

ed after discussions between the Planning Commission and the State Governments.

(e) The steps include prioritisation of projects for completing those which are in an advanced stage by augmenting resources, arranging scarce construction material and external assistance, wherever feasible, by the Centre.

#### Closed Textile Mills

8041. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills closed in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of textile mills taken over by the N.T.C. during the said period;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to know the causes of closing down such a large number of textile mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that due to the closing of such a large number of textile mills the production of cloth has been affected which led to increase in the prices of cloth; and

(f) whether Union Government have any proposal to renovate these mills or

establish new textile mills on modern pattern in the country; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) No textile mill was taken over by N.T.C. in the last three years.

(c) and (d). A Nodal Agency was constituted by Government to examine sick/closed textile mills in order to ascertain whether they are potentially viable or not. The Nodal Agency evolves and manages rehabilitation packages in respect of mills found by it to be viable. It has examined 107 mills in 14 States. 51 of these were found to be viable, 47 non-viable and the cases of 9 mills were to be reviewed.

(e) Though there has been a declining trend in the production of cloth in the mill sector it not correct to say that reduced production is due only to closure of mills and that it has led to increase in prices of cloth. Prices of cloth depend on various factors like prices of raw materials, other inputs, wages, etc.

(f) A Textile Modernisation Fund has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 750.00 crores to meet the modernisation needs of both healthy and weak but viable units. Setting up of new textile mills is guided by the existing industrial policy.

#### Statement

	1986	1987	1988
1	2	3	3
Andhra Pradesh	2	1	4
Bihar	1	1	1
Gujarat	20	23	322
Haryana	2	2	2
Karnataka	2	4	7
Kerala	2	3	2
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	4

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	10	8	12
Orissa	1	—	—
Rajasthan	5	5	6
Tamil Nadu	20	20	37
Uttar Pradesh	3	4	8
West Bengal	4	3	10
Pondicherry	1	—	—
	73	74	125

**Shifting of Central Excise Collectorate,  
Bo'pur**

8042. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Excise Collectorate, Bolpur is being shifted to Durgapur; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Government is considering temporarily shifting the Headquarters of the Central Excise Collectorate, Bolpur to Durgapur to enable construction of office and residential quarters for the staff at Bolpur. Once the construction work is completed, the office will be shifted back to Bolpur.

**Proposal to Abolish Import Duty on  
Life Saving Medical Equipments**

8043. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to abolish import duty on life saving medical equipment such as endroscope to provide medical facilities at reasonable cost; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the Procedure adopted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) : and (b). Specified life saving medical equipments have been totally exempted from import duty in terms of notification No. 208-Customs dated the 22nd September, 1981. In the case of any other life saving medical equipment not covered by the list of equipments exempted specifically, duty exemption is available in terms of the notification if empowered officials in the Directorate General of Health Services certify in each individual case that it is a life saving equipment and the certificate is produced to the customs authorities at the point of import.

**Fake and Counterfeit Currency Notes**

8045. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any information with regard to the existence of fake and counterfeit currency notes presently in circulation in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to curb their circulation;

(d) whether any raids for detecting the fake and counterfeit currency notes have been conducted during the last one year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?