

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/

(SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

EXPORTS OF MILL-MADE COTTON TEXTILES

1131. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of mill-made cotton textiles have registered a considerable fall during the period April 1970-January, 1971;

(b) whether attention of Government in this regard has been invited to a report in the Economic Times of 12th February, 1971; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

(SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Export of mill-made cotton textiles during April, 1970—January, 1971 amounted to Rs. 88.65 crores, as compared to Rs. 92.98 crores of the corresponding period last year, showing a decline of Rs. 4.33 crores.

The news item appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated 12th February, 1971 has come to notice of the Government.

This decline is mainly due to a poor domestic cotton crop this year, resulting in sharp rise in prices. Lack of necessary modernisation by the Mills is also a contributory factor.

Government have taken various steps to arrest this trend. These steps include:—

(i) Regulating stringently stocks, credit control and other trading facilities to arrest rise in prices of cotton.

(ii) arranging import of large quantity of foreign cotton.

(iii) allotment of foreign cotton to exporting mills.

(iv) encouraging modernisation of exporting mills by arranging soft loans and allowing import of machinery.

U.S.A.I.D. SURVEY ABOUT PRICE OF RAW JUTE

1132. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI PRANAB KUMAR
MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the USAID Survey team has recently recommended minimum price for raw jute at Rs. 45 per maund at the mill end for Assam Bottoms; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/

(SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir, for 1969-70 season.

(b) On the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission, Government fixed the minimum support price for Assam Bottom at Rs. 107.17 per quintal (Rs. 40 per maund) for 1969-70.

PAKISTANI WOMEN SPIES CROSSING OVER TO EAST PAKISTAN

1133. DR. B. N. ANTANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed investigations into the alleged women spies crossing over to East Pakistan with secret maps and documents on the Mac-Mahon Line; and

(b) if so, the result thereof and action taken by Government as a result of the investigations made so far?