

Scheme of Integrated Handloom Village Development was introduced in the year 1991-92 under which a sum of Rs. 24.35 lakhs had been released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh covering 2 villages.

(iv) *Market Development Assistance*: This Scheme provides assistance to Primary Societies including Handloom Corporations, Apex Societies to meet the expenditure on interest subsidy, rebate/discount and other consumer incentives on Non-Janata Handloom products, Capital/ Margin Money for setting up of showrooms and various other purposes approved by the State/Central Government. A sum of Rs. 415.56 lakhs has been released to Government of Uttar Pradesh, out of which Rs. 15.87 lakhs was released in favour of Primary Societies.

(v) *National Design Collection Programme*: In order to obtain better designs and their sale through special exhibitions and related publicity efforts, Government of Uttar Pradesh had been provided a sum of Rs. 1.75 lakh in 1995-96 under National Design Collection Programme.

(vi) *Margin Money for Destitute Weavers*: Under this Scheme co-operative societies who have atleast 50% of Destitute Weavers and if the society is running in profit for the last two years and also having marginal losses not more than 10% of the turn-over are eligible to get assistance @ Rs. 2,000/- per destitute weaver subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 1.00 lakh per society. During 1995-96, a sum of Rs. 47.53 lakhs was released to Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(vii) *Group Insurance Scheme*: Government of India has introduced this Scheme for Handloom Weavers from the Year 1992-93 in order to meet socio-economic obligation of weaver towards his family and the uncertainty of his working capacity in old age. Under the Scheme, a weaver is provided an Insurance cover of Rs. 10,000/- for an annual premium @ Rs. 120/-. The premium is shared equally between the beneficiary, the Central/State Governments. During 1995-96, a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakhs was provided to Uttar Pradesh Government.

(viii) *Thrift Fund Scheme*: This Scheme provides a measure of social security to the weavers by envisaging creation of a fund in the nature of provident fund. Weavers are required to contribute 8% of their wages to the funds and both the Central and State Governments contribute 4% each. During 1995-96, a sum of Rs. 22.50 lakhs was released to Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(ix) *Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme*: The objective of the Scheme is to provide a dwelling unit and suitable work place to weaver to improve their productivity and earnings. Under the Scheme, the estimated cost of Rural House-cum-Workshed is Rs. 20,000/- for which a Central subsidy of Rs. 14,000/- is provided and of Urban House-Cum-Workshed is Rs. 30,000/- for which also the same amount of Central subsidy is made available. For worksheds the unit cost is Rs. 5,000/- for which Central Government provides a subsidy of Rs. 4,000/-. During 1995-96 a sum of Rs. 100.00 lakhs was released to Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(x) *Janata Cloth Scheme*: Under this Scheme, subsidy is provided @ Rs. 3.40 per sq. mtr. on production and thereafter on deliveries of Jananta Cloth. In Uttar Pradesh,

subsidy is provided to U.P. Handloom Corporation and UPICA. A sum of Rs. 425.47 lakhs was released in favour of Uttar Pradesh Industrial Cooperative Association.

(xi) *Hank Yarn Price Subsidy Scheme*: In the wake of unprecedented hike in prices of yarn, the above scheme was introduced under which a subsidy @ Rs. 20/- per kg. was granted to handloom organisations. A sum of Rs. 229.86 lakhs was released during 1995-96 to Government of Uttar Pradesh. Out of which Rs. 108.55 lakhs was released to Uttar Pradesh Industrial Cooperative Association (UPICA).

Foreign Investment

46. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have offered an open invitation for foreign investment in the country,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other country has asked India or Indian industrialists abroad for investment in their country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The role of Foreign Direct Investment as a means to support domestic investment for achieving a high level of economic development is well recognised. Increasing the inflow of FDI into the country has been an important cornerstone of the economic reforms programme with the objective of moving India rapidly into the global economy, making Indian industry internationally competitive, ensuring optimal utilisation of human and natural resources and transforming India into a major partner of developed and developing nations. With these objectives in view, Government of India encourage foreign investment in India. Similarly other countries also have their programmes and they also encourage foreign investment in their countries where industrialists including from India could avail of available opportunities.

Fraud in Insurance Claims

47. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons involved in the fraud insurance claims cases during 1994 and 1995 could not be punished as no action was taken against them;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore in each case;

(c) the number of cases handed over to C.B.I. out of them; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to prevent fraud insurance claims?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. It has been reported by the