

of the Department of Space as well as the achievements of other countries on space related matters are disseminated for public information through mass media and various publications and exhibitions of the Department. The Department of Space also supports research and teaching activities related to Space Science, Technology and Applications, in many institutions in the country.

#### Losses of Nationalised Textile Mills

522. SHRI B. KRISHNA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised textile mills under the National Textile Corporation are running at heavy losses and only eight of such mills account for 40 per cent of the total losses; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to make the nationalised textile Mills economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The nationalised mills under the National Textile Corporation incurred losses of about Rs. 71 crores, 78\*crores and 137 crores in 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 respectively. The percentage of losses incurred by the 8 identified heavily losing mills was 25 per cent, 26 per cent and 17 per cent of losses in the three years respectively.

(fa) Some of the important steps taken or being taken, to improve the performance of the mills are as under :—

(1) Management is being strengthened at the subsidiary mill level;

To overcome the power shortage, self-generating capacity has been increased;

(3) Selective modernisation programme strategies have been adopted for result-oriented gains; maximum emphasis has been given on product development to bring out change in

product mix to get high sales realisation;

(4) Cost control methods have been introduced for reduction in cost at all levels;

(5) Efforts are being concentrated on increasing exports; and

(6) Workers' participation scheme in the management of the mills is being encouraged.

#### Killing of Indian Fishermen in the Indian Territorial Waters by the Sri Lankan Navy

523. SHRI SHANKAR SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND-

RAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI H. L. KAPOOR:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the security forces/naval units of Sri Lanka have attacked Indian fishermen inside the Indian territorial waters;

(b) whether a protest has been lodged with the Sri Lankan Government over the indiscriminate killings and attack on Indian fishermen by their security forces in our territorial waters; and

(c) if so, what has been the response of the Sri Lankan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There have been many incidents in the recent past where Sri Lankan Naval vessels have attacked Indian fishermen within Indian territorial waters

(b) Strong protests have been lodged with the Sri Lankan Government over the intrusion of Sri Lankan Naval vessels

in the Indian waters and indiscriminate shooting, harassment of Indian fishermen.

(c) While the Sri Lankan Government have denied intrusion by their naval crafts we have tiled proof of Sri Lankan patrol crafts being found harassing our fishermen and depriving them of their catches of fish and nets well within our waters. Recently, Sri Lankan patrol craft, along with its crew was apprehended well within our territorial waters.

#### **Manufacture of wagons by National Engineering.**

v523-A. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the licence for manufacturing wagons given to the National Engineering expired;

(b) whether Government propose to revive the licence in spite of there being a surplus capacity for wagon production in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The necessary information is being collected, and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Setting up of Biogas Units**

\*523-B. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up 1.5 lakh family-size biogas units during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

@Previously Unstarred Question 268, transferred from 23rd January, 1985.

@Previously Unstarred Question 526, transferred from 25th January, 1985.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ PAUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the on-going Central Sector Scheme 'National Project for Biogas Development', a range of 1.5 lakh size biogas plants has been fixed for 1984-85. The project provides for central subsidy, turn-key job fee, promotional cash incentives, repair charges, different kinds of training programmes, staff support, services charges and publicity. The implementing agencies are State Government departments; Government undertakings like State Agro-Industries Corporations; Khadi & Village Industries Commission and selected voluntary organisations. Up to December, 1984 a little more than 73000 biogas plants have been set up in the current year.

#### **ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों का विकास**

@523-सी. श्री जगदम्बा प्रसाद यादव : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिये मुख्य रूप से तीन विकास कार्यक्रम अर्थात्—(i) पशु-विष्टा की सहायता से बायोगैस संयंत्रों तथा गोबर गैस संयंत्रों का लगाया जाना (ii) पेयजल तथा सिंचाई के प्रयोजनों के लिये पवन-चक्कियाँ और (iii) सौर ऊर्जा के उत्पादन हेतु प्रकाशवोल्टीय अर्निबार्थ है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई राष्ट्र-व्यापी योजना तैयार की है; यदि हाँ, तो ऐसी योजना की रूपरेखा क्या है ?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय और महासगर विकास, परमाणु ऊर्जा, अंतरिक्ष और इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी विभागों में राज्य मंत्री

©Previously Unstarred Question 528, transferred from 25th January, 1985.