

(1)	(2)
(91)	Pile cutting machines for knitted fabrics.
(92)	High speed multiple needle sewing machine.
(93)	Pintoching high speed multiple needle machine.
(94)	Automatic pocket weld sewing machine.
(95)	Edge control seamers.
(96)	Automatic serger with speed control devices.
(97)	Twin added automatic cuff button holding machine.

All India Powerloom Corporation

758. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to consider setting up an All-India Powerlooms Corporation on the lines of one for handlooms industry;

(b) if so, the steps taken in the direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

(c) The State Governments have been authorised to register powerlooms. They have also been requested to take necessary steps for development of powerlooms including promotion of powerloom Co-operatives so as to facilitate the provision of credit and marketing facilities.

Opening of Regional Rural Banks

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

(a) whether the long-term policy regarding the opening of more regional rural banks in the country has been formulated in the light of the recommendations made recently by the Working Group on regional rural banks;

(b) if so, the main features of the new policy, the period for its operation and the likely date by which the policy would be implemented; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the new policy would be formulated alongwith reasons for delay especially in view of the special role of regional rural banks in the implementation of the anti-poverty measures under the new 20-Point Programme launched by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The new policy based on the recommendations made by the Working Group on Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) envisages that more emphasis should be laid on consolidation of existing RRBs rather than opening of new RRBs.

Opening of new RRBs is therefore considered on a selective basis. Districts with concentration of Scheduled Castes/Tribes population are given preference for opening new RRBs. Even in such areas, the opening of new RRBs will be considered taking into account branch network in the area and the scope for further branch expansion, concentration of target groups, credit gap, prospective viability of the RRB with reference to scope of business in the area and the strength of existing cooperative credit structure in the area. Before a RRB is established a detailed survey is carried out by the State Government and the

Sponsor Bank for ascertaining the need and potential for opening a new RRB.

(c) Does not arise.

Compensation paid to the owners of Sick Textile Mills

760. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the textile mills which have been decided sick and taken over by Government during the past three years including the current financial year alongwith the amount of compensation paid to the owners in each case; and

(b) the names of mills with details of their production and the steps taken to ensure adequate protection to them including the taken over by Government?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). No textile mill has been declared sick and taken over by the Union Government during the past three years.

Irrigation Schemes of H. P.

761. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Irrigation Schemes for which approval of Union Government has been sought by the Himachal Pradesh Government during the last five years including the current financial year, along with relevant details of the cost and period of construction and command area;

(b) the names of such among them as have been sanctioned and taken up for construction; and

(c) the likely dates by which other schemes would be approved and taken up for construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). Shahnehar Irrigation Project (Major) and Bhabour Sahib

Lift Irrigation Phase-II Project (Medium) costing Rs. 49 crores and Rs. 4.26 crores respectively were received. The medium irrigation project has been found techno-economically viable but work on both projects has been started.

Textile Mills closed since the implementation of new Textile Policy

762. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile units closed and the number of workers rendered jobless since the implementation of new textile policy in June, 1985;

(b) as on date how many textile units are declared sick and are reported to be on the verge of closure and what amount of tax payers' money is locked up and how many workers are in danger of being rendered jobless;

(c) the reasons for these closures and growing sickness; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to arrest the closures and growing sickness of the textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) As on 31-12-87, 133 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills were lying closed in the country. Out of these, 87 mills involving 1.12 lakh workers have closed after announcement of the Textile Policy in June, 1985.

(b) It is not possible to indicate the number of mills on the verge of closure, the investment or the number of workers employed therein.

(c) The reasons which lead to closure of mills are varied and may be attributed to excess capacity, surplus labour, sluggish demand, old and obsolete machinery, high cost of production etc.

(d) Government have constituted a Nodal Agency to examine sick textile mills in order to ascertain whether they are