

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b) The Committee of the Departmental Council to whom the question of grant of Special Pay to Tax Assistants working in Internal/Special Audit Parties was remitted by the Departmental Council has not yet submitted its report. The Committee had asked for a Note containing some specific information from the Staff Side in July, 1980. The Staff Side submitted the required Note in August, 1981. Since then, the matter has been under consideration in consultation with the Department of Expenditure. The matter will be again placed before the Committee after a view is taken in the light of the advice of Department of Expenditure.

(c) It is not possible to say when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter.

India's Capability to meet Threat of Attack by Pakistan

221. SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take for defending the country against attack by F-16 planes of Pakistan in view of the Prime Minister's clear statement that India has no capability to meet such attack now; and

(b) how much time will it take to fully meet such threat of attack?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) Government take cognizance of induction of all weapons systems in our security environment and take appropriate measures to maintain full defence preparedness. It is not in the interest of national security to disclose the details.

Soviet Offer to Buy Cloth from India

222. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the USSR has offered to buy 500 million sq. metres of cloth from India; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The USSR Government sounded the Government of India regarding the possibility of export of 500 million metres per annum of cotton fabrics from India. Further details of the offer are awaited from USSR Govt.

Import of Horses

223. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2726 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd December, 1981 and state:

(a) whether there have been any defaults in the export obligations by importers of horses in the years in which the scheme was applicable;

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

(c) what action Government have taken to penalise the defaulters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The prescribed time limits for fulfilment of export obligations in these cases have not yet been over; hence the question of any defaults does not arise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Indo-China Accord on Exports

224. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is facing intense competition from China in the export market of developed countries;