

tary of Zila Sainik Board to be a Class I Gazetted Officer of the status of Head of Office with appropriate administrative and financial powers;

(iii) Norms of staff for Zila Sainik Boards;

(vi) Provision of telephones for Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards; and transport to Rajya Sainik Boards as well as Zila Sainik Board with a population of 20000 or more Ex-servicemen and families;

(v) A revised charter of duties for the Zila Sainik Boards.

These recommendations were sent to the State Govts. for adoption. The High Level Committee on problems of Ex-servicemen in its report given in 1984 also recommended that the revitalisation should be completed within a period of one year. The Central Govt. has been urging the State Govts. from time to time to implement all the recommendations of the Committee on Revitalisation. During the past three years, a number of recommendations have been implemented by many State Governments. These include setting up of 31 Zila Sainik Boards, provision of staff, telephones and transport. The assistance given to the States by the Central Govt. during the last three years is given below:

	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1984-85	197.99
1985-86	269.39
1986-87	231.74

(c) to (e). There is no State which does not have a Rajya Sainik Board and every District with a population of 7500 or more Ex-servicemen and families has a Zila Sainik Board coverage. The States have been given guidelines to submit proposals for establishing of new Zila Sainik Boards as and when the Ex-servicemen population warrants. The establishment of new Zila Sainik

Boards is considered only on proposals from State Govt. There is no such proposal pending with the Central Government.

### **Powerlooms Cooperatives**

\*178. DR. G.S. RAJHANS:  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-  
SEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have asked the State Governments to speed up the formation of powerlooms cooperatives;

(b) if so, the guidelines etc. issued in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the condition of powerloom workers in the country is being improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The State Governments have been asked to speed up the formation of powerloom cooperatives so as to provide adequate infrastructure for provision of credit and marketing facilities and thus enable implementation of a package of measures for healthy development of the powerloom sector. As the number of formation of cooperatives is the concern of the State Governments, the Central Government have not issued any guidelines in this regard.

(c) The State Governments have been asked to review wages and working conditions of workers in the decentralised powerloom sector. They have been further requested to consider new administrative and legislative measures to improve the working conditions of powerloom workers.

### **Loans to Tobacco Growers**

\*180. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have sanctioned loans to help tobacco growers whose barns were damaged due to cyclone in November, 1977;

(b) the amount disbursed and the number of growers who received the loan;

(c) the number of farmers who failed to pay back the loans and the amount outstanding as principal and interest; and

(d) whether Government propose to write off the interest part provided the growers remit the principal amount due?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total sum of Rs. 296.61 lakhs was disbursed as loan to 17000 growers.

(c) A sum of Rs. 118.42 lakhs; comprising of Rs. 66.99 lakhs as principal and Rs. 51.43 lakhs as interest is still outstanding from 4995 growers.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Setting up a Spinning Mill At Ballapal in Orissa**

1733. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a spinning Mill at Ballapal in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the letter of intent has been granted to the concerned applicant to set up the spinning Mill at the above place; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the above proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA

KUMAR): (a) Union Government do not set up spinning mills.

(b) A letter of intent dated 27.12.85 was granted to M/s. Shri Gopinath Weavers Cooperative Spinning Mills Ltd. for setting up of a spinning mills at Baliapal.

(c) Union Government is not concerned with the physical implementation of the proposal.

#### **Purchase of Equipment and Chemicals from India by USSR**

1735. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S.S.R. has offered to purchase the Indian equipment and chemicals for its oil sector; and

(b) if so, the details indicating the value and the terms thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). During the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission Meeting held in Moscow in June, 1987, the question of Soviet Union utilising Indian drilling equipment, chemicals and services was discussed. No agreement on this, however, has been finalised.

#### **Protection to Handloom and Traditional Weavers**

1736. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state how Government are thinking to protect the handloom and traditional weavers who are suffering due to competition from synthetic saris and other synthetic products?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): The Government have undertaken to reserve certain items exclusively for production on handlooms. At the same time,