

(b) and (c). The aid is expected to be utilised by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan for financing costs in respect of land development, drainage, road construction, marketing and warehousing, training of personnel and advisory services in the Project area.

**Advances to Weaker Sections of Society**

\*75. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procedure for giving advances to weaker sections of society is being simplified; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to commercial banks to simplify and rationalise their lending procedures, particularly in respect of financial assistance to priority sector and banks are implementing these instructions. Banks have already introduced simplified application forms in respect of advances to agriculture and small scale industries etc. in regional languages. Assistance is also provided to such borrowers for filling up application forms and submission of required data wherever necessary. Adequate powers have been delegated to the Branch Managers so that a major portion of the loans to borrowers is promptly sanctioned at branch level itself.

**Export of Indian Cotton Textiles**

\*76. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of Indian Cotton Textiles have dropped in the first six months of 1976; and

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(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Funds required for Modernisation and Rehabilitation of Traditional Industries**

\*77. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has estimated that about Rs. 1340 crores will be needed for the modernisation and rehabilitation of some traditional industries in the country;

(b) whether Government are likely to release a part of funds from deposits with Industrial Development Bank of India for the corporate sector for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Modernisation of machinery and replacement of obsolete machinery are ordinarily taken care of by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) both through direct assistance to industry and through its Bill Rediscounting Scheme. The amount of assistance sanctioned and disbursed by the IDBI and other public financial institutions have been increasing from year to year. During the financial year 1976-77 in order to further strengthen the resources position of the IDBI Government have decided to permit industries to deposit the surcharge on income tax with the IDBI. It is expected that