

and when any proposal is received from the State Governments. The order for writing-off of amounts in respect of other schemes will be issued during the current financial year.

Import of Yarns

6508 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have given permission to import certain fibre and yarns under open general licence

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) In order to ensure adequate availability of fibres/yarn in the country import of these items is allowed freely under the existing Export Import Policy and no specific permission of the Government is required for import of these items

(b) and (c) Does not arise

Budget Deficit

6509 SHRI MANORNAJAN BHAKATA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether International Monetary Fund (IMF) has asked India to cut budget deficit

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the IMF President has recently remarked that implementation of economic reforms has slowed down in India

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government there to, and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to speed up the reform process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (e) Reducing the fiscal deficit has been at the heart of Govt's strategy of macro-economic stabilisation and reforms launched in July 1991. After the initial successes in fiscal consolidation a slippage occurred in 1993-94 and the pressure on deficit continued in 1994-95. The Finance Minister in his speech to Parliament while presenting the Union Budget for 1995-96 has stated that we must contain our fiscal deficit through determined action so that the reform program remains on track and our basic objective of development with social justice is ensured. The Managing Director of the IMF also echoed the same view at a press conference in April 1995 on the eve of IMF Interim Committee meeting. Government is taking steps to consolidate the gains of reform program in the areas of trade, taxation, financial sector, capital market, industrial policy and delivery system for social services.

Flights from Jabalpur

6510 SHRI HARIN PATHAK Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Vayudoot flight from Jabalpur have been cancelled,

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to resume the flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Indian Airlines/Vayudoot have withdrawn its services from Jabalpur due to commercial and operational constraints

(c) at present Indian Airlines/Vayudoot have no plans to resume its services to Jabalpur

Investment in Turkey

6511 SHRI M VYS MURTHY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India has been invited to invest in Turkey in various sectors including textile and manufacturing sectors,

(b) whether a Turkish business delegation visited India in January, 1995,

(c) whether any agreements between India and Turkey has been signed, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Turkey offers equal opportunities to foreign investors including Indian entrepreneurs. Such investment can be in the textiles or any other manufacturing sector

(b) Yes, Sir A business delegation accompanied the Turkish President during his visit to India in January-February '95

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir An agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation and another on Cooperation in Tourism were signed between the two Governments during the Turkish President's visit

[Translation]

Margin Money Scheme

6512 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) the number of weavers covered under the Margin Money Scheme for destitute weavers during the last three years State-wise, and

(b) the grant released by the Union Government under this Scheme during the above period, State-wise?