

4. Shri R.B. Dattar, Director
5. Dr. Ashok Gulati
6. Shri R. Rajamani.

RBI has further reported that it had also issued an 'in principle' approval on 27.1.94 to Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Limited to set up a new bank in the private sector to be known as Bank of Gujarat Ltd. with its registered office at Ahmedabad. The promoters of the proposed bank are in the process of complying with the terms and conditions of the 'in principle' approval.

[Translation]

### Foreign Debt

3396. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign debt likely to increase during the year 1995-96;

(b) the present ratio between foreign-loan and its repayment; and

(c) the percentage of foreign loan spent by India to repay its loan during the year 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). The likely increase in foreign debt outstanding would depend on a number of factors in both the current and central account of our balance of payment including the growth of exports, foreign exchange earnings, fresh debt to be incurred, debt servicing to be made etc. In view of uncertainties in these accounts, it is not possible to precisely indicate the likely increase in external debt stock during 1995-96.

(b) and (c) : External resources are mobilised to bridge the gap between the total investment outlay and internal resources available for the plan development of the country. It is used for meeting the foreign exchange requirements of the project and non-project need of the country. However, it may be mentioned that the debt service ratio is normally computed on the basis of debt service payment (i.e. repayment of principal and payment of interest) as percentage to current receipt i.e. export of goods and invisible earnings. The debt service ratio for 1992-93 and 1993-94 was 30.3% and 24.8% respectively. The debt service ratio figures for 1994-95 would be available only after figures are firmed up after finalisation of accounts.

[English]

### Computerisation of Employment Exchanges

3397. SHRI PRITHVIRAJD. CHAVAN : Will the Minister

of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to modernise the Employment Exchanges through a computer net-work connecting all the centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) and (b). No. Sir. However, 117 Employment Exchanges were computerised under the Scheme of Central Assistance for Computerisation of Employment Exchanges which was launched in 1986-87 and subsequently transferred from Central Sector to State Sector w.e.f. financial year 1992-93.

### Modernisation of Low Capacity Mills

3398. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for modernising low capacity textile mills in the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No. Sir.

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

[Translation]

### Loan Assistance to Rajasthan

3399. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government has demanded to increase the amount given to the State Governments as loan assistance out of the total deposits received under small savings schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to accede to the said demand; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### Jute Industry

3400. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prospects of Jute industry have brightened considerably due to certain favourable changes in the international market ;

(b) if so, the specific steps have since been taken to take advantage of the changed situation;

(c) whether the Government have issued order to the effect that there would be no budgetary support for JCI from 1996;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for development of Jute Industry

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Growing worldwide awareness about the environmental benefits of jute and development of many value added diversified jute products is expected to lead to increased demand for such jute products in the future. Production of diversified goods is being encouraged, particularly under the UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme. A new scheme for providing financial assistance to entrepreneurs for production of diversified jute items has also been recently launched.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Steps taken by the Government for development of jute industry *inter alia* include the following :

- (i) Demand stimulation by enacting Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.
- (ii) Introduction of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme of Rs. 150 crores w.e.f. 1.11.86.
- (iii) Special Jute Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores.
- (iv) Duty free import of raw jute under OGL.
- (v) Export marketing assistance on selected export items.
- (vi) Regular purchase of jute bags through DGS&D for packing foodgrains on cost plus basis; and
- (vii) Active encouragement for development of diversified jute products, under UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme and by introduction of Jute Entrepreneurs Assistance Scheme.

#### Violation of Reservation Rules in S.B.I

3401. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister

of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of representations received by the State Bank of India from the Members of Parliament protesting against the non-implementation of the reservation rules in departmental promotions in the Bank during the last one year;

(b) the number of representations disposed of;

(c) the number of representations still pending for a decision; and

(d) the reasons for non-implementation or violation of reservation rules and action taken in Regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). State Bank of India has reported that only one representation has been received by it from a Member of Parliament during the last one year regarding non-implementation of reservation rules in departmental promotions. The bank proposes to send a reply to the Hon'ble Member shortly.

(d). The bank has reported that the rules regarding reservations are being implemented by it as per Government's guidelines on the subject.

#### Report of Textiles Technical Sub-Committee

3402. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the textiles technical sub-committee has submitted its report of the Government for the Ecomark:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) : Based on the recommendations of a Technical Committee, a draft criteria for Textiles made from cotton, wool, Jute, synthetics, blended, coir and silk was notified on 16th July, 1992 for public comments. Presently, the criteria are under review of the technical sub-committee in the light of comments received.

#### Excise Levied On Cigarette

3403. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the system of Central Excise Duty levied on the basis of length of the cigarettes has adversely affected the Beedi Industry and workers; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to avoid the disadvantage to the Beedi Industry and the