

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India has suggested for setting up of a six member commission to advise the Government on the matters relating to attachment of property of drug money launderers so that misuse of authority by enforcement officers is avoided;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to include necessary safeguards in the proposed legislation to prevent money laundering *i.e.* Prevention of Money Laundering Bill, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Bill, 1998 are under consideration of the Standing Committee on Finance, whose report is awaited.

(c) In view of (b), does not arise.

[Translation]

B.S.P. With Nexus

718. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether low price steel is being purchased in Bokaro Steel Plant with the nexus of outsiders because of which the plant is suffering losses amounting to crores of rupees;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) No such instance wherein low price steel was being purchased from Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) with the nexus of outsiders due to which the plant suffered losses of crores has been brought to the notice of the Government.

[English]

Pay Package for Scientists of C.S.B.

719. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Textiles has recommended pay package for the scientists of Central Silk Board at par with other R&D organisations under Government of India for approval of the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this package is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The issue regarding revision of pay scales to scientific personnel on Central Silk Board (CSB) has been under consideration with the Government of India for sometime. The previous proposal of the Ministry of Textiles was to bring the pay scales of these scientists at par with ICAR. This was, however, not accepted by the Government (Ministry of Finance) on account of the fact that the CSB does not have the status of a 'Deemed University'. Subsequently after discussions with the Association members the Ministry has recommended that keeping in view the specialised functions and responsibilities of the scientists, their pay scales should be equated with similarly placed employees in other R&D organisations such as CSIR and Deptt. of Science and Technology. This proposal is presently under consideration.

Rehabilitation of Unstable Localities in Eastern Coalfield Ltd.

720. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether four unstable localities in Eastern Coalfield Limited were identified for rehabilitation on known stable sites during 1997-98;

(b) if so, whether around 1123 houses were reported to be affected and the cost was estimated at Rs. 32.52 crores towards rehabilitation; and

(c) if so, the amount has been sanctioned so far and the number of people rehabilitated so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As reported by Coal India Ltd., a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned. The number of people rehabilitated so far is Nil.

Export of Coffee

721. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of coffee exported during the period from April 1998 to September, 1998; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) During the period from April, 1998 to September, 1998, a total quantity of 134,358 MT of Coffee has been exported and foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 1137 crores has been earned therefrom. The figures are subject to upward revision.

Suggestions By FIEO

722. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) has submitted a Memorandum to the Government suggesting several measures to strengthen the base and content of hundred per cent export oriented units and units set up in the export processing zones;

(b) if so, the details of the measures to be suggested by FIEO; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Suggestions have been received, including from Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO), for change/modifications in Chapter 9 of export-import Policy pertaining to Export Oriented Units and Units in Export Processing Zones.

(b) Suggestions of FIEO include exclusion of value of capital goods imported on loan basis for the purpose of evaluation of the performance, simplification of subcontracting procedure, automatic facility to sell upto 5% of scrap in the domestic market, removal of bunching restrictions on domestic sale and utilisation of capital goods for manufacture of products for local market.

(c) These suggestions would be kept in view while formulating proposals for amendment of the Export-Import Policy.

Disinvestment of Hindustan Latex Limited

723. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the request of Government of Kerala to drop the idea of the proposed disinvestment move of Hindustan Latex Limited; and

(b) if so, the present stand of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The request of the Government of Kerala to drop the idea of disinvestment in HLL was considered in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare not agreed to.

Spinning Mills of Orissa

724. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spinning mills in Orissa alongwith the location thereof;

(b) whether some spinning mills have been privatised;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith their names;

(d) whether the workers of those mills are allowed to work in these mills; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) There are 15 Cotton/man-made fibre spinning mills in the State of Orissa as on 31st January, 1999. These mills are located in Sundergarh, Bhubaneshwar, Puri, Cuttack, Bargarh, Mayurbhanj, Jharsuguda, Ganjam, Dhenkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Subarnapur, Balasore and Chowdwar.

(b) and (c) One spinning mill namely, Gangapur Weaving Co-operative mill was privatised in July, 1997. The new name of the mill is M/s. Ashoka Synthetics Ltd., Sundergarh.