

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Board for the development of the weavers of Uttar Pradesh because the people belonging to this community are living below poverty line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) Setting up of a separate Board for the development of weavers does not come under the purview of National Commission for Backward Classes. However, the Government set up from time to time All India Handloom Board to advise the Government in the formulation of the overall developmental programmes in the handloom sector, which includes the handloom weavers of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Monetary Surveys by RBI Working Group

4478. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up a Working Group in December, 1997 to re-examine the analytical aspects of monetary surveys in the light of the changing dimensions and depth of financial sector consequential to the implementation of financial sector reform;

(b) if so, whether the Working Group has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The report submitted by the Working Group on "Money Supply : Analytics and Methodology of Compilation" to the Governor, RBI on June 23, 1998, contains suggestions to strengthen the statistical system with a view to enlarging the coverage of financial statistics beyond the traditional confines of the Banking Sector. The Working Group has proposed compilation of comprehensive analytical surveys of the commercial and cooperative banks and the organised financial sector at regular intervals. They have also proposed compilation of four monetary aggregates, three liquidity aggregates and comprehensive measures of credit aggregates to effectively capture the dynamics of the monetary and financial system. The conceptual framework underlying the proposals made by the Working Group in their report is in consonance with various country practices. Since the RBI is the monetary

authority of the country, matters relating to implementation of the recommendations made by the Working Group come under the purview of the RBI.

Assistance by UNDP to Coalbed Methane Gas

4479. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been extending financial assistance for recovery of coalbed methane gas during coal mining activities in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of UNDP's financial assistance and the Indian Government's contribution therein; and

(c) the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) One project " Coal Bed Methane Recovery and Commercial Utilisation" has been cleared by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as well as by the Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) of Ministry of Coal for a total project cost of 19.234 million US dollars. The project is awaiting financial clearance of the Government of India. The details of the funding for this project are as under :

	US \$ (Million)	Rs. (in crores)
UNDP/GEF	9.198	-
UNDP, India	1.210	-
GOI (Cash & kind)	6.866	24.72*
Revenue generated from the project (to be internalised)	1.960	7.05

* On the basis of exchange rate of Rs. 36 to US dollar prevailing in February, 1997.

Export of Silk

4480. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of silk exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of silk?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The quantity of silk exported and foreign exchange earnings therefrom are as under :

Year	Quantity (lakh sq. mtrs)	Foreing Exchange earnings (in Rs. crores)
1995-96	492.92	846.07
1996-97	483.36	880.44
1997-98	412.86	926.28