

Rs. 117 crores was the allocation, out of which, as I have already said, Rs. 70 crores is committed for the statutory requirements. Therefore, it leaves hardly any money for modernisation.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What does the Finance Minister say about it ?

MR. SPEAKER : Finance Minister keeps mum;

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Allocations are made by the Planning Commission.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Question No. 311.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no such question. There is no such question number as has been read out by Shri Daga.

AN HON. MEMBER : It does not make any difference. He will get the same reply.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : You should punish a *bania's* son, if he commits a mistake in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a blunder.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The problem is that I am a Pathan's son and I am functioning as *bania*. It is all topsy turvy.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is indirectly suggesting that he should be in-charge of Defence.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : That is correct.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Question No. 330.

Supply of cheaper cloth to consumers

***331. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite fall in cotton price, reduction in excise duties and the flexible textile policy, there is no sign of any significant decline in cloth prices;

(b) the steps taken by Government to arrange supply of cheaper cloth to the consumer and the results thereof;

(c) the percentage of production under National Textile Corporation mills sold to Government departments during the last three years; and

(d) whether the sale was transacted through tenders or direct sale at demand price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) No Sir,

(b) Government of India are operating two schemes for supply of cheap cloth to weaker sections of society in the country :

(i) Controlled cloth scheme in the NTC sector.

(ii) Janta cloth scheme in the hand-loom sector.

The distribution of controlled cloth produced by NTC mills is primarily the responsibility of the State and Union Territory Governments who are utilising the agency of the National Cooperative Consumers Federation 85 per cent of the controlled cloth produced by the NTC is distributed by NCCF by utilising the services of its member Federations located in various States/UTs. The State level Federations actually undertake to supply the controlled cloth

through their net-work of retail outlets such as fair price shops and consumers stores and cooperative outlets.

For Janta cloth in the handloom sector, State Governments are responsible for both production and distribution. The State agencies, namely, State Handloom Development Cooperations, State Handloom Apex Societies, Regional Apex Societies undertake sale of Janta cloth through specified outlets, fair price shops, consumers cooperative stores, and other forms of cooperative stores, tribal cooperatives and private retailers specially approved for this purpose by the State Governments and the producing agencies subject to certain control.

(c) The position in regard to percentage of cloth sold to Government Departments by NTC mills out of their production during the last three years is as under given below :

Year	Total pro- duction of the cloth in Million mtrs.)	Supplies made to Govt. Deptt. (in lakh metres)	%age of production of cloth sold to Govt. Deptts.
1983-84	902.00	71	0.79%
1984-85	920.00	330	3.58%
1985-86	994.72	476	4.78%

(d) Prior to 27th Dec. 1983, sale of Textile fabrics by NTC to Govt. Departments was made through DGS and D under open tender system. After 27.12.83, NTC is making the supply of textile fabrics to Government Departments through DGS and D on single tender basis. The price is fixed, on the recommendations of the Cost Accounts Branch, Ministry of Finance, on normative cost basis.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : One always tries to outdo the other.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He was just proving that he is a Pathan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the announcement of the New Textile Policy on 6 June 1985, Shri Khurshid Alam Khan and other Ministers started claiming that—

[English]

—we pass on textile duty benefits to the consumers.

[Translation]

Good speeches were delivered. You said that the excise duty has been reduced, the prices of cotton have been slashed. People get increased subsidy, ranging from Rs. 50 crores to 58 crores. You are claiming that the New Textile Policy is a liberal policy. They are saying that dhoti, saree, longcloth and other types of cloth will be made available at cheap rates to the people in remote areas. All such beautiful and sweet speeches have been delivered but the fact is—

[English]

—these are benefits which are not reaching the poor people.

[Translation]

The Minister incharge of the excise duty, i.e. the Finance Minister, is present here. He gives subsidy also and that too more than Rs. 50 crores...

MR. SPEAKER : Please, put the question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The prices of cotton have also been reduced. Will the Minister tell us what were the prices of saree, longcloth, dhoti and other type of cloth, for which you have set up a new plant, before the formulation of the New Textile Policy and what are the prices of these items at present in the remote areas ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is not the price but your speech that is increasing.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : So far as the question of increase in the prices of cloth after the declaration of the New Textile Policy is concerned, I would like to say that at least we have had a negative gain, in the sense that the prices have not increased. The prices which had increased by more than 5 per cent earlier, have increased only by 2 per cent this year. This is, of course, there that if the prices of cotton have been reduced, we should also see that how much prices of the other inputs have increased. For example, we have to see that how much wages have increased, what has been the increase in the prices of other items. Had there been control on them, perhaps even this 2 per cent increase would not have been there.

In addition, we are manufacturing that type of cloth which is required by the poor and are providing that to the States. The States and NCCF distribute that cloth. We are the manufactures; the distribution is their responsibility and they are doing it,

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : My first question has not been replied to. I had asked what were the earlier prices and what are the present prices—which you have not revealed. In the policy you have laid down, you have said that it is not the responsibility of your Government.

[English]

I will not read the whole thing, but I will read only the relevant portion. It says :

“It was also emphasised that days of sale for controlled cloth should be fixed and the District Collector should arrange for wide publicity of the arrival/sale of the controlled cloth both in the urban and rural areas through the District Publicity Officer to ensure supply of the cloth to the common masses and eliminate chances of diversion to unauthorised channels”.

[Translation]

This is the policy you have laid down. After laying down this policy you make a claim that you have opened three lakh shops, a network of fair price shops has been opened and that the people living in the far flung areas will get cloth at the controlled price. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know you are a big supporter of the poor; we know for whom you have a soft corner. Therefore, you must know what is actually happening. In the name of textile, money is taken but that cloth is no where available. If it is being produced in your area then you deserve congratulations.

MR. SPEAKER : In our area cotton is produced the prices of which have come down.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I was to submit your point also and that I have already done. But here the problem is that Shri Khurshid Alam Khan says that the cloth will be sold through fair price shops and the National Textile Corporation people say that they will sell the cloth from where more money can be earned. This dispute is resulting in non-availability of cloth to the poor.

MR. SPEAKER : You may put the question only. The entire issue is side-tracked without question and its importance is lost.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, I have already replied to what Shri Daga has asked. I have stated that we do not sell cloth, it is sold through the State Governments. Their fair price shops and NCCF sell this cloth. If there is something wrong in Shri Daga's State, he should draw the attention of the Chief Minister. If that does not yield the desired result, then he should tell us; we shall write to the Chief Minister.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : We shall tell you but you should visit our State.

[English]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Sir, the statement says that for production and distri-

bution of Janata cloth, the State Government is responsible. Parliament has passed a legislation for reservation of certain items including Janata cloth for the handloom sector and nearly one year has passed after the legislation regarding reservation of certain items for handloom.

May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have made any deep study on the reaction, on the subsequent development after the passing of this legislation? What steps have been taken to involve all the States concerning handloom sector? Our report in this respect is that practically, there is no progress made on this. May I know from the Hon. Minister, if any concrete step has been taken on these measures? If not, when will they be taken?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, positive steps have already been taken and we have provided 5 million metres of Janata cloth for the States and each State has been allotted quota for production of Janata cloth and use thereof. The basis of allotment is 2/3rd of the quota is allotted on the basis of total population of the State and 1/3rd is on the basis of population below the poverty line. Besides this, 85 per cent of controlled cloth is given to the States on the basis of their allocation. Only 15 per cent of the controlled cloth is sold through the outlet of National Textile Corporation.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Janta cloth is manufactured for distribution among the poor and the tribals but it is often seen that this cloth does not reach the people living in the hill areas of Orissa, Bihar and other States, though it is available in the cities. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Central Government will institute an enquiry to find out whether this cloth reached the poor and the tribals?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we have already written to the Chief Ministers to enquire whether the cloth has reached those people for whom it was intended? The replies received from the Chief Ministers show that the cloth is being distributed accordingly.

Financial loss suffered by Delhi Tourism Development Corporation

*335. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation has been incurring loss continuously for the last many years;

(b) if so, the amount of financial loss suffered by it during each of the last three years;

(c) whether some employees are now being retrenched to avoid this financial loss; and

(d) if so, the category-wise total number of such employees?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below :

Statement

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The year-wise figures of loss incurred by Delhi Tourism Development Corporation during the last three years are given below :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1983-84	23.96*
1984-85	39.44*
1985-86	26.19*

*Provisional

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, it is clear that in the Statement the Government has hidden some facts. It seems the Government is planning to remove 170 employees from the D.T.D.C. and it was decided on July 14 that in order