

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government has negotiated with any country except the USSR regarding the barter of cotton yarn and cotton cloth against the supply of raw cotton from that country? If the answer is "No", what are the reasons, why the Government has not made any effort in that direction? As regards the Government's negotiation with the USSR, I would like to know whether there has been any development regarding the finalisation of the barter deal—of cotton being imported from the USSR and cloth being exported to the USSR.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Sir, I have answered this question about two weeks back—about import of cotton from the USSR, its conversion into textiles and sending it back to the USSR in the form of manufactured articles. About having bilateral arrangement with other countries, with the UAR we have got a bilateral arrangement but not exactly like that we do not convert their cotton into textiles and send them back. They have their own arrangement.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: I have asked the Minister whether there has since been any development with Russia?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: As I said, there was some point of difference on conversion. Our officers are there and they are negotiating and the negotiation has not been finalised.

REPORT OF THE RAJAMANNAR COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT

\*530. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI K. CHANDRA-  
SEKHARAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह मंत्री

be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 258, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th May, 1971 and state:

(a) whether Government have made any effort to secure the report of the Rajamannar Commission on Centre-State relations set up by the Tamil Nadu Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Commission has recommended for the deletion of articles 256, 257 and 339(2) of the Constitution;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Commission has recommended the adoption of certain other measures for the autonomy of States, consistent with the integrity of the country, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) It is expected that the State Government will forward a copy of the Report of the Committee set up by them.

(b) and (c) According to Press reports, the Committee has made a number of recommendations including the deletion of articles 256, 257 and 339(2) of the Constitution.

(d) Questions relating to Centre-State relations have been studied in depth by the Administrative Reforms Commission and the Study Team appointed by the Commission. The Administrative Reforms Commission have come to the conclusion that "the provisions of the Constitution governing Centre-State relations are adequate for the purpose of meeting any situation or resolving any problem that may arise in this field". The recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission on Centre-State relations are under examination.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India now proposes to have a conference of the leaders of all the political parties of the country and also the Chief Ministers of the different States particularly in order to discuss the Centre-State relations? I feel that the Tamil Nadu Government had to set up this Committee and get the report by the Rajamannar Committee out of desperation because there was strong resistance on the part of the Prime Minister and of the Government of India to have any fresh look into the question of Centre-State relations which has been raised many

a time by many State Governments of this country. Would the Government of India even as late as now come forward to call a conference and have a dialogue between all political parties and Governments in that respect?

SHRI K. C. PANT: It is not correct to say that the Government has refused to have a fresh look at the problem and this is established by the fact that the ARC itself has gone into the problem and also appointed a Study Team and I have quoted from the recommendations of that Study Team report. So there is no question of having a closed mind on this question but the considerations of unity and integrity of the country and the balance to be arrived at between the Centre and the States are important considerations on which conclusions can be arrived at only after due study and examination. There is a continuing dialogue between the Centre and the States and there are various forums in which there is a continuous dialogue. So it is not also correct to say that there is no dialogue or the Centre is taking a strong attitude. That is not borne out by the facts.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: May I know if the attention of the Prime Minister has been drawn to a statement recently made by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister that they will have to resort to a relentless struggle for the realisation of their objective and for securing the fullest implementation of the Rajamannar Committee recommendations even at the cost of courting arrest etc? Recently he made a statement. If that is the position taken by a Chief Minister of a State, does not the Government of India even today feel that there should be some kind of a dialogue with the Chief Minister along with other Chief Ministers in that respect so that the integrity and security of the country is not at all jeopardised by this kind of statement of a Chief Minister?

SHRI K. C. PANT: There is no chance of anything being jeopardised for want of a dialogue. There is suffi-

cient dialogue and there are various forums and apart from these forums, there are dialogues between the Centre and individual States also. As for the statement of the Chief Minister, I recall that the Chief Minister, of Tamil Nadu had recently made a statement that in view of the situation in Bangla Desh, he would not like to press this matter at this stage.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: The Minister was referring to the report of the ARC. Whatever be the view now being held by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, the very appointment of the Rajamannar Committee showed that the Government of Tamil Nadu was not satisfied with the ARC report. Article 263 (b) refers to the fact that an Inter-State Council can be constituted for discussing subjects of common interest for all States. In view of the fact that various States in the country are absolutely dissatisfied in the matter of sharing of Finances, and sharing of political, administrative and economic power and to avoid these States setting up Commissions of their own for this purpose, may I know whether the Government is thinking in terms of appointing either a comprehensive Commission to go into this rather than constitute Inter-State Council under article 269?

SHRI K. C. PANT: The Commission which has gone into the problem has just submitted a report from which I quoted. There is no need of appointing another Commission to go into the same thing. Regarding the reactions of the States on the Rajamannar Committee report, my friend has reached certain conclusions from the press reports that have appeared about some misgivings. My impression is not that which he has mentioned just now.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: There is no doubt that there has been a talk on the part of the States about readjustments of the Centre-State relations and various States have also sent up some suggestions but may I know

whether any State has made any suggestion which enjoys, if not the consensus, a major support of the States?

SHRI K. C. PANT: This matter has not been discussed specifically with the various States so that the point of arriving at a consensus in the matter has not yet reached.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### REPRESENTATION BY THE SUDANESE COTTON INDUSTRY

\*531. SHRI K. C. PANDA:  
SHRI K. SUNDARAM:  
SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Sudanese cotton industry has represented to the Government of India regarding adverse factors threatening the very survival of the industry; and

(b) if so, the details of various complaints made by the Sudanese industry and action, if any taken in this regard by Government?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE/ विदेश व्यापार मंत्री

(SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### DECLINE IN TEXTILE EXPORTS

\*532. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:  
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that textile exports declined by more than Rs. 4 crores during April, 1970 to January, 1971;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of the countries where exports declined;

(c) the comparative export of cotton textiles during the last three years in the corresponding period; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE/

विदेश व्यापार मंत्री

(SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

#### *Reasons for Decline in Exports of Cotton Textiles and Measures Taken*

Inadequate availability and high prices of domestic cotton coupled with high cost of conversion due to out-dated machinery in Textile Industry have adversely affected the competitiveness in foreign markets.

The steps taken include:—

- (i) Stringent regulations of the stocks, credit control and other trading facilities to arrest rise in prices of cotton.
- (ii) Arranging imports of large quantity of foreign cotton.
- (iii) Allotment of foreign cotton to exporting mills.
- (iv) Encouraging modernization of exporting mills by arranging soft loans and allowing import of machinery.

#### *Names of Countries to which Exports Declined*

Burma, Ceylon, Nepal, U.A.R., France, U.K., Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Other East European countries and U.S.A.

#### *Export Performance during last Three Years*

April 1968 to January, 1969—Rs. 8262.4 lakhs.

April 1969 to January, 1970—Rs. 9298.7 lakhs.

April 1970 to January, 1971—(Estimated) Rs. 8865.5 lakhs.