

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) and (b) No request has been received from the Government of Kerala for exemption from filing returns of Income-tax by Co-operative Institutions. However, a request was received from Government of Kerala seeking exemption from the provisions of Section 194A, of Income-Tax Act, 1961, to the depositors of Co-operative Banks. Interest income of Co-operative Banks is already exempt from the provisions of Section 194A(1) by virtue of Section 194A(3) (iii) (a) of IT Act, 1961. In respect of interest amount exceeding Rs. 10,000/- payable to depositors, the Co-operative Banks have statutory duty of deducting tax as laid down in Section 194A(1) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. The Government of Kerala was informed accordingly.

Foreign assistance for modernisation of textile mills

4499. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jahanabad):

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some textile mills in Bihar are being modernised with the foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the names of such textile mills;

(c) the names of the countries alongwith the names of financial institutions which have provided the amount; and

(d) the year-wise details of the amount provided the countries/institutions during the last three years, country-wise, institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) There is no such proposal in the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Price of Coal

4500. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have authorised his Minister to fix the coal prices except some special varieties of coal;

(b) if so, in spite of this practice, the coal industry is not able to meet its expenditure by its own resources;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) The Government have deregulated the prices of coking coal, hard coke, soft coke and A, B, C and D grades of non-coking coal. The prices of these varieties of coal are fixed by the coal companies. The power to fix prices of non-coking coal for E, F and G grades had been delegated by the Government to the coal companies to be fixed in accordance with the formula evolved by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

(b) No, Sir. The figures below will clearly show that the coal companies are in a position to raise their own resources to meet their expenditure:

(Rs. in crores)

	1995-96 (Actuals)	1996-97 (Actuals)	1997-98 (Actuals)	1998-99 (B.E.)
CIL Plan Outlay	1503.63	1530.45	1757.03	2517.00
Net Budgetary Support	247.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
SCCL Plan Outlay	293.91	250.06	285.28	331.57
Net Budgetary Support	0.00	76.12	157.77	88.48

(c) and (d) The question does not arise with regard to CIL in view of answer to part (b) of the question. With regard to SCCL however, budgetary support by way of equity investment is required in order to maintain the Govt. of India's equity share proportioned at 49%.

[English]

Small Scale Industries

4501. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Small Scale Industries functioning in the country, State-wise, particularly in Orissa;

(b) the number of SSIs earning profit or loss out of these; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make the SSIs viable?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) There were 22.07 lakh registered Small Scale Industrial units as on 31st March, 1997. State-wise number of registered SSI units including those in Orissa is given in the attached Statement -I. Latest position about total number of functioning registered SSI units is not available. However, as per the Second All-India Census of SSI units conducted during 1989-91, 5,93,769 SSI units were found functioning out of a total of 9,86,861 registered SSI units as on 31.3.1988. State-wise number of functioning units as at that