

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The exports of readymade garments (including handloom garments) and textiles (including handloom textiles) during the last three years were as follows:-

	Value in Million US Dollars	
	Garments	Textiles
1996-97	4762.10	5288.23
1997-98	4910.70	5629.32
1998-99 (upto Feb'99)	4767.60	4888.40

(b) and (c) There is no decline in exports of readymade garments. However, there is a decline of 4.1% in dollar terms, in respect of textiles during 1998-99 (till Feb'99). The main reasons for decline in exports are South-East Asian currency crisis, recession in some of the textile importing countries etc.

(d) In order to encourage the export of textiles and garments from India, Government have been taking a number of steps, which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions, enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production, etc.

Production Capacity of Neelanchal Steel Plant

3819. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the targeted production capacity (in million tonnes) of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Ltd., Sukinda (Orissa) and the time by which it is likely to become fully operational; and

(b) the infrastructural developments made by the State Government at the site as per schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The targeted production capacity of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Ltd. (NINL) at Duburi, district Jajpur, Orissa is 1.16 million tonnes per annum of pig iron and steel. The plant is expected to be fully operational by middle of 2001. Infrastructure such as road, power etc. are being provided by the State Government as per the requirement of the steel plant.

Minar Project in Laxmi Nagar, Delhi

3820. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI :

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) when the Minar Project in Laxmi Nagar, Delhi was set up;

(b) whether the Project is intended to house offices of various public sector undertakings;

(c) the amount being paid by the Public Sector Undertakings to SCOPE Minar building;

(d) whether the financial aid provided to PSUs from the Government was diverted to this Minar Project;

(e) whether any Screening Committee was formed to select the architect; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the architect and the amount paid to the foreign consultant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) to (d) The Minar Project in Laxmi Nagar, Delhi was set into motion in 1983. 41 PSUs at present have booked different space in the building, and have so far paid Rs. 173.70 crores towards this Project.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise. No amount has been paid to any foreign consultant by SCOPE.

India Engineering Trade Fair

3821. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of countries participated in the Thirteenth India Engineering Trade Fair held in New Delhi in February, 1999;

(b) the names of Indian industries which took part in the above Trade Fair;

(c) whether the Maharashtra has played a partner State role and Korea is a partner country in the said Trade Fair; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) 47 countries participated in the India Engineering Trade Fair 1999.

(b) India Engineering Trade Fair '99 was an all industry Fair and companies from various sectors of Indian industry participated in it.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) operated Korea Pavilion extending over 5000 sq. mtrs. 150 Korean companies displayed a range of products like confectionary, healthcare products, kitchenware appliances, live stock and poultry equipment, medical products, optical frames and lenses. Events like seminars, conferences, food festivals, cultural shows and film shows were also organised by Korea.

Maharashtra, the Partner State, displayed its diversified industrial sectors covering automobiles, information technology, infrastructure and consumer goods, electronics, refractories, transport systems, agro products, tourism and road development etc.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant

3822. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the modernisation cost of Durgapur Steel Plant has gone up to above Rs. 6000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the contract of computer in the division of Production Planning and Control has increased from Rs. 8 crore 75 lakhs to Rs. 26 crores; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The revised cost of Durgapur Steel Plant Modernisation project is estimated to be Rs. 4871 crore (base date : IIIrd qtr.1998).

(c) and (d) The total cost of the Production Planning and Control (PPC) Computerisation package is Rs. 26.10 crore, which includes contracts for building and software development etc., besides the contractual value of Rs. 8.75 crores for computer hardware.

Revival/Production of Textile Mills

3823. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production in the textile mills of the National Textile Corporation, the State Textile Corporation and private sector located in Maharashtra between January, 1996 and January, 1998 and till January 1999, year-wise and the number of workers employed in them;

(b) the number of textile mills lying closed in the State

and the measures taken by the Government to revive the closed textile mills, mill-wise ; and

(c) the steps taken to provide employment to the workers and for their rehabilitation who have been rendered unemployed because of the closure of above mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The total production of spun yarn and cloth by the mills of NTC, State Textile Corporations, private sector and cooperative sector in Maharashtra during 1996, 1997 and 1998 is as follows :

Year	Spun Yarn Production (000 kgs.)	Cloth Production (000 Sq. mtrs.)
1996	3,92,401	7,60,005
1997	4,10,393	7,15,325
1998	3,87,421	7,03,797

Figures for January, 1999 are not available.

The total number of workers in the textile mills of Maharashtra is as follows :-

Year (as on 1st January)	No. of workers
1996	2,09,342
1997	1,96,473
1998	1,89,589
1999	1,84,505

(b) and (c) No mill under NTC in the State has been closed although there is total/partial cessation of activities in some of the mills due to acute shortage of working capital. Since 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR, on the basis of a unit-wise viability study conducted by NTC, a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC including NTC (MN) and NTC (SM) alongwith the viable mills under them based on the BIFR norm of net worth of these mills turning positive within the prescribed period is under consideration. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

As on 31.12.98, 24 textile mills were reported to be lying closed in the State of Maharashtra. Government has set up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (CIFR) which is entrusted with the responsibility of rehabilitation of the sick companies. In regard to rehabilitation of the workers rendered jobless due to closure of the mills, the Government has formulated a scheme called Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme being implemented by the office of Textile Commissioner. Under the scheme, Interim relief is provided