

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in library See No. LT—8708/84.

(c) As this is an exclusive Indian Exhibition, there is no participation by other countries.

(d) Shri K. Vijayabhaskara Reddy, Union Minister of Shipping & Transport inaugurated the exhibition. The exhibition is from 15th August to 14th September, 1984.

(e) and (f) Since the exhibition is still in its initial phase, it is too early to assess the result thereof.

#### Problems Faced by Handloom Weaving Societies in Kerala

\*4681. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems being faced by the handloom weaving societies in Kerala due to the non-availability of yarn and other things at controlled rates ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure the regular supply of these essential items at controlled rates ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) There is no control on yarn prices. The prices, of yarn, particularly of lower counts, have gone up due to sharp increase in cotton prices.

(b) In order to ensure regular and systematic supplies of yarn to the handloom sector at reasonable prices, Government of India have taken a

number of measures, which inter-alia, are as follows :

- (i) Statutory obligation has been imposed on all spinning mills whereby they should pack at least 50 per cent of their marketable yarn in the form of hanks of which 85 per cent should be in counts 40s and below.
- (ii) State Governments have been requested to pool hank yarn produced by the co-operative spinning mills belonging to the National Textile Corporation, State Textile Corporation for captive use in the handloom sector.
- (iii) The National Textile Corporation has agreed to supply yarn to the organised sector of handloom, namely, Cooperatives and State Handloom Development Corporations at mill-gate prices and the State Governments have been asked to take advantage of this offer.
- (iv) The National Handloom Development Corporation, which has been set up recently, has, as one of its main Objectives, procurement and supply of yarn to the handloom weavers through the State Governments. It also proposes to set up yarn depots at various places in the country. Its first depot has started working at Gauhati.

श्रीरगाबाद भोपाल और खजुराहो होकर बम्बई से दिल्ली के लिये उड़ान प्रारम्भ करना

4682. श्री श्रीमती विद्यावती घतुर्वेदी क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय : यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :—

(क) क्या सरकार का श्रीरंगाबाद, भोपाल और खजुराही होकर बंबई से दिल्ली के लिए उड़ान प्रारम्भ करने का विचार है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो कब से ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं तो तत्संबंधी कारण क्या हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री : (श्री खुर्शीद आलम खान) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं है।

(ग) बम्बई-खजुराही-बम्बई ; औरंगाबाद खजुराही-औरंगाबाद तथा दिल्ली-खजुराही-दिल्ली क्षेत्रों पर उपलब्ध यात्री भार से एक सेवा का औचित्य सिद्ध नहीं होता है।

#### Help to Cotton Textile Industry to Meet Its Requirements of Essential Raw Materials

4683. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have decided to help the cotton textile industry to meet its requirements of essential raw materials ;

(b) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government ; and

(c) the number of cotton bales likely to be imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : (a) (b) (c) Government reviews the situation with regard to raw material availability to the cotton

textile industry from time to time and appropriate remedial measures are taken considering the prevalent circumstances. However, there is no proposal for import of cotton at present.

#### Breach of Law by Air India's inflight Magazine 'Namaskaar'

4684. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the advertisement by the Bensen and Hedges International Mild Cigarette (Luxury Mild Brand) published at the last cover page of Air-India's inflights magazine 'Namaskaar' July-August 1984 issue where the usual statutory warning 'Cigarette Smoking is Injurious to Health' has not been printed ;

(b) whether a similar omission is also noticed in the advertisement for '555' State Express cigarette in the same journal ;

(c) if so, the reasons for this breach of law of the land ; and

(d) the action he proposes to take for printing these advertisement in the present form in Air-India's Journal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The matter is under examination.

#### Procedure for Taking Pension by Ex-Servicemen

4685. SHRI A.K. ROY : Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state :