

- (b) 1) Various steps have been taken by Government to ensure adequate supplies of yarn to the handloom sector in the country at reasonable prices, such as the Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme, Loan assistance to National Cooperative Development Corporation for setting up of new Weavers' Cooperative Spinning Mills and expansion of existing units and through the operations of the National Handloom Development Corporation. Further, a Yarn Depot Scheme was introduced in September 1989 under the aegis of the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) for supply of hank yarn to the handloom sector at mill-gate prices.
- 2) For providing marketing support to handloom products Government of India is implementing Market Development Assistance Scheme besides organising National Handloom Expos, National Design Collection programmes and setting up of marketing complexes through the National Handloom Development Corporation.
- 3) In order to ensure higher earnings for the handloom weavers, the Central Government have been making efforts through various measures such as
- (i) Financial assistance for modernisation of looms;
  - (ii) Scheme of decentralised

- training to train weavers on improved technology;
- (iii) Scheme of training a cadre of 'Bunkar Sevaks' for assisting weavers in transfer of improved technology;
  - (iv) Scheme for the production of mixed and blended fabrics on handlooms;
  - (v) Protection to handlooms by reserving certain varieties of cloth for their exclusive production in the handloom sector;
  - (vi) Design support and provision of technological inputs through a number of Weavers' Service Centres in the country; and
  - (vii) A number of fiscal concessions to the handloom sector to remove the cost handicap of handlooms vis-a-vis the powerlooms.

#### US Quota Scheme for Handloom Exports

1470. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether quota system introduced for the first time for the Indian goods by the United States, will hit the handloom exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Union Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Safety Measures in Industry**

**1471. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:** Will be Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministries of Labour and Petroleum and Chemicals have come to an agreement for having a single authority to check the implementation of Government regulations on safety in factories;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be considered for safety measures in the industry; and

(d) to what extent, it will be helpful ?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):** (a) to (d). The Factories Act, 1948 is the principal legislation for regulating various aspects relating to safety, health and welfare of workers employed in factories. The State Government and the Administration of Union Territories enforce and the Act through their Factories Inspectorates.

By an amendment carried out in the year 1987, a chapter to regulate various matters concerning safety and health in 'hazardous processes' was incorporated in the Act. In the case of a major accident in a factory, which may affect the environment, the provisions of the Factories (Amendment) Act, as well as those of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are utilised in order to avoid overlapping jurisdiction of ag

enforcing the relevant rules issued under the Factories Act as well as the Environment (Protection) Act, it has been decided in consultation with the Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Ministry of Environment and Forests, that only one agency, namely, the Inspectorate of Factories will enforce the rules issued under both the Acts, in respect of factories.

#### **Treatment of African Diplomat in A.I.I.M.S.**

**1472. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Resident Doctors Association of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences has called for an 'impartial public inquiry' by experts, not belonging to institute, to look into the facts related to the death of an AIDS patient in the hospital; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY):** (a) and (b). In accordance with the established procedures, an internal enquiry was conducted by the Head of the Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, who is also responsible for infection control. Thereafter, the Director General of Health Services ascertained the facts and submitted a report on the incident. The report reveals that there was no negligence on the part of the doctors at A.I.I.M.S.

Union Government has also drawn up guidelines for clinical management of HIV infected persons and AIDS cases. Ten Medical Colleges including All India Institute of Medical Sciences have been indentified in different States where the facilities are