for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Increase in Establishment Expenditure of Reserve Bank of India

8607. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the establishment expenditure in the Reserve Bank of India (Rs. 142 crores) at the end of June, 1985 was higher than that of any other public sector banks except the State Bank of India;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in a single year establishment expenditure of the Reserve Bank of India increased by Rs. 49 crores from Rs. 93 crores during 1983-84; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this increase in the expenditure on establishment in view of the ban imposed by the Ministry of Finance on the recruitment for existing vacancies and the creation of new posts with effect from 1 January, 1984 as a measure of effecting economy in nonplan expenditure and also the recent order of control of expenditure resorted to by the Reserve Bank of India on the commercial banks to monitor and reduce their expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJAY) : (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised that the establishment expenditure of RBI has registered an increase of Rs. 49 crores from Rs. 93.34 crores in 1983-84 to Rs. 142.26 crores for the year 1984-85. The estimate of expenditure on establishment of State Bank of India stood at Rs. 532.35 crores and that of the public sector banks ranged between Rs. 13.64 crores and Rs. 117.56 crores for the year ended 31st December, 1984. The expenditure on establishment of RBI for 1984-85 includes arrears amounting to Rs. 16.44 crores paid to class III and IV staff for the period 1.7.1983 to 31.12.1984. A provision of Rs. 15.44 crores was also made in the annual account for the arrears payable to Class I staff consequent upon impending revision of pay scales. RBI have also reported that no recruitment was made at any level except to the extent of relaxation permitted under the ban order.

Opening of new Branch Offices and Divisions of LIC

8608. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India had planned to open 76 new branch offices and all new divisions in 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) if so, the names of the new branch offices alongwith their location State-wise as also names of each of the new proposed divisions;

(c) the names of such branch offices and divisions as have been opened till 31st March, 1986 and the likely dates by which the remaining branches and division would be opened;

(d) whether a demand for opening some more branch offices and separate division for Himachal Pradesh has also been received by Government; and

(e) the decision taken by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in this regard and the likely date by which a separate division for Himachal Pradesh and the new branches would be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India had sanctioned 76 new branches for the Development Plan 1985-86 and also decided to open 15 new divisional offices during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87. 71 branches have already been opened. The remaining five branches are expected to be opened by the close of the current financial year.

The setting up of new divisional offices involves large scale planning and preparations and it is not possible to lay down time-bound programme for divisional offices. However, most of the divisions are expected to become functional in 1986-87.

Lists of new branch offices and new divisional offices are given in the statement given below.

(d) and (e). The Government has not received any proposal for creation of a separate division for Himachal Pradesh. The LIC is, however, considering proposals for opening new branch offices in Himachal Pradesh during 1986-87,