

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The number of patents registered (granted) on an average in a year in the country during the last 10 years is 1898.

(b) The number of patents registered (granted) during the last three years is as under :

| Year | No. of patent registered |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 1746 |
| 1994-95 | 1759 |
| 1995-96 | 1533 |

(c) During last three years, one patent, namely, Patent number 168950 entitled "method of producing transformed cotton cells by tissue culture" was de-registered/revoked in public interest under the powers vested in Central Government by virtue of provisions of Section 66 of the Patents Act, 1970.

Mishra Committee and Manmohan Committee

5668. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mishra Committee and Manmohan Committee set up for small scale industries have made many recommendations;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by each Committee; and

(c) the details of recommendations accepted by the Government and implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Government is not aware of such Committees set up for small scale industries.

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

Garment Export Quota

5669. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3586 on August, 19, 1994 and state :

(a) whether final report regarding investigation by C.B.I. has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken and a law suit would be filed against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The final decision would be taken in the case only after completion of the investigation.

Export of Snake Skin

5670. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of snake skin exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise ;

(b) the details of the policy for exporting snake skin; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the lives of habitants from snake-bite deaths particularly in the flood prone areas of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). As per the provisions of the current Export and Import Policy (1992-97), export of all forms of wild animals including their parts and products are prohibited. Snakes are covered under the definition of wild animals, hence, export of the same in any form is prohibited.

(c) As per available information Snake bite treatment is available in the Primary Health Centres. A referral system is also available in the rural areas to send such cases to the nearby community Health Centre or to the District Hospital for urgent treatment.

Financing of Private Plantation by NABARD

5671. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of NABARD in the matter of financing private plantation/forestry of commercial nature such as teakwood; and

(b) the details of the norms followed for financing the private sector ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides, *inter-alia*, refinance assistance to banks for financing plantation/forestry projects including teak wood plantations. However, NABARD has reported that it has so far not received any project for teak wood plantation in the private sector for sanction.

(b) The type of private sector forestry schemes eligible for refinance from NABARD are, as follows :

(i) Forestry plantations on wastelands which are in conformity with the national forest policy;