

operation of major accident hazards control system in India" is currently under operation. The project initially covered nine states, viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Goa and Delhi. On a request from the Ministry of Labour, ILO have since agreed to extend the coverage of the project to three more States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Bihar. The main objective of this Project is to strengthen the national system for the prevention of occupational accidents to enable identification, analysis and control of industrial activities involving hazardous substances and processes which have the potential to result in major accidents.

All the State Governments and Union Territories have been asked to prepare an inventory of major accident hazard installations and substances posing major accident hazards based on the criteria for major accident hazards as given in an ILO Report prepared by an expert who visited India in 1985. 259 Major Accident Hazard Factories in the participating States and 48 Major Accident Hazard Factories in the non-participating States had been identified upto December, 1988. These installations are required to identify and analyse hazards and to take steps for minimising them and to prepare on-site and off-site emergency plans. The enforcement agencies are also required to pay special attention to these installations.

Development of Towns In Orissa

47. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of towns in Orissa which have been developed so far under the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns;

(b) whether Government propose to select some more towns in Orissa during 1989-90; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Nine towns have been covered so far.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. It has been decided to include two more towns Koraput and Paradeep, during 1989-90.

Scheme for Traffic In Cities of Punjab

48. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn any scheme for coping up with the massive increase in vehicular traffic in the major cities of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which a decision to implement the scheme is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Central Government has not drawn any such scheme.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Minimum Wages

49. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some labour organisations have demanded Rs. 1050/- per month as minimum wages;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the demand; and

(c) if so, the date from which these wages are proposed to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration, which is the appropriate Government under the Minimum Wages Act, have informed that some Labour Organisations have demanded Rs. 1050/- per month as minimum wages and the matter is under their consideration.

[English]

Financial crisis faced by Handloom Weavers

50. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of suicidal deaths of handloom weavers in some parts of the country have come to the notice of Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons that compelled these handloom weavers to commit suicides; and

(c) the steps proposed by Union Government to help these handloom weavers to overcome the financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Reports of some suicidal deaths of handloom weavers in Chirala and certain other parts of Andhra Pradesh have been received by the Central Government. It has been reported that the livelihood of the

handloom weavers in Chirala area has been badly affected due to the slump in demand for lungies.

After obtaining a report from Government of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government was requested to send specific proposals to provide relief to the affected weavers. The Central Government have already released a sum of Rs. 60.00 lakhs as special advance for providing gainful employment to the unemployed weavers as a measure to ameliorate the distress conditions of the handloom weavers in Prakasam and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh.

To examine the possibility of providing export avenues to the products of the Weavers of Chirala, the Central Government has also deputed an officer of Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India, who has placed sample orders with the weavers' agencies in Chirala.

Failure to achieve target of Primary Health Centres and Sub Centres

51. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many State Governments have failed to achieve the targets relating to setting up of Primary Health Centres and sub-centres;

(b) the State-wise targets fixed for setting up of primary health centre and sub-centre and the targets achieved;

(c) the States which have failed to achieve the targets and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps, if any, contemplated to remedy the situation?