

ted. But I can also say that some people can always find some excuse or the other.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this issue.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Sir, my question has not been answered.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As regards your question about Rs. 14.66 crores, I have already said that this represents the supply of controlled cloth for a period of 4 to 5 weeks and that is the regular payment received and supplies are made. There is nothing very unusual about it.

As regards the supply and distribution of the controlled cloth, the hon. Member knows that distribution is done by the NCCF and the Supply Department in the States. If there is any complaint about any defective cloth which has been received at any depot, certainly it should be brought to our notice and we will take it up with the subsidiary concerned and see that the matter is rectified.

Items for Production in Handloom Sector

*805. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enlarge the list of items for production in the handloom sector and ensure its strict enforcement ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Government of India have already issued a Notification reserving 22 items for

exclusive production in the handloom sector under the new "Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985." For stricter enforcement, three Regional Offices of the office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms have already been opened at Delhi, Pune and Coimbatore.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply and otherwise also the new Textile Act which has been passed in 1986 envisages encouragement to the occupation of traditional weavers that provides livelihood to crores of people. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government propose to give some subsidy to provide new equipment and technology to the handloom weavers ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, no arrangement is being made so far as the question of giving subsidy is concerned. But, we have made arrangements to ensure that they produce quality cloth so that it fetched a higher price. Therefore, they are being given training in the manufacture of polyester cloth and for this purpose they are being supplied duty-free polyester.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The question is of technology.....

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : We have 24 such weavers centres where they are imparted this training.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Sir, I do not want to be drawn into a discussion, but the arrangement that has been made by the Government.....

MR. SPEAKER : You can do so.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : The existing arrangement has not benefited the weavers centres. They remain without work for days together for want of yarn. I do not want to say much on this, but you had made an arrangement

under which *dhotis* and *sarees* were to be exclusively manufactured and sold by them. But what we see today is that the powerlooms and the mills manufacture the same type of cloth and sell it in the market after sticking a handloom label. This too will have to be stopped.

At the same time, I would like to ask you a practical question. We do encourage them to manufacture various varieties of cloth, but at the same time, we should also make some arrangement for its marketing. We should make arrangement to give handloom cloth to the poor workers in the same way as we give food-grains to the labourers under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I too do not want to be drawn into a discussion.....

MR. SPEAKER : Have you decided or not ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : But I would say that this time we have increased the number of reserved items from 11 to 22 ; *dhoti* and *saree* is one of them. I am sure, hon. Shri Dandavate will interrupt me.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have said only this much that you have taken off even the *dhoti* and *saree* of the powerloom sector.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Now I want that they should wear payjama.

So far as the question of hon. lady Member regarding marketing is concerned, we have written to the State Governments to bring all the weavers in their respective States under the Cooperative sector. Once they come under the cooperative sector, they would be able to get better credit facilities. Secondly, they would get marketing facilities through the cooperatives. This work is to be done by the States and not by the Centre. On our part, we continue to bring it to the notice of the State Governments.

-[English]

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the fate of those handloom weavers in those areas where some stays have been taken by mills. What is going to be their condition ? Are they going to be stopped from producing these 22 items which have been reserved and set aside for the handloom sector ? Is the Government going to take some action to vacate the stays which are taken by the powerloom and mill-made sectors ? These poor people are left with no reserved items at all, as a result of this stay.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, that is a very simple question. Reservation means, certain items have been reserved for the handloom sector and, therefore, the handloom sector will produce those items. The enforcement authorities will be there to ensure that there is no encroachment or infringement of these things meant for the handloom sector.

[Translation]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She has raised the issue of stay.

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : In one or two States, they have taken the stay order. We are going to fight it out and see that the stay orders are vacated.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : In the proposed list, actually it has been enlarged from 11 to 22 items. But unfortunately, you have not added the main item, i.e. Madras handkerchief. You have not added it. I want to put a question.

As early as in 1954-55, the Madras handkerchief was exported to Nigeria and other countries which earned a foreign exchange of more than Rs. 18 crores. But unfortunately, you have stopped and you have not added it in the list. Even our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written a letter to you straight-away

asking to add this item in this proposed list. But you have not added it for the last two years. I would request the hon. Minister to give an answer, a positive answer whether you are going to include this item or not by which the country will earn a foreign exchange of more than Rs. 20 crores.

PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE : Let one section start with ladies' handkerchief.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the list has been prepared and approved with the recommendations of the special committee which was appointed to look into this question in detail and their recommendations have been accepted. I would only like to say to the hon. Member that let us see how this list works out and then, we will see, what should be done later on because this is subject to revision and review from time to time.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure, all of us in the House welcome the move by the Government to reserve more items for the handloom sector. The number has been increased from 11 to 22 items.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what does it mean in terms of the production potential. That is to say, for meeting the demands of those 11 items, there was a certain quantum of production, and then by increasing it to 22, by what percentage have you increased the production potential? And does the handloom sector today have the capacity to meet that production potential?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the committee which went into the whole question came to the conclusion that the handloom sector is capable of producing the items which are being reserved for them. But at the same time, we have given three month's time for the change-over in order to ensure that the handloom sector's capacity and capability is fully utilised for producing these 22 items.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : What does

it mean in terms of increase of production potential, does it mean 50% increase or what does it mean in terms of square metres?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : It will mean almost double.

Take-Over of Sick Sugar Mills

*807. **PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that provision for take-over of the sick industrial units by Government has been made through the enactment of a special law ;

(b) if so, how many sugar mills have been located as 'Sick Mills' ;

(c) how many of these mills have been taken over by Government ;

(d) how many of them belonged to the co-operative and private sectors ; and

(e) whether the rest of the sick sugar mills are likely to be taken over ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (e). A statement regarding Sick Industrial Unit is given below.

Statement

(a) The subject matter of taking over of sick industrial units is not within the purview of this Ministry. However, the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 which came into effect on 8.1.1986 provides *inter-alia* for sanctioning by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction, of schemes for the proper management of a sick industrial company by change in, or take over of, management of the sick industrial company.