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Written Answers

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, a mojor part of project cost (about 80% to 87.5%) comes as loan from the banks. The Government of India provides subsidy at the rate of 15% of the project costs subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,500/- for individual beneficiaries. The subsidy is authorised to the Reserve Bank of India which is adjusted in the bank accounts of individual beneficiaries. The Central Government's assistance in the form of funds for training and contingencies etc., are released to the States/UTs. As per the reports received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, there is no diversion of funds provided by Government of India for the purpose of subsidy, training and contingency, etc.

However, some cases of mis-utilisation of loans detected as the result of joint inspection by the banks and District Trade and Industries Centres of Government of Madhya Pradesh have been recommended for appropriate action to bank branches.

(d) and (e) The State Governments have been requested to enact law so that recovery of bank dues under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana can be brought at par with the arrears of land revenue. The State Governments have also been advised to prepare action plans to improve loan recovery under the scheme.

New Ministry for Internal Trade

1515. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the big trade organisations have demanded the constitution of a new Ministry for the internal trade between Centre and States; and
  - (b) if so, the response of Government in this regard?

THE OMINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Merchants' Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta and the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India, New Delhi have suggested a Ministry of Internal Trade. It is felt that various issues relating to Internal Trade are effectively addressed by concerned subject matter Ministries/Departments and there is no proposal for creating a Ministry of internal Trade.

Non-Payment of Salaries in Textile Mills

1516. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the approximate total number of employees working in various textile mills at Surat in Gujarat;
- (b) the latest mill-wise details of both Public and Private Sectors:
- (c) whether the workers from Maharashtra, U.P., Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh working in the said mills are not getting their wages regularly;
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
  - (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of New Industries

- 1517. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government propose to set up new industries during 1999-2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the places where these industries are likely to be set up; and
- (c) the total amount proposed to be spent on each industry respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

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## Tobacco growers of Karnataka

- 1518. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether representatives from cigarette industry have assured for purchase of tobacco at prices higher than the current market rates from the tobacco growers of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, whether the exporters and traders have also given similar commitments to uplift the unsold stock piled up with farmers who have been complaining about crash; in prices and lack of demand;