

uled Tribes. In view of the provisions made under Articles 341(2) and 342(2) of the Constitution, any amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be made only by an Act of Parliament.

Japanese Assistance for Narmada Sagar Project

2341. SHRI SHEO SHARAN VERMA:
SHRI HARISH PAL:
SHRIMATI BASAVA-RAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has declined to provide assistance for the Narmada Sagar Project;

(b) if so, whether any negotiations have been held or are likely to be held in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c). No proposal has been made to the Japanese Government for obtaining assistance for the Narmada Sagar Project.

[English]

Non-Delivery of Export Cargo

2342. SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-delivery of export cargo by Air India to U.S. importers in time has affected the export prospects of textile exporting industry; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). Government is not aware of any complaint by U. S. importers regarding non-delivery in time of export cargo by Air India. Infact the value of export of garments to U.S.A. during January-July, 1990 has increased to Rs. 721 crores as compared to Rs. 596 crores during the corresponding period last year.

Women's Rights

2343. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in Times of India (Bombay edition) dated 9 March 1990 regarding women's rights; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government during the last six months to safeguard the interests of women?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A decision has been taken to set up a Statutory National Commission for Women. The National Commission for Women Bill 1990 is under consideration of the Parliament.

Proposal from Maharashtra for Opening Closed Textile Mills

2344. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received