

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) The J&K issue relates to the illegal and forcible occupation of territory of the State by Pakistan. India is committed to resolving this issue through peaceful, bilateral negotiations as envisaged in the Shimla Agreement.

[Translation]

#### Amul

5036. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action against Amul Company under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Amul company, Gujarat has indulged in or has been indulging in black marketing with the connivance of distributors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE ( SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR ) : (a) to (d) No enquiry against any company by the name Amul has been instituted under the MRTP Act, 1969 during the last three years. However, two restrictive trade practice enquiries (nos. 4 of 1994 and 245 of 1995) under the Act were instituted by the MRTP Commission against Kaira District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Limited (which markets milk and milk products under the brand name Amul) for having entered into an agreement with the distributors which did not give liberty to wholesalers/retailers to sell Amul milk at a price lower than the maximum recommended price and imposed territorial restrictions on the distributors.

In the aforesaid enquiries, two separate applications giving an undertaking to abide by the directions of the Commission as regards pricing and territorial restrictions filed by the respondent were accepted by the MRTP Commission. Notices in both the cases were discharged by the Commission with the direction that the respondent shall take step to amend the agreement in line with the undertaking given by it.

[English]

#### Sick Banks

5037. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revive some weak and sick banks during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details of such banks alongwith the funds provided by the Government for the revival of those banks; and

(c) the term and conditions laid down for the revival of the said banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had advised banks to achieve 8% capital adequacy by 31.3.96. However, 8 nationalised banks could not achieve the 8% capital adequacy. These weak banks have been given time to achieve the same by 31.3.97 subject to the condition to contain credit expansion and capital expenditure, reduction in administrative expenditure, no fresh recruitment of staff etc.

Government has contributed additional share capital of Rs. 1509 crores in March 1997 to six of the nationalised banks who could not achieve 8% capital adequacy.

#### Unorganised Labourers in the Country

5038. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated strength of unorganised labour and total labour force in the country for the last 3 years with State-wise break-up;

(b) the details of steps taken during the past 3 years to protect and promote the interests of unorganised work force in the country;

(c) the details of schemes formulated/fresh policy initiatives taken under consideration for protecting/promoting the interests of unorganised labour, State-wise; and

(d) details of agenda (action plan) formulated for implementation during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Workers are enumerated in the Census by activity in which they are engaged. Separate figures with respect to number of workers in the unorganised sector are not collected and are, therefore, not available. However, majority of workers in the rural areas and those engaged in activities like construction, road side hotels and dhabas etc. in urban areas are unorganised. A Statement showing number of total workers as per 1991 Census (State wise) is attached. A number of labour laws enacted for protection of workers' rights and for their welfare are also applicable to unorganised workers. Some such laws are, the Minimum Wages Act, the Payment of Wages Act, 1948, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 etc. Workers engaged in iron, manganese, chrome, limestone, dolomite and mica mines, cine industry and beedi industry are covered also by the various welfare programmes undertaken under the concerned welfare funds. State governments have also launched insurance and social security schemes covering large number of workers engaged in specific activities like handloom

weavers, rikshaw pullers, etc. Improvement in quality of employment and conditions of work of unorganised workers has been and continues to be a matter of prime concern for the Government.

As regards fresh policy initiatives the Central Government have enacted the building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 to protect the interest of workers engaged in construction industry which constitutes the second largest single activity, after agriculture employing unorganised workers. Agenda for the year 1997-98 includes continued efforts to gear up and augment the existing measures and a new measure of bringing in comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers numbering about 200 million.

#### Statement

S.No.	State/U.T.	No. of Total Workers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29,963,648
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	399,782
3.	Assam	8,088,935
4.	Bihar	27,777,071
5.	Goa	412,736
6.	Gujarat	16,620,519
7.	Haryana	5,103,470
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2,214,379
9.	Karnataka	18,886,798
10.	Kerala	9,146,118
11.	Madhya Pradesh	23,340,485
12.	Maharashtra	33,910,366
13.	Manipur	774,904
14.	Meghalaya	757,322
15.	Mizoram	337,345
16.	Nagaland	516,237
17.	Orissa	11,882,762
18.	Punjab	6,261,989
19.	Rajasthan	17,104,372
20.	Sikkim	168,721
21.	Tamil Nadu	24,194,343
22.	Tripura	858,517
23.	Uttar Pradesh	44,799,280
24.	West Bengal	21,914,774
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	98,901
26.	Chandigarh	224,294
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	73,739
28.	Daman & Diu	38,224
29.	Delhi	2,980,461
30.	Lakshadweep	13,664
31.	Pondicherry	267,214
	<b>Total</b>	<b>314,131,370</b>

Source : Census, 1991

#### Gold Reserve

5039. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- the position of Gold Reserve in the country as on December, 1996;
- the annual consumption of gold in the country;
- the quantity and value of the gold imported during 1996; and
- the steps taken to increase the gold reserve of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : (a) Gold Reserve of the Reserve Bank of India as at the end December 1996 stood at 397.5 tonnes, equivalent to Rs. 14274 crores.

(b) There is no official estimates of the consumption of gold in the country. The World Gold Council has estimated the annual gold consumption in India at 477 tonnes in 1995.

(c) The quantity of gold imported during 1996 was 297.79 tonnes, valued at Rs. 15458.28 crores at the annual average price prevailed at the Mumbai Market.

(d) The liberalised Gold Import Scheme allows import of gold by Non-Resident Indians and permits imports by MMTC and SBI for delivery of such gold in India to the returning Non-Resident Indians and against Special Import Licences. This Scheme aims at improving the availability of gold imported through licit channels and on payment of custom duty in foreign exchange.

#### M.R.T.S. Project

5040. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- whether the financial institutions have refused to finance MRTS project in Delhi;
- if so, the steps proposed to be taken to meet this expenditure; and
- by when the project is proposed to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Because of long term nature of loan and low returns, the financial institutions in India did not show interest in the project.

(b) The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 4860 crores at April, 1996 prices. The financing plan of the project is as under :

- equity contribution of Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi @ 15% each of total cost of the project.
- OECF (Japan) Loan – approx. 56% of total cost of the project