

M/s Auto Pins (India) Regd.

10451. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4718 on 19th December, 1980 regarding M/s. Auto Pins India and state :

(a) what is the net outcome of the proceedings against M/s. Auto Pins India (Regd.) under Income Tax Act and other connected economic laws;

(b) whether prosecutions under relevant economic laws against M/s. Auto Pins India (Regd.) and their concerned employees and partners including Directors, have been launched, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) when the appropriate proceedings pertaining to breach of economic laws against M/s. Auto Pins India (Regd.) were initiated and the reason why there is so much delay in the matter; and

(d) whether Government will lay on the Table of the House full facts and circumstances of the matter in issue ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MANGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Income-tax assessments in this case have been completed for the assessment years 1973-74 to 1978-79 (excepting for the year 1975-76, which is under investigation). Assessee has gone in appeal against these orders and the final outcome will be known when assessments become final after appellate decisions.

(b) No, Sir. No prosecutions under the Income-tax Act have been filed so far, as appeals are pending in this case.

(c) Excepting for the assessment year 1975-76, which is under investigation, assessments for the concerned year have already been completed by the Income-tax Officer. There has been therefore no delay in taking action by the Income-tax Department.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Government is in a position to answer any specific question in this regard.

Organised Efforts to manage Cottage Industries in Assam

10452. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any organised efforts have been made to manage cottage industries

like the handloom, sericulture brass-metals, cane bamboo articles in Assam and increase their sale and provide reasonable wages to the artisans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement summarising the various steps taken in the fields of handlooms, sericulture and handicrafts to boost the working of these sectors is attached.

Statement

The following is the summary of the various steps taken in the fields of handlooms, sericulture and handicrafts to boost the working of these sectors.

HANDLOOMS:

(1) Subsidy/Special Rebate:

- (a) Subsidy is given on the production of janata cloth.
- (b) Managerial subsidy is given to weavers societies.
- (c) Special rebate is given on the sale of handloom cloth.

(2) Participation in share capital:

- (a) Share capital loan assistance is provided to the Primary Weavers' Societies and the Assam Weavers' and Artisans Federation.
- (b) Share capital assistance is provided to the Assam Government Marketing Corporation Limited (which is executing the Intensive Handloom Development Project and Export Production Centres in Assam).

(3) North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) :

- (a) NEHHDC have been requested to organise supply of yarn to the handlooms in the North-East including Assam.
- (b) Funds have also been sanctioned to NEHHDC for setting up of a modern dye house near Gauhati to help handloom industry.

- (4) Weavers' Service Centre in Gauhati is rendering technical assistance to the handloom development programmes in Assam.
- (5) Assistance is provided for modernisation/renovation/purchase of looms.
- (6) An Intensive Handloom Development Project and an Export Oriented Production Project have been sanctioned for Assam, which will be executed by the Assam Government Marketing Corporation Limited.
- (7) The National Institute of Designs, Ahmedabad, has been commissioned to document and develop products based on traditional Assam fabrics.
- (2) The Assam Government Marketing Corporation Limited has been set up by the Government of Assam and the All India Handicrafts Boards has participated in its share capital to enable the Corporation to procure and supply raw materials, and expansion of its sales activities.
- (3) The All India Handicrafts Board is running a Marketing and Service Extension Centre at Gauripur (Assam) for assisting artisans in their marketing efforts.
- (4) The All India Handicrafts Board is also running advanced training centres in Cane and Bamboo to improve the skills of craftsmen.

SERICULTURE:

- (1) Since muga industry is an integral part of economic life in the rural areas of Assam, the Central Government have set up a raw material bank for procurement of muga cocoons from the primary growers with a view to assuring them a minimum economic price for their products. This bank has started functioning under the auspices of the Central Silk Board with a margin money of Rs. 15 lakhs. It is expected that with the stepping up of activities of this bank, muga industry will grow on steady lines in this region.
- (2) In order to encourage development of mulberry sericulture in Assam, Central Silk Board are supplying free of cost mulberry cuttings to the State Government for helping the farmers to take up mulberry sericulture industry in the State.
- (3) At present there is one Regional Research Station of Central Silk Board in Assam located at Titabar engaged in research and development activities of muga, eri and mulberry varieties of silk. Recognising the potential that exists for exploiting all the three varieties of silk in this State, the Central Government have decided to set up three Regional Stations for each of the three varieties of silk in this region. These will start functioning from 1981-82 onwards.

HANDICRAFTS:

- (1) The North-Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHDC) has been set up to develop and promote sales of handicrafts items in the North-Eastern region including Assam.

Import of Dates

10453. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity of dates imported during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the name of the agency through which the import was made;
- (c) the mode of cargo used for bringing the dates;
- (d) whether any decision has been taken that only vessels will be used for transportation of dates but the ships were used for the purpose; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KAHAN): (a)

Year	Quantity imported
1977-78	44,579 MT
1978-79	33,310 MT
1979-80 (upto Feb. '80)	26,601 MT

- (b) Import data are not maintained importer-wise, but since 1978-79, import of dates is allowed under Open General Licence by all persons.
- (c) Import is allowed under OGL by Indian Sailing Vessels; but imports by other modes of transport can also be considered on merits.