

Limited, no Coal depot has been given to the displaced persons of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) as compensation.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

[English]

Powerloom Service Centre in Andhra Pradesh

2574. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have agreed to the request of Andhra Pradesh Government for sanctioning powerloom service centre;

(b) whether the State Government has prepared a plan for development of powerloom in the State;

(c) whether the new centre proposed to be set up at Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the broad activities of the centres?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) Yes. ॐ.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed to develop powerloom in the state.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India will provide a one-time grant of Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the purchase of machineries and equipments for the centre. The recurring expenditure, including salaries of the staff will be provided by the Powerloom Weavers Association of Andhra Pradesh. The broad activities of the Powerloom Service Centres are as under:-

1. To impart practical training to powerloom weavers.
2. Training in loom working, maintenance etc.
3. Disseminating knowledge, techniques with visits.
4. Guide Powerloom Workers on modernisation.
5. Collect and compile annual statistics on units, looms etc.
6. Guide the Powerloom Weavers in marketing their products.
7. Provide testing facilities to the powerloom industry.
8. Conduct seminars/workshops/exhibitions for the benefit of the powerloom weavers.
9. To co-ordinate with Government.
10. To take up the problems of powerloom weavers to the concerned authorities.
11. To provide technical consultation facility by rendering technical service.
12. To advise and guide powerloom units in design development and diversification of products.

Assurance relating to RRB and Staff

2575. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the assurance relating to Regional Rural Banks and their staff pending before the Parliament detailing the period of such pendency and the reasons for delay; and

(b) the time by which these assurances are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Two Assurances relating to replies given to Parliament Question on Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are pending which are detailed as below:

1. Assurance given in the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 388 dated 22.11.1996 regarding cases of robberies in RRBs. National bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that since the information had to be collected from each of the 196 RRBs, there has been a delay in fulfilling the Assurance. On receipt of complete information for all RRBs an implementation report to fulfil the Assurance will be laid on the Table of the House.
2. Assurance given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5022 dated 07.05.97 regarding financial irregularities in RRB of Gorakhpur. NABARD has reported that the matter is being re-investigated through a Senior Officer of the Sponsor Bank i.e. State bank of India (SBI). On receipt of necessary information from the sponsor bank, necessary implementation report for fulfillment of the Assurance will be submitted.

Export of Rubber

2576. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union government to export rubber; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the current EXIM Policy, the export of Natural Rubber is under OGL and there is no bar on export of rubber either by Govt. or any private agencies. In respect of the rubber procured under Market Intervention Operation, the Government has already directed the STC to export and/or sell the entire quantity of procured rubber to the Advance Licence Holders.

Impunity/Protection enjoyed by M.Ps.

2577. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
SHRI KAMAL NATH :

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: