

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The position in this regard varies from station to station as also with reference to the type of accommodation to which the officers concerned are entitled.

(c) 1960.

(d) Besides the accommodation available to the officers and staff of the Income-tax Department in General Pool administered by the Ministry of Works & Housing, the Government have, during the last few years approved a number of proposals for the construction of residential quarters for the officers and staff of the Income-tax Department at various places, and process is a continuing one. Purchases of ready built flats from both the State Government authorities as well as private parties on a selective basis have also been made.

#### India's Position in World Cotton Market

1804. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India's share in the world cotton market is dwindling;

(b) if so, reasons for the same and steps taken to improve the position;

(c) India's export of cotton to other countries in 1983-84 and 1984-85 and estimated exports in 1985-86; and

(d) names of countries to which India's cotton trade is on the increase ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) and (b) As cotton is the main raw material of the Textile Industry, most of the cotton produced in the country is used by the domestic textile industry. The varieties of cotton, the production of which is surplus to our domestic requirements are exported. Since the export of cotton depends upon domestic demand and supply

situation, there is year to year variation in exports. The exporting agencies try to secure the best price in export sales.

(c) The quantity of cotton export during 1983-84 and 1984-85 cotton seasons are as following :—

1983-84 — 3.54 lakh bales

1984-85 — 1.29 lakh bales (Upto June, 85)

It is not possible to forecast precisely the quantity of cotton which will be exported during 1985-86 cotton season.

(d) According to available information, the export of cotton to USSR, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria and Japan is generally on the increase.

#### Indian Garments in World Market

1805. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Indian Garments manufactures who have established a world market for Indian garments;

(c) the total amount of annual foreign exchange earned by this trade; and

(b) the details of major foreign countries where Indian garments are a craze ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Export-wise statistics of exports are not maintained.

(b) The exports during 1984-85 amounted to Rs. 943.73 crores. (Source : Apparel Export Promotion Council)

(c) Major markets for Indian Garments are USA, Member-States of BEC, USSR, Canada, Switzerland and Sweden.

#### Soft Credit to India by IDA

1806. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a dollar 99 million soft credit to India has been approved by the International Development Agency (IDA) for building and upgrading minor public irrigation systems expected to raise production worth dollar 40 million a year in West Bengal;

(b) if so, when is this money expected to be made available to Government of West Bengal;

(c) whether Sunderbans are the most backward is also included in the districts in West Bengal where the project will be carried out; and

(d) its job potential and how far it will go towards improving the standards of farm families in the districts to be covered by the proposed project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The project at full development, is expected to increase agricultural production by about US \$ 46.00 million annually.

(b) Additional Central assistance would be available to Government of West Bengal by the Government of India as per standard terms based on the actual credit utilized from time to time.

(c) The Project area extends over the entire State except for Calcutta and Darjeeling district. Site selection for project works would be undertaken by Committees at the State and District level in accordance with predetermined criteria.

(d) About 1,90,000 farm families comprising small and marginal farmers would benefit directly from the project. The project would generate an additional 47 million man days per year of farm labour employment, and project construction activities would generate about 20,000 jobs in construction employment.

#### Expansion of Iron ore Trade in European Countries

1807. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to expand iron ore trade in the European countries;

(b) whether Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) officials have recently visited European countries for the above purpose;

(c) if so, what are the various European Countries visited by MMTC officials recently; and

(d) the details of the possibility explored and negotiation established to increase iron ore export to those countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Export of iron ore by MMTC among the European countries is mostly confined to Romania, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Hungary and Bulgaria.

For the propose of expending our iron ore trade in the European countries, MMTC remains in touch with various importers in the European countries. MMTC officials visited Romania in May, 1985 for holding preliminary discussions regarding quantum of iron ore and price for the fiscal year 1985. A MMTC delegation is again visiting Romania and Bulgaria currently.

#### Import of Coal During Seventh Five Year Plan

1808. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to import more coking coal during the Seventh Year Plan than hitherto to keep up the tempo of production in the steel plants;

(b) if so, the quantity of coking coal estimated to be imported during the current financial year and during the next year;

(c) the country of import and foreign exchange involved;