

[English]

The Working Group set up by the Department of Textiles kept in view the

following criteria for allocation of new Cooperative Spinning Mills in the Sixth Plan :

1. States having large concentration of handlooms, but

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| (a) presently having no cooperative Spinning Mills organised in the handloom sector. | (i) Assam |
| | (ii) Bihar |
| | (iii) Manipur |
| | (iv) Tripura |
| (b) The existing spinning capacity in the handloom weavers' sector inadequate in relation to the number of handlooms. | (i) West Bengal |
| | (ii) Orissa |
| | (iii) Kerala |
| | (iv) Uttar Pradesh |

2. States growing large quantity of cotton, but

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| (a) Presently having no spinning mill organised in the growers' sector. | (i) Madhya Pradesh |
| (b) The existing spinning capacity in the growers sector inadequate in relation to cotton production. | (i) Haryana |
| | (ii) Rajasthan |
| | (iii) Punjab |
| | (iv) Gujarat |

PROF. N.G. RANGA ; What about Andhra Pradesh ?

S. BUTA SINGH : I am coming to that.

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| 3. Spinning mills of cotton growers or handloom weavers keeping in view the local needs and policy of the State Governments. | (i) Andhra Pradesh |
| | (ii) Karnataka |
| | (iii) Maharashtra |
| | (iv) Tamil Nadu. |

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : How many Cooperative Spinning Mills are there in Maharashtra and how many are working properly ? And how many Cooperative Spinning mills are working in loss and, if so, what is the reason for this loss.

S. BUTA SINGH : At the moment, according to the information that is available with me, 26 Mills are in Maharashtra out of 82 mills of the country. In regard to their profitability or loss or otherwise, I am sorry at this moment, I do not have the statistics. I can send it to the hon. Member if required.

Employment of Women in Electronics Industry

*373. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the expanding electronics industry provides greater job opportunities for women;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in the industrial training institutes to train

women for these job opportunities; and

(c) whether electronics industrial units would be told to employ women in larger proportion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

There are 128 Industrial Training Institutes for Women. In addition, there are 70 I.T.Is having Women's Wing. The total seating capacity of these Institutes is 14573.

A number of trades suited to women have been identified for introduction in the I.T.Is. Under these, the following pertain to the field of Electronics :—

- (i) TV Mechanic (Service & Repair)
- (ii) Tape Recorder Service and maintenance (Domestic)
- (iii) Electronic Instruments
- (iv) Medical Electronics Equipment-Maintenance,
- (v) Data Preparation Assistant.
- (vi) Console Operator cum-Programmer Assistant.

These trades have already been brought to the notice of the State Governments with the request to undertake a quick survey of the training needs in the trades concerned. Besides, training is already being imparted in the trades of Mechanic-Radio & T.V. & Mechanic-Electronics in the I.T.Is and in the trades of Electronic Mechanic and Meekhanic Radio and Radar (Air-craft) under the Apprenticeship Training Scheme. For upgrading the skills of women, Advanced Courses are being organised in the National Vocational Training Institute for Women, New Delhi and the Regional Vocational Training Institutes at Bombay and Bangalore.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Sir, I am glad that provisions for training women in various skills have been made. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry is aware that many employers work in electronics industry mainly because the employers have a prejudice and do not want to extend benefits like maternity benefit and in view of this, whether will in struct Factory Inspectorate and Shops and Establishments to monitor the employment of women in electronics industrial units and enquire into cases of discrimination?

[*Translation*]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : All right, we shall order an inquiry.....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He has said that inquiry will be held.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I would like to know whether any assessment of the jobs likely to be created during the Seventh Plan has been made. I would also like to know whether Government are satisfied that there would be enough trained women personnel for employment in various industries.

[*Translation*]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the time being, plan is being formulated for about 2 lakh women.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, is it a fact that the job opportunities for the women are gradually shrinking in Coal India Limited, one of the public sector undertakings? The women workers are being forced to go on voluntary retirement and in their place not a single woman worker is being recruited. It is the question of job opportunity not only in the electronic industry but in the other sectors also where job opportunities for

women are gradually shrinking. Will the Government issue a clear instruction in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER : No, Sir, You come to the relevant point of the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : My point is that the job opportunities for women should not be reduced and equal opportunities should be given to both men and women.

Will the Government issue clear instructions not only with regard to electronics industry, but with regard to other sectors also?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will not allow this.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Our Prime Minister is very much interested in the upliftment of women, and after he has taken over as Prime Minister, he has already announced free secondary education for women and the Ministry of Social Welfare has now been made as the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare. This is a Women's Decade.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you putting a question concerned with the main question, or are you on somewhere else? Put a relevant question.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This is a Women's Decade and International Youth Year. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had ratified ILO Convention No. 100 regarding right to equal wages for women. Have the Government any proposal to create more and more employment opportunities for women to ensure the right of equal opportunities for women?

MR. SPEAKER : This is a simple question concerning employment opportunities for women in electronics industrial units. No, this is not relevant to the main question.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : She is an 'electronics, women,

MR. SPEAKER : She is a 'current'.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The hon. Minister has not replied to part (c) of the question, namely, whether the electronics industrial units would be told to employ women in a larger proportion,

Do the Government propose to bring forward a Bill through which those jobs which can be attended to more easily by the women could be reserved for women.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Only we will give instructions, but it is not possible to bring forward a Bill.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : We are going to do everything we can possibly to help women get employment. At the same time, bringing forward a specific Bill which would imply reservation might not be correct, as it would insult the dignity of women. If you talk to some women, you will find that most women do feel like this.

AN HON. MEMBER : No, Sir,

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Well, it is our assessment that women do not want reservation...*(Interruptions)*. Do you want my assessment or do you want the answer that you want?

My assessment is that women do not want specific reservation as it hurts their dignity and it would not be correct. We are doing everything we can to help women get employment starting with better education; that is where the root of the whole thing is. We are going to take steps much greater than have been taken to date in both educating women, preparing them for jobs and in actually getting them employed.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Let us have an Half-an-Hour discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time; next session.