

Writing off Loans of Weavers

5023. SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether weavers have been included in the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990;

(b) whether any differentiation has been made between the weavers in rural and urban areas in the above scheme;

(c) whether the weavers residing in urban areas will get the benefit of debt waiver;

(d) whether the owners of powerlooms have been included in this category; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c), (d) and (e) The subject of extending debt relief to weavers in non-rural areas has been considered by the Government of India and it has been decided to include them, both powerloom and handloom weavers, within the framework of the present scheme.

[English]

National Network Programmes Sponsored by Private Parties

5024. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether several programme on National Television network are currently sponsored by private agencies;

(b) if so, the number of such agencies and number of programmes tele-

cast by them between January to June 1990;

(c) the number of these relate to news and views and entertainment areas separately; and

(d) the mechanism set up by Government to evaluate performance of these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the period from January to June, 1990, 278 sponsored programmes offered by 575 sponsors/clients were telecast by Doordarshan on the national network, out of which 19 related to news and views and 259 to entertainment.

(d) Doordarshan telecasts programmes including those which are 'Sponsored' only after being fully satisfied about their suitability through a rigorous system of scrutiny and selection.

Plywood Boxes

5025. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace "Plywood Boxes" by "Steel Boxes";

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it would result in closing down of a number of S.S.I. Units; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) DGS&D procures stores as per the specification given by the Indentor. There is no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.