

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) As per the published accounts of Syndicate Bank, its profit for the year 1987 was Rs. 7.10 crores.

(b) to (d). The banks are required to prepare their Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts as per the formats set out in the Third Schedule of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The banks introduce changes in their accounting procedures as are considered necessary. These changes are required to be reflected in their published accounts.

Reserve Bank of India has reported that Syndicate Bank had made certain changes in its accounting procedure while finalising the annual accounts for the year 1987 which have been duly reflected in the Annual Accounts and the Auditors' notes thereon.

The bank is not statutorily required to obtain permission for introducing changes in its accounting procedures.

Manufacture of Cheap Woollen Blankets and Cloth

2533. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the woollen industry manufacturing cheap woollen blankets and cloth meant for common man is passing through a worst ever crisis providing direct-indirect employment to the lakhs of people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to improve and save this industry from the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The shoddy sector of woollen textile industry is in difficulties on account of recession in the demand of their products and decline in the export of shoddy blankets.

(c) The following steps have been taken:

- i) Import duty on synthetic rags has been reduced from 80% to 25%.
- ii) Shoddy blankets have been exempted completely from levy of excise duty.
- iii) Shoddy fabric upto the value of Rs. 60/- per metre has been exempted from levy of excise duty.
- iv) Import duty on certain woollen machinery has been reduced from 101% to 35%.

UNDP Assistance

2534. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has decided to concentrate more on giving assistance for establishing the research and development

facilities to promote small and medium industries in the country;

(b) whether the UNDP agency has indicated that it would rather assist in the pre-investment process than giving financial assistance to the small scale industries; and

(c) the projects for which the UNDP has agreed to provide assistance and the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). UNDP Provides technical assistance to the developing countries as per their requirements. The sectors that should receive UNDP assistance are normally decided by Govt. of India. UNDP also gives assistance for pre-investment projects. India utilizes UNDP assistance for projects in various sectors including small-scale industry sector.

(c) UNDP allocates funds to the developing countries on a five-year-cycle basis. India's allocation for the current cycle (1987-91) is US \$ 156.2 million. As on 1st August, 1988, there are 106 on-going projects in various sectors e.g. agriculture, industry including small-scale industry, electronics, scientific research, water resources, minerals, energy, railways, education, etc.

Closed Textile Mills

2535. SHRI D.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of closed textile mills in the country;

(b) the number of references made by

such mills to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) constituted under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985; and

(c) the outcome of such references?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The number of closed cotton/man-made fibre textile units in the country as on 31.05.88 was 133.

(b) and (c). According to available information 44 closed textile units have made reference to the BIFR under Section 15 (1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Of these 34 have been registered with the Board. The Board has heard 24 cases, all of which have been declared sick. In 15 of the cases declared sick, Operating Agencies have been appointed. In 2 cases winding up notices have been issued and final order passed in one case. Out of the 10 unregistered references, 5 have been rejected as not fit for registration and the remaining 5 are under scrutiny by the BIFR.

Seizure of Narcotics in Pushkar

2536. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 4th July, 1988 regarding trafficking in narcotics worth lakhs of rupees in Pushkar town in Ajmer which has become a major centre for the illegal trade; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?