

- (v) Expansion of the system from 5 digits to 6 digits etc. is very easily accomplished without major additions to equipment.
- (vi) A number of facilities like trunk-barring, PBX hunting etc. can be easily provided.

be not forthcoming through the main channel for any reason whatsoever.

(c) and (d). The distribution of paper is not controlled and hence no quota has been fixed by Government for Publishers, Association or State including Gujarat. Therefore the question of raising any allotment does not arise.

Shortage of Paper in Gujarat

7045. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmedabad publishers and Booksellers Association had drawn the attention of his Ministry of an acute shortage of paper experienced by them in the state;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to help these traders in supply of papers;

(c) whether the Union Government have decided to increase the allotment quota to the Gujarat Publishers and Booksellers Association; and

(d) if so, the quota of a paper allotted to the Gujarat State during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) and (b). There are general complaints from various quarters regarding shortage of paper. In order to ensure supply of paper, to legitimate consumers, the paper industry, traders and converters have adopted a "Code of Conduct" according to which the paper mills undertook to supply papers to direct consumers on the basis of the average of their five years off-take, and also to make supplies direct to such consumers who had been receiving supplies through distributors and traders should such supplies

Draft plan for Backward Classes of Assam submitted by the State's Planning Minister

7046. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:
SHRI TARUN GOGOL:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Planning from Assam has submitted the draft outline of the Fifth Five Year Plan for backward classes in Assam to the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) whether the Planning Commission has approved the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Draft Plan proposed by the Government of Assam is divided into two parts:

(i) *An Integrated Area Plan for the Hill Areas of North Cachar and Mikir Hills.*—The main features of the proposed programme include (i) development of agricultural production at an annual growth rate of 5 per cent in foodgrains and substantial increase in production of other commercial crops; (ii) To wean the tribal population practising shifting cultivation to settled agriculture by undertaking rubber, coffee, fruit, plantation in these areas; (iii) Among industries, large and medium units have been proposed for the production of cement,

sugar, paper etc. It is also being proposed to take up tussar culture in North Cachar District. The transport and communications programmes are envisaged to be taken up on a sizeable scale. Under social services, adequate provision has been made for elementary, secondary and higher education. Better and wider coverage of institutional health service has also been proposed.

(II) *Plan for Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes in Plains Areas*—The major effort for the development of backward classes will flow from the sectoral programmes. Integrated programmes are proposed to be formulated at sub-divisional level. Provision is also proposed under the supplementary sector for key programmes. The main features of this programme are: development of agriculture, poultry, piggery, dairying and fisheries, improvement of social services like education, health, water supply, etc.

In order to ensure flow of funds from the various sectors of economy and private sector investments for the benefit of backward classes. It is proposed to set up new institutional base such as corporations

(c) The outlays and programmes for the Fifth Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised.

Utilisation of loan by National Industries Corporation

7047. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of loans given by National Small Industries Corporation Ltd, for Hire Purchases of Machineries have been written off;

(b) if so, amount of the loans which have been written off up-to-date; and

(c) the action taken by the Corporation for proper utilisation of loans granted by it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) to (c). No cash loan is given by the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. The N.S.I.C. Ltd. supplies machines to small entrepreneurs on hire purchase basis. In a few cases of damages, loss in transit or inability of the hirers to run these machines, the Corporation had to write off part of their claim depending upon the facts of each case. In the past the Corporation has written off Rs 11 lakhs approximately on this account.

The Field Staff of the Corporation examines the project from technical and economic viability angles before making the supply of machines. They also periodically visit the units to ensure proper utilization of the machines and realisation of the instalments

Production of finished Leather

7048. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE:

SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any move has been made to expand the installed capacity for production of finished leather; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the existing units having industrial licence for the manufacture of