

### Replies to Letters of Members of Parliament

507. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters pertaining to the affairs of the private and public sector banks received by the Government and the Governor, Reserve Bank of India from the Members of Parliament during 1996 till date;

(b) the number of letters still pending for final replies;

(c) the reasons for delay in giving replies thereto; and

(d) the time by which the replies to the pending letters are likely to be sent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Mahila Courts

508. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Mahila Courts have been set up in Delhi two years ago to deal with the cases related to crimes against women;

(b) if so, the number of such courts set up and their locations;

(c) whether these courts are over burdened with cases;

(d) if so, the number of cases pending finalisation with these courts as on date;

(e) the reasons for the accumulation of such a large number of cases; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to expeditious settlement of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b). As per information available, 4 Mahila courts, one court of Additional Sessions Judge at Tis Hazari and 3 Court of Metropolitan Magistrates, one court each at Tis Hazari, New Delhi and Karkardooma (Shahdara) are functioning with effect from 1.9.1994.

(c) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Development of Export Centres

509. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any detailed feasibility report from the Government of

Kerala and other states on identified centres to be developed as Export Intensive Areas for necessary clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

Ministry of Commerce has received feasibility reports from Government of Kerala for Aroor and Kalavoor to be developed as Export Intensive Areas in Kerala. The Government of India had considered the formulation of a scheme for infrastructure support to Export Intensive Areas in 1994. However, the proposed scheme was not approved by the Planning Commission. The objectives sought to be achieved through infrastructure support to Export Intensive Areas have been incorporated under the new scheme titled 'Crucial Balancing Investment Scheme'.

Proposals for removal of infrastructure bottlenecks for exports from the Government of Kerala and other states have been considered under the 'Crucial Balancing Investment Scheme' of this Ministry. The empowered committee granted in principle approval for Government of India's participation to the extent of 1.05 crores for Aroor, for which certain clarifications have been sought from the Government of Kerala. The proposal for Kalavoor was, however, not accepted and the State Government was advised to take it up as a separate plan scheme in consultation with the Ministry of Industry, Government of India.

### Confederation of Indian Industry

510. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation on behalf of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) visited China in September, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the result of the talks between CII delegation of India and the representatives of the All China Federation of Industry and Commerce; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to the outcome of this bilateral talks at non-official level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) which is not a Government organisation, led a high powered delegation to China between September, 13th and 20th, 1996. Besides attending the meetings arranged by the World Economic Forum, the delegation also met with representatives of the All China Federation of Industry & Commerce (ACFIC). Areas of discussion covered a wide range of topics such as agro products, auto components, marine products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, refractories, electronics etc.

The Formal Report of CII about these discussions is still awaited, on the receipt of which appropriate action can be considered.

#### Powerloom Service Centres

511. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :  
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up powerloom service centres in the country during the Eight Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the locations of the proposed centres have been selected;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the criteria for their selection;

(d) whether any priority has been given to those places where labourers have been rendered jobless owing to the closure of sick textile mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):  
(a) to (e). Yes, Sir. During the Eight Five Year plan the following Powerloom Service Centres have been opened :-

| S.No. | Year    | Name of Place             | Name of State  |
|-------|---------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1.    | 1992-93 | Bangalore                 | Karnataka      |
| 2.    | 1992-93 | Komarapalayam             | Tamil Nadu     |
| 3.    | 1992-93 | Dholka                    | Gujarat        |
| 4.    | 1993-94 | Sachin                    | Gujarat        |
| 5.    | 1993-94 | Betagiri                  | Karnataka      |
| 6.    | 1993-94 | Huzurabad<br>(Karimnagar) | Andhra Pradesh |
| 7.    | 1993-94 | Bhiwandi                  | Maharashtra    |
| 8.    | 1994-95 | Alwar                     | Rajasthan      |
| 9.    | 1994-95 | Salem                     | Tamil Nadu     |
| 10.   | 1994-95 | Somanur                   | Tamil Nadu     |
| 11.   | 1994-95 | Pandesara                 | Gujarat        |
| 12.   | 1995-96 | Jabalpur                  | Madhya Pradesh |
| 13.   | 1995-96 | Kannur                    | Kerala         |
| 14.   | 1995-96 | Bhagalpur                 | Bihar          |

The Locations of these Powerloom Service Centres have been decided on receipt of suggestions/proposals from State Governments and on the basis of areas of Powerloom concentration. These centres cover variety of functions such as training on loom maintenance, improve knowledge in weaving for producing better quality cloth, guide about modernisation, guidance on marketing and export opportunities through seminars and workshops, provide testing facilities, technical consultations, design development and diversification. These centres are used as nodal points for transmitting knowledge and technique through field visits and as co-ordinating points in bringing their problems to the knowledge of the State and the Central Government authorities. The powerloom service centres also popularise various schemes of Government of India like Life Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers, NABARD and SIDBI refinance scheme for modernisation and renovation of powerloom units.

[Translation]

#### Coloured Cotton Yarn

512. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide coloured cotton yarn to powerloom sector on concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to help the small powerloom who are facing hardship to get coloured cotton yarn for their industries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):  
(a) No, Sir. The Central Government does not provide any coloured cotton yarn to powerloom sector at concessional rates.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of 'a' above.

[English]

#### Multilateral Agreement on Investment

513. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated its approach to multilateral agreement on investment (MAI) draft of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to safeguard the national as well as third world interests in the face of liberalised investment regime; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). India is not a member of the OECD and hence is