

Fall in the prices of jute and cotton

2022. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of jute and cotton has fallen beyond expectation;

(b) whether it is also a fact the sufficient purchase is not being made by the Government purchasing agencies; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to ensure support prices for these items?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Jute and Cotton prices have come down to support levels in some varieties. Jute Corporation of India are making purchases at the support prices fixed by the Government.

(b) No, Sir. The Jute Corporation of India, in association with Cooperatives, has purchased about 14.1 lakh bales of raw jute upto 18-11-86 of the estimated total production of about 70.00 lakh bales. Similarly, Cotton Corporation of India has purchased approximately 2.40 lakh bales of raw cotton upto 18-11-86. It would therefore, appear that the Government purchasing agencies are making sufficient purchases to protect the interest of the farmers.

(c) The following steps have been taken to protect the interests of jute and cotton growers:—

(i) Minimum support price of various varieties of jute and cotton have been announced by the Government as usual.

(ii) JCI and CCI undertake to purchase whatever quantity of raw jute and raw cotton is offered to them by growers at the minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

(iii) JCI and CCI are giving wide publicity to their support price operations and advising growers not to make any distress sale to middlemen below minimum support prices.

(iv) JCI and Cooperatives, acting as agents of JCI and CCI are operating through a large number of purchase centres as in the previous season.

(v) A buffer stock scheme of raw jute is also in operation, so as to bring stability in raw jute prices in the interests of growers as well as user industry. As regards cotton, Government have decided that the following quantities of cotton would be exported per year for a period of three years beginning with the Cotton season 1986-87:—

(a) Long and extra long cotton—5 lakh bales.

(b) Digvijay variety of cotton—50,000 bales.

(c) Bengal Desi—50,000 bales.

(vi) Government have liberalised its export policy on cotton yarn and allowed payment of cash compensatory support on the same.

(vii) Cotton textiles mills have been allowed to store their cotton requirements for a longer period.

Computerisation in CCI & E

2023. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for computerisation of various records maintained by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports; and

(b) if so, what types of records and information will be computerised so as to make it readily available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) A Microprocessor has already been installed in January, 1985 and is in operation. In order to explore further possibility of Computerisation of Import & Export Trade Control (I. & ETC) organisation a preliminary study was commissioned to a consultant and the report identified certain areas which were suitable for Computerisation/automation. As a sequel to the preliminary report a detailed system study has been carried out by another consultant. The report of the study has been received and is under consideration of the Government.

Problems faced by released bonded labourers

2024. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the "Statesman" of the 2nd November, 1986 to the effect that the labourers released from the bondage have little to live on; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 responsibility for release and rehabilitation of all bonded labour lies with the concerned State Government. The Central Government has issued a blue print on how to formulate rehabilitation schemes and has also issued directions from time to time in this regard. Annual targets are fixed for State Governments for rehabilitation of bonded labour and the performance is monitored every month. There is provision for subsistence grant of Rs. 500 for each bonded labour, pending his rehabilitation. The grant under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour has

been increased from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 6250 with effect from 1-2-1986. State Governments have been advised to integrate the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with other anti-poverty programmes to ensure effective rehabilitation.

Taxes due from ex-rulers of Karnataka

2025. SHRI VEERSHETTY MOG-LAPPA KUSHNOOR:

SHRI H. HANUMAN-THAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what amount is due from the ex-rulers of Karnataka by way of estate duty, wealth tax, income tax etc; and

(b) what efforts have been made by Government to realise these dues and since when these amounts are outstanding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Income-tax, wealth-tax and estate duty are outstanding against some of the members of erstwhile, ruling family of Mysore. The details of efforts made by the Government to realise these amounts and of the point of time since when these amounts are outstanding, are being collected and will be furnished.

Total Deposits in the Nationalised Banks

2026. SHRI VEERSHETTY MOG-LAPPA KUSHNOOR:

SHRI H. HANUMAN-THAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total deposits in all the nationalised banks as on the 31st March, 1986; and