

respect of public sector banks as on March 1990 (latest available), as reported

by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is given below :

(Amount in crores of Rupees)

Sectors	Amount Outstanding	Amount overdue	Overdues as a percentage of outstanding advances
Large & Medium industries	32549.41	4276.94	13.14
Small scale industries (including industrial estate)	15198.15	3074.83	20.23
Agriculture	16603.06	3450.78	20.78
Other priority sectors	8157.03	2516.10	30.85
All others	25184.40	2327.72	9.24
Total :	97692.05	15646.38	16.02

(b) Various steps have been taken by RBI to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important steps are as follows :

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the Banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand, and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks, on the other.

2. The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay their personal attention to the monitoring of large advances.

3. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.

4. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts at the Board Level.

5. Taking action against the officials where advances are found to have become sticky due to their negligence, inefficiency etc.

(c) No, Sir. However, the Government and Reserve Bank of India keep under their constant consideration the subject for improving recovery in the banks and take

actions to modify procedures in this regard.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

JUTE MILL AT DALGOUN OR BARPETA IN ASSAM

*278. SHRI PROBEN DEKA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Govt. to establish a jute mill at Dalgoun or Barpeta in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI
ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF CLOTH

*279. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the annual per capita consumption of cloth in the country;

(b) the total annual production of cloth at present; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of cloth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Per capita consumption of cloth for the year 1987-88 (latest year for which figures are available) is 16.35 linear metres.

(b) The production of cloth during 1990-91 is estimated at 20354 million sq. metres.

(c) The production of cloth and yarn has been steadily increasing over the years. Government policy of liberalisation and modernisation of industry is expected to give further fillip to the production of cloth in future.

LOANS FOR AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-BASED INDUSTRIES

***280. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to permit the Urban banks to advance loans for agriculture and agro-based industries in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which permission is likely to be accorded; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) By definition, such banks operate only in urban and semi-urban pockets in their respective areas of operation.

[English]

DEFENCE AIRCRAFT CRASHES

***281. DR. A. K. PATEL :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of defence aircraft crashes during January—March, 1991.

(b) the number of persons killed or injured; and

(c) how these figures compare with those of the corresponding period of 1990 ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) During Jan.—March 1991, there were 8 Defence aircraft crashes in which 34 persons were killed and none injured. In the corresponding period in 1990, there were 6 crashes which resulted in the death of 17 persons and injuries to 16.

ESTABLISHMENT OF EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE AT VISAKHAPATNAM

***282. SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY : SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish an Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the steps taken in respect of land, building, water, electricity etc. and infrastructural facilities proposed to be made available to the entrepreneurs; and

(c) the date from which these facilities will be made available ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following steps have been taken for development of the Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone :—

(i) The Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone Administration has taken the possession of 360.51 acres of land.

(ii) The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation has been appointed as the nodal agency for development of necessary infrastructure. It has already finalized pre-qualification tenders and final tender is under preparation.