

of eight hours or at the rate of 12 per cent of a mills' packed production during 1971. Non-fulfilment of the compulsory obligation entails a penalty of 1 per sq. metre. Out of the funds thus collected, the mills which offer to produce controlled cloth in excess of their obligation will be paid an incentive on 90 paise per sq. metre on the controlled cloth produced by them in excess of their obligation.

(c) Under the new scheme for distribution of controlled cloth which came into force with effect from 1st November, 1972, the sale (A the entire production of controlled cloth is undertaken through :

1. Mills' own retail shops.
2. Super Bazars in the cooperative sector.
3. National Cooperative Consumers' Federation and the chain of cooperative institutions affiliated to them.
4. Fair price shops run under the aegis of the State Govts.
5. Any other agency in the cooperative sector specified by the State Government concerned.

It is within the discretion of the State governments to arrange for the sale of controlled cloth in rural areas through cooperatives or fair price shops.

IMA'S ASSESSMENT ABOUT IMPACT OF DOLLAR DEVALUATION ON JUTE EXPORTS

♦164. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the assessment of the impact of dollar devaluation on Indian jute industry, made by the Indian Jute Mills' Association in a press release dated February 27, 1973; and

(b) if so, what is Government's own assessment in this regard and how far it agrees with the IMA's appraisal in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The competitive position of jute goods in the U.S. market has been affected marginally.

IMPACT OF BRITAIN'S ENTRY INTO EEC ON INDIA'S TRADE

165. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

SHRI K. C. PANDA :

SHRI M. K. MOHTA :

SHRI DEBANANDA AMAT :

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA ;

SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI :

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :

SHRI SITARAM KESRI .

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the study undertaken by the Overseas Development Institute of London on the effects of Britain's entry into the European Economic Community on the trade of Asian Commonwealth countries;

(b) whether the Institute has pointed out the extent of losses that India is likely to suffer as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the study of the Overseas Development Institute, Commonwealth preferences would be lost in respect of \$ 100 million worth of imports from India.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

During the discussions held in January this year, the British Government agreed that the Commonwealth preferences would not be abruptly terminated. The progressive introduction of Common Customs tariff of EEC in UK will commence only from 1st January, 1974. Our efforts would be to seek solutions to the products of particular export concern to us before the end of this year. Efforts are already continuing both with the U.K. and EEC in this regard.

PRIORITY DEPRECIATION ASSISTANCE TO JUTE INDUSTRY

166. SHRI K. C. PANDA :

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been considering a proposal for classifying the jute industry in the category of industries receiving the priority depreciation assistance;

(b) the extent to which jute industry is likely to get a boost thereby; and

(c) whether it would help increase India's foreign exchange earnings also ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The list of industries eligible for the proposed initial depreciation allowance of 20 per cent has not been finalised.

(b) and (c) If jute industry is made eligible for such allowance, it will help generate funds for investment in modernization and diversification of production and consequently develop exports of jute goods.

GAUHATI AND JORHAT AIRPORTS

167. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a unanimous resolution adopted by the Assam Assembly for improving the Gauhati and Jorhat (Rowrah) Airports;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce Boeing services to Jorhat and Mohanbari; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) The resolution adopted by the Assam Assembly for improving Gauhati and Jorhat (Rowrah) aerodromes has not been received.

(b) Indian Airlines have no immediate plans to introduce Boeing 737 services to Jorhat and Mohanbari aerodromes.

(c) A proposal for the construction of a civil enclave at Jorhat aerodrome is under consideration. A scheme involving an expenditure of Rs. 68.7 lakhs for extension and strengthening of the runway at Mohanbari aerodrome to make it suitable for Boeing 737 services has already been sanctioned and action to call tenders is in hand. The terminal building there is being expanded.

DEVELOPMENT OF BARODA AIRPORT

168. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop the Baroda Airport so that large size aircrafts could land there; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?