

(b) The production and exports of cotton fabrics (Millmade/Powerloom) during

the last three years has been as follows:—

	<i>Production (M. Metres)</i>	<i>Exports (M. Sq. Metres)</i>
1984-85	5967	523.35
1985-86	6022	467.29
1986-87	6146	556.20

(c) Both cotton yarn and fabric have got demand in the international market and therefore, it is desirable to exploit the markets for both.

Joint Business Councils Abroad

7141. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries in respect of which the public sector has been permitted to form Joint Business Councils (JBCs);

(b) the role that these Council are to play in promoting bilateral trade and investment;

(c) whether any review has been undertaken of the performance of these councils; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYANDATTI WARI): (a) No Joint Business Council has been set up by the public sector organisations. However, JBCs have been established by FICCI/ASSOCHAM with their counterparts in various countries.

(b) **Joint Business Councils play a crucial role in bringing trade parties together for**

promotion of business, facilitate exchange of information concerning markets, export and import policies and joint ventures. They also enable identification of products in which trade exchanges can be made feasible.

(c) and (d). Government has had opportunities to discuss the working of these councils with FICCI/ASSOCHAM. Both the chambers have welcomed such dialogues being carried on between them and the Government for better understanding of policies and programmes.

Target for Raw Silk Production in Seventh Five Year Plan

7142. CH. RAM PARKASH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated percentage of increase, if any, in the cultivation of mulberry for raw silk production in the country at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan as against the target;

(b) by what percentage the raw silk production in the country will increase as a result thereof;

(c) the percentage of raw silk demand at present met from indigenous production; and