

(b) if so, the details thereof;

[Translation]

(c) whether Coal India Limited has paid any compensation to such power generating units during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Coal Supply Agreements have been initiated with two IPPs. With one power project the coal company is to pay damages equivalent to 5% of the value of coal not supplied provided coal is supplied at least upto the level required to maintain generation at 68.49% PLF. If the short supply of coal is lower than this level then the coal company is required to pay damages equivalent to the corresponding fixed component cost (FCC) to IPP. In a second case the provisions are broadly similar except that for supplies less than 68.49% PLF the compensation payable is upto a maximum of twice the value of coal.

(c) No Sir. The power plants in question will come into operation only after the year 2000 AD.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to part (c) above.

Industrial Backwardness

2686. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industrial backwardness as well as regional imbalances still persist in some of the States in the country inspite of the best efforts made by the Government over the last fifty years; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to remove such imbalances?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) The information on economic indicators at the regional level is not being centrally maintained. However, data on per capita Net State Domestic Product do not indicate any accentuation in industrial backwardness and regional imbalances across the states.

With the industrial delicensing under New Industrial Policy, locational decisions are left to the commercial perception of individual investors. However, for promoting industrialisation of backward areas in an effective manner by way of developing the infrastructure, a centrally sponsored scheme of Growth Centres is in place. Similarly, to promote industrialisation of specific hilly, remote and inaccessible areas Central Government is operating the Transport Subsidy Scheme. For North-Eastern region a New Industrial Policy has been announced for development of the region.

Maharashtra Raw Yarn Act

2687. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have implemented any scheme with the consent of Union Government under Maharashtra Raw Yarn (procurement, processing and marketing) Act, 1971 to save the cotton growers from the clutches of middlemen and to provide them remunerative price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said scheme is granted extension for the next two years at the interval of every two years causing problems in smooth implementation of the scheme;

(d) if so, whether the State Government have sent any proposal to the Union Government recommending to increase the extension period of the said scheme for the next 10 years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Construction of Houses for Weavers

2688. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned any amount for the construction of houses for weavers in the country during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the amount has been fully utilised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(e) the number of houses constructed so far, State-wise;

(f) whether the Karnataka Government has released the 'utilisation certificate'; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the amount proposed to be sanctioned during 1998-99 in this regard State-wise, particularly in Karnataka?