

(c) In order to increase the exports of silk products, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organising generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Textstyles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc. Besides, the Government has taken several measures to boost silk exports such as rationalisation of value addition/Input-Output norms, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products, etc.

Foreign Tours by Officers of GIC

4481. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Chairman and other officers of General Insurance Corporation and its four subsidiary companies who went abroad during the last three years and the names of the countries they visited;

(b) the purpose of their visits and expenditure incurred in foreign exchange in each case for each country so visited;

(c) the names of such officers who visited to foreign countries on the verge of their retirement;

(d) whether the foreign tours by GIC officials are approved by the Government;

(e) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to regulate their foreign tours which are undertaken so frequently;

(f) the details of tour undertaken by the Chairman and Directors of each subsidiary company of GIC from Delhi to Mumbai and Mumbai to Delhi during the last three years; and

(g) the purpose of their visits and expenditure incurred on them in each tour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (g) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Export from Gujarat

4482. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major items exported from Gujarat during each of the last three years; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Commerce maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise.

[English]

Shifting of Carpet Weaving Centre

4483. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Carpet Weaving Training Centre at Nandigama in Andhra Pradesh has been shifted to Khammam;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shifting;

(c) whether there have been requests to retain the centre; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) The Carpet Weaving Training Centre at Nandigama in Andhra Pradesh was opened on 1.8.91 and has since completed 5 batches of training. The centre is listed for closure in terms of the decision taken by the Government to close down the training centres in a phased manner during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Social Development by Industries

4484. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government has called upon the representatives of various industries to take up social development work and finalise plans for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 so as to help/percolate the benefits of liberalisation down to the bottom;

(b) if so, the response received thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) Government have been supportive of the various industries taking up social development work from their own resources, since it has beneficial impact. The industries undertake such social development work each year depending on the resources available with them.