

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL)** (a) The Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee has observed that there could be a case for lowering of duties on some of the raw materials for textiles such as synthetic fibres on the ground that cheap and plentiful supply of such raw materials would not only benefit the consumer but also generate additional decentralised employment as in the case of synthetic fibres which are hand-spun and hand-woven

(b) and (c) The various recommendations of the Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee are under consideration of Government. It may, however, be added that certain excise reliefs are already available for khadi fabrics (including polyester blended khadi fabrics)

#### **National Centre for Trade Information**

5118 **SHRI K RAMAMURTHY** Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a national centre for trade information

(b) if so the details of organisational set up and the annual recurring expenditure involved in this, and

(c) whether the Ahmedabad Institute of Management has submitted its survey report in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG)**

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for setting up a National Centre for Trade Information is under consideration, details of which are being worked out by the Trade Development Authority. In this connection, the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad has been commissioned to conduct a sources and users survey

Their survey report will, inter-alia, make recommendations regarding the possible location and the organisational set-up of the Centre as well as give an estimate of the initial cost and annual recurring expenditure

(c) No, Sir. The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad is to submit its report by 31st March, 1978

#### **Bonus to Class III and IV Employees of L. I. C.**

5119 **SHRI SHARAD YADAV :**

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRA-DHAN**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the judgement of the Supreme Court delivered on 21st February 1978 or so declaring the LIC (Modification of Settlement) Act as void,

(b) if so whether instructions have now been issued to the Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India, for releasing the Bonus to all class III and IV employees of LIC of India at the rate of 15 per cent for the year 1975-76 1976-77, and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL)** (a) to (c) The Supreme Court in its judgement dated 21-2-1978 struck down the LIC (Modification of Settlements) Act, 1976 and directed the Life Insurance Corporation of India to pay bonus to Class III and IV employees at the rate of 15 per cent of the salary for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 as provided in the Settlements of 1974. The LIC has taken necessary action to pay bonus to class III and IV employees at the rate of 15 per cent of their annual salary for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 as provided in the settlements of 1974