

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : The Government provides requisite marketing support by organising National Handloom Expos, District Level Fairs, Product Specific exhibitions and Craft Melas to enable the weavers to sell their products and liquidate their accumulated stocks. In order to assist weavers in securing yarn, the Government has been implementing the Hank Yarn Obligation Order and Mill Gate Price Scheme.

Denationalisation of Khottadih Coal Mines

1501. **SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to denationalise Khottadih Coal Mines;

(b) if so, whether the Global Tender is likely to be floated soon in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of answer to part (a) of this question.

Import Licencing Restrictions

1502. **SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed with the European Union and Australia regarding the import licencing restrictions on a variety of consumer goods; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAM-KRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Mutually satisfactory solutions have been reached on the phased removal of quantitative restrictions on import.

(b) During formal bilateral consultation held under the dispute settlement mechanism, India reached a mutually satisfactory solution each with Australia, Canada, the European Communities, New Zealand and Switzerland as well as with Japan which was a third party to the disputes for removal of all the residual import restrictions maintained for balance of payment purposes on agricultural, textile and industrial products including consumer goods within a 6-year time schedule starting 1 April, 1997, in three consecutive phases of 3 years, 2 years and one year, in a balanced manner.

Development of A & N Island

1503. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any plan for Tourism Development for Andaman and Nicobar Island;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether UNDP report has been released by the Administration; and

(d) if so, the salient feature of the report and the action contemplated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : (a) and (b) During the year 1997-98, the Ministry of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 60 lakhs for the implementation of Light and Sound Show at Cellular Jail in Andaman Island.

(c) and (d) The study report on "Development Strategy on Environmentally Sustainable Tourism in the Andamans" has been made available by the UNDP. The report has suggested a strategy for the development of five selected areas in the Andaman Islands. The action plan for the same includes institutional restructuring for plan implementation, relaxation or removal of institutional constraints, training, planning and designing of development zones and undertaking development programmes.

Fake Financial Companies/Banks

1504. **SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :**

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :

PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA :

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the cases of cheating by the fake financial institutions/private banks/plantation companies and some other NBFCs with the investors in making repayment of investment are increasing day-by-day in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such cases noticed by the Government during 1997-98;