

US curbs on import of Indian Textiles

1707. SHRI J. K. JAIN:

SHRI KAILASH PATI
MISHRA:SHRI SHANKER SINH
VAGHELA:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'US Bill will curb textile imports' which appeared in 'The Times of India' on the 13th October, 1985;

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

(c) the nature of preparations being made for formulating the Indian position with reference to Multifibre Arrangements 1986 and details of the Indian position as reflected in negotiation with other Least Developed Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a). Sir

(b) The Senate version of the Bill seeks to limit imports of textiles. The Bill would (i) cut back textile imports into USA from 3 leading suppliers—Taiwan, South Korea, and Hongkong by 30 per cent and (ii) place limits on textile imports from other major suppliers—China, Japan, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Brazil and Singapore to 1984 levels with 1 per cent growth. The Bill, however, is yet to be approved by the U.S. President.

(c) India's stand has been formulated taking into account our competitiveness and the views of other developing countries. The position taken is that derogation from the normal rules of 'GATT' inherent in the discriminatory regime of the Multifibre Arrangement should be terminated.

Deaths due to gas leakage1708. SHRI RAMCHANDRA
BHARADWAJ:

DR. H. P. SHARMA:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA
SULTAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least three persons were killed in two accidents of gas leakage, one in a Calico industries unit at Chambur, Bombay and the other in a Chemical factory at Rudel village, Kaira district, Gujarat, and several others including a Member of Parliament were seriously affected and hospitalised on August 30, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the results of inquiries made into the causes of the accidents; and

(c) what are the details of cases of gas leakages in various industrial units since January this year indicating the number of persons killed and injured in each case and the steps taken or being taken to enforce safeguards by Central Government to prevent such cases effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJALIAH): (a) and (b) According to the report received from the State Government of Maharashtra, as a result of leakage of chlorine gas from the storage tank of Ilac Ltd.-subsidiary of Calico Ltd, Chembur on 30th August, 1985, one person died and 139 were affected. It has been reported that chlorine gas leaked because of failure of a gasket. The State Government investigated the matter and necessary steps for neutralising the chlorine and providing medical aid to the affected were taken. The State Government have also prosecuted the Manager and the Occupier of the factory for offences under Factories Act, 1948 and Maharashtra Factory Rules, 1963. In all, fourteen cases have

been filed against the manager and the occupier.

The information with regard to the accident in the chemical factory at Rudel village, Kaira district, Gujarat is being collected.

(c) The available information is given in the enclosed statement (*See below*). Statement:

Statement

HARYANA

Two cases of gas leakages have been reported which affected the health of 13 people. However, no case of death has been reported.

PUNJAB

One case of gas leakage has been reported. No case of death or injury has been reported.

MAHARASHTRA

Four cases of gas leakages have been reported. On account of which one person died and 170 persons were affected. The affected persons were taken to Hospital and discharged after treatment.

KERALA

There was a leakage of toxic liquid which affected fifty three children in Ellor Industrial Belt on 13.9.1985 at Cochin.

Common Chairman for STC and MMTC

1709. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEE-NA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a Common Chairman for both the State Trading Corporation and the MMTC:

(b) whether it is possible for one incumbent to look after both these corporations efficiently and the reasons for not appointing independent Chairman for these Corporations;

(c) the details of foreign tours undertaken by the Chairman and other officers of these two Corporations during the current year and the approximate expenditure involved in foreign exchange in each case stating which of them enjoyed hospitality abroad but claimed full allowances; and

(d) whether any private businessmen during any tour to Europe accompanied the Chairman; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has already been initiated for selecting a fulltime Chairman for STC.

(c) A Statement containing details of foreign tours is enclosed. [See Appendix CXXXVI, Annexure No. 26 & 27] As per the records of the two corporations there is no officer who availed hospitality abroad but claimed full daily allowance.

(d) No, Sir.

Indian Labour Conference

1710. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what was the Agenda of the Indian Labour Conference held in New Delhi on the 25th and 26th November, 1985;

(b) what decisions have been taken thereon; and