

Alakananda river on whose banks the Badrinath Shrine is situated has caused cracks in some other buildings also adjoining the temple; and

(b) -whether cracks have developed in the foundations of Badrinath Shrine Complex- if so, what measures have been taken to repair them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Norm for Continuation of Posts**

1726. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HBP-TULLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether norms have been prescribed for continuation of posts from year to year;

(b) whether there has been any violation of these norms in respect of continuation of posts during the past three years in respect of Textile Training posts in the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken to rectify the same and for fixing responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Only those posts have been contained which fulfil the norms prescribed by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Pollution of River Godavari**

1727. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Central Government are aware of the fact that severe pollution of

river Godavari at Nasik Road (Maharashtra) is caused by huge quantity of ash-being thrown into the river bed from the Thermal power Station, Ekalahre (Nasik Road); and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken so far to check this pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R.ANSARI): (a) and (b) The thermal power station at Ekalahre has got arrangements for treatment and disposal of effluents as prescribed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. The decanted water from the slurry settled in an ash pond joins the river Godavari and has been found to conform to the pollution control standards set by the State Pollution Control Board. However, the villagers often break the well of the ash bund for obtaining water for irrigation purposes and this causes the ash-mixed water to enter the Godavari. The State Pollution Control Board has directed the Maharashtra State Electricity Board to keep a close watch on the bund of the ash pond so that such incidents are prevented.

#### **Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Pollution of River Krishna**

1728. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the action plan for prevention and control of pollution of river Krishna and its tributaries prepared jointly by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh Karnataka and Maharashtra has been received; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of implementing action plans for cleaning other rivers can be considered only in due course depending on the experience of the Ganga Action Plan and the availability of funds.

#### **Japanese Credit for NTC**

1729. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

"(a) whether Government are exploring the possibilities of availing Japanese credit to finance the modernisation of the National Textile Corporation (NTC);

(b) if so, what are the details of the ailing NTC mills at present in the country;

(c) what are the details of the programme made to make them profit making concern; and

(d) what further efforts Government propose to take to contain the losses of the NTC and to improve its performance?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 1987-88 116 mills under NTC incurred net loss.

(c) and (d). NTC has formulated a turn-around strategy based on restructuring of unviable mills, selective modernisation with institutional finance, product upgradation and rationalisation of excess labour based on voluntary resignations.

#### **Exchange Rate of Rupee**

1730. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India participates in the United Nations project for the calculation of purchasing power parity rates for currencies; and

(b) if so, the exchange rate and parity rate of rupee-dollar, rupee-yuan (Chinese), rupee-yen and rupee-sterling pound (U.K.) for the latest year available.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The exchange rates per US dollar and the purchasing power parity for India, Japan, U.K. and U.S.A. are given below:

Country	Exchange Rate	Purchasing Power parity
India Rs.	7.863	3.2964
Japan (Yen)	226.740	240.09
U.K. (Pound)	0.4303	0.48723
U.S.A. (Dollar)	1.0000	1.0000

(SOURCE: U. N. Publication on World Comparison of Purchasing Power and Real Product for J 980).

China is not participating in the programme.

#### **Bank Frauds**

1731. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks suffered a loss of Rs. 41 crores due to frauds in 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check these frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has intimated that during the year 1987, 28 Public Sector Banks have reported to it 1902 cases of frauds, irrespective of the dates of their occurrence, involving an