

(b) whether the Union Government have permitted the Karnataka Government to borrow loans from abroad directly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to amend the Constitution to facilitate States to borrow loans from abroad directly ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) As per the Constitution of India, the executive power of the State extends to borrowing within the territory of India only. The State Government cannot raise loans abroad directly. However, State Government Undertakings can raise loans abroad subject to the Government of India's guidelines for External Commercial Borrowings.

(d) No, Sir.

Amendment in Notaries Act, 1952

78. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Karnataka for making some amendments in the Notaries Act, 1952;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (b) Do not arise.

Shortage of Coal

79. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal linkage committee had allocated 32,000 to 40,000 tonnes of coal per day to NTPC plant at Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh but the same quantity of coal is not being received in the plant;

(b) if so, the main reasons for short supply of coal; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to improve the coal supplies to the aforesaid plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) As against a linkage of 75.75 lakh tonnes sanctioned to Ramagundam STPS during the period April, 1996 to January, 1997, actual despatches of coal have been 78.75 lakh tonnes during this period. The percentage materialisation is 104%.

(c) In order to augment the supplies, Ramagundam STPS has been advised to step up their lifting of coal by road from a nearby mine of Singareni Collieries Company Limited. Further an additional linkage of 50,000 tonnes had

also been provided for movement from Western Coalfields Limited for the current quarter.

[Translation]

Cotton Handloom Industry

80. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are ample possibilities of development of Cotton Handloom Industry in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be given by the Union Government to ascertain the possibilities in this regard and promote the handloom industry in the State ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government's assistance to all the State Governments/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh is released on the basis of the proposals submitted by the respective State Government/Union Territories under various on-going programmes implemented for the promotion of the Handloom Industry. A sum of Rs. 182.35 lakh has already been released during this financial year (1996-97) to Government of Madhya Pradesh under Market Development Assistance Scheme, Janata Cloth Scheme, Project Package Scheme, Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme, Loan for Handloom Projects etc.

[English]

Trading of Gold

81. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Gold Council, to stimulate gold consumption in India, has suggested trading of gold by commercial banks; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration by the Ministry of Finance.

Textiles Industries in Tamil Nadu

82. SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Textile Industries located in Tamil Nadu alongwith the items produced by these textile industries;

(b) whether there is any plan to extend assistance to textile mills in the State to increase the production and export of textiles; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) The details of the textile industries located in Tamil Nadu are furnished below :

| S. No. | Type of the mill/sector | No. of Units | Installed capacity (As on 31.12.96) | | |
|--------|---|--------------|--|---------------------|-------------|
| | | | Spindles (000 No.) | Rotors (000 No.) | Looms |
| (i) | Cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) | 725 | 10,900.7 | 75.6 | 6366 |
| (ii) | Cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (SSI) | 597 | 1,190* | 6.2 | — |
| (iii) | Weaving Units (Non-SSI) | 14 | — | — | 932 |
| (iv) | Woollen units | 1 | 680 | — | — |
| (v) | Handlooms | — | — | — | 4,29,000** |
| (vi) | Powerlooms | 57101 | — | — | 2,36,038*** |
| (vii) | Man-made fibre manufacturing plants | 2 | 58,950 (Tonnes per annum) | | |
| (viii) | Man-made filament yarn manufacturing units | 2 | 15,675 (Tonnes per annum) | | |

* Estimated.

** According to the handloom census of 1987-88.

*** As on 30.6.96.

The items manufactured by the textile industry in Tamil Nadu include yarn and cloth of cotton, man-made fibres and blended textiles, man-made fibres (polyester and viscose) and viscose filament yarns & polyester filament yarns, fabric and garments.

(b) and (c) The Govt. of India has taken several steps to increase the production of textiles in the country in the past, which are also applicable to Tamil Nadu. These include:

1. Removal of restrictions on the creation and expansion of capacity, subject only to locational guidelines.
2. Doing away with the requirement of licensing, except in the case of 100% export oriented units and units set up within 25 kms. from the limits of a city of more than one million population as per the 1991 census if it is not situated in an area declared by the state government as industrial areas before 24.7.91, units involving foreign collaboration, units producing items reserved for the SSI but where in-

vestments exceed SSI ceiling etc.

3. Permitting import of textile machinery under the OGL and the reduction of import duty on such machinery imports
4. Measures to ensure availability of raw materials to the industry, through policy intervention, whenever necessary.

Relief Schemes

83. SHRI PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount given to each State under agricultural and rural debt relief scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the relief granted to eligible beneficiaries under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. The State-wise details are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise amount of relief provided by commercial banks, RRBs & Cooperatives under ARDR Scheme

(Rs. in crores)

| S. No. | State/Union Territory | Commercial Banks | Regional Rural Banks | Cooperative Banks | Total |
|--------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andaman & Nicobar Island | 0.85 | — | 0.09 | 0.94 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 415.62 | 100.15 | 334.43 | 850.20 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.63 | 0.22 | 1.30 | 2.15 |
| 4. | Assam | 71.53 | 24.16 | 34.43 | 130.12 |
| 5. | Bihar | 207.14 | 95.53 | 521.62 | 824.29 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 0.69 | — | 0.31 | 1.00 |