

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The production of cloth in organised mill sector, power-loom sector and handloom sector during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 was as follows :

| Sector | (Mn. Mtrs) | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1982-83 | 1983-84 | 1984-85 |
| Mill sector | 3132 | 3487 | 3432 |
| Powerloom Sector | 4694 | 5315 | 5445 |
| Handloom Sector | 2788 | 2956 | 3137 |
| Total | 10614 | 11758 | 12014 |

(c) Per capita consumption in the household sector during 1983, 1984 and 1985 was estimated at 13.70, 13.83 and 15.56 mtrs. respectively.

(d) The new Textile Policy announced in Pune, 1985 envisages several measures, which are expected to improve general health of the textile industry and fulfil the main objective of increasing the production of cloth of acceptable quality at reasonable prices to meet the clothing requirements of a growing population.

Benefit to Indian consumers due to fall in price of imported tin

802. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefits of the International tin price crash have finally been passed on to the Indian consumer with official pricing committee for non-ferrous metals slashing the price of imported tin by Rs. 22,000 per tonne; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the decisions taken by the official pricing Committee so far as the question of other imported varieties of copper etc. are concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been no change in the prices of copper wire rods and copper wire bars fixed by the Pricing Committee for February, 1986.

[Translation]

Ban on open sale of spices

803. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to ban open sale of powdered spices; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Writing off loans over ten crores in a year in nationalised banks

804. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the nationalised banks has written off any loans of over rupees ten crores in any single year during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details about the written off of such loans by each of the banks and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any erring official has been identified in any such writing off in any of the concerned banks and the action taken against him/her ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The risk of certain debts going bad is inherent in the nature of operations of banks. Commercial banks including all nationalised banks make provision every year out of their annual income for meeting their liability towards bad and doubtful debts to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors and write off the debts which are considered by their management as ultimately unrecoverable from out of the provisions so made. These amounts are written off only after all avenues of recovery are exhausted. According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account prescribed in the Third schedule of

the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which all banks are required to follow strictly, the banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the quantum or particulars of bad and doubtful debts for which the provision is made to the satisfaction of their auditors. In accordance with the statutes, governing the public sector banks and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers, all the public sector banks are enjoined upon by law not to divulge information relating to the affairs of their constituents.

In view of the above position, the required information cannot be divulged.

The operation of public sector banks is continually kept under review by the Reserve Bank of India. These banks have a system of continuous monitoring of individual advances at various levels of organisation. Wherever lapses are noticed on the part of bank's officials appropriate disciplinary action is taken against such officials. Banks also hand over cases to the Central Bureau of Investigation or local police for criminal investigation and prosecution if a criminal involvement of outsiders or bank officials is suspected.

The present data reporting system does not yield information separately for officers and staff against whom action has been taken for their involvement in debts going bad or writing off of debts. The Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per the available information based upon the reports from the public sector banks during the years 1983, and 1984 and 1985, 50, 32 and 27 employees respectively were convicted and 559, 478 and 387 employees respectively were awarded major or minor penalties.

Promotion of export of Indian garments to Japan

805. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Japan External Trade Association is launching a three year programme to promote export of Indian garments to Japan from this year; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the agreement, if any, arrived at in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Japan External Trade Organisation has decided to undertake an Import Promotion Programme for Apparel for the three years beginning from 1985-86. The main objective of the programme is to give guidance and advice on fashion design and garment making to the exporters in India for penetration into Japanese garment markets.

Demand for increasing allotment of rice to Kerala

806. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of rice from the central pool to Kerala for Public distribution system during the last year, month-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present allotment of rice is not adequate for distribution through ration out-lets under the public distribution system;

(c) whether Government have received any request from Government of Kerala to enhance the monthly allotment of rice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : A statement indicating the allotment of rice from the Central Pool to Kerala during 1985, month-wise, is given below.

(b) The State Government have reported that the present level of monthly allocation at 1,25,000 tonnes of rice is not adequate. However, taking into account the over-all availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of various States, market availability and other related factors, as also in view of the supplemental nature of Central allocations, the existing level of allocation is considered reasonable.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir; Government have