

through Extn. Centres and SISIs. The State Governments have set up quality markuag centres at Jullundur and Meerut.

There ia also a proposal to set up a Product and Process Development Centre for sports goods industry during the current plan period for carrying out research and development work for production and export of quality sports good9.

Financial Assistance to West Bengal Government for Modernising Police Force

- 45. SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE;
SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN;
SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have granted some funds to the West Bengal Government for modernising the police force in that State;

(b) if so, what is the total amount of the fund; and

(c) whether the funds has been released?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central financial assistance amounting to Rs. 39.16 lakhs has been sanctioned during the current financial year so far, 1978-79 and a total of Rs. 347.47 lakhs has been provided since 1969-70 to the State Government.

Handloom Cloth

- 48. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI; SHRI M. ANANDAM;
SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE,

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken or propose to take for creating infrastructure like production of yarn,

creating facilities for pre-weaving and post-weaving and for processing of the handloom cloth in the Sixth Five Year Plan and what is the investment envisaged therein; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Handicraft Board expressed its apprehension recently about protecting the block printing and screen printing of hand woven cloth from unfair competition?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Consistent with the priority given to handlooms in the Textile Policy announcement, an integrated set of proposals has been submitted by the Sub-Group for Handlooms and Powerlooms to the Main Working Group on Textiles. This includes production of an additional 120 million Kgs. of hank yarn for which about 1 million new spindles will have to be established. Half of these will be in existing units and the other half in new units proposed to be set up. As regards Pre-weaving, post-weaving and processing facilities, a total sum of Rs. 300 lakhs has so far been released by the Central Government to 12 States/Union Territories for the creation of such facilities in the last three years. During the six plan period, the Sub-Group of the Main Working Group has proposed a central outlay of Rs. 1200 lakhs for this purpose. It is envisaged that this amount will be matched by a sum of Rs. 1500 lakhs in the State sector for the same purpose. These facilities will be set up near handloom clusters to improve the quality and marketability of handloom cloth. The final report of the Main Working Group on Textiles is awaited.

(b) Yes, Sir. The question of protection of hand printed textiles against competition from machine printed textiles has recently been brought to the notice of the Government. After Inter-Ministerial consultations, Government have set up a Working Group to go into the matter in all its aspects and suggest ways and means of giving