

by undertaking more concrete projects known as 'Intensive development of export-oriented projects'. In pursuance of the programme for the extension of co-operative coverage to 60% of the entire of the handloom sector and to strengthen the Handloom Apex Cooperatives and State Handloom Development Corporations, the State Governments have been requested to draw up suitable scheme for implementation.

It is accepted that textile policy has to be on an integrated basis taking into account the need to co-ordinate and harmonise the organised sector with the decentralised area of handlooms and powerlooms. Integration has also to be attempted on a multi-fibre basis so that the policy relating to clothing of the public will be a coordinated one covering not only cotton but also man-made fibres and wool.

Inspection and quality control organisation for exportable goods

*282. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY :

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration for setting up a single organisation for inspection and quality control of all the commodities exported by various departments of Government and semi-Government organisations, including Corporations; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

IDBI loan for Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Ltd.

*283. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT :

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited has applied to the Industrial Development Bank of India for a loan of Rs. 5 crores for large-scale exploration of rock phosphate at Jhamar-Kotra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited has applied to the Industrial Development Bank of India and other financial institutions for a term loan of Rs. 5 crores for its rock phosphate expansion-cum-modernisation scheme at Jhamar-Kotra. The institutions carried out site inspection and held discussions with the company on cost of the project during the first half of March, 1976. As the detailed cost estimate of the proposed crushing plant was not available with the company, it promised to furnish the required clarifications/data to the financial institutions by the middle of April, 1976. The financial institutions are still awaiting the clarifications/data from the company.

Improvement in Tourism facilities at Gulmarg

*284. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA :

SHRI N. K. BHATT :

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM :

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to improve tourism facilities at Gulmarg; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is the estimated expenditure involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Central Sector it is proposed to augment the winter sports facilities at Gulmarg through the import of additional ski equipment as also a snow grooming machine; erection of the aerial transportation system between Gulmarg and Khillanmarg; construction of cafeteria and staff quarters. For this purpose an amount of Rs. 124 lakhs has been provided in the last 3 years of the Fifth Plan.

The construction of a centrally heated hotel by the India Tourism Development Corporation at an estimated cost of Rs. 145 lakhs is awaiting clearance.

Tourist traffic from Gulf countries

*285. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI :

SHRI B. RACHAIAH :

SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government have taken to attract tourists from Gulf countries;

(b) whether any concession in fares has been offered to encourage tourist traffic during the ensuing tourist season;

(c) what are the names of the places where Government have opened tourist offices in the Gulf area and in the East Asian countries; and

(d) whether any tourist literature is prepared for giving publicity in these coun-

tries about the places of tourist interest in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) With a view to attracting tourists from Gulf and West Asian countries, the Government have opened a Tourist Office located at Kuwait for promotion of tourism and dissemination of tourist information.

(b) Yes, Sir. A number of concessional fares from the Middle East to India are available to promote tourist traffic from the region.

(c) Tourist Offices are functioning at Kuwait, for promotion in West Asia including Gulf States and in Tokyo and Singapore to cover East Asian countries.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Excise duty evasion by industrial firms in Bombay

*286 SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN : Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a drive against evasion of excise duty by industrial firms in Bombay was launched by the Bombay Central Excise Collectorate in the first week of May, 1976; and

(b) if so, what is the number of industrial firms found guilty of evasion and what is the total amount of evasion of excise duty detected ?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes Sir. A drive against evasion of Central Excise duties was launched by the Bombay Central Excise Collectorate in the first week of May, 1976 in pursuance of an Action Plan chalked out for this purpose.