

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to remedy the position?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Some Non-Banking Companies are inviting fixed deposits at a rate of interest generally higher than that offered by nationalised banks.

(b) Complaints have been received by the Government and Reserve Bank of India from depositors against some Non-Banking Companies about non-refund of deposits on maturity and non-payment of interest thereon.

(c) and (d). According to available information, the size of aggregate deposits with Non-Banking Companies is not so large as to have a substantial impact on the deposits with the nationalised banks. However, ceiling have been prescribed on the quantum of deposits which can be accepted by the Companies under the Directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India in the case of Non-Banking Miscellaneous and Financial Companies and by the Department of Company Affairs under the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules 1975 in the case of Non-Banking Non-Financial Companies.

Decline in export of Handloom Fabrics

*509. SHRI DORAI SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of handloom fabrics has declined due to heavy excise burden; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for reviving the tempo of exports in handloom fabrics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). There is no evidence to show that exports of handloom fabrics or for that matter, other handloom goods have declined on account of heavy excise burden. All types of handloom fabrics are not subject to excise duty. Grey types are totally exempt. In any case, excise duties borne by export products are refundable under the drawback scheme.

Export of handloom goods (fabrics, made-ups and garments) have been as under since 1975-76:—

Year	Value of exports (Rs. Crores)
1975-76	195.06
1976-77	272.14
1977-78	258.43
1978-79	302.91
1979-80 (Provisional)	287.72

Handloom exports are covered under all the existing schemes of export promotion, such as, cash compensatory support, import replenishment, export house certificate etc. Assistance is also given to handloom exporters through Handloom Export Promotion Council and Apparel Export Promotion Council for participation in exhibitions and fairs abroad, for distribution of publicity material, for participation in seminars on product development and market orientation and defraying expenditure on visits of fabrics designers. Assistance is also provided for undertaking market studies.

To the extent possible, handlooms are sought to be kept out of the purview of quota restrictions under bilateral agreements. However, wherever this is not possible and combined levels have been agreed to, earmarking is done for handloom goods separately.