

as per provisions of Juvenile Justice Act, 1986, in force since 2-10-1987, no Juvenile is to be kept in jail. They are kept in Juvenile Homes set up by the State Governments. These Homes not only provide education, vocational training and rehabilitation but also facilities for the development of their character and abilities.

Counter trade deals by MMTC

3526. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPE-
NDRA: Will the Minister of COM-
MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Min-
erals and Metals Trading Corporation is
losing its clout in the international mark-
et to clinch counter trade deals; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons there-
for and what steps have been taken by
Government to generate more exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.
R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Due to
strengthening of global commodity markets,
MMTC has found it difficult in the recent
past to develop counter trade exports.

It has, however, made efforts and suc-
ceeded in obtaining counter trade obligations
against a number of import items like sul-
phur, muriate of potash, rock phosphate,
steel, etc. It is trying to promote exports
of canalised and non-canalised items by
extensive marketing efforts.

Concern expressed by the environmental experts on setting up of fertilizer plant near Sawaimadhopur

3527. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPE-
NDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRON-
MENT AND FORESTS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the fertilizer plant proposed
to be set up near Sawaimadhopur in Raja-
sthan will contaminate the water of the
Banas river,

(b) whether the high-level Central Com-
mittee of Environmental experts expressed
concern over this aspect; and

(c) if so, what action Government have
taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) and (b) Having regard to the volume
of liquid effluents likely to be discharged
from a fertiliser plant of this magnitude
and the quantum of water flows in the
Banas river, the Committee appointed by
the Ministry of Environment & Forests
has expressed concern on the likely ad-
verse effect on the environment, should the
fertiliser plant be located in this area.

(c) The suitability, from environmental
angle, of the various alternative sites sug-
gested for this project in Rajasthan are still
under examination:

Modernisation of Textile Industry

3528. SHRI PARVATHANENI
UPENDRA: Will the Minister of
TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modernisation of
the textile industry has suffered due
to the high cost; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the
Government to bring down the moder-
nisation costs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES:
(SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) While
modernisation may be costly in a
few areas of the textile industry, it
does not appear that its cost is high
as a whole, judging from the indus-
try's response to the Textile Moderni-
sation Fund Scheme.

(b) The excise duty has been re-
duced on certain items of textile
machinery required for modernisation
in the 1988-89 Budget, the export
obligation scheme for the import of
certain items of sophisticated machi-
nery at concessional rates of duty has
been continued etc.