

Working of Handloom Export Promotion Council

586. SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN SHAWL. Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 309 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1985 and state:

(a) what are the several factors which had an adverse effect on the working of the Handloom Export Promotion Council;

(b) what factors have since been removed for improvement in the working of the Handloom Export Promotion Council; and

(c) what is the present position relating to registration work for handloom items under the Import Policy?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) (a) and (b) A number of factors such as agitation by the staff of the Council, litigations in the Court of Law, internal dissensions in the Committee of Administration had an adverse effect on the working of the Handloom Export Promotion Council. Most of the above problems have been resolved now.

(c) Registration work for handloom items has been restored to the Handlooms Export Promotion Council under the Import-Export Policy. 1985—88.

Modernisation of Coal Washeries

587. SHRI THANGABAALU- Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to modernise the existing coal washeries; and expand their present capacity and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE):

(a) and (b) Out of 14 existing washeries of Coal India Limited, 4 washeries are being modified for their optimum capacity utilisation and better quality products. 323 RS—3

The washery-wise modifications being implemented are as follows;

(i) *Dugdai H-asliey*:

Komag jigs have been installed for deshring and forth flotation is being added for upgradation of fines.

(ii) *Kargali Washery*:

Autogenous cyclones are being installed.

(iii) *Sawang Washery*:

Deshring Batac jig is under installation.

(iv) *Gidi Wctshery*:

Forth flotation plant is under commissioning.

Export of Agricultural products

588. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH; Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been substantial decline in the export trade of agricultural products during the year 1984-85 as compared to previous two years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has always been good demand for Indian agricultural products in the foreign markets;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for the decline in export of the above products; and

(d) what efforts are being made to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.

A. SANGMA); (a) According to the tentative statistics compiled, value of export of agricultural products excluding marine products, tea and coffee in 1984-85 has been Rs. 1452 crores as against Rs. 1406 crores and Rs. 1366 crores in 1983-84 and 1982-83 respectively.

(b) Agricultural products from India are in demand in different markets.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.