

(e) The terms of reference of Mira Seth Committee on Handlooms constituted by the Ministry of Textiles are as follows :

- (i) Assess the extent to which the objectives of the Textile Policy, 1985 have been achieved by the Handloom Sector;
- (ii) Assess the impact of various schemes which are being implemented in the handloom sector;
- (iii) Assess the threats and opportunities facing the handloom sector and devise ways and means to capitalise on the opportunities and in particular recommend comprehensive support necessary to achieve a quantum jump in exports
- (iv) Make a comprehensive assessment of the bottlenecks in the way of development of the handloom sector in all areas including input supplies, credit support, production technology, design availability, organisational structure, marketing support, exports etc. and to recommend (a) measures to promote rapid development of the handloom sector, (b) measures for its growth in an economically viable manner

#### New Mineral Policy

78 SHRI BABURAO DADA PARANJPE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state .

(a) whether some foreign companies have shown their interest to make investment in Mine Sector in India as a result of announcement of new mineral policy

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) the details of minerals and metals for which the above companies have shown their interest, and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. After the announcement of the National Mineral Policy, 1993 a number of foreign companies have expressed interest in making investments in the mining sector. This interest is for prospecting and mining operations for minerals like gold, and basemetals. The applications of these, companies are being processed as per the terms of the National Mineral Policy, 1993 and the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act 1957.

#### Price of Petroleum Products

79. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products have been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rationale behind the increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government has increased the price of administered petroleum products except Kerosene for domestic use w.e.f. mid-night of 2nd/3rd July, 1996. Further, the price of HSD was reduced w.e.f. mid-night of 6th/7th July, 96. A statement giving the pre revised and revised ex-storage point ceiling selling prices of administered petroleum products exclusive of Excise Duty, Sales-tax and local levies is enclosed.

(c) The price increase has been necessitated to contain the deficit in the oil pool account and thus enable oil companies to maintain uninterrupted supply of petroleum products in the country.

#### STATEMENT

Revised Ex-storage point prices with effect from midnight of 2nd/3rd July, 1996 of Administered petroleum products

Name of Product	Selling Unit	Existing Basic Ceiling selling Price Ex-storage Point Exclusive of Excise Duty Etc (Rs /SU)	Revised Basic Ceiling Selling Price Ex-Storage Point Exclusive of Excise Duty Etc. (Rs./SU)	Percentage Increase
1	2	3	4	5
MS-87	KL	12844 34	16055 43	25.00%
MS-93	KL	15344 34	19180 43	25.00%
MS-80	KL	12873 49	16091 86	25.00%