

(b) Security and margins have been relaxed.

(c) To facilitate speedy disposal of applications, banks have been asked to dispose of small loan applications within a period of 3-4 weeks. They have been advised to delegate adequate powers to the branch managers so as to ensure that at least 80 percent of the applications are disposed of at the branch level itself.

(d) To take care of the total credit requirements of the artisans, craftsmen and village and cottage industries, banks have been advised to advance composite term loans upto Rs. 6500 to eligible borrowers under the D.R.I. Scheme and to others upto Rs. 25,000 with easy repayment schedule.

(e) Concessional treatment is also being accorded to the smaller borrowers in the matter of interest rates.

(f) For increasing credit to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes borrowers, banks have been asked to formulate specific schemes for self-employment in areas in which these communities are normally engaged. Lead Banks have also been asked to weight their district/block credit plans in favour of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Decline in Export of Textile Machinery

*202. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :
(a) whether it is a fact that the exports of Indian Textile machinery have registered a fall of about 20 per cent this year; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There has been a fall in the export of textile machinery and accessories from India during 1982-83. As against the provisional export figure of Rs 19 crores in April-December, 1981, these exports are estimated to be Rs. 16.25 crores in the period April-December, 1982, which works out to a fall of 14.5%.

(b) The fall in export has been mainly due to world wide recessionary conditions in textile industry resulting in low demand for textile machinery.

Report of Committee on Timely Supply of Foreign Trade Statistics

*203. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on timely supply of foreign trade statistics headed by Director General of Central Statistical Organisation, which Government had set up in July, 1978, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, when and what steps Government have taken or propose to take to implement it; and

(c) if not, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to expedite it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATIRAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). The Committee has submitted Part-I of its Report. Most of the recommendations contained in this Report have already been implemented. The final Report is awaited. The Chairman of the Committee has been requested to expedite the submission of the final Report.