

(b) and (c) As the bank's performance during the year 1995-96 was not satisfactory the following suggestions were made to the bank by Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(i) Bank should constitute a special task force to make sustained efforts for mobilisation of deposits and take concrete steps to recover NPAs so as to improve its profitability.

(ii) Monthly status report on the progress of recovery in the major NPA accounts/review of staff accountability should be furnished to RBI.

(iii) Treasury management/house keeping should be improved.

(iv) The functioning of overseas branches should be closely monitored. Indian Bank has initiated the following measures for improving their performance:

- (i) Increasing core deposits.
- (ii) reducing financial mismatch.
- (iii) improving credit management.

(iv) recovery of NPAs—the bank has formed a Settlement Advisory Committee for finalising compromise proposals.

(v) improving house keeping.

IBA Envisage on Computerisation of Bank

523. SHRI RAMSAGAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the time of signing the settlement on computerisation by the IBA with the unions during 1993, it was envisaged that around 2800 branches would be fully computerised by June, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for the progress being rather slow and currently there being only 1400 branches fully computerisation; and

(c) by when the remaining 1400 branches proposed to be computerised fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) In view of the industry level agreement by Indian Bank's Association (IBA) in October, 1993 with the Employees' Federation, all banks were to take up full computerisation of their branches in a phased manner. As per the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), 2197 branches of Indian public sector banks have been fully computerised upto 31st March, 1997. The process of computerising more branches is an ongoing process.

Visiting of Officers of GIC Abroad

524. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Chairman of General Insurance

Corporation and Chairman of its (GIC's) four subsidiary companies who went abroad during the last three years and names of the countries visited alongwith their departure and arrival dates, country-wise;

(b) the purpose of their visit and expenditure incurred in foreign exchange in each case;

(c) the details of tours undertaken by the Chairman and Director of each subsidiary company of GIC from Mumbai to Delhi during the last three years; and

(d) the purpose of their visit to Delhi and expenditure incurred on them in each tour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Bank Branch at Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda

525. SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda, Darbhanga (Bihar) has fulfilled all the conditions stipulated by the Government to open a branch of a bank;

(b) if so, the reasons for not opening the said branch of bank there so far; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda is an unbanked rural centre. Under the extant Branch Licensing Policy, the need for opening a branch at a particular centre is left to the judgement of the bank to which the centre/village is allocated under the scheme of service area approach to rural lending. The banks proposals for opening rural branches within their respective service areas are required to be duly recommended by the concerned State Governments and forwarded to RBI for prior approval. Such proposals are considered by RBI on merits of each case. RBI have further reported that they have not received any application for opening a branch at Thrimuhani Ghat, Badeda.

Achievements of PSUs

526. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements made by the Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years;

(b) whether the importance of Public Sector Undertakings has been decreasing due to external and other pressure;

- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
 (d) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There are various parameters to assess achievements of PSUs. A summary of achievements made by Central PSUs in terms of financial parameters during last 10 years is given in Table 1.13 at pages 19 and 20 in Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 1995-96 laid in Parliament on 5.5.1997.

- (b) No, Sir.
 (c) Does not arise.
 (d) Improving the performance of public sector enterprises is a continuous process. Some of the measures taken by the Government to boost the performance of PSUs include signing of MOUs with public enterprises, periodic performance review by the administrative Ministries, delegation of enhanced powers to Board of Directors and their professionalisation, reduction of surplus manpower through VRS, technology upgradation etc. Government have also decided to grant more managerial and financial autonomy to 9 PSUs coined 'Nav-Ratna', apart from enhancing financial power to PSUs Board to incur capital expenditure.

Election of Persons having Criminal Background

527. KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to prevent persons having criminal background from contesting the elections;
 (b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and
 (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) section 8 (a) of the Representation of people Act, 1951 disqualifies a person on conviction for certain offences mentioned in the section. This section also provides that any person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a period of six years since his release. In view of these provisions, there is, at present, no proposal to amend election laws in this regard.

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

[English]

Cotton Spinning Mills in U.P.

528. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the places in Uttar Pradesh where cotton spinning mills are situated and the production capacity thereof;
 (b) whether the cotton spinning mills in the State are utilising their full capacity;
 (c) if not, the reasons thereof; and
 (d) the steps taken by the Government for smooth functioning of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) The cotton/man-made fibre spinning mills in Uttar Pradesh are mainly in Allahabad, Azamgarh, Raebareilly, Hathras, Mirzapur, Bulandshahar, Etawah, Maghar, Bijnor, Amroha (Moradabad), Baheri (Distt. Bareilly), Mau-Aima (Distt. Allahabad), Mahmoodabad Sitapur, Bahadurganj, Kampil (Distt. Farrukabad), Fathepur, Mathura, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Dehradun, Nainital, Sahibabad, Modinagar, Faizabad, Barabanki, Jhansi, Hardoi, Ballia, Jaunpur and Banda. The installed capacity of 64 mills as on 31.3.97 is 1898318 spindles, 6072 rotors and 11567 looms. The private sector spinning mills other than those lying closed are generally utilising their capacity.

Government has set up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction, as appropriate, schemes for their revival.

Allocation for Handloom Sector

529. SHRI N. DENNIS:

SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating making a higher allocation for the handloom sectors;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) whether the Government also propose to formulate any scheme for modernisation of looms in addition to the provision for such modernisation in the exiting Handloom Development Centres;
 (d) if so, the total amount released by the Union Government to the State Governments for implementation of various schemes in the handloom sector during the Eighth Plan;
 (e) to what extent production of handloom cloth had increased up during 1996-97; and
 (f) the allocation of funds to be made for handloom sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As against the expenditure of Rs. 87.55