

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government provides Central Financial Assistance to identified fairs and festivals on receipt of specific proposals from State Governments. These fairs and festivals are promoted overseas vis-a-vis the needs of each market by way of advertising in the print and electronic media, brochures support, participation in marts, direct mailing and organising of "Know India" seminars. However, no proposal for identification of this festival for Central financial assistance has been received from the State Government.

Capital level for Garment Industry

2570. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to increase the level of Capital from 1 crore to 3 crore for garment industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on Industry in present cost?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) According to the latest Government order, notified vide S.O. 857 (E) dated 10.12.97 in the Part-II, Section 3, Sub-Section (ii) of the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 11.12.97, the limit of investment in plant and machinery for small scale industrial undertakings, including those in the ready-made garment sector, has been increased to Rs. 3 crores.

TWRF Scheme

2571. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 2692 dated August 8, 1997 and SQ No. 43 dated November 21, 1997 regarding TWRF Scheme and State:

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken in this regard;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay and the details of the efforts made during this intervening period to this effect;

(c) the present status of the issue; and

(d) by when the funds are likely to be released for this purpose to obviate the enormous problems being faced by these workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) The Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund

Scheme (TWRFS) has not so far been extended to Central and State PSUs. The matter is still under examination in consultation with the concerned authorities.

Tractor Production Capacity of HMT

2572. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present tractor production capacity and capacity utilisation of the Hindustan Machine Tools Limited (HMT);

(b) whether the HMT has any proposal to increase its tractor production and capacity utilisation in collaboration with a joint venture partner;

(c) if so, the measures taken by HMT in that direction and the success achieved thereby;

(d) whether HMT is also planning to sign a memorandum of understanding with its erstwhile technical collaborators Motkov to launch tractor of higher horse power; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the results of the efforts made in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) The production of HMT Tractors during 1997-98 was 19,501 numbers which is 103% of its capacity.

(b) to (e) HMT has been looking for a joint venture partner including renewal of collaboration with erstwhile collaborator M/s. Motkov. Efforts in this direction are continuing.

[Translation]

Coal Depots to Displaced Persons by ECL

2573. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal depots have been given to the displaced persons of Eastern Coalfield Ltd, (ECL) as compensation:

(b) if so, the total number of coal depots given to the displaced persons during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) whether any irregularities have been noticed in this regard?

(d) if so, whether any inquiry is being conducted into the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) As reported by Coal India