

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the criteria adopted for downgrading the rating of performance; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the performance of Navratnas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve performance of Navratnas include granting of autonomy and additional powers to the Board of these Companies. Professionalisation of the Boards by inducting Non-official Directors.

Small Car Projects

2168. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of small car projects operating in the country; and

(b) the policy of Government in this regard in view of the growing petroleum bill of the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) All the approvals given by the Government are for passenger cars and the firms have flexibility to manufacture the models and range according to the market conditions. There is no separate small car project. The 800cc car being produced by Maruti Udyog Limited and having two box chamber is popularly called 'small car'. Under this definition, passenger cars, viz. 'Maruti 800' and 'Maruti Zen' being manufactured by Maruti Udhog Limited, 'Fiat Uno' by M/s Ind Auto Limited 'Santro' by M/s Hyundai India Limited and 'Matiz' by M/s Daewoo India Limited, presently come under the small car category.

(b) In the present liberalised regime, investment decisions are left to the commercial perceptions of the investor.

[Translation]

Conversion of Rupee in Capital Account

2169. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian rupee has been made fully convertible in capital account; and

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Indian Rupee has not yet been made fully convertible in Capital Account transactions.

(b) does not arise.

[English]

Adulterated Salt

2170. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that adulterated salt is being supplied to various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of persons arrested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No such information has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Cloth

2171. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cloth made from khadi and handloom exported during the last three years;

(b) the names of countries to which it was exported;

(c) the details of profit as well as foreign exchange earned through it during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the exports of such cloth?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) The figures of exports of cotton handloom fabrics during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	Quantity (Lakh Sq.Mtrs)	Value (Rs. crores)
1995-96	59.62	254.82
1996-97	47.69	232.42
1997-98	42.90 (Prov.)	219.69 (Prov.)

Source : HEPC. Chennai.

The Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has reported that KVIC does not export khadi directly and the institutions financed by it have also not reported any exports for the last three years.

India's handloom products are exported to more than a hundred countries. However, Member States of the European Union and the USA are the major importers of India's handloom products.