

| 1     | 2           | 3      | 4       | 5     | 6        |
|-------|-------------|--------|---------|-------|----------|
| 4.    | Daman & Diu | -      | -       | -     | -        |
| 5.    | Delhi       | -      | 3.96    | -     | 57.06    |
| 6.    | Lakshadweep | -      | -       | -     | 40.31    |
| 7.    | Pondicherry | 1.76   | -       | -     | 32.27    |
| Total |             | 203.28 | 4508.03 | 14.15 | 14011.21 |

#### LIC Premium Rates

4356. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the LIC Premiums are linked-up with the mortality rate of the country;

(b) if so, whether the LIC premiums are rated highest in the International Life Insurance Sector inspite of the mortality rate of the country is going down;

(c) whether the Government propose to review the existing high premiums of LIC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has reported that its premium rates are linked with the mortality rates of its policyholders. LIC has also reported that its premium rates are not the highest in the international life insurance sector.

(c) and (d) LIC has informed that it continuously monitors the mortality experience of its policyholders and benefits, if any, due to improvement in mortality experience are passed on to the policyholders by way of reduction in premium rates in case of 'without profit' policies and by increasing the rate of bonus in case of 'with profit' policies. LIC has informed that based on improvement in the mortality rates it reduced the premium rates under 'without profit' policies in 1970, 1980 and 1986 and has been declaring increase in bonuses to its policyholders from time to time.

#### NIFT Centre in Karnataka

4357. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a branch of National Institute of Fashion Technology in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the proposed Institute ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed centre will initially conduct two courses, viz. Diploma in Fashion Design and Post Graduate Diploma in Apparel Merchandising and Marketing. Each Course will have an intake capacity of 30 students per year.

(c) The estimated expenditure on the proposed NIFT centre is as follows :-

(i) Non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 265 lakhs to be incurred over a period of 3 years, to be provided by the Central Government; and recurring expenditure of Rs. 235 lakhs over a period of 5 years, of which the NIFT centre is expected to generate an income of Rs. 102 lakhs over 5 years, with the balance revenue deficit of Rs. 133 lakhs to be met by grants-in-aid from the State Government over 5 years.

#### Import of MICA

4358. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Mica imported with its value during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the impact of import of Mica on our domestic industry and the reasons for import of Mica; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to curb import of Mica particularly from non-mica producing countries of the world ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total import of Mica made during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 has been as follows\* :-

| Year    | Quantity      | Qty : Tonnes    |
|---------|---------------|-----------------|
|         |               | Value : Rs. 000 |
| 1994-95 | 124           | 74,817          |
| 1995-96 | 214           | 87,734          |
| 1996-97 | Not Available |                 |

(b) and (c) India is a major exporter of Mica and mica products, but due to certain specialised applications of Mica, small quantities of Mica are also imported by the domestic industry. This import has no impact on the domestic industry. Hence the need for Governmental action to curb import is not warranted.

\*Source : Indian Bureau of Mines.

#### Duty Draw Back Scheme for Exports

4359. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian exporters have been enthusiastic about the duty drawback scheme for exports;

(b) if so, whether this scheme has improved the competitive edge of Indian exporters in the International market; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the actual amount claimed by the exporters so far during 1995 and 1996 under the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the Scheme compensates the exporters for duties of Customs and Central Excise suffered on the inputs used in the manufacture of export goods, it improves the competitive edge of Indian exporters in the International market. The actual amount disbursed during 1995 and 1996 is approximately Rs. 2315 and 3035 crores respectively.

#### Anti Dumping Duty on Acrylic Fibre

4360.DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding dumping of acrylic fibre by South Korea and Taiwan in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to protect the domestic industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) M/s. Indian Acrylic Ltd. and M/s. Pasupati Acrylon Ltd. have jointly filed a petition in accordance with the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1995 and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping on Dumped Articles for the Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995, before the Designated Authority alleging dumping of Acrylic Fibres from the USA, Thailand and the Republic of Korea. Designated Authority has initiated investigations against imports from these countries on 13.9.96. Preliminary and/or final findings have not been announced yet. However, no complaint has been filed against Taiwan. The findings are notified in the official Gazette by the Designated Authority after following a quasi-judicial process and the order of the Designated Authority is appellable before the Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal.

#### Market Extension Centre

4361.DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to open market service extension centre for handicrafts at Nalbari in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. At present there are 47 Marketing and Service Extension Centres functioning in various parts of the country including two centres in Assam at Gauripur and Jorhat. The craftsmen of Nalbari are getting marketing support and extension facilities from these centres.

#### Export of Railways Spare Parts

4362.DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether railways spare parts particularly broad-gauge engines are being exported;

(b) if so, the details of spare parts and engines exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) The value of exports of Railway spare parts including that of broad gauge engines are given below :-

(foreign exchange equivalent in  
(Rs. Crores)

| Year                         | Value |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1993-94                      | 20.29 |
| 1994-95                      | 46.06 |
| 1995-96                      | 10.62 |
| 1996-97<br>(April-August'96) | 17.26 |

The export of Broad-gauge engines has been made by RITES only during 1995-96 to Sri Lanka to the tune of Rs. 6.53 Crores 0.23 US \$ Mn.

The major importers of Indian railway spare parts are Canada, Australia, France, Germany, Malaysia, USA, UK, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia. Country-wise details are available in the DGCI&S publication "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" in the Parliament Library.

(c) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports of engineering goods including railway spare parts, consist of various incentives under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act, assistance from Market Development Fund. Rail India Technical & Economic Service (RITES) & IRCON (Indian Railway Construction Company) have been nominated by Government of India, Ministry of Railways to undertake export of locomotives and rolling stock manufactured in the factories of Indian Railways, who are undertaking aggressive marketing for boosting export of Railway spare parts.