

Closure of Silk Industries due to Non-Availability of Raw Silk

860. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various silk industries in the country are facing closure because of inadequate availability of raw silk; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/ proposed to be taken to meet their urgent requirement in order to avert their closure and also keep the price of available stocks under control?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Certain leading silk producing states have reported a marginal decrease in silk production due to drought conditions. Further, there have reportedly been some policy changes in China due to which their exportable quantity of raw silk has come down. The demand for silk both for indigenous consumption and for exports is on its increase in the country. All these factors have led to a rise in prices of silk. In order to provide immediately relief to the silk weaving industry, Government has allowed the Central Silk Board (SSB) to import 100 tonnes of raw silk from China during the current year which is expected to have a salutary effect on prices. As a long term measure, a National Sericulture project has been formulated by CSB in collaboration with State Govts. for increasing silk production in the country. This project is proposed to be implemented with the assistance of World Bank.

[Translation]

Clearance of Irrigation Scheme of Madhya Pradesh

861. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not granting approval by Union Government to Bhensatori and Bandia Nallah projects in Guna District

submitted by Government of Madhya Pradesh and time by which a decision would be taken in this regard;

(b) the names of other irrigation schemes of Madhya Pradesh Government pending clearance by Union Government; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Bandiya Nallah Irrigation Scheme has already been approved in 1982. The other project has not been received for clearance.

(b) and (c). Eight major and five medium projects are awaiting clearance for want of compliance to comments sent by the Centre.

[English]

Implementation of Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

862. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Andhra Pradesh that are likely to be covered by the Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme during the year 1988-89;

(b) the number of districts that would still remain uncovered under this scheme after 1988-89; and

(c) the likely date by which all such districts also would be covered by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). With fourteen districts of Andhra Pradesh already covered, the remaining districts are proposed to be covered during 1988-89.