

- (iii) Introduction of modern methods of beneficiation to give better yield of washed coal.
- (iv) Amalgamation of smaller mines into larger units. Such reconstruction will release considerable amount of coal which would have been lost in the barriers.
- (v) Utilisation of washery rejects for power generation and for stowing in the underground mines.
- (vi) Increased use of sand/crushed stones for conservation and safety. This will also result in greater recovery of insitu coal from the underground mine.
- (vii) R and D projects have been taken up to economise coking coal consumption in steel plants.

[*Translation*]

Growth of Powerlooms Danger to Handloom Sector

5135. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the growth of powerlooms secretly is likely to pose a danger to the organised handloom sector in the long run;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to check their growth; and

(c) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The powers to detect unauthorised powerlooms and to proceed against persons responsible for operating unauthorised powerlooms are available with the State Governments under the Essential Commodities Act.

[*English*]

Promotion of SC/ST Sub-ordinate Staff to Clerical Cadre in New Delhi Branches of State Bank of India

5136. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether relaxation of two years in experience for promotion from subordinate staff to clerical cadre available to the subordinate staff belonging to SC/ST communities, has been abolished in the New Delhi local head office, branches and offices of State Bank of India; and

(b) If so, the reasons for withdrawing this concession ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In terms of the existing Government guidelines, reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes employees does not apply to a cadre to which direct recruitment is 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % or more. State Bank of India has reported that direct recruitment to the clerical cadre in that bank is more than the aforesaid percentage. The reservation in promotion from subordinate cadre to the clerical cadre is, therefore, not applicable to this cadre. As there is no reservation the question of allowing relaxation does not arise.

Production of Tobacco and its Prices

5137. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of tobacco produced in each State during 1984-85;

(b) the guidelines followed in fixing minimum export prices for tobacco;

(c) the guidelines followed in fixing minimum support prices for tobacco to be purchased from tobacco growers; and

(d) the details of minimum export prices for different grades of tobacco and the details of minimum support prices for corresponding grades of tobacco for the current season ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The final estimate of production of tobacco statewide during 1984-85 is not yet available. The break-up of production of tobacco during 1983-84 in the major states is as follows :—

	Quantity in '000 tonnes
Andhra Pradesh	191.9
Gujarat	186.9
Karnataka	28.8
Uttar Pradesh	19.7
West Bengal	15.5
Other States/Union Territories	54.3
All India	497.1

(b) Minimum Export Price (MEP) is fixed *inter-alia* for ensuring a fair and remunerative return to the growers consistent with the demand and supply both domestic and international for tobacco, each year.

(c) and (d). Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed for Virginia Tobacco only on the basis of the decisions of the Government on the recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices for F₂ grade and L₂ grade Tobacco grown in black soils and light soils respectively. The MSP for L₂ grade has been fixed at Rs. 9.75 per kgm. and for L₂ grade at Rs. 12.00 per kgm. during the current season. The MSP for all other grades are derived with reference to these prices by adopting normal market price differentials.

The MEP for different Agmark grades of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco, Sun Cured Virginia tobacco, Sun cured 'Natu' (Country) and Sun Cured Jutty Tobacco for the current season has been announced vide Ministry of Commerce Export Trade Central Public Notice No. 3-ETC (PN)/85, dated 1-2-1985.

The MEPs are fixed for Agmark grades which are based on colour and quality. On the other hand, MSP is fixed on the basis of Farm grades for black soil tobacco and plant position grades for light soil tobacco.

Amount due from State Electricity Boards to Public Sector Coal Companies

5139. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
SHRI HARISH RAWAT :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the State Electricity Board-wise current outstanding dues to public sector Coal Companies on account of coal supplies made to the thermal stations; and

(b) the steps being taken to collect these outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) State Electricity and Power House-wise outstanding dues of subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd., as on 28-2-1985, are as under :

(Figures in lakh Rupees)

Consumers	ECL	CCL	WCL	BCCL	CIL Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
BSEB	352	3772	—	—	4124
UPSEB	159	1547	59	49	1914
OSEB	—	1185	—	—	1185
PSEB	—	785	150	686	1621
TNEB	555	98	193	—	846
HSEB	—	1198	25	462	1685
RSEB	—	66	43	—	105
MSEB	—	—	4147	—	4177