

guidelines issued by Union Government to the States in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have also decided a comprehensive review of the 'Janata Cloth Scheme' started in 1976 with the dual objective of providing employment to handloom weavers and cheaper cloth to weaker sections of society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to vigorously enforce the provisions of the Handloom Reservation Order, three Regional Offices of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms have been set up at Delhi, Pune and Coimbatore. The States have also been requested to set up such enforcement machinery which would be fully funded by the Centre during the remaining period of the 7th Five Year Plan. However, such Central assistance during the 8th Plan will be on a tapering basis by reducing 20% every year so that by the terminal year of the 8th Plan the entire expenditure will be borne by the States.

A Scheme for modernisation of handlooms has been in operation since 1980-81 whereby financial assistance is given to the States for purchase/replacement/renovation of looms with matching assistance from the States. 8/3rd of this assistance is by way of grant, the remaining 2/3rd being on loan basis. The Weavers Service Centres and the Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology are also engaged in upgradation of technology in the fields of weaving, processing and designing. Assistance is also given for setting up pre loom/post-loom processing houses by Handloom Development Corporations and State Apex Societies on 100% loan basis from the Central Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Marketing facilities for silk weavers of Karnataka

520. **SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the silk weavers in Karnataka are facing serious problems of marketing;

(b) whether Union Government have issued any instructions to the Handloom Corporations/Apex Societies/Weavers Cooperative Societies in Karnataka to purchase silk directly from the weavers, so that they can secure a remunerative price for their products; and

(c) the other steps taken by Union Government to help the weavers of Karnataka to get better marketing facilities and to ensure a regular supply of quality fabrics to the consumers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No such report has been received by Government of India.

(b) The Handloom Corporations/Apex Societies/Weavers Cooperative Societies in all States, including Karnataka have been set up with the objective of serving the cause of the individual handloom weavers attached to the Corporations or covered under the cooperatives. As such, purchase of silk fabrics directly from the aforesaid weavers is one of the functions of these organisations.

(c) As a measure of marketing support, the State Apex Societies, the Primary Societies and the State Handloom Corporation of Karnataka are being given share capital assistance by Central and State Governments to widen their market base and to increase their procurement and sales. Besides, special rebate at the rate of 20% is also allowed on sale of handloom fabrics by the handloom cooperative societies and the State handloom development corporations. This is shared equally between the Central and State Governments.

[Translation]

Infiltration of foreigners into border States.

521. **SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: