

technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

- (ii) Earlier, the coal companies were unable to take up new mining projects since these were not remunerative. The Government has recently de-regulated the price of coking coal as well as the price of grade A, B, & C of non-coking coals. This is expected to make some of the projects viable and will enable the coal companies to increase production of these coals.
- (iii) The partial de-regulation of coal prices is also likely to make some additional funds available with the coal companies which shall enable new projects to be taken up with greater vigour.
- (iv) The capital base of Coal India Ltd. has been restructured to enable it to raise additional financial resources from domestic and foreign financial institutions in order to enable adding new coal production capacity.
- (v) Co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in potential coalfield areas.
- (vi) Co-ordination with the State Governments to remove the bottlenecks on account of land acquisition.
- (vii) Private sector companies engaged in production of iron & steel, cement and generation of power have now been permitted to take up coal mining. This is expected to increase domestic coal production.
- (viii) Modifications of existing washeries as well as construction of new washeries are being taken up to increase the availability of washed coking coals in the country.

[Translation]

R.R.Bs in U.P.

2031. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the locations of the Regional Rural Banks in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Union Government have received proposals for setting up the branches of Regional Rural Banks in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the branches of Regional Rural Banks proposed to be set up in the State with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that there are 40 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Uttar Pradesh with Headquarters at Moradabad, Gorakhpur, Azamgarh, Barabanki, Raebareilly, Farrukhabad, Sitapur, Ballia, Sultanpur, Lucknow, Kanpur, Bahraich, Etawah, Badaun, Mainpur, Varanasi, Basti, Allahabad, Pratapgarh, Faizabad, Fatehpur, Bareilly, Gonda, Aligarh, Banda, Etah, Jaunpur, Orai, Jhansi, Bijnor, Shahjahanpur, Nainital, Mirzapur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Agra, Muzaffarnagar, Pithoragarh, Dehradun, Pauri and Ghaziabad.

(b and c). The licences for opening new branches are not issued by Government of India. RRBs may open new branches only after they have obtained appropriate licence from Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI has informed that proposals for opening of new branches have been received from five RRBs of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Sick Textile Mills

2032. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sick textile mills of NTC, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat and Karnataka;
- (b) whether the Government propose to close down some sick textile Mills of NTC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether NTC propose to take over K.R. Mills, Mysore; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

: THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
(a) 8 out of 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC have been referred to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies. These 8 subsidiary corporations have under their control 91 mills. A statement is enclosed indicating the State-wise number of these mills.

STATEMENT

(a)

Name of the State	No. of Mills
1	2
Delhi	1
Punjab	4
Rajaasthan	4
Madhya Pradesh	7
Uttar Pradesh	9

1	2
Maharashtra	22
Gujarat	12
Andhra Pradesh	6
Karnataka	4
Kerala	5
Pondicherry	1
Assam	1
Bihar	2
Orissa	1
West Bengal	12
Total	91

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to close down any of the mills under NTC. However, 36 unviable mills are proposed to be restructured into 18 viable mills by merger, as per the modernisation plan prepared by the Textile Research Associations.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Assistance from N.R.F.

2033. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has submitted any proposal for financial assistance from the National Renewal Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken thereon; and

(c) if not, by when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Two proposals from the Government of Gujarat have been received for assistance from the National Renewal Fund for restructuring of the Gujarat State Textile Corporation Ltd. and Area Regeneration Scheme for closed textile mills, under liquidation. The amount of assistance sought from the National Renewal Fund for the above two proposals is Rs.96.83 crores and Rs.168.37 crores, respectively. Assistance from National Renewal Fund is available only for Voluntary Retirement Schemes in Central Public Sector Enterprises and Schemes for counselling, retraining and redeployment of rationalised workers.

Export of Electronics and Computer Software

2034. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of electronics and computer software has increased during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of growth registered during the above period;

(d) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The details about export, percentage growth and foreign exchange earned are given below:-

(Value in Rs. Crore)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Electronic Hardware (% Growth)	1078.00	1507.00 (39.80)	2400.00 (59.26)
Computer Software (%Growth)	1020.00	1474.00 (44.51)	2650.00 (79.78)
Total Foreign exchange earned (%Growth)	2098.00	2981.00 (42.09)	5050.00 (69.41)

(Source: Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council)

(e) The various steps taken to boost the export of these products include participation in exclusive Indian shows/international exhibitions, sponsoring of market surveys etc. Besides, the general measures taken to boost exports include introduction of Electronic Hardware Technology Parks (EHTP) Scheme and Software Technology Parks(STP) Scheme, duty free import of raw materials/capital goods, Special Import Licence, exemption from Income Tax on profits accrued out of exports, assistance under Market Development Fund etc.

Export of Contaminated Wheat

2035. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipments of Indian wheat had run into problems in Turkey and Morocco with authorities there saying that the cargo was contaminated;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the ultimate fate of the contaminated wheat shipments;

(c) whether 21 countries have officially notified a ban on import of wheat infected with the Karnal bunt virus-fungus;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and