

[English]

- (ii) **Demand for reducing import duty on raw wool to encourage export of hand-knotted carpets.**

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli): Indian handknotted Carpet industry is the oldest cottage based industry in the country employing several lakhs of people directly and indirectly. Most of its production is exported to various European, American and other countries for earning valuable foreign exchange for the country.

The exports of rugs, druggests and woollen carpets have risen from about Rs. 12. 75 crores in 1971-72 to about Rs. 164.5 crores in 1985-86 . The target for 1986-87 is Rs. 220 crores which envisage a growth in export of over 15 per cent.

To achieve this ambitious target, it is necessary that there is a substantial increase in production which depends on availability of basic raw material that is raw wool.

Apart from shortage of raw wool, high prices have also come in the way of greater production and export of Indian hand-knotted carpets. It is , therefore, requested that the import duty on raw wool may please be substantially reduced.

- (iii) **Need to provide more telephone connections to Yavatmal city of Maharashtra.**

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL (Yavatmal): A very strange situation has arisen in the Yavatmal city of Maharashtra State in the matter of providing new Telephone connections there. So far only 1000 telephone connections have been provided and more than 500 people are on waiting list for new Telephone connections.

During the last financial year, it was assured that 350 new connections would be given but till now no new connections have been allotted . It is understood that no new board is available there, where as one Board of five hundred lines is lying idle at Badnera in Amaravati District which can be utilised here.

Although the telephone Department at Yavatmal have made provision of spaces for installation of new machinery at their presently occupied premises, yet no effort has been made to procure the machinery to provide new telephone connection in spite of an assurance given in Lok Sabha in reply to one of my questions.

12.27 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

- (iv) **Demand for an overhead bridge across Chambal river between Chau Mehla and sitamow to ensure smooth communication between Rajasthan and M.P.**

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Communication between the border areas of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh States in Jhalawar Parliamentary constituency region is not satisfactory as inter-state Roads have not been built to open the two areas to each other.

Not only the new Roads have not been built but even traditional routes of cart and vehicular traffic that existed between CHAUMEHLA in JHALAWAR District (Rajasthan) and Sita Mow in Mandsoor District in M.P. have been blocked for nearly three decades as a result of the back flow of water in river Chambal, after the construction of the Gandhi Sagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh.

CHAUMEHLA area of Rajasthan and Sita Mow of M. P. run parallel to each other for miles together with river Chambal