

Guarantees from State Governments against loans for Public Sector Projects

***201. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI
SINGH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has instructed all scheduled commercial banks not to insist on guarantees from State Governments against loans given for public sector projects unless absolutely warranted;

(b) if so, how much loan has been granted by the Reserve Bank of India to State Governments (latest position State-wise);

(c) the purpose for which the State Governments have taken loans from Reserve Bank of India; and

(d) what new methods have been carried out by Government so that the loans should come down to a reasonable limit?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss due to strike of textile workers in Bombay

***202. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) what are the latest available figures regarding (i) loss due to production (ii) loss due to fall in export of textile products and the subsequent loss of foreign exchange (iii) loss in industries depending on textiles and (iv) loss of wages by the workers due to the prolonged strike of the textile workers in Bombay; and

(b) what steps are taken to prevent such a huge loss to the nation's economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) According to preliminary estimates, as on 12th October, 1982, the losses are approximately as below:—

(i) Loss due to Production Rs. 755 Crores.

(ii) Loss due to Export Rs. 175 Crores.

(iii) Loss due to wages Rs. 110 Crores.

It is not possible to estimate the loss in industries depending on textiles.

(b) Govt. have already set up a Tripartite Committee headed by a retired Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court to go into the problems of the textile industry and submit a report. Information available with Government shows that more and more workers have been resuming duty leading to increase in production.

Piling of steel at major ports

***204. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether alloy steel is piling up at the major ports due to the refusal of importers to clear the consignment;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the importers of this item are very much agitated over the hike in the import duty levied on this item;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they have filed an appeal with the Appellate Authority of Customs; and

(d) whether Government are going to intervene in the matter to settle it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Some consignments of alloy steel (electrical resistance wire) imported at Bombay have not been cleared by the importers who are unwilling to pay the duty at the rate applicable to stainless steel wire specifically covered under heading 73.15(2) of the Customs Tariff, as amended, by The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1982.

(b) Representations have been received for reduction in customs duty on stainless steel wire and wire-rods. These are under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government does not intervene in quasi-judicial proceedings.

Boosting of Farm Exports

***205. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: