

*170. [The questioners (Shri Ranjit Singh and Shri Ram Jethmalani) were absent. For answer vide col. 42-43 infra.]

Non-induction of Prithvi Missile

*171. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:†

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Army is unprepared for induction of surface to surface prithvi missile as a "weapon system" which is scheduled to be undertaken in the beginning of 1993 as reported in the Indian Express dated the 12th June, 1992;

(b) whether it is a fact that major problems have threatened the optimal usage of Prithvi; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the problems arising due to the non-induction of Prithvi?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The Indian Army is prepared for induction of Prithvi Missile. All the preparations for induction have commenced including training phases.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Digvijay Singh.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Action Plan to improve Jute Industry

*162. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to introduce an action plan to improve the jute industry and also to reduce competition between jute bags and high density polythylene bags;

(b) if so, whether the use of jute products has been falling since the past few years; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the jute industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Government have constituted a Committee to make recommendations for improving the condition of the jute industry. Government are also aware of the interests of the jute packaging sector and its *inter se* situation vis-à-vis the HDP bags for packaging.

(b) The figures of internal consumption of jute goods during the last few years are as follows:

Unit : 000/M.Tons

Period (April-March)

1987-88	.	.	957.4
1988-89	.	.	1149.1
1989-90	.	.	1108.8
1990-91	.	.	1234.7
1991-92	.	.	1079.3

(c) Government have taken several measures to revitalise the jute industry, including, creation of Jute

Modernisation Fund; establishment of Special Jute Development Fund; grant of financial support for product diversification programmes and marketing support, etc.

Encroachment by Anti-social Elements in Danapur Cantonment Board

*165. **SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire vacant space within Danapur Cantonment Board (Bihar) has been encroached by anti-social elements in connivance with the Cantonment Board's staff; and

(b) what action Government propose for removing unauthorised encroachments in public interest and against the Cantonment employees?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) All vacant land at Danapur Government has not been encroached by anti-social elements in connivance with the staff of Cantonment Board. However, there are encroachments on Defence lands under the management of Danapur Cantt. Board. Action has been taken to remove all such encroachments under the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Closure of Textile Mills in Kanpur

*166. **MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eight textile mills in Kanpur owned by the British India Corporation and the National Textile Corporation employing about 25,000 workers are facing closure;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) The textile mills owned by British India Corporation and National Textile Corporation in Kanpur are facing a severe problem of resource constraints, lack of modernisation, low capacity utilisation and non-availability of essential raw materials.

(c) The two undertakings have prepared a strategy to revitalise the mills which involves modernisation, labour rationalisation, financial restructuring, etc.

Cotton purchased by CCI in Andhra Pradesh

*168. **DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton purchased by CCI from Guntur and prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what is the amount of profit that has been earned by CCI from this operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) During the cotton season 1991-92, the Cotton Corporation of India has purchased 45,000 bales of cotton from the Guntur and Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The C.C.I. does not prepare district-wise profit and loss account. These are prepared by CCI branch-wise for the financial year as a whole.

'काटन स्पिनिंग यनिट्स फेम इंडिया कर्पोरेशन' टाइटन्स शीर्षक से समाचार

***170. श्री रणजीत सिंह :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :**

क्या बस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 15 मई, 1992 के टाइटन्स आफ इंडिया से