

supply position. After taking into account domestic demand and exports of cotton allowed during the cotton season 1982-83, the year is likely to end with a sufficient carry over stock of cotton.

(b) and (c) In view of the present supply, demand and price trend of cotton, further export of cotton has been suspended for the time being. As regards exports during 1983-84, decision will, however, be taken at the appropriate time after the availability and demand position of the cotton is known.

#### Acquisition of another Aircraft Carriers by Navy

2233. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Navy is considering to acquire another aircraft carriers ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to acquire another Aircraft carrier in the current Five Year Plan.

#### Charging of Compound Interest on Defaulters of M L. Loans

2234. SHRI CHINTMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India Ltd. is charging compound interest on the defaulters of M L. Loan taken by the loanees for construction of houses in urban areas, if so, the number of loanees on whom the compound interest has been charged and the amount charged on them and amount realised till 1982-83;

(b) whether LIC (India) Ltd. is not paying any interest to the policy-holders and

loanees on the amount deposited by them and the amount has been kept in suspense account, if so, the reason thereof; and

(c) whether the depositors of suspense account have approached the Government to direct the LIC to pay the interest or divide on the amount kept in the suspense account; if so, the decision of the Government on this issue ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The mortgage loan agreement of the Life Insurance Corporation of India provides, inter alia, that in the event of default on the part of the borrower in the payment of any instalment of principal and/or interest, the borrower shall also pay interest on the outstanding amount of interest, by way of compound interest. Information regarding the compound interest realised from the individual borrowers is not available.

(b) and (c) Having regard to the representation made by the Honourable Member in an earlier communication, the question relating to credit for interest on amounts deposited by borrowers and kept in suspense account is being examined and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

#### Marketing of Kashmiri Handicrafts and Carpets

2235. SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being envisaged by Government to improve the marketing of Kashmiri handicrafts and carpets in the world market; and

(b) what Trade Development Authority is doing in this direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The steps being envisaged are as under :—

- (i) Cash compensatory support has been extended to silk exports.
- (ii) pre-shipment credit at concessional rate has been allowed upto 180 days for exports of knotted woollen carpets and 90 days for handicrafts.
- (iii) Duty drawback at the rate of Re. 1.00 per kg. has been allowed on exports of woollen carpets where yarn is dyed or piece dyed or mainly coloured.
- (iv) The excise duty of 30% advalorem on hand knotted woollen carpets employing small machines in post-weaving operations has been waived.
- (v) A separate Export Promotion Council for carpets has been set up for promotion of exports of carpets.
- (vi) Setting up of an Export Promotion Council for handicrafts has been proposed.
- (vii) Carpet exporters will be participating in International Carpet Fair at Harrowgate, UK in September, 1983.

(b) The export promotion services are provided to the regular members of Trade Development Authority. Since Trade Development Authority do not have any regular member from J & K under handicrafts and carpets, no particular promotional work has been undertaken by the Trade Development Authority for marketing of handicrafts and carpets from that region in the world market.

#### Carpet Industry in Kashmir

2236. SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that carpet Industry in Kashmir suffered great commer-

cial losses in the world market and also within the country in 1980-82; and

(b) what steps were taken to overcome this problem ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to economic recession in West Europe and North America, the carpet industry in Kashmir was faced with the problem of accumulation of stocks during 1980-82. To help the industry, the Government of India had organised a purchase operation through the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi, and the J & K State Handicrafts (Sales & Exports) Corporation Ltd., Srinagar.

#### Short coming in written Code for Army, Navy and Air Force

2237. SHRI RAMPRASAD AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of formulating a unified and written code for Army, Navy and Air Force was initiated by the Ministry in 1969 but it is still a distant reality;

(b) the actual progress as at present in this regard;

(c) what were the shortcomings in the draft code prepared in 1977; and

(d) whether it has been recommended that the regulations made in 1964-65 for Indian Navy may be made applicable to the Army and the Air Force; if so, the progress so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) The work of formulating a unified code for the three Services was initiated in 1969 and completed in 1978. However, it was found that the