

cludes the State of Andhra Pradesh as well:—

(i) Providing subsidy assistance for procuring various equipment like improved plate freezer, refrigerated truck, upgradation of deficient cold storage, automatic flake/chip etc.

(ii) Providing subsidy for setting up quality control laboratories attached to processing plants.

(iii) Providing financial assistance for encouraging modification of fishing vessels for exploitation of under-exploited resources as well as to encourage on board processing.

(iv) Providing financial assistance for encouraging acquisition of the sea-food processing machinery for production of value added items.

(v) Implementation a scheme for participating in the equity of companies for setting up projects in the field of deep sea fishing, production of value added products and aquaculture.

World Bank Loan for Development of Tea Industry

2137. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought a loan of Rs. 2216 crore from the World Bank for the development of tea industry;

(b) if so, the objective of the said loan;

(c) whether it is a fact that to increase the production of tea by 200 to 300 million kgs, a massive investment to the tune of around Rs. 3341 crores is required, for the purpose of increasing export of tea; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the action initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for financial assistance of Rs. 2216.5 crores for de-

velopment of tea industry in India has been submitted to the World Bank.

(c) The Project prepared by Tea Board proposes an investment of Rs. 3341.5 crores on various items like Plantation Development, Market Development, Research & Development and Human Resource Development. The proposal envisages progressive increase in production of tea, reaching 234.7 million kgs. in the fifth year to meet increasing domestic demand for tea and to sustain exports.

(d) A four member study team from the World Bank visited India during May June, 1996 to make an assessment of the problems/bottlenecks faced by the tea industry in India. The Study Team, after discussions with different institutions and preliminary data analysis has identified issues which are to be addressed as a part of the project. Pursuant to discussions with the Study Team, five Working Groups have been constituted to make an in-depth analysis of the issues and various aspects of the project. The Bank mission would be visiting India again around November, 1996 for further interactions.

Manufacture of Wrist Watches

2138. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units engaged in manufacture of wrist watches (both Quartz and mechanical) in the country in the year 1995-96;

(b) the sanctioned/registered/installed production capacity of these units;

(c) the production of wrist watches (Quartz and mechanical) in the year 1995-96;

(d) the gap between the sanctioned capacity and the actual production;

(e) whether Government are taking any steps to encourage these units to utilise their due idle capacity;

(f) if so, the measure taken in this regard; and

(g) whether Government are considering to bring the import of watch movement cases and dials under OGL?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) There are 14 units in the organised sector with an estimated installed capacity of 18.5 million per annum.

(c) 11.5 million (estimated) during the year 1995-96.

(d) 7.00 million (estimated).

(e) and (f) With a view to encouraging the wrist watch industry in the country, Govt. is helping the industry by allowing import of horological raw materials at concessional rate of duty.

(g) In terms of Notification No. 7(RE-96)92-97 dated 14.8.96 issued by the Ministry of Commerce, complete movements, unassembled or partly assembled (movement sets), incomplete movements, assembled and rough movements fall under OGL. Watch cases and dials, however, fall under the restricted category for import.

Recognition of SC/ST and OBC Organisations

2139. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are recognising the SC/ST and OBC organisations in Public Sector Undertakings/Financial Institutes and other Government Organisations;

(b) if so, from which date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Public Sector Undertakings/Financial Institutions and other Government Organisations generally follow the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training regarding reservation, relaxations and concessions afforded to SCs/STs and OBCs in services. A number of non-Government SC/ST Wel-

fare Associations have been recognised for the purpose of notifying vacancies reserved for SC/ST candidates. Apart from this, Government do not grant recognition to SC/ST organisations in the Public Sector Undertakings. However, the grievances, if any, of SC/ST and OBC employees brought by such Associations are looked into by the Managements and remedial action taken, where necessary.

Closure of PSUs in Gujarat

2140. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down some Public Sector Units including those which have taken over as sick units from Private Sector, in case where restructuring has not been or is not likely to be done particularly from Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of workers likely to be out of employment; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to help these workers by the National Renewal Funds?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) At present Government have no proposal to close down any of sick Central PSUs or sick PSUs taken over from Private sector. So far as State of Gujarat is concerned, as on 31.3.95, there were two Central PSUs namely, Indian Petro-Chemicals Corp'n. Ltd. and NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. IPCL is a profit earning company. NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. is a sick undertaking which has already been registered with BIFR for its rehabilitation/revival package. The Government have formulated a revival package which consists of modernisation and restructuring of existing Mills of the NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. at an estimated cost of Rs. 158.25 crores. 8021 workers/staff/officers have availed of VRS. A portion of VRS was