

*[Translation]***Textiles Export Target of Uttar Pradesh**

450. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a target of export of Textiles worth Rs. 2100 crores for the Uttar Pradesh textiles Industry has been set by the 2000 A.D and the Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation has formulated an action plan for this purpose but the lack of infrastructural facilities are becoming too obstacles in achieving the said target; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the State and Union Government for achieving the Target?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The Union Government does not fix export targets state-wise. However, in order to boost the exports of textiles, Government have been taking a number of steps, which includes encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets; fairs and exhibitions enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc.

*[English]***Setting up of Industries in Kashmir**

451. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up Eco-friendly Electronic Industries in Kashmir Valley ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number and type of Industries which are likely to be set up there in the foreseeable future ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Coal reserve**

452. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any criteria to conduct an enquiry into the matter of short fall in coal reserve of Central Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited has been fixed in the Coal India Board's meeting held in 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any positive efforts have been made to estimate the annual production of Coal during the last three years and during the current year, till April, 1998; and

(d) if so, the number of officials against whom action has been taken for over reporting about coal production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) In the 118th meeting of the Board of Directors of Coal India Limited held on 22.8.91, the Board approved adoption of the "Code for Uniform System of Maintenance, Control and Verification of Coal Stock of all mines of CIL" which consists of guidelines for reporting of correct production from underground and opencast mines separately, reconciliation of the daily maintenance of the proper records/registers of production, stocks etc. and fixing of responsibility of maintenance of such records.

(c) Annual coal production is finalised after physical verification of coal stock by CIL inventory teams. This exercise is taken up every year immediately after the close of the preceding financial year.

(d) The number of cases of coal stock shortages and over-reporting of production in which disciplinary and administrative action has been taken on consideration of the reports of the two Government committees set up to investigate into the coal stock shortages in BCCL and CCL is given below :

Action taken	BCCL Cases	CCL Cases
Removal from service	5	-
Demotion	18	-
Reduction to lower grade	11	2
Minor penalties and administrative action	30	6
Total	64	8

Agenda of WTO

453. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reconsider and redefine its stand on the agenda set by the W.T.O ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) India has expressed its views on WTO's work programme through the Commerce Minister's speech in the Second Ministerial Conference of

WTO at Geneva from 18-20 May 1998. India urged rejection of protectionism and unilateral actions and emphasised full and effective implementation of the provisions of the WTO agreements, particularly those relating to improving market access of products from developing countries. India has also demanded that WTO provisions providing special and differential treatment to developing countries should be effectively implemented so that the full benefits of these provisions accrue to developing countries. India's concerns have been endorsed by the WTO membership as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration issued at the end of the Conference.

Tenth Finance Commission

454. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is contemplating to legislate on the proposal to create Single Divisible Pool for Central Taxes with 29% share of States in view of the Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard ;

(d) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto ; and

(e) the Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) On the basis of consensus reached in the Third Meeting of the Inter State Council held on July 17, 1997, the Government has accepted with slight modifications the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission to create a single divisible pool for almost all Central Taxes with 29% share devolving on the States.

The required Constitution Amendment Bill is likely to be introduced in the current Budget Session.

Areas suggested by World Tourism Organisation

455. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Tourism Organisation, a Madrid-based United Nation agency propose to launch a full scale tourism development programme for India this year ;

(b) if so, whether the Government in response to a specific proposal made by this organisation has identified six major areas for regional planning ; and

(c) if so, the areas identified for this purpose and details of the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (c) The World Tourism Organisation has drawn a Programme Support Document for launching a study project for the planning of integrated and controlled development of tourism in Goa and Sindhudurg region, Rajasthan desert triangle ; Bekal beach area in Kerala, Mamallapuram beach area with linkages to Chennai and Pondicherry, Puri beach area in Orissa and North Eastern States. The document was referred to the UNDP for financial support, by the Deptt. of Tourism through the Deptt. of Economic Affairs. The proposal was however not approved by the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) for financial support.

Coal Supply agreement with Private Sector Power Producers

456. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal India Limited or its subsidiaries have entered into any coal supply agreement with private sector power producers ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ;

(c) whether any counter guarantees have been obtained at the time of signing of such agreement ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) No coal supply agreement has been entered into so far by Coal India or its subsidiaries with Private Sector Producers. However discussions are being held with several IPPs towards concluding such agreements.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Anti-Dumping Bill

457. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Newsprint industry in the country is passing through an unprecedented crisis due to delay in framing the Anti-dumping Bill ; and

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Custom Tariff Act, 1975 already provides for the matters relating to investigations and imposition of Anti-dumping duties. Investigations in the case of imports of newsprint from USA, Canada and Russia have been conducted under the said Act, and the rules made thereunder. The final findings have already been announced by way of a Gazette Notification dated 19.3.98.