

of Gujarat and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps contemplated in this regard; and

(c) how much assistance has been given to powerloom and handloom weavers of Gujarat during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). Government have received representations regarding the betterment of the economic conditions and other issues relating to powerloom and handloom weavers. Issues concerning powerloom weavers relate mainly to the supply of yarn and the working conditions of powerloom workers whereas issues concerning the handloom weavers are regarding prices of yarn, increase in subsidy on Janta Cloth, liberalisation of rebate on sale of handloom cloth etc. Government of India keep a constant watch on the situation and take corrective action in association with State Governments. Government also operate various schemes to assist the weavers in the handloom sector. The assistance given by Central Government to the State Government of Gujarat under various handloom development schemes during the last three years was around Rs. 528 lakhs.

US Military Assistance to Sri Lanka

5281. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has agreed to send military assistance to Sri Lanka to suppress a revolt against an ethnic peace pact signed with India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) whether this is not to infringe in any

manner the functioning of the Indian peace-keeping force sent to Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Government is aware that USA has agreed to send logistical assistance to Sri Lanka at the request of President Jayewardene.

(c) No, Sir.

Setting up of Textile Mills in Tamil Nadu

5282. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications duly recommended by the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the setting up of textile mills in Tamil Nadu, received by Union Government;

(b) out of which, the number of applications that have been considered and licences issued so far; and

(c) the number of applications pending and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No application recommended by the Tamil Nadu Govt. was received during the period 1 July, 1986 to 30 June, 1987 for issuance of licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up cotton man made textile mills.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Review of Passport Issuing Rules

5283. SHRICHINTAMANI JENA: Will