

by Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India, Ltd. during the year 1981-82 and 1982-83 and likely to be exported during the year 1983-84; and the amount involved in each item; and

(b) the steps being taken to encourage the export of handloom by the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India during the year 1984-85 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Handicrafts & Handlooms Export Corporation undertakes exports of Handicrafts and Handloom products as well as Gold Jewellery and specified canalised Wollen Knitwear.

A statement showing exports under

these products is enclosed.

(b) A separate division for Design Development has been created and services of designers have been obtained for development of floor coverings, furnishings etc. In addition to this HHEC is continuing its efforts to develop new designs, textures etc. for cotton and silk fabrics. HHEC also proposes to participate in various exhibitions and fairs/shows abroad to display quality products to give boost to export of Handloom products. HHEC is also working on proposals for collaborative promotions with a number of Departmental Stores abroad for promotions of Handlooms. In addition HHEC also proposes to invite leading designers to work on Indian fabrics to help increase exports.

**Statement**

*Exports During 1981-82 and 1982-83 as well as Estimates for 1983-84*

(Rs. in crores)

	1981-82 Actuals	1982-83 Actuals	1983-84 Estimates
1. Handicrafts including hand-knotted woolen carpets	12.09	9.72	5.80
2. Handlooms	6.87	7.07	5.97
3. Ready-made Garments	1.38	1.21	4.60
4. Gold Jewellery	42.74	57.65	67.00
5. Woolen Knitwear	—	9.29	20.00
<b>Total :</b>	<b>63.08</b>	<b>84.94</b>	<b>103.37</b>

Export of Readymade Garments

1043. SHRI CHINTAMANI  
JENA :  
SHRI MANMOHAN  
TUDU :

SHRI AMARSINH  
RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of the ready-

made garments exported during the years 1981, 1982 and 1983;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is decline in the export of readymade garments;

(c) if so, the main reasons; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the export of ready-made garments during the year 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) According to available information the value of garments exported during the years 1981, 1982 and 1983 was as follows :

<i>Years</i>	<i>Value (Rs. crores)</i>
1981	650.02
1982	633.58
1983	640.13

(b) and (c) The value of exports in 1982 was slightly less than that in 1981. However, exports in 1983 have again shown an upward trend. The decline in export of readymade garments during the year 1982 was mainly due to recession, change in demand pattern and consumer preferences in importing countries.

(d) The Apparels Export Promotion Council (AEPC), participated in various Overseas International Trade Fairs and sponsored Sales-cum-Study Teams and individual Sales Tours. To keep in touch with developments in fashion, the AEPC has been subscribing to various fashion magazines/journals. It has also undertaken Market Studies in respect of developing suitable packaging system for Indian classical shirts for E. E. C. markets. Appraisal of cooperation possibilities with garment industries in South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and Shri Lanka have also been undertaken.

The rate of Cash Compensatory support (CCS) for garments has been raised from 5% to 6% in order to boost export of garments.

A large number of machines necessary for increasing our exports of garments have been placed on Open General Licence (OGL). Many of these machines can be imported on concessional rate of import duty. The inspection procedure in regard to exports of garments has been simplified.

#### Drop in Value of Rupee

1044. SHRI AJIT BAG : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the real value of the Indian rupee in terms of the consumer rupee of 1960;

(b) whether value of the rupee has been dropping continuance all along; and

(c) the steps taken to check the erosion in the value of rupee ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The purchasing power of the rupee, measured as the reciprocal of the All India Consumer Price Index (base 1960=100), works out to 17.89 paise for December, 1983 (the latest available). The purchasing power of the rupee varies with the rise and fall of the consumer price index. Since prices have increased in varying percentages in most of the years since 1960 the value of the rupee as measured above, has also shown corresponding decline.

(c) The Government accords high priority to the control of inflation and has been taken measures from time to time to contain price rise acting both on the supply side and the demand side. These measures include, *inter-alia*, strengthening of the public distribution system, larger releases of foodgrains