

has suffered a serious set back due to the devaluation of Mark;

(b) if so, the extent of setback and the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to bail out the carpet Industry from this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). It has been brought to the notice of Government that fall in the value of Deutsch Mark has created some problems regarding export of carpets from India to West Germany. Some importers in West Germany are reported to be reluctant to honour commitments at prices negotiated prior to decline in the value of Deutsch Mark.

(c) It is planned to intensify promotional measures to increase exports of carpets from India to other regions. HHEC and J.K. Handicrafts Corporation were asked to intervene in order to provide some relief to the weavers of hand-knotted carpets in J & K recently. Incentives like REP benefits, Duty-free import of raw wool and Cash compensatory support are already available to hand-knotted carpet industry.

#### **Proposal to set up Export Commission**

2893. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to set up Export Commission; and

(b) if so, when the Commission is likely to be set up and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Resources of IDBI**

2894. SHRI D. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the resources of IDBI are very lean so that further lending to many projects is in jeopardy; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment the resources if new investment is desired to produce more for domestic consumption or exports and to increase employment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAJ BAROT): (a) and (b). The resources position of the IDBI as well as that of other term lending institutions has to be viewed in the context of the overall resources position in the country. Government, however, endeavour to ensure that the resources requirement of the IDBI are met and there is no curtailment or delay in disbursement of sanctioned assistance or denial of fresh assistance to eligible projects as a result of resources constraint. Government have decided to allow IDBI to go for additional market borrowings through public issues and to obtain further borrowings from abroad to meet its financial requirements during the current year. The augmented resources through these measures will be utilised for the normal activities of the IDBI viz. financial assistance to Industrial units under its various schemes. Industrial development through such financial assistance would, as a natural corollary, generate more production for domestic consumption or export and increase the potential for employment.

#### **Deposits of gold and iron in Palghat, Kerala**

2895. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a geological study has revealed deposit of gold and iron in Palghat, Kerala; and