

revised strategy in 102 districts and strengthen 203 S.C.C. districts for adoption of the revised strategy in future.

[Translation]

Nylon Filament Yarn

5030. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether handloom weavers of Nylon Filament Yarn have been adversely affected due to the unprecedented increase made in the prices of Nylon;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase made in the prices of Nylon during the last six months;

(c) the reasons for the steep hike in the prices of nylon; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (d) The prices of Nylon Filament Yarn (NFY) have exhibited down trend during the last 6 months. The prices of NFY in June, 1998 was about 5% lower than those prevailing in the month of January, 1998. In the Budget 1998-99 basic excise duty on NFY has been reduced from 30% to 25% and basic customs duty on Caprolactam, the raw material for manufacture of NFY, has been reduced from 30% to 25%. These measures are expected to have favourable impact on prices of NFY. There is no price control on NFY and its prices are market driven. NFY is freely importable under O.G.L.

[English]

Model Fire Bill

5031. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had circulated a 'Model Fire Bill' to all the State Governments for adoption and suggestions;

(b) whether many State Governments have not adopted the "Model Fire Bill" even after 40 years of its circulation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made or being made by the Government to press upon the State Governments for its adoption?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) A Model Fire Force Bill, prepared by the Central Government, was circulated to the State Governments in the year 1958 for enactment. According to available information, 13 States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura and Sikkim have not adopted the Bill so far. The Central Government has time and again impressed upon the State Governments to enact the Bill. However, as the matter primarily relates to the States Governments, it is for them to ensure the enactment to the Bill.

Installed Capacity of Sugar Mills

5032. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of sugar and target fixed for the production of sugar during the current year, State-wise;

(b) the estimated quantity of sugar produced by various sugar mills, so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the production of sugarcane is more than the installed capacity to sugar mills;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the installed capacity of sugar mills and the percentage of capacity to which the mills were working since 1995, State-wise;

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the functioning of sugar mills and better prices for farmers;

(g) whether the sugarcane is lying unlifted due to non-procurement by the mills; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor and the loss suffered by the farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL