

(b) the cost of machines related to coal production purchased during the current year;

(c) the policy of Union Government regarding import of coal; and

(d) the quantum of coal imported by the Public and Private Sectors separately during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Total production of coal in the country during 1995-96 had been 270.13 million tonnes, out of which 40.10 million tonnes is coking coal and 230.03 million tonnes is non-coking coal.

(b) The machines related to coal production purchased during the current year 1996-97 (upto June, 96) by CIL and SCCL is Rs. 470.41 crores (provisional).

(c) Coal can be freely imported under the present export and import policy. As such there is no need for any licence/permission from Government of India for its import.

(d) According to the figures received from Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), the total quantum of coal imported including coking coal during last three years is as under :

	(Million Tonnes)
1993-94	7.51
1994-95	11.39
1995-96 (upto Dec., 95)	9.35

Separate figures of import for public and private sectors are not maintained by DGFT.

Status of Official Language

1090. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the Official Language 'Hindi' in Finance Ministry, its Undertakings and Banks; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Official Language Implementation Committees towards the promotion of the use of Official Language?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) All efforts are made to follow the provisions of the Official Language Act and the instructions issued by the Department of Official Language from time to time.

(b) The quarterly progress reports regarding the progressive use of Hindi are reviewed and discussed in the Official Language Implementation Committees and follow up action taken.

[English]

Board for Welfare of Weavers

1091. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Backward Classes Commission in one of its report have recommended the constitution of a separate Board for the welfare of weavers community;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute a similar Board for the upliftment of weavers community in Andhra Pradesh as the community is living below poverty line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal.

[Translation]

Uniform Civil Code

1092. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Muslim Women Convention has demanded that the system of divorce by announcing talak thrice in one go should be considered unlawful and thereby be repealed and necessary amendments be made in the Act with immediate effect;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the civil code for all citizens of the country; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government has come across a news item captioned "Muslim Women's Convention says talaq illegal" published in the 'Statesman' dated the 25th March, 1996, wherein it has been *inter-alia* reported that the All India Muslim Women Convention has demanded that the practice of triple talaq (talaq-e-salasa) be declared illegal and void and appropriate amendments to this effect be made immediately.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Textile Mills in M.P.

1093. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the production and the number of the textile workers engaged in N.T.C., STC and private sector textile

mills located in Madhya Pradesh during each year from January, 1993 to January, 1996 and till June, 1996 therein;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to revive the closed textile mills, mill-wise; and

(c) the measures taken to provide jobs and the rehabilitation of the workers rendered jobless as a result of closing down of the above mill?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) The production of Yarn and Cloth for the past three years is as under :

Year	All Yarn (Mn. Kg.)	All Cloth (Mn. Sq. mts.)
93-94	61.288	76.045
94-95	66.243	66.357
95-96*	108.000	51.072

The number of workers engaged in NTC, STC and Private Sector mills in Madhya Pradesh for the past three years is as under :

	Mar. 93	Mar. 94	Dec. 95	Mar. 96
No. of workers	49214	48019	54216	54334

*Provisional

(b) Government has set up Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction, as appropriate, schemes for their revival.

(c) Government has set up Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) to provide interim relief to the workers rendered jobless due to permanent/ partial closure of the mill

[English]

Import of Gold

1094 SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has diverted the concessional imports of gold to certain selected jewellery exporters;

(b) if so, the quantity alongwith the value of imported gold diverted by the MMTC to the jewellery exporters and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Tea Sector

1095. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought financial assistance from the World Bank to boost production of tea in the country;

(b) if so, the amount sought for the purpose; and

(c) the response of the World Bank thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). A proposal for financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 2216.5 crores for development of tea industry in India has been submitted to the World Bank.

(c) A four member study team from the World Bank visited India during May/June, 1996 to make an assessment of the problems/bottlenecks faced by the tea industry in India. The Study Team, after discussions with different institutions and preliminary data analysis has identified issues which are to be addressed as a part of the project. Pursuant to discussions with the Study Team, five Working Groups have been constituted to make an in-depth analysis of the issues and various aspects of the project. The Bank mission would be visiting India again around November, 1996 for further interactions.

[English]

Closure of Sugar Mills under BIC Limited

1096. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers rendered jobless due to closure of British India Corporation Sugar Mills at Chanpatia, Chakia in Bihar.

(b) whether the Government propose to adjust these employees in other companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) since how long the payment of salary has not been given to the workers of this mill.

(e) the steps taken by the Government to pay the due salary of workers;

(f) whether these mills also has to pay outstanding due of cane growers;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which it is likely to be paid?