

in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) There is good demand of Indian woollen articles in foreign countries.

(b) and (c). The value of woollen cloth (fabrics) exported during the years 1980-81 and 1981-82 are as follows :—

	(Rs. lakhs)	
1980-81	309.68	} (Pro- visional)
1981-82	429.71	

Party-wise export statistics are not maintained Countries to which woollen fabrics are exported are :

(1) Canada

Year	quantity (Rs. lakhs)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1980-81	9.00	432.00
1981-82	15.00	950.00

(e) There are at present about 23 units manufacturing wool tops within the country. The licenced capacity is 71.13 million lbs., but the installed capacity is about 52.25 million lbs.

Textile Industry

4109. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the textile industry is in a critical condition and majority of the textile mills in the country have been closed down;

(b) if so, the number of such mills and what are the main reasons; and

(2) Australia

(3) United Kingdom

(4) Denmark

(5) Finland

(6) Middle East Countries & Gulf States

(7) U. S. A.

(8) U. S. S. R. etc.

(d) Import of Wool tops is banned under Import Policy 1982-83. However, for Registered Exporters, import of wool tops is allowed under REP entitlement. Figures for the import of wool tops for the years 1980-81 and 1981-82 as per record available are as follows :

(c) what steps are being taken to save this industry for the benefit of the country and workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 29 textile mills were closed as on 30th September, 1982, largely on account of the labour problems and financial difficulties.

(c) The steps taken from time to time include the introduction of the soft loan scheme, relieving the private sector mills of controlled cloth obligation, permitting loom to loom replacement without obtaining fresh licenses, and the setting up of a tripartite committee to go into the problems of the textile industry. In addition, the efforts of Government

have resulted in stable cotton prices in the last cotton year and the same stable trend continues in the current year.

Nationalisation of Ganesh Flour Mills

4110. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAI-LANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to nationalise Ganesh Flour Mills on the lines of Amritsar Oil Mills;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF): (a) to (c). The question of future set-up of Ganesh Flour Mills Co. Ltd., is under consideration of the Government.

Instalments of Dearness Allowance due to pensioners of State Bank of India

4111. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many instalments of Dearness Allowance have fallen due to the pensioners of the State Bank of India during the last three years;

(b) how many of them have been paid and how many are due to be released;

(c) the reasons for delay in the release/issue of orders for the grant and payment of Dearness Allowance to pensioners;

(d) by what time all due instalments of D.A. will be released to them and the arrears paid; and

(e) whether the Delhi Branch of the State Bank of India is the last to make payments to pensioners in carrying out the orders of the authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d) State Bank of India has reported that with effect from 1st December 1978 to 1st April 1982, 17 instalments were due towards dearness allowance to the Bank's pensioners. All these instalments have been released to the pensioners. The Government of India have released another instalment to their pensioners with effect from the 1st June 1982. The Bank is, therefore, in the process of releasing the 18th instalment to its pensioners. The bank has reported that there has not been any delay in the release of instalments due towards dearness allowance to the pensioners and instructions are invariably issued to the bank's offices immediately on receipt of Government's advice.

(e) According to the bank, it does not have any complaint on record relating to any of the branches in Delhi delaying the release of dearness allowance to the bank's pensioners.

U.S. attitude in respect of Foreign Aid to India

4112. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) has there been a change of perception in the U.S. Aid Policy towards India after our Prime Minister's recent visit to U.S., and

(b) if so, how it affect India's various economic programmes and what steps are being taken by Government of India to meet the aid gap?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). India's views about flow of concessional assistance were conveyed to the U.S. authorities during the Prime Minister's visit to the United States in July-August last. While appreciating our concern, particularly in respect of certain developmental projects, the U.S. Government referred to their own budgetary constraints.