

- (i) An integrated export promotion plan to ASEAN and neighbouring countries has been drawn up ;
- (ii) Concentrated promotional activities will be undertaken in the major markets of West Europe, USA, Australia and Middle-East ;
- (iii) Exploring grater avenues for project exports by means of joint ventures and sub-contracting with renowned prime contractors of West Europe, Japan and USA.
- (iv) Exploring possibilities of grater participation by Indian firms in internationally financed projects.

Reopening of Sick Textile Mills in the Country

957. SHRI CHHITTUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have extended its co-operation to the States for reopening the sick textile mills in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of sick textile mills in Gujarat ;

(c) if so, the details regarding the steps taken by the State Government ; and

(d) whether some financial assistance have also been sought from the Centre in this regard ?

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

(b) to (d) The cases of 24 sick/closed mills in Gujarat have been referred to a Group of Officers, which has been constituted by the Government to explore the possibility of rehabilitating those mills which are potentially viable. The Group includes

representatives of the State Government, financial institutions and banks. In case of 13 of these mills rehabilitation packages involving some concessions/reliefs from the Central and State Governments and financial assistance by the financial institutions and banks have been worked out.

Reimbursement of Cash Losses of Cotton Corporation of India

968. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had decided to reimburse cash losses of the Cotton Corporation of India ;

(b) if so, whether the accumulated losses amounted to Rs. 75 crores ;

(c) the extent to which the reimbursement will result in reduction of net losses ;

(d) the other measures being considered to help CCI so that they may improve their position instead of losses ;

(e) whether it is a fact that CCI has been asked to co-ordinated with the National Textile Corporation for the supply of cotton; and

(f) the extent to which the position of the CCI has improved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) The Ministry has reimbursed cash losses amounting to Rs. 54.50 crores as loan to the Cotton Corporation of India repayable in annual instalments alongwith interest.

(b) Yes, Sir. The cash losses upto 31-8-1983, amounted to Rs. 75.31 crores.

(c) Since the reimbursement of cash losses is in the form of loan there will be only saving in the interest payments to the concerned banks. The annual savings on this account will be about Rs. 1.36 crores.