

according trading house status to STC/MMTC and conducting of quarterly reviews on the performance of the Corporations.

The items identified for exports by STC to major markets include Agricultural commodities, fresh and processed foods, drugs and chemicals, meat and marine products, consumer products, engineering/construction material, textiles and garments, etc. Items identified for exports by MMTC are minerals and mineral products, precious stones, engineering items, agro-marine products, handicrafts etc.

Exports envisaged under the MOU have commenced in April, 1988.

IDBI Assistance to Textile Mills

9114. PROF. RAMAKRISHNA
MORE:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has decided to liberalise the eligibility criteria for textile mills to avail themselves of the special loan facilities under the Textiles Modernisation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, full details in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the modernisation of the textile mills throughout the country will be benefited by the liberalised policy of the IDBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it has been decided to enlarge the scope of Special Loan under the Textile

Modernisation Fund Scheme by liberalising the definition of "weak units". This would enable the units which are making marginal cash profits to be eligible for special loan facility for taking up modernisation programmes. The IDBI has also reported that it is too early to make an assessment of the extent of increase in coverage of the units for the purpose of this facility.

ADB Suggestion on Capital Market

9116. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has urged India to liberalise its capital market operations so that foreign buyers could directly invest in the stocks of Indian Companies;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering suggestions made by ADB; and

(c) the main points forwarded by the ADB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The question does not arise.

Seminar on Non-Resident Indians in the Gulf

9117. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first ever seminar of Non-resident Indians in the Gulf has demanded appointment of an independent Minister at the Centre to look after and to

promote investment in the country;

(b) whether the Non-resident Indians seminar has demanded certain other facilities; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report of the Seminar has been examined by Government; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to implement their suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The Non-Resident Indians have made several suggestions including the establishment of a Cell or Department, to deal with NRI affairs under at least a separate Minister of State. These are being examined in consultation with the concerned Departments and Organisations.

Financial Problems Faced by India United Mills Dye Works Mill No. 6

9118. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India United Mills Dye Works Mill No. 6 in Bombay, a unit of National Textile Corporation, is facing serious financial constraints and is likely to be closed down because of the failure of five NTC Mills to give adequate quota of grey cloth to Mill No. 6 for processing and also because of failure to pay the arrears for the processing work completed in Mill No. 6; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to ensure that financial constraints on India United Mills Dye Works Mill No. 6 are removed and economic viability of the mill protected?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Garment Export to U.S.A.

9119. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the garment exporters are facing serious problems because of exhaust of the quota of export under group II to U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to help the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The available quotas for garments under Group-II to U.S.A. for the first period have already been allocated to eligible exporters. Since the demand exceeds the restraints levels, it has not been possible to accommodate all applicants for garment exports.

New Schemes of Life Insurance Corporation

9120. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group Insurance Scheme of the Life Insurance Corporation has fetched business of Rs. 12,645 crores by March, 1987;

(b) if so, whether LIC has introduced any new schemes for the benefit of the people of the low income group;

(c) the number of new schemes LIC has introduced after March, 1987;

(d) whether LIC is getting good business in new policies; and