

COARSE AND MEDIUM VARIETIES OF CLOTH

466. SHRI J. S. TILAK : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has recently been a decline in the production of coarse and medium varieties of cloth in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the steps taken to increase its production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is attached.

STATEMENT

The production of coarse and medium varieties of cloth including controlled varieties has declined during 1970-71.

The overall decline in production of cloth, coarse and medium including control varieties, has been due to various reasons e.g., shortage of cotton, closure of uneconomic mills, power cut, labour strikes in certain regions etc.

The situation relating to controlled cloth was examined in detail in consultation with the Cotton Textile Industry. A scheme has been evolved for raising production of control cloth from 9-14 million sq. metres during February /April, 1971 to 100 million sq. metres during a period of 3 months beginning from 1st June, 1971.

As a result of this scheme it is hoped that there will be sizeable increase in the availability of coarse and medium varieties of cloth.

REVERSING OF AKALI DAL GOVERNMENTS MEASURES IN PUNJAB

467. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/गृह मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reverse the decisions taken by the Akali Dal Government in Punjab to abolish land revenue and to fix the retirement age at 55 years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. C. FANT) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Government of Punjab, the outgoing Ministry had decided on 24th March, 1971 to abolish land revenue on all holdings with effect from 1970-71 rabi season. But this decision was not implemented and the necessary legislation was not enacted.

Under the existing rules of the Government of Punjab, employees with good record could continue in service beyond the age of 55. On 2nd June, 1971, the State Government took the decision that only employees with very good or outstanding record would be retained in service beyond that age. This decision has been rescinded for the following reasons :

(i) It would not be in public interest to retire the employees with a good record of service;

(ii) the decision of the State Government would have caused undue hardship to a large number of employees required to retire; and

(iii) the earlier practice of allowing Government servants with good record of Service to continue beyond the age of 55 years was in accordance with the practices in the Government of India.

पंजाब और हिमाचल प्रदेश की सीमा पर नक्सलवाधियों के अड्डे

468. सरदार गुरचरण सिंह दोहड़ा : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बात ने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह विदित है कि पंजाब और हिमाचल प्रदेश की सीमा पर स्थित कीर्तपुर के घने जंगलों में नक्सलवाधियों ने कुछ गुप्त अड्डे स्थापित किये हैं;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(ग) सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?