

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix CVIII Annexure 23].

(d) Experts have been appointed in view of their expertise and experience in relevant subjects and on considerations independent of collaboration agreements.]

204. [Transferred to the 5th March, 1979].

Regularisation of powerlooms in the country

205. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the unauthorised powerlooms in the country have been regularised;

(b) if so, the number of powerlooms regularised during the last three years; and

(c) what are the conditions on which these powerlooms have been regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No unauthorised powerlooms in the country have so far been regularised in terms of the Textile Policy Statement announced on 7-8-1978 as the modalities of this exercise are still being discussed with the Ministry of Law.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sick industrial units in the country

206. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Maharashtra Government have extended help to the sick industrial units in that State by converting their sales tax arrears into loans;

(b) whether the Central Government propose to give any matching

assistance to the State Governments for such industrial units; and

(c) what are the other States in which such a facility has been extended for helping the sick industrial units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices on polyester fibre industry

207. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices which has been conducting an inquiry into the cost structure of polyester fibre industry, have submitted their report;

(b) if so, 'what are the salient features of the report; and

(c) if not, by when the Bureau is likely to submit their report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The final report on the polyester staple fibre industry is expected to be completed shortly.

Development of Woollen industry

203. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take for the development of the woollen industry;

(b) by what percentage the production of woollen is expected to increase as a result of those steps; and

(c) what would be the financial outlay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Raw material imports have been liberalised by placing raw wool imports of all types on OGL and removing foreign exchange constraints on import of shoddy. The Textile Policy announced in Parliament on August 7, 1978 envisages increased availability of woollen^a and blankets for the masses. To achieve this objective, Government is actively considering various steps for development of the woollen industry.

Courting of arrest by persons after the arrest of Shrimati Indira Gandhi

209. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who courted arrest in the Union Territories after the arrest of Shrimati Gandhi in December 1978; and

(b) the number of persons who have participated in the Union Territories in the Satyagraha launches after her arrest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b) Information is being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reprocessing plants at Trombay

210. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA
SINGH: SHRI BUDDHA
PRIYA
MAURYA: SHRI
KRISHNA NAND
JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two reprocessing plants at Trombay have been lying idle for a long time;

(b) if so, since when they have been lying idle alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the loss as a result thereof and the steps Government have taken to put the reprocessing plants to work to full capacity?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) to (c) There is only one reprocessing plant at Trombay. The plant is at present undergoing modifications for expansion of its capacity for handling the spent fuel of the 100 MW Research Reactor being set up at Trombay. This is a planned research activity and the question of any loss, therefore, does not arise.

211. [Transferred to the 5th March, 1979].

Industrial output during 1977 and 1978

212. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA
SINGH: SHRI BUDDHA
PRIYA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the industrial output during 1978 as compared to that during 1977;

(b) which are the fields in which the output in 1978 has shown decline as compared to that during 1977 alongwith the reasons for the decline in the output; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to increase the output in such areas where there has been a declining trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The rate of growth of industrial production, according to the index compiled by Central Statistical Organisation, was 6.2 per cent in first 10 months of 1978 (January—October) over the corresponding period of the*