

hardly 100 metres from the branch, the location of the branch cannot be considered as a factor for occurrence of this incident. The bank has further reported that though there was no security guard in the branch for the last six months, an armed guard has been posted at the Katanga branch after the incident.

Renovation of BIC Mills

4472. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of B.I.C. have submitted any proposal to the Textile Ministry for renovation of B.I.C. mills, Lal Imali and Dhariwal mills and after making necessary amendments in the proposal the experts of the Ministry have forwarded it to the Cabinet with their notes;

(b) if so, whether the Cabinet has approved it;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any concrete scheme for smooth functioning of these mills; and

(e) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be formulated and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (e) The BIC was referred to the BIFR due to its net worth erosion. The BIFR recommended winding up of the company. The Company has gone in appeal before the AAIFR which dismissed the appeal on 9.5.97. The company is at present before the High Court of Allahabad for winding up. In the meanwhile, the Government has entrusted the Wool Research Association with the task of studying the techno-economic feasibility of the revival of the Lal Imli and Dhariwal mills. Their report has been received and is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Investment in Private Sector

4473. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAM DAS PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of foreign debts and the shares of financial institutions in the total financial investment in the private sector Steel, Power, Oil and Gas Projects, refinery and the cellular telecommunications etc. in the country at present;

(b) the names of the private sector undertakings together with total number of their projects which have accepted such investments;

(c) the details of the other main conditions and criteria regarding loan in respect of such investment and financial participation;

(d) whether the Government and the Reserve Bank of India have any control over such financial arrangements; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the Rules.

[Translation]

Ban on export of Meat

4474. SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of meat is exported from India;

(b) if so, whether there has been constant demand in the country for banning the export of meat;

(c) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Exports of meat and meat preparations were valued at Rs. 801.24 crore in 1997-98. (source : DGCI&S. Calcutta)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The quantity of meat exported from India is less than 4% of the national production and such exports act as an alternate market for the industry. Keeping this in view, the requests for imposing a ban on export of meat have not been acceded to, as it would affect our foreign exchange earnings and threaten the employment opportunities for weaker sections of the society. However, the export of beef (meat of cow and its progeny) will continue to remain banned.

[English]

Share for Tripura on Central Taxes

4475. SHRI SMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during 1997-98 there has been considerable shortfall in Central Taxes collected in Tripura and due to which State's share for Central Taxes has come down;