

(SIL) list. These items can be imported only at the normal rate of import duty, which is still appreciable. Also the extent of access through the SIL route is limited. Besides, a specific import duty, as an alternative to the ad valorem import duty, on a whichever is higher basis can be applied, should the need arise, to discourage the import of low priced textile products. Apart from import duty, an additional duty equivalent to the excise duty etc., paid by the domestic industry, can also be imposed on the imports. Because of these reasons, the import of silk made-ups and garment items are not likely to affect this silk industry adversely.

Wool and Woollen Export Promotion Council

5496. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from Wool and Wollen Export Promotion Council in respect of the liberalised EXIM policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). W&WEPC has raised certain issues relating to the EXIM policy covering, inter alia, the matter relating to additional customs duty and the quota policy.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade have informed that before the announcement of the revised edition of EXIM Policy on 30th March 1995, the exporters were facing hardship and were not eligible for transferability of Advance Licences where export obligation was discharged by exporting the goods in respect of which the benefits of Rule 191A and 191B of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 or input stage credit under Rules 56A or 57A of Central Excise Rules, 1944 has been availed in respect of the inputs used in the manufacture of an export product. Moreover, there was possibility of bestowing double benefits to the exporters, i.e. availing of such benefits as well as of duty free inputs. To avoid this possibility and to simplify procedures, it has been laid down in the new Policy that the material imported under the Duty Exemption Scheme shall be subject to the payment of additional customs duty equal to the excise duty at the time of import and the said additional customs duty shall be adjusted in the prescribed manner.

As regards the problems pertaining to quota the Council has been advised to send a self-contained proposal with full justification.

Amount Released by NABARD

5497. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a considerable amount is yet to be released by the NABARD to various States in respect

of amounts paid by them, under Agriculture and Rural Debt Relief Scheme of 1990-91;

(b) if so, the details of amount to be released; state-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in release of these dues; and

(d) the time by which all overdue amounts are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that full and final settlement of claims under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (AADR) Scheme, 1990 of most of the co-operative banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have already been made except in the case of Jammu & Kashmir State Cooperative Bank, Kamraz Rural Bank, Ellaqui Dehati Bank and Gurgaon Gramin Bank. As on 31.3.1995, NABARD has released an amount of Rs. 3959.390 crores to Cooperative banks by way of grant and loan under the ARDR Scheme. Similarly an amount of Rs. 718.741 crores has been released by NABARD to RRBs by way of grant against the claims preferred by them under the ARDR Scheme, 1990.

Security Agents under ITPO

5498. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) has been charging an amount of rupees ten thousand per year towards enlisting security agents;

(b) whether the amount is charged as security deposit or earnest money;

(c) whether the Government provide any facility to these security agents at Pragati Maidan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The amount is being charged as non-refundable registration fee for empanelment of security agencies for rendering security services to private participants inside halls/pavilions/stalls during fairs/exhibitions held in Pragati Maidan.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Government do not provide any facility. However, ITPO provides entry passes to the personnel engaged for security duty, parking facility for vehicles and bare space for camping of security personnel in parking area.

Joint Ventures with Iran

5499. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in which Indo-Iran joint ventures have been established;